

PART A - Initial Equality Screening Assessment

As a public authority we need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, service and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to equality and diversity.

A **screening** process can help judge relevance and provide a record of both the process and decision. Screening should be a short, sharp exercise that determines relevance for all new and revised strategies, policies, services and functions.

Completed at the earliest opportunity it will help to determine:

- the relevance of proposals and decisions to equality and diversity
- whether or not equality and diversity is being/has already been considered, and
- whether or not it is necessary to carry out an Equality Analysis (Part B).

Further information is available in the Equality Screening and Analysis Guidance – see page 9.

1. Title	
Title: Modern Slavery Update and Revised Transparency Statement	
Directorate: Regeneration & Environment	Service area: Community Safety & Regulatory Services
Lead person: Sam Barstow	Contact number: 0748143370
Is this a:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Strategy / Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Service / Function
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other
If other, please specify	

2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening
The report provides an update on activity in relation to preventing and addressing modern slavery, which is an annual requirement, and seeks approval for a refreshed Transparency Statement. The transparency statement in itself does not propose any decision or change to policy but reflects work undertaken in various areas.

3. Relevance to equality and diversity

All the Council's strategies/policies, services/functions affect service users, employees or the wider community – borough wide or more local. These will also have a greater/lesser relevance to equality and diversity.

The following questions will help you to identify how relevant your proposals are.

When considering these questions think about age, disability, sex, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, civil partnerships and marriage, pregnancy and maternity and other socio-economic groups e.g. parents, single parents and guardians, carers, looked after children, unemployed and people on low incomes, ex-offenders, victims of domestic violence, homeless people etc.

Questions	Yes	No
Could the proposal have implications regarding the accessibility of services to the whole or wider community?		X
Could the proposal affect service users?		X
Has there been or is there likely to be an impact on an individual or group with protected characteristics?		X
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns regarding the proposal?		X
Could the proposal affect how the Council's services, commissioning or procurement activities are organised, provided, located and by whom?		X
Could the proposal affect the Council's workforce or employment practices?		X

If you have answered no to all the questions above, please explain the reason

The publication of the statement itself, which is the decision within the report, does not represent any change in Policy or delivery of function but reflects work done across a range of Council services, which are subject to their own decision making processes and therefore equality impact assessment as appropriate.

If you have answered **no** to all the questions above please complete **sections 5 and 6**.

If you have answered **yes** to any of the above please complete **section 4**.

4. Considering the impact on equality and diversity

If you have not already done so, the impact on equality and diversity should be considered within your proposals before decisions are made.

Considering equality and diversity will help to eliminate unlawful discrimination,

harassment and victimisation and take active steps to create a discrimination free society by meeting a group or individual's needs and encouraging participation.

Please provide specific details for all three areas below using the prompts for guidance and complete an Equality Analysis (Part B).

- **How have you considered equality and diversity?**

Wherever decisions are taken to amend corporate policy or strategy, this is subject to its own detailed review in relation to equality impact. The statement is a reflection of those individual and separate pieces of work.

- **Key findings**

Locally and nationally the majority of victims of Modern Slavery originate from countries other than the UK although UK citizens are also victims, particularly in respect of forced labour and Child Criminal Exploitation (County Lines) and Child Sexual Exploitation. It was also recognised that improvements needed to be made to supply chains and our interactions with suppliers and contractors. The publication and annual update of the Councils Modern Slavery Transparency Statement reflects significant change to our process in respect of tendering and contracts.

- **Actions**

- Identifying and tackling Modern Slavery is a key priority for the Safer Rotherham Partnership and the Council.
- Performance against the priority will continue to be monitored by the Safer Rotherham Partnership Board through its Performance dashboard.
- Significant progress has and will continue to be made in respect of raising the awareness of staff to Modern Slavery. This will continue.
- A number of Council officers have received specialist training in respect of Modern Day Slavery and are qualified Single Points of Contact. The training and development of these officers is ongoing.
- Training programmes for staff have been completed and continue.
- The Council is a member of the South Yorkshire Modern Slavery Partnership and works alongside partners from statutory and non-statutory agencies and registered charities.

Date to scope and plan your Equality Analysis:

N/A

Date to complete your Equality Analysis:

N/A

Lead person for your Equality Analysis
(Include name and job title):

N/A

5. Governance, ownership and approval

Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening:

Name	Job title	Date
Sam Barstow	Head of Community Safety & Regulatory Services.	03/11/21

6. Publishing

This screening document will act as evidence that due regard to equality and diversity has been given.

If this screening relates to a **Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision** a copy of the completed document should be attached as an appendix and published alongside the relevant report.

A copy of **all** screenings should also be sent to equality@rotherham.gov.uk For record keeping purposes it will be kept on file and also published on the Council's Equality and Diversity Internet page.

Date screening completed	02/11/21
Report title and date	Modern Slavery Update and Revised Transparency Statement 2022/23 – (24 th Jan 2022)
If relates to a Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision – report date and date sent for publication	Report to be presented to Cabinet on 24 th January 2022.
Date screening sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement equality@rotherham.gov.uk	