

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: Social Value Policy	
Directorate: Assistant Chief Executive's	Service area: Performance, Intelligence and Improvement
Lead person: Steve Eling	Contact number: 01709 823618
Is this a:	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Strategy / Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Service / Function
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
If other, please specify	

2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening
The Policy sets out how the council measures the added Social Value secured through the council's procurement and commission activity. As part of the development of the policy a set of Social Value outcomes were identified based on the Council Plan and 6 Social Value objectives. The Policy introduces a mandatory 10% consideration for Social Value for all contracts with a total value above £100,000.

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? <i>(Be mindful that this is not just about numbers. A potential to affect a small number of people in a significant way is as important)</i>		No
Could the proposal affect service users? <i>(Be mindful that this is not just about numbers. A potential to affect a small number of people in a significant way is as important)</i>		No
Has there been or is there likely to be an impact on an individual or group with protected characteristics? <i>(Consider potential discrimination, harassment or victimisation of individuals with protected characteristics)</i>		No
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns regarding the proposal? <i>(It is important that the Council is transparent and consultation is carried out with members of the public to help mitigate future challenge)</i>		No
Could the proposal affect how the Council's services, commissioning or procurement activities are organised, provided, located and by whom? <i>(If the answer is yes you may wish to seek advice from commissioning or procurement)</i>	Yes	
Could the proposal affect the Council's workforce or employment practices? <i>(If the answer is yes you may wish to seek advice from your HR business partner)</i>		No

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

The Social Value Framework allows for annual reporting on several key equalities issues such as the number of people with disabilities that have gained employment. The Framework has identified several key disadvantaged groups that should be supported through Social Value outcomes. As such the policy is having a positive impact regarding equalities. For each individual procurement and commissioning activity there is full consideration of the impact on equality outcomes. This is carried out by the officers involved in the procurement and commissioning activities.

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?**

A consideration of equality and diversity was a key element in the development of the Social Value Policy. The policy's central aim is to support the employment (and education and training) of several disadvantaged groups including disabled people who are currently disadvantaged in the labour market.

- **Key findings**

Supporting these groups is central to the Social Value outcomes that have been identified – these include a wide range of groups who will be supported through increased training, school visits, employment, apprenticeships, and other training opportunities. In addition, the policy is also about changing the way the council commissions – adopting new principles will place new emphasis on co-designing services and involving service users throughout the process. This will increase the role and voice and seldom heard groups.

- **Actions**

The policy is being monitored on an annual basis. Individual officers will be responsible for considering the impacts and outcomes of each individual procurement or commissioning process. Further actions are being developed to embed Social Value in the working of the Council and develop forward looking actions. For 2021/22, specific actions have been including taken:

- Real Living Wage accreditation.
- Social Value aligned to working towards “Excellent” under the Equality Framework for Local Government.
- Progressing the Rotherham Together Partnership Social Value Charter into the development of Anchor Networks.
- Working with the Mayoral Combined Authority to promote and develop Social Value for the Sheffield City Region.

The actions are further developed in 2022/23 to build on progress to date including community wealth building that will work towards reducing inequalities through neighbourhood working.

The social value toolkit, being introduced in 2022/23 provides for “Social Value by Design” through commissioning and linked directly to services which now include specific equalities detail.

Date to scope and plan your Equality Analysis:	The Social Value Policy is being reviewed and monitored on an annual basis. This will capture the impacts of the policy.
Date to complete your Equality Analysis:	To be completed by officers for individual procurement and commissioning processes.
Lead person for your Equality Analysis (Include name and job title):	Individual officers are responsible for each procurement and relevant priority developments. The officer responsible for the overall analysis of the impact of Social Value will be Steve Eling, Policy and Equalities Manager.

5. Governance, ownership and approval

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

Name	Job title	Date
Steve Eling	Policy and Equalities Manager	7 th January 2022
Karen Middlebrook	Head of Procurement	7 th January 2022

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	7 th January 2022
Report title and date	Social Value Annual Report
If relates to a Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision – report date and date sent for publication	Cabinet
Date screening sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement equality@rotherham.gov.uk	7 th January 2022