PART A - Initial Equality Screening Assessment

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

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: Dinnington Capital Regeneration Project | | | |
| Directorate: R&E | Service area: RIDO | | |
| Lead person: Megan Hinchliff | Contact number: 07748143259 | | |
| Is this a: | | | |
| Strategy / Policy Service / Function X Other | | | |
| If other, please specify: Capital development project | | | |

2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening

The scheme at Dinnington will tackle blight on the high-street and create a new commercial square linking the parking areas, bus station and residential areas to the high street which aims to transform the town centre, drive footfall and boost the local economy

Delivery will include:

- Demolition of burnt out and derelict buildings
- New commercial units set around an attractive town square

- High-quality public realm investment and greening of the site to create a healthy and sustainable town centre
- Relocation of the outdoor market to give it pride of place on the high street and the provision of a canopy to maximise event capacity
- Redesigned pedestrian routes to create safer and more accessible links between the bus station/ car parks and the high street.

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? | Х | |
| (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) | | |
| Could the proposal affect service users? | | |
| (Be mindful that this is not just about numbers. A potential to affect a | | Х |
| small number of people in a significant way is as important) | | |
| Has there been or is there likely to be an impact on an | | |
| individual or group with protected characteristics? | | Х |
| (Consider potential discrimination, harassment or victimisation of | | |
| individuals with protected characteristics) | | |
| Have there been or likely to be any public concerns regarding | | |
| the proposal? | | |
| (It is important that the Council is transparent and consultation is | Х | |
| carried out with members of the public to help mitigate future | | |
| challenge) | | |
| Could the proposal affect how the Council's services, | | |
| commissioning or procurement activities are organised, | Ň | |
| provided, located and by whom? | Х | |
| (If the answer is yes you may wish to seek advice from | | |
| commissioning or procurement) | | |
| Could the proposal affect the Council's workforce or | | V |
| employment practices? | | Х |
| (If the answer is yes you may wish to seek advice from your HR | | |
| business partner) | in the reason | |
| If you have answered no to all the questions above, please expla | an the reason | 1 |
| | | |
| | | |

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

If you have answered <u>yes</u> 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?

Equality and diversity is being considered as part of this screening exercise. We have not yet carried out public engagement however this will be progressed once the MOU is signed and it will be designed to consider equality and diversity both in practice and in project outcomes.

• Key findings

There may be some temporary accessibility issues throughout the demolition and construction period for example, it may be a requirement to take extended routes around the site rather than existing shorter routes. There also be excessive noise during this period which may make the area less accessible for some. It is however expected that these will be temporary issues that are a consequence of any such town centre redevelopment.

Some existing businesses will experience disturbance as a result of the construction period and as a result of the wider capital scheme impacts. Communication with and support for these specific stakeholders will be key.

• Actions

Positive and thoughtful project planning and practices will minimise construction disturbance and promote accessibility throughout this period.

Inclusive design development will champion equality and diversity and improve the local environment, in particular surfacing, natural surveillance and wayfinding will improve on the current town centre experience.

Our key action is to undertake a Part B Equality Analysis Form which will consider the following:

- Accessibility and inclusivity in the design process
- Accessibility and inclusivity during the construction process maintaining clear pathways and keeping noise and disturbance to a minimum
- On completion, the facilities should be accessible and inclusive and comply with Council policy and procedure
- Request Equal Opportunities statements from all partners (i.e. successful main works contractor)

| Date to scope and plan your Equality Analysis: | December 2023 |
|---|--|
| Date to complete your Equality Analysis: | January 2024 |
| Lead person for your Equality Analysis (Include name and job title): | Megan Hinchliff, Project Manager RiDO |

| 5. Governance, ownership and approval | | | | |
|---|------------------------|------------|--|--|
| Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening: | | | | |
| Name | Job title | Date | | |
| Megan Hinchliff | Project Manager (RiDO) | 04.05.2023 | | |
| Lorna Vertigan | Project Sponsor (RiDO) | 04.05.2023 | | |
| | | | | |

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 <u>all</u> screenings should also be sent to <u>equality@rotherham.gov.uk</u> 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 | 4 th May 2023 |
|--------------------------|---|
| Report title and date | Dinnington Capital Regeneration Scheme |

| If relates to a Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision – report date and date sent for publication | |
|--|--|
| Date screening sent to Performance, | |
| Intelligence and Improvement | |
| equality@rotherham.gov.uk | |