

## 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:** Amendment to the boundaries of Regionally Important Geological Sites R66 Redhill Quarry and R68 Kiveton Lodge 2 in Rotherham.

**Directorate:** Regeneration and Transport

**Service area:** Planning Regeneration and Transport

**Lead person:**  
Rachel Lindsay

**Contact number:**  
01709 254746

Is this a:

☐

Strategy / Policy

☒

Service / Function

☐

Other

**If other, please specify**

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

A change to the boundaries of two existing Rotherham Regionally Important Geological Sites (RIGS) is proposed, so reducing the area of these sites to better reflect the interest now present (following recent site monitoring work that has taken place). Regionally Important Geological Sites (RIGS) are a local planning designation that recognises the geological conservation interest of a site.

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### 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
<p>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></p> <p>No implications are envisaged regarding the proposed boundary changes</p>		X
<p>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></p> <p>The RIGS are already designated the proposal is simply to reduce the existing boundaries.</p> <p>The designation has no legal force. The designation recognises the substantive local nature conservation value of the site.</p> <p>The proposal may have a positive effect in encouraging more positive management of the remaining areas.</p> <p>There is a current planning application on part of one of the sites but this proposal for boundary change to the Regionally Important Geological Sites is retrospective; simply better reflecting the current geoconservation interest now present.</p>		X
<p>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></p> <p>No impact on individual or group with protected characteristics has been identified. The landowners will be contacted for comment. Designation is based primarily on scientific reasoning and in accordance with national best practice (see</p>		X

Information on Rotherham Regionally Important Geological Sites (2010)). The system includes all sites that qualify.		
<p>Have there been or likely to be any public concerns regarding the proposal?</p> <p><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></p> <p>Some members of the public may be concerned that there has been a loss of geological interest on these sites. However, this proposal recognises the remaining interest still present on site. The Regionally Important Geological Sites designation for each site is still retained where the interest remains.</p> <p>Regionally Important Geological Sites (RIGS) are a local planning designation that recognises the geological conservation interest of a site. Rotherham's RIGS were endorsed in a meeting of the Cabinet Member and Deputy Economic and Development Issues on the 8 November 1999.</p>		x
<p>Could the proposal affect how the Council's services, commissioning or procurement activities are organised, provided, located and by whom?</p> <p><i>(If the answer is yes you may wish to seek advice from commissioning or procurement)</i></p> <p>No effect envisaged on Council services at this time</p>		x
<p>Could the proposal affect the Council's workforce or employment practices?</p> <p><i>(If the answer is yes you may wish to seek advice from your HR business partner)</i></p> <p>No affect envisaged</p>		x
If you have answered no to all the questions above, please explain the reason		
See comments above.		

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?**

*(think about the scope of the proposal, who is likely to be affected, equality related information, gaps in information and plans to address, consultation and engagement activities (taken place or planned) with those likely to be affected)*

This proposal is to reduce the boundary of the existing Regionally Important Geological Sites to better reflect the interest now present. Regionally Important Geological Sites (RIGS) are a local planning designation that recognises the geological conservation interest of a site. Rotherham's Regionally Important Geological Sites were endorsed in a meeting of the Cabinet Member and Deputy Economic and Development Issues on the 8 November 1999.

Regionally important geological sites benefits to wider communities include:

- Conserve areas with recognised geological interests:
- Contribute to local and national geodiversity and biodiversity targets
- Add to the local character and distinctiveness of an area
- Contribute to the quality of life

- **Key findings**

*(think about any potential positive and negative impact on different equality characteristics, potential to promote strong and positive relationships between groups, potential to bring groups/communities into increased contact with each other, perception that the proposal could benefit one group at the expense of another)*

Designation of Regionally Important Geological Sites is based primarily on scientific reasoning and in accordance with national best practice (see Information on Rotherham Regionally Important Geological Sites (2010)). The system includes all sites that qualify. Further information on the implications of designation is available to the landowner on request.

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- Conserve areas with recognised geological interests:
- Contribute to local and national geodiversity and biodiversity targets
- Add to the local character and distinctiveness of an area
- Contribute to the quality of life

- **Actions**

*(think about how you will promote positive impact and remove/reduce negative impact)*  
Further information on the implications of designation is available to the landowner on request.

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
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## 5. Governance, ownership and approval

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

Name	Job title	Date
Andy Duncan	Planning Policy Manager	6 January 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 **all** screenings should also be sent to [equality@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto: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.

<b>Date screening completed</b>	6 January 2023
<b>Report title and date</b>	Amendment to the boundaries of Regionally Important Geological Sites R66 Redhill Quarry and R68 Kiveton Lodge 2 in Rotherham.
<b>If relates to a Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision – report date and date sent for publication</b>	Delegated Officer Decision 25 July 2023
<b>Date screening sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement</b> <a href="mailto:equality@rotherham.gov.uk">equality@rotherham.gov.uk</a>	11/04/2023