

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: Transport Capital Programme 2025-26

Directorate:
Regeneration & Environment

Service area:
Transportation Infrastructure Service

Lead person:
Nat Porter

Contact:
nat.porter@rotherham.gov.uk

Is this a:

Strategy / Policy

Service / Function

Other

If other, please specify

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

Approval of Transport Capital Programme 2025-26

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.

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

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).

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

The report details a programme of work, and its division of themes. General consideration has been given to equalities implications of work in these themes; however specific impacts will not be identifiable until individual schemes are identified. It is proposed as schemes are identified under each theme, the programme and schemes within them will be subject to an update of this Initial Screening Assessment, with individual schemes subjected to Equality Analysis as required by RMBC Policy.

Much of the 2025-26 programme relates to allocation of money to ongoing schemes subject to their own individual processes. Consequently this screening applies only to the following parts of the programme -

- The allocation of £100,000 for works to prioritise and design an additional pedestrian crossing;
- The withdrawal of £175,000 from the previous Collision Investigation and Prevention workstream;
- The re-definition of tranche 2 LNRS projects in Rawmarsh West and Wath wards;
- The approved of schemes to enter the 2025-26 Minor Schemes programme;
- The allocation of monies for the Structures Capital Maintenance Programme;
- The allocation of Clean Air Plan monies to support accelerated deployment of electric buses; and,
- Reallocation of savings from the delivered moving traffic enforcement project.

- **Key findings**

Local and national data identify a number of inequalities in respect of transport which will need to be considered in the development of the programme, some of which may be cause of or an effect of existing traffic and transport conditions. Headline inequalities identified are –

- Children, young people and the elderly are overrepresented amongst road traffic casualties relative to their population size;
- Wheelchair and mobility scooter users express notably worse satisfaction with provision of safe and level crossing points, and obstruction of footways, than others;
- Men are overrepresented amongst road traffic casualties relative to the average;
- Access to cars is lower amongst people of non-White ethnicity, and amongst lower income households;
- People without access to cars travel significantly less far despite spending similar (but slightly lesser) amounts of time travelling compared to the average. They are also more dependent on non-motorised travel, and especially buses, for their mobility.

In light of these headlines, the following initial findings are made –

- Introduction of an additional pedestrian crossing can be expected to advance equality of opportunity for those amongst children and young people, the elderly,

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<p>people with disabilities and those without access to cars – however this will depend upon the final prioritised crossing. A screening assessment will be made as part of the report to enter the prioritised crossing into the programme.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As children, young people and men are overrepresented in road traffic collisions, there is a risk of adverse outcomes of reallocation of Collision Investigation & Prevention monies for these groups. However, in the context of the study into road traffic collision patterns and trends in the Borough should leave the Council better informed to tackle road traffic collisions and their attendant inequalities, and this is considered likely to be of greater benefit in the longer term than any disbenefit in not promoting a scheme this year. Any works and/or changes in policy arising from the study will be subject to their own Equalities Impact Analysis. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring consultation and engagement activity seeks the view of groups with protected or other characteristics where there may be inequalities of which we are unaware and/or lack information; Conduct an Initial Equality Screening Assessment on projects within each theme as these are developed. This will include an assessment to be included as part of the decision report for the prioritisation of the new pedestrian crossing. Progress schemes to Equality Analysis where screening assessment indicates this is required. 	
Date to scope and plan your Equality Analysis:	See Actions – above.
Date to complete your Equality Analysis:	See Actions – above.
Lead person for your Equality Analysis (Include name and job title):	Nat Porter, Interim Head of Transportation Infrastructure Service

5. Governance, ownership and approval

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

Name	Job title	Date
Nat Porter	Interim Head, Transportation Infrastructure Service	28 th January, 2025
Simon Dennis	Policy, Improvement and Risk Manager	31 st January, 2025

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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	28 Jan '25
Report title and date	Transport Capital Programme 25/26 17 Mar '25
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	28 Jan '25