

## 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:**

Regional Adoption Agency

**Directorate:**

CYPS

**Service area:**

Children's Social Care

**Lead person:**

Stuart Williams

**Contact:**

Stuart.williams@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

The continued partnership agreement between Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council and Barnsley, Doncaster and Sheffield in the delivery of adoption services through a Regional Adoption Agency.

### 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 recommendation to be considered by Cabinet is that there are no changes to the delivery of services and as such there is no associated impact to those accessing services.

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?**  
N/A

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Key findings</b></li> </ul> N/A	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Actions</b></li> </ul> N/A	
Date to scope and plan your Equality Analysis:	30 <sup>th</sup> January 2026.
Date to complete your Equality Analysis:	30 <sup>th</sup> January 2026.
Lead person for your Equality Analysis (Include name and job title):	Stuart Williams – Service Director Children’s Social Care.

### 5. Governance, ownership and approval

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

Name	Job title	Date
Stuart Williams	Service Director	30 <sup>th</sup> January 2026.

### 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>	30 <sup>th</sup> January 2026.
<b>Report title and date</b>	Cabinet Report - To approve entering a regional arrangement with Barnsley, Doncaster City, and Sheffield City Council to deliver adoption services as part of a Regional Adoption Agency.
<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>	Report date 16 <sup>th</sup> March 2026.
<b>Date screening sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement</b> <a href="mailto:equality@rotherham.gov.uk">equality@rotherham.gov.uk</a>	30 <sup>th</sup> January 2026.