

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: Towns and Villages Maltby High Street Public Realm Improvements	
Directorate: Regeneration & Environment	Service area: RiDO
Lead person: Lorna Vertigan	Contact: Lorna.Vertigan@rotherham.gov.uk
Is this a:	
☐ Strategy / Policy	☐ Service / Function ☒ Other
If other, please specify	
Proposal for public realm improvements to the High Street in Maltby as part of the Towns and Villages initiative.	

2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening
Maltby High Street is a central route for local residents, visitors, and businesses, and plays an important role in everyday movement, shopping, and access to community services. The area is well-used but has become unkempt and in need of modernisation to create a more welcoming, accessible, and attractive environment for everyone.

Funding has been secured to deliver a package of public realm improvements that will revitalise the high street. This includes:

- **Upgraded, high-quality footway surfacing** to create safer, smoother, and more accessible routes for people walking and using mobility aids.
- **Improved pedestrian crossing points**, incorporating better kerb alignments and tactile paving to support safe and inclusive movement.
- **New street furniture**, including seating, bins, and other amenities, to provide comfortable resting spaces and enhance the overall appearance of the street.
- **Planting and environmental improvements** that contribute to a greener, more pleasant high street and support people's wellbeing.
- **General decluttering and layout enhancements** to improve navigation, visibility, and safety for all users.

These improvements aim to deliver a high-quality, accessible, and welcoming high street that meets the needs of the Maltby community now and into the future.

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>	x	
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>	x	
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>	x	
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns regarding the proposal?		x

<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		
N/A		

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? Equality and diversity have been considered throughout the development of the proposals by ensuring the design aims to improve accessibility, safety, and ease of movement for all users of the high street. Particular attention has been given to the needs of people with protected characteristics, including disabled people, older residents, and parents or carers with prams. For example, consultation responses identified that current footway conditions are a challenge for parents with prams and buggies and present a trip hazard for older people and disabled users. The proposed improvements directly address these concerns by providing upgraded surfacing and improved accessibility. The scheme incorporates inclusive design principles such as smoother, level footways, improved crossing points, and clearer pedestrian routes. Potential short-term impacts during construction have also been recognised, and measures will be planned to minimise disruption and maintain safe access wherever possible. The overall approach ensures the project supports fair and equitable use of the public realm, while enhancing access and experience for a wide range of users.

Key findings The screening has identified that the proposed public realm improvements will have a generally positive impact on equality by enhancing accessibility, safety, and the overall user experience for a wide range of people. The scheme is expected to particularly benefit disabled people, older residents, and those with mobility challenges through smoother footways, improved crossing points, and clearer pedestrian routes. While temporary construction works may create short-term disruption, these impacts can be mitigated through careful site management and maintaining accessible routes. No significant negative or discriminatory impacts on individuals with protected characteristics have been identified, and the project presents opportunities to promote inclusive access and support equitable use of the high street.	
Actions Our key action is to undertake a Part B Equality Analysis Form which will consider the following: • Accessible design – level, smooth footways and improved crossing points. • Access during construction – clear pedestrian routes and good signage. • Consultation feedback – addressing concerns about uneven, trip-hazard surfacing. • Inclusive final scheme – accessible seating and clear, easy-to-navigate routes. • Contractor requirements – adherence to Equality and Equal Opportunities policies. • Ongoing monitoring – review impacts and adjust as needed.	
Date to scope and plan your Equality Analysis:	09/03/2026
Date to complete your Equality Analysis:	09/03/2026
Lead person for your Equality Analysis (Include name and job title):	Melanie Clark Project Manager

5. Governance, ownership and approval		
Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening:		
Name	Job title	Date
Lorna Vertigan	Head of Regeneration	25/06/2026
Natalie Cockrell	Regeneration Service Manager	25/06/2026

Andrew Bramidge	Executive Director	TBA
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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	6 th March 2026
Report title and date	Towns and Villages Maltby High Street Public Realm Improvements
If relates to a Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision – report date and date sent for publication	30/06/2026
Date screening sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement equality@rotherham.gov.uk	25/06/2026