

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.

Directorate: Regeneration and Environment	Service area: Planning, Regeneration and Transport
Lead person: Matthew Reynolds	Contact number: 01709 254490

1. Title: Transportation Capital Investment Programme

Is this a:

☐

Strategy / Policy

☒

Service / Function

☐

Other

If other, please specify

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

Transportation Capital Investment Programme outlines at a programme level, a number of transportation schemes to be delivered and developed in financial year 2019/20. The report also proposes that Cabinet approve the submission of the Full Business Case for the A630 Parkway Widening project.

3. Relevance to equality and diversity		
Questions	Yes	No
Does the activity have implications regarding the accessibility of services to the whole community?	X	
Is there an impact for an individual or group with protected characteristics? (Discrimination, harassment or victimisation of individuals with protected characteristics)	X	
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns about the policy or 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 complete **sections 5 and 6**.

If you have answered **yes** to any of the above please complete **section 4**.

<p>4. Considering the impact on equality and diversity</p> <p>If you have not already done so, the impact on equality and diversity should be considered within your proposals prior to carrying out an Equality Analysis.</p> <p>Considering equalities 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.</p> <p>Please provide specific details for all three areas below and use the prompts for guidance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How have you considered equality and diversity? <p>As this report details a programme of work, it is proposed that an Equality Analysis is carried out on larger schemes where required. Specifically, this refers to the Council's "Equality Analysis; A Guide and Methodology" document, with particular need to accord with Step 3; Engagement. This will ensure that through consultation, schemes will be designed to meet the individual requirements of different people and different communities, considering barriers in relation to protected characteristics.</p> <p>In addition, the key characteristics identified within the Equality Act have been broadly assessed below in key findings.</p>
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- **Key findings**

Age (older people)

Older people are generally more reliant on public transport to access essential services and facilities than those of working age. Older people also tend to require greater access to health services. This can be particularly problematic in remote rural areas where there is limited or no public transport coverage.

These issues can be further compounded by a lack of awareness in availability of transport schemes, such as community transport and dial-a-ride schemes. Older people can also encounter physical barriers, such as trip hazards from uneven surfaces, crossing busy roads, and difficulties boarding and alighting buses and using steps at railway stations.

Population forecasts indicate that the number of older people in the Borough is set to increase in the future.

Age (younger people)

Young people are also often reliant on public transport to access education, employment, and training opportunities, as well as for social and leisure activities. The barriers for mobility for young people include cost and availability of public transport, especially in rural areas.

Disability

Both national and local data acknowledges that transport issues have a significant impact on the lives of people with disabilities. Disabled people tend to travel and drive cars less often than the rest of the population. In fact the most common mode of travel for people with disabilities is as a car passenger. People with disabilities can also experience problems in using public transport, with issues such as inaccessible bus stops, stations, and vehicles, and a lack of clear travel information for various transport services.

The term 'disabilities' covers a multitude of issues, such as physical mobility and sensory problems, as well as learning difficulties. Therefore the transport needs of people with disabilities are wide-ranging and require numerous solutions when planning and developing accessible transport.

Race/Ethnicity

One of the main transport issues concerning race and ethnicity relates to barriers in accessing public transport and transport services. This includes the need for information on public transport services (such as routeing, timetables, and fares information) being made available in different formats and languages to reduce inequality of access. This also applies to the consultation of the schemes.

The Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 places a general duty on public authorities to actively promote race equality. The Council's own practices recognise that there is a need for equality of access to information and services. In terms of transport, this includes information on public transport routes and timetables, and details concerning entitlement for blue badges, concessionary fares, and school transport.

Gender

Evidence from national surveys indicates that women in general have less access to cars than men, and are more likely to use public transport. Women also undertake more supervising journeys than men, whether this is with young children or as a carer.

Women also have personal safety and security concerns, particularly when travelling after dark, which can result in a barrier in travelling later in the day. Crime statistics indicate that women are more likely to suffer sexual assault and harassment, whereas men are more likely to witness and be a victim of physical violence.

The Equality Act places a legal duty on local authorities to eliminate unlawful harassment or discrimination, and to promote equality between men and women. In terms of transport, this includes considering the needs of escort journeys with young children, and improving streetlighting and security on pedestrian/cycle routes and on public transport.

Sexual Orientation

There is no evidence available to suggest that there are specific transport access needs with regards to sexual orientation.

• Actions

Undertake Equality Impact Assessments on larger schemes as they are developed.

Date to scope and plan your Equality Analysis:	-
Date to complete your Equality Analysis:	-
Lead person for your Equality Analysis (Include name and job title):	-

5. Governance, ownership and approval

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

Name	Job title	Date
Matthew Reynolds	Transportation Manager	20 th May 2019

6. Publishing

This screening document will act as evidence that due regard to equality and diversity has been given. If an Equality Analysis is not required the screening document will need

to be published.

If this screening relates to a **Key Delegated Decision, Executive Board, full Council** or a **Significant Operational Decision** a copy should be emailed to Corporate Governance (to include contact) and will be published along with the relevant report.

A copy of **all** screenings should also be sent to Zaidah.ahmed@rotherham.gov.uk For record keeping purposes it will be kept on file (but not published).

Date screening completed	20 th May 2019
If relates to a Key Decision - date sent to Cabinet	
Date screening sent to Equalities Officer Zaidah.ahamed@rotherham.gov.uk	20 th May 2019