

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: Town Deal	
Directorate: Regeneration & Environment	Service area: RIDO
Lead person: Lorna Vertigan	Contact number: 07880480279
Is this a:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Strategy / Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Service / Function
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other
If other, please specify this is a Town Investment Plan which will be used as a bidding tool for external funding	

2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening
The Town Deal is a £3.6bn programme seeking to “unleash the economic potential” of 100 places across the country. Rotherham has been given the opportunity to access £25m to £50m. A Town Investment Plan will be submitted to government in October 2020. The areas covered in Rotherham are Eastwood, Templeborough and the town centre.

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? <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>		x
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>		x
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>		x

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

The Town Investment Plan, if successful will release £25m-£50m for Rotherham and its residents. Plans are not yet fully developed but aim to better the lives of all Rotherham residents by improving environment, connectivity and providing new and better

opportunities.

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

At the time of writing the Cabinet Report and this assessment the full detail of the projects which will be put forward for funding are not known. Instead work so far has focussed on assessing the need and ambition of the communities, residents and businesses within the Town Deal area and developing the feasibility of projects which will meet these needs and demands.

Consultation with communities has and continues to take place and will provide a tool through which to ensure the Town Deal meets the needs of the communities and considers equality and diversity.

- **Key findings**

Consultation is ongoing and will be very widespread, as required by government as part of the bid development. The findings will be summarised in the Town Investment Plan in September. The development of priority projects will consider and be responsive to this consultation.

- **Actions**

The Town Investment Plan will be submitted to Government in October 2020. At that point the full scope will be known and in turn a more thorough impact assessment can be completed.

Date to scope and plan your Equality Analysis:	October 2020
Date to complete your Equality Analysis:	October 2021
Lead person for your Equality Analysis (Include name and job title):	Lorna Vertigan, Senior Programme 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	Senior Programme Manager	12 th August 2020
Dan Watson	Investment & Economic Initiatives Manager	13 th August 2020
Simeon Leach	Economic Strategy & Partnerships Manager	13 th August 2020

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	
Report title and date	Town Deal, 19 th October 2020
If relates to a Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision – report date and date sent for publication	Cabinet 19 th October 2020
Date screening sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement equality@rotherham.gov.uk	13 th August 2020