

## Appendix 4a.

### 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	
<b>Title:</b> The Future of Oaktrees Extra Care Scheme (Stag Willow)	
<b>Directorate:</b> Adult Care, Housing and Public Health	<b>Service area:</b> Adult Care
<b>Lead person:</b> Julie Moore – Head of Service, Provider Services	<b>Contact:</b> <a href="mailto:julie.moore@rotherham.gov.uk">julie.moore@rotherham.gov.uk</a>
Is this a:	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Strategy / Policy</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Service / Function</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Other</b>	
<b>If other, please specify</b>	

2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening
Oaktrees on Stag Willow Close, Broom, was built and developed as an Extra Care scheme in 2006, by Together Housing, Housing Association. The scheme comprised a main building (referred to as the Oak Trees Resource Centre) which contained the typical communal facilities associated with an Extra Care Scheme and 8 individual flats. Adjacent to the Resource Centre are 20 bungalows.

Following a fire risk assessment, the resource centre was closed by Together Housing on 30 October 2020, as the assessment identified significant risks to users and occupiers of the building in the event of a fire.

The Council's care and support team, which operated from the Centre, were relocated to nearby Bakersfield Court (Extra Care Scheme). Support to tenants has continued to be provided by the care staff travelling to Stag Willow Close if wellbeing visits or a call for assistance is required.

Since August 2020, Adult Social Care have continued to provide support to tenants, whilst Together Housing decide the long term future of the Resource Centre. After review, and further fire risk assessments Together Housing have decided to permanently close the building.

As such, the report recommends that Cabinet note:

- The decision by Together Housing to permanently close the Resource Centre and the change in type of housing scheme from Extra Care to General Housing.
- Approve the permanent change in service delivery to an offsite wrap around care and support service in line with the current delivery model.

**Future consideration for the site**

Following cabinet approval of the recommendations within the report, it is the intention of Together Housing, as the landlord, to consult with tenants of the bungalows regarding future use of the site. This will support Together Housing's strategic decision making and has been advised by their legal representatives.

**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		

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?

Regular communication, public meetings and engagement with tenants

##### Key findings

The current off site service delivery model is meeting the support needs of those tenants who require this. This includes wellbeing calls/visits and emergency responses.

A range of activities have been offered at nearby Bakersfield Court; details of local community events have been shared

##### Actions

The offsite wrap around care and support service will continue in line with the current delivery model.

Following the closure of the resource centre, the service will continue to support tenants to access other activities and opportunities in the community and at nearby Bakersfield Court

Date to scope and plan your Equality Analysis:	1 <sup>st</sup> August 2023
Date to complete your Equality Analysis:	11 <sup>th</sup> August 2023
Lead person for your Equality Analysis (Include name and job title):	Julie Moore, Head of Service Adult Care Provider Services

### 5. Governance, ownership and approval

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

Name	Job title	Date
Ian Spicer	Strategic Director	14 <sup>th</sup> August 2023

### 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>	14 <sup>th</sup> August 2023
<b>Report title and date</b>	The Future of Oaktrees Extra Care Scheme (Stag Willow) 18 <sup>th</sup> September 2023
<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>	18 <sup>th</sup> September 2023
<b>Date screening sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement</b> <a href="mailto:equality@rotherham.gov.uk">equality@rotherham.gov.uk</a>	14th August 2023