

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:

Public Spaces Protection Order – Dog Fouling and Control – Boroughwide 2023

Directorate:

Regeneration and Environment

Service area:

Regulation and Enforcement

Lead person:

Craig Cornwall

Contact number:

01709 823118

Is this a:

Strategy / Policy

Service / Function

Other

If other, please specify

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

The report and recommendation on the designation of a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) is defined through the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 and Statutory Guidance which provides a legal framework within which PSPOs can be implemented. Orders can be introduced in a specific public area where the local authority is satisfied on reasonable grounds that certain conditions have been met.

The first test concerns the nature of the anti-social behaviour, requiring that:

- activities that have taken place have had a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, or it is likely that activities will take place and that they will

have a detrimental effect

- the effect or likely effect of these activities:
 - is, or is likely to be, persistent or continuing in nature
 - is, or is likely to be, unreasonable
 - justifies the restrictions being imposed

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

PSPOs are based on a legislative power already in statute and passed and tested in law. The Order, or versions of the same policy, have been in place in Rotherham since 2017 with no adverse effects in relation to equalities.

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?**

A public consultation took place between 26 June and 6 August 2023. This included an online public facing questionnaire, plus:

- *Signposting of the online consultation by the Council's Social Media platforms.*
- *Internal consultation with key impacted services such as Green Spaces and Bereavement Services (with particular reference to clauses relating to Children's Play Areas and Cemeteries).*
- *Inclusion of the consultation on corporate newsletters including 'Rotherham Round-Up' Newsletter which has thousands of subscribers.*
- *Email to all registered private sector Landlords and Managing Agents inviting participation as Rotherham residents or Business Representatives.*
- *Discussion with key stakeholders within frontline practitioner meetings and Ward Briefings.*
- *Emails to all Town Centre businesses registered with RiDO.*
- *Inclusion of the news item on a Voluntary Action Rotherham e-bulletin with 1,300 subscribers.*
- *Letters of invitation to reply to the key statutory agencies such as the Police, PCC, SY Fire & Rescue as well as well-established voluntary and third sector organisations such as Clifton Learning Partnership, REMA and RotherFed.*

- **Key findings**

The consultation did not identify any issues from an equalities perspective

- **Actions**

None

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
Lewis Coates	Service Manager Regulation and Enforcement	25 May 2023
Craig Cornwall	Community Protection Manager	10 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 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	10 August 2023
Report title and date	Public Spaces Protection Order – Dog Fouling and Control – Boroughwide 2023
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 November 2023
Date screening sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement equality@rotherham.gov.uk	10 August 2023