

Appendix 2a PART A - Initial Equality Screening Assessment Rotherham Public Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Strategy



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: RMBC Public EV Charging Infrastructure

Directorate:
Finance & Customer Services

Service area:
Asset Management

Lead person:
Louise Preston

Contact:
louise.preston@rotherham.gov.uk

Is this a:

Strategy / Policy

 Service / Function

 Other

If other, please specify

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

This paper presents a Public EV charging infrastructure strategy for Cabinet approval which outlines the way in which the Council will approach future installations of EV Charging infrastructure.

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

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?**

The provision of EV Charging infrastructure has 3 main equality impacts:

1. Accessibility standards for less able users.
2. Difficulties for those with sensory or cognitive impairments.
3. Language barrier for users for who English is not the first language.

- **Key findings**

1. Measures designed to protect charging infrastructure from accidental damage can cause difficulty of access for disabled user e.g., tyre bump stops, protective barriers in front of machine, machine mounted back from a kerb.
2. Other factors affecting accessibility include height and clarity of display / operating panel, weight / storage position of charger plug and cabling.
3. The charger plug, the socket on the vehicle (including the location on the vehicle) is beyond the control of the Council but could also create difficulties for the less able user.

- **Actions**

1. Design and procurement will include a defined number of designated accessible bays with additional space all round and with reference to PAS 1899:2022 recommendations for Accessible Charging Stations.
2. Charger operation will be specified with alternative language input and / or a graphical user guide to overcome language and cognitive issues.
3. Bay design will allow for additional difficulties faced by less able users in handling heavy cables and difficult to manage plugs.

Date to scope and plan your Equality Analysis:

30/01/2024

Date to complete your Equality Analysis:

30/01/2024

Lead person for your Equality Analysis
(Include name and job title):

Andy Wilson, Energy Efficiency Officer

5. Governance, ownership and approval

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

Name	Job title	Date
Louise Preston	Climate Change Manager	16/02/24

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 published on the Council's Equality and Diversity Internet page.

Date screening completed	30/01/24
Report title and date	The Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Strategy
If relates to a Cabinet, key delegated officer decision, Council, other committee or a significant operational decision – report date and date sent for publication	18 th March 2024 - Cabinet
Date screening sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement equality@rotherham.gov.uk	02/02/24