

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: Householder Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document

Directorate:
Regeneration & Environment Services

Service area:
Planning Policy Team
Planning, Regeneration and Transport

Lead person:
Katherine Boswell
Planning Officer

Contact number:
823805

Is this a:

Strategy / Policy

Service / Function

Other

If other, please specify

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

Adoption of the Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) which will look to provide additional guidance for implementing adopted Local Planning policies on householder development. The SPD will be used by applicants submitting planning applications across the borough. The outcome will be planning decisions which comply with the relevant planning policies set out in the SPD, which will have an impact on residents, workers, visitors or other users of any future development. As the SPD is supplementary to the Local Plan, this Part A screening only considers to equalities implications for this document whereas the wider implications of the programme have been assessed in a prior Equalities Analysis completed for the Local Plan.

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>		✓
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>		✓
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>		✓
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>		✓
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>		✓
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>		✓

If you have answered no to all the questions above, please explain the reason

The revised SPD is intended to provide further assistance to all applicants applying for planning permission as to how Local Plan policies will be implemented and planning decisions made. As such the document will provide assistance to all, regardless of their protected characteristic(s).

The Local Plan was supported by an Integrated Impact Assessment, which included an Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA). As the SPD is supplementary to the Local Plan, the wider equalities of the programme will have been covered in the EqIA. In doing this, the effects of the planned growth on all sections of the community were comprehensively

assessed; the plan was then passed by the inspector and subsequently adopted by the Council. The outputs and recommendations arising from the EqIA were taken into account in drafting the policies of the Local Plan. Therefore, any subsequent measures to implement the Local Plan as adopted reflect the equalities assessment and the outputs and recommendations, previously undertaken and included within the accompanying IIA.

The revised SPD is independent of the protected characteristics of a person. There is no evidence that there will be a differential impact based on the protected characteristics of a person.

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?**

N/A

- **Key findings**

N/A

- **Actions**

N/A

Date to scope and plan your Equality Analysis:	N/A
--	-----

Date to complete your Equality Analysis:	N/A
--	-----

Lead person for your Equality Analysis (Include name and job title):	N/A
--	-----

5. Governance, ownership and approval

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

Name	Job title	Date
Andy Duncan	Planning Policy Manager	05/08/2025

--	--	--

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	05/08/2025
Report title and date	Householder Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document
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 - 13 October 2025
Date screening sent to Performance, Intelligence and Improvement equality@rotherham.gov.uk	07/08/2025