

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

DONCASTER METROPLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Due Regard Statement Template

How to show due regard to the equality duty in how we develop our work and in our decision making.

Due Regard Statement

A **Due Regard Statement** (DRS) is the tool for capturing the evidence to demonstrate that due regard has been shown when the council plans and delivers its functions. A Due Regard Statement must be completed for all programmes, projects and changes to service delivery.

- A DRS should be initiated at the beginning of the programme, project or change to inform project planning
- The DRS runs adjacent to the programme, project or change and is reviewed and completed at the relevant points
- Any reports produced needs to reference “Due Regard” in the main body of the report and the DRS should be attached as an appendix
- The DRS cannot be fully completed until the programme, project or change is delivered.

<p>1 Name of the ‘policy’ and briefly describe the activity being considered including aims and expected outcomes. This will help to determine how relevant the ‘policy’ is to equality.</p>	<p>Highway Safety Inspection Policy and Highways Pothole Policy</p> <p>Both of the above polices are fully encompassing and inclusive of any person either living, travelling to / from or passing through the borough and considers the needs of all service users it is considered that a Due Regards Statement (DRS) is not required for the actual policies, because everyone benefits from the policies.</p> <p>However it is considered that a DRS is required with regards to the low level consultation that is to be carried out with a representative sample of Doncaster’s stakeholders.</p> <p>The consultation will be in the form of a brief questionnaire tailored around the principles of the proposed policies and will utilise the survey monkey mechanism for carrying out the actual survey and subsequently collating the results.</p> <p>The aim is to ensure that the stakeholders of Doncaster are able to understand the development of the Highway Policies, and in turn Doncaster residents will benefit from having, efficient, effective and modern process in place for Highway Safety Inspections, Pothole identification and response times. There is a large amount of technical information and legislation that governs the way we manage our statutory duties which restricts being able to re-design the service from scratch.</p> <p>The Council will benefit, providing a Value for Money whilst carrying out its Statutory Duties.</p> <p>The survey is intended to capture stakeholders views on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do defects in an adopted highway affect their journey? • Should there be a different defect criteria for different parts of the adopted highway • Should a risk based approach be applied? • Should there be different response times depending on the severity and location of a defect? • Opportunity to provide bespoke comments. •
<p>2 Service area responsible for completing this statement.</p>	<p>Regeneration and Environment</p>

<p>3 Summary of the information considered across the protected groups.</p> <p>Service users/residents</p>	<p>Due regard was given to carrying out the consultation, and discussions have taken place with stakeholders:</p> <p>As the policies are fully inclusive of anyone living in, travelling through or visiting the borough and considers the needs of ALL service users it and was therefore considered that the consultation only need to go to a limited number of stakeholders to obtain a representative overview from both individuals and organisations :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Visibly impaired• Blind• Public Transport• Cycling• Local business• Highways England• Individuals <p>Explanatory information was provided to the consultees along with a nominated point of contact for them to either obtain additional information or discuss any aspect of the consultation process further.</p> <p>No information will be collected with regards to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Age• Gender• Religion• Ethnical background• Disability• Marital Status• Employment Status <p>The reason being that the above information would have no influence on determining or implementing the either of the highway policies as they duly consider the service needs of all highway users.</p>
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4	Summary of the consultation/engagement activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The consultation was run via Survey Monkey during January / February. • The results were collated and analysed in February. • Received comments were duly considered alongside of the policy document to determine if any raised point had been adequately addressed. • Any supplementary comments received (about other Council service areas) were disseminated to the appropriate service delivery team. • DRS annexed to the policy report to Portfolio Holder.
5	Real Consideration: Summary of what the evidence shows and how has it been used	<p>Having considered the returned information it can be evidenced that the drafted polices are aligned to the views expressed within the collated survey returns.</p> <p>The additional comments are not directly pertinent to either the highway policies or this DRS, however they are recognised in their own right as being areas of valid concern to stakeholders and will be investigated on their own merits by the appropriate department.</p>
6	Decision Making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Attaching a due regard statement as an annex to a Cabinet report is not acceptable unless it is also supported with a short summary within the body of the report or is specifically referred to and deliberated within the agenda.</i> • <i>Outline how the decision maker has been made aware of due regard considerations.</i>
7	Monitoring and Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Environment – Cllr J. Blackham • Directors • Exec Board
8	Sign off and approval for publication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>By signing this statement off as complete you are confirming that ‘you’ have examined sufficient information across all the protected groups and used that information to show due regard to the three aims of the general duty. This has informed the development of the activity.</i> • <i>If this statement accompanies cabinet paper it will be published as part of the cabinet report publication process. Statements accompanying cabinet reports are also published on our website. If this statement is not to be submitted with a cabinet paper please maintain a copy for your own records that can be retrieved for internal review and also in case of future challenge.</i>

