

Appendix 4

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</p>	<p>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>Edlington Selective Licensing Report.</p> <p>The proposal is to introduce a selective licensing scheme for private sector landlords, in Edlington, to reduce anti-social behaviour (ASB) emanating from the private rented sector (PRS) and to improve tenancy management in that sector.</p> <p>Selective licensing provides the authority with additional tools to help combat anti-social behaviour and, can legally require landlords to take responsibility for tenancy management.</p> <p>The aim is to reduce ASB and improve the quality of life for residents living in Edlington.</p>
<p>2</p>	<p>Service area responsible for completing this statement.</p>	<p>Regeneration & Environment - Regulation & Enforcement.</p>
<p>3</p>	<p>Summary of the information considered across the protected groups.</p> <p>Service users/residents</p> <p>Doncaster Workforce</p>	<p>The relevant protected characteristics under the Equality Act are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.</p> <p>At Doncaster Council, promoting equality of opportunity, eliminating discrimination and building cohesive and inclusive communities is about making life better for our residents, service users, customers and employees.</p> <p>The selective licensing scheme is aimed at private sector landlords irrespective of their personal, including any protected, characteristics.</p> <p>The standards and licence conditions will apply to all properties and tenants in the designated area of Edlington irrespective of their personal, including any protected, characteristics.</p>

	<p>Similarly, the improved standards of property and tenancy management, through compliance with licence conditions, apply to all properties and tenants in the designated areas, irrespective of their personal characteristics.</p> <p>It is the intention that the improved standards of property and tenancy management and the aim to reduce ASB, will improve the quality of life for all tenants and residents living in Edlington.</p> <p>Furthermore, one licence condition specifically (see condition 12 ix in Appendix 3) highlights the requirement to not discriminate against any person, including tenants and residents, with protected characteristics under the Act</p> <p>One potential gap identified in the delivery of these proposals is linked to language barriers during consultation and implementation for those residents and landlords who do not speak English as a first language. This has been considered and guidance in different languages of how to access the information in the consultation document in another language was provided in the consultation letter that was delivered to every household in Edlington.</p> <p>The translations provided were based on information gained of minority languages existing in the local primary schools. During consultation events officers also had access to telephone translation to ensure any questions could be made and answered in any language.</p> <p>The consultation letter that was delivered to all properties provided the online details of the consultation documents. However, a hard copy could be provided on request, thus allowing residents who were unable to attend the consultation meetings to provide feedback on the proposals. The consultation meetings were held in the Edlington Community Organisation building to allow local residents to easily attend. Landlords events were held in the Edlington and Doncaster council offices.</p>
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4 Summary of the consultation/engagement activities	<p>Consultation has taken place with residents and landlords at several events during the consultation period (18th April – 11th July 2017).</p> <p>24th April 2017 – Residents Information Day, Yorkshire Main Community Centre, Edlington 19th May 2017 – Residents Information Day, Yorkshire Main Community Centre, Edlington 23rd May 2017 – Landlord Consultation Event, Civic offices 25th May 2017 – Landlords Meeting, Martinwells Centre, Edlington 8th June 2017 – Landlord Consultation Event, Civic offices 13th June 2017 – Landlord meeting Adwick Town Hall</p> <p>Regular meetings have taken place with Edlington Town Council and the local Ward Members where the proposals to implement a selective licensing scheme have been discussed including the consultation proposals.</p> <p>25th April 2017 – Edlington Multi-agency Meeting 9th May 2017 – Royal Estate Multi-agency Meeting, Martinwells Centre, Edlington 24th May 2017 - Parish Council Meeting, Grainger Centre, Edlington 24th June 2017 – Royal Estate Multi-agency Meeting 6th July 2017 – Parish Council/Mutli-agency Meeting</p> <p>In addition there has been meetings with stakeholders as part of the Multi-Agency Group that has been meeting on a monthly basis since November 2016.</p> <p>The following agencies were consulted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local elected members• South Yorkshire Police• South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service• St Leger Homes of Doncaster• Parish and Town councils• The Residential Landlords Association• National Landlords Association
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5	Real Consideration: Summary of what the evidence shows and how has it been used	<p>The framework to accommodate the process of implementing a selective licensing scheme in Edlington will operate within existing, multi-agency mechanisms.</p> <p>The mutli agency meetings attended by the Enforcement Team include the local Case Identification Meeting (CIM); Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG); Joint Action Group (JAG) which already take into account the individual requirements of vulnerable members of the community. These meetings allow the opportunity to discuss individual cases as well as target those residents who are causing ASB for vulnerable residents.</p> <p>The introduction of a selective licensing scheme should allow greater use of enforcement powers to deal with ASB and require landlords to assist in dealing with ASB emanating from tenants living in their properties.</p> <p>The consultation responses from the partner agencies (see Appendix 3 of the report) all indicate their support for the proposals as another tool to combat the ASB issues affecting the residential amenity of all parts of the local community.</p>
6	Decision Making	<p>The portfolio holder and Mayor has been made aware of the selective licensing scheme and the proposals throughout the consultation process through regular meetings and email updates accordingly.</p> <p>There was a public meeting on 30th March 2017 when the Mayor attended. Selective Licensing was on the agenda of discussion.</p>
7	Monitoring and Review	<p>The selective licensing scheme runs for a maximum of 5 years and there will be a review of the scheme after the first year. The sheme will also be reviewed on an annual basis thereafter to assess whether the objectives of the scheme are being met.</p> <p>The mutli-agency meetings detailed in Section 5 will provide a robust challenge for the scheme as partners assess what effect the implementation of the scheme has done to address ASB in the private rented sector.</p>

8	Sign off and approval for publication	To be completed following the implementation of the Selective Licensing scheme for Edlington.
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