

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

DONCASTER METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Due Regard Statement

Trans Pennine Trail Improvements

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>Trans Pennine Trail Improvements</p> <p>Resurfacing of 2.5 miles of the Trans Pennine Trail will enhance Doncasters existing cycle network. In 2016 when 3 miles of Trans Pennine Trail was resurfaced it saw an increase in people using the Trans Pennine Trail of 700%</p> <p>Encouraging more cycling and walking can ease traffic congestion which enables the borough to grow, has positive health and wellbeing benefits that improves people’s quality of life and helps to reduce air and noise pollution.</p> <p>More walking and cycling will help to create a better environment for all residents, businesses and visitors. It is also better for businesses with healthier and happier staff, and a better retail and leisure environment.</p> <p>The works will meet aims set out in both the Cycling and Walking strategies as well as contribute to improving three of the five key themes in “Get Doncaster Moving”. These are Walking, Cycling and Parks and Open Spaces.</p>
<p>2</p>	<p>Service area responsible for completing this statement.</p>	<p>Transportation Unit, Economy and Environment</p>
<p>3</p>	<p>Summary of the information considered across the protected groups.</p>	<p>It is recognised that the following protected characteristics will be impacted by the above proposal.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age • Disability <p>The service will focus delivery to Doncaster residents.</p>

	<p>Service users/residents</p>
<p>4 Summary of the consultation/engagement activities</p>	<p>A priority exercise was completed which included officers from Transportation, Public Rights of Way and Sustrans to determine the areas that needed resurfacing works the most. A number of factors were taken into consideration including levels of deprivation, the score it was awarded in the recent Sustrans Path for All report and areas that flagged up the most in consultation with the general public. The two sites that were selected for works were Mill Lane, Harlington to Pastures Rd and Park Rd, Bentley to Toll Bar.</p> <p>Sustrans will be hosting community engagement events as part of the works to see what features can enhance the Trans Pennine Trail such as increased wildflower and biodiversity, seating, signage etc. Sustrans will also be responsible for engaging with equestrian users that regularly use the routes.</p> <p>Local residents will be notified of the works in advance of the project commencement.</p>
<p>5 Real Consideration:</p> <p>Summary of what the evidence shows and how has it been used</p>	<p>To increase cycling in Doncaster the cycle strategy refers to a number of key themes. One of the key themes outlined is high quality cycle infrastructure.</p> <div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px;">Infrastructure</div> <div style="border: 1px solid #008000; padding: 5px;"> <p>Implementation of high-quality design standards / guidelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It was felt that this would support / enforce construction of cycle friendly infrastructure that is safe and of a high quality. </div>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- While also supporting funding bids and opportunities <p>Improving the connectivity of the existing cycle network, while maintaining and / or upgrading the quality where necessary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- It was generally felt that the existing cycle network is of a good quality and provides a solid foundation from which to build on; however better connectivity of the network is required to support easily accessible, safe and enjoyable cycling journeys to and from the town centre and across the borough- Suggestions included;<ul style="list-style-type: none">o additional and better signageo removing physical barriers from off-highway trailso maintaining, upgrading and implementing infrastructure schemes to improve connectivity <p>Safety is paramount and should be considered as part of any infrastructure scheme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Respondents consistently identified real and perceived danger as key barriers to cycling.- This was of course related to safety while cycling but also included safe and secure cycle storage	
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	<p>The walking strategy outlines the following relevant ambitions for increasing walking.</p> <p>1. To improve the quality of where someone walks</p> <p>“Ensure new pedestrian infrastructure is high quality, legible and integrated into the wider network and considers inclusivity and pedestrian safety Ensure all new routes and footways are designed in line with planning policy and relevant supplementary planning documents (SPD) including Doncaster Council Development Guidance and Requirements SPD and South Yorkshire Residential Design Guide SPD.”</p> <p>2. People feel safer walking</p> <p>“Promote walking safety on recreational routes Publish information and advice for recreational walkers through Doncaster Council communication channels, including information on route suitability and advice on walking safety.”</p> <p>3. Walking is and enjoyable way to discover Doncaster</p> <p>“Develop and enhance recreational walking opportunities in Borough In line with the Doncaster Rights of Way Improvement Plan, explore opportunities to develop and improve recreational walking routes and the Rights of Way network by improving existing routes and creating new routes where appropriate and where the opportunities arise”.</p>
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6	Decision Making	Doncaster Active Travel Alliance
7	Monitoring and Review	<p>Monitoring and Review will be completed through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring will be fed into Doncaster Active Travel Alliance which will report into the Get Doncaster Moving Walking and Cycling Project Board.
8	Sign off and approval for publication	