

# Appendix D:

## Climate Emergency Impact Assessment Form

**Title:**

Corporate Carbon Reduction Plan: Year 1 Progress and Year 2 Action Plan

**Type of Project:**

Strategy/Policy	Update on yr 1 actions and setting yr 2 actions adopted Corporate Carbon Reduction Plan
Service/Function	Sustainability
Other – please specify. (e.g. infrastructure/equipment purchase)	N/A

Service area/Directorate	Change & Communities
Lead officer	Karin Grey
Names and roles of other people involved in carrying out the impact assessment	N/A
Date impact assessment started	11/07/2023

**Brief description of the project/activity including the proposed outcomes:**

Update report of the adopted Corporate Carbon Descent Plan and progress on meeting the year 1 actions and setting the targets for the year 2 action plan.

**Options appraisal:**

Were any other options considered in trying to achieve the aim of this project? If so, please give brief details and explain why alternative options were not progressed.

The focus for this report is on providing an update on progress and developing the year 2 actions towards carbon reduction. Actions are currently focused on behaviour change messages and identifying opportunities for future carbon reduction. Some heat decarbonisation work is being progressed for 2 of the properties. Any other specific more detailed works would require separate reports and agreement.

**Financial Impacts:**

What impact will this proposal have on council carbon emissions? Increased emissions will increase costs in the long term. Will it be cost neutral, have increased cost, or reduce costs? The shadow price of carbon may need to be considered – see the guidance document.

Please explain why this will be the result, detailing estimated savings or costs where this is possible.

Consider impact over the lifetime of the project, this for example should include information on on-going maintenance, costs savings from lower energy use, long term implications in terms of carbon off-setting costs, due to not meeting the net zero ambition by 2030. A project might be very expensive in the short term if capital investment is required, but this could pay back over time in energy savings, and reductions of emissions, over a longer period.

Depending on the type of project this may be relatively simple or will require more detailed analysis and a clear outline of types of costs and how assessed.

Currently some actions are progressing to identify carbon reduction opportunities for the estate. The actions proposed are all to progress carbon reduction across our own operations and services. Modelling is being reviewed following more detailed assessment on the council's property portfolio, which will give a clearer indication of the long-term costs associated in aiming for being carbon neutral by 2030 and the associated offsetting costs. No specific other funding apart from that obtained via PSDS or allocated capital works has been identified.

Please provide details of external funding sought and obtained, (e.g. grant funding):

As per report, a total of £1,489,000 was awarded to develop heat decarbonisation plans for the council's property portfolio and implement specified decarbonisation projects at the Depot and Weald Sports centre.

**Qualitative Impact Appraisal:**

<p><b>How will this proposal impact on carbon/the environment?</b></p> <p><b>N.B. There may be short term negative impact and longer-term positive impact. Please include all potential impacts over the lifetime of a project and provide an explanation.</b></p>	<p><b>Positive impact</b> (Place a X in the box below where relevant)</p>	<p><b>No impact</b> (Place an X in the box below where relevant)</p>	<p><b>Negative impact</b> (Place a X in the box below where relevant)</p>	<p><b>Explain why will it have this effect and over what timescale?</b></p> <p><b>Where possible/relevant depending on type of project please include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Changes over and above business as usual.</b></li> <li>• <b>Evidence or measurement of effect.</b></li> <li>• <b>Figures for CO<sub>2</sub>e</b></li> <li>• <b>Links to relevant documents</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Explain how you plan to improve any positive outcomes as far as possible and mitigate any negative effects.</b></p>
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<b>Energy:</b>					
The Council's energy consumption via its buildings and the services provided (electricity, gas, oil). Tick +ve if consumption will reduce.	X				As per main report the focus is on working towards meeting the carbon neutral goal by 2030.
<b>Travel and Transport</b>					
The Council's energy consumption via travel (eg	X				As per main report the focus is on working towards meeting the carbon neutral goal by 2030.

petrol/diesel). Tick +ve if consumption will reduce. If an EV is used the energy consumption can be included in the energy row above.					
<b>Water</b>					
The Council's water usage. Tick +ve if consumption will reduce.	X				Some impact through behaviour change to reduce waste, but minimal, will require greater input from ambassadors and messages to all staff. No specific projects at this stage to implement specific water management projects.
<b>Waste including food waste</b>					
Waste generated and type of waste. Tick +ve if consumption will reduce.	X				Some impact through behaviour change, but limited. Recycling bins available in offices but need to improve messaging to all building users to recycle correctly and to reduce waste.
<b>Renewable Energy</b>					
Creation of renewable energy. Tick +ve if it increases renewable energy production. Quantify these changes as part of the project benefits.		X			Projects will be brought forward separately, in conjunction with works identified for the property portfolio.
<b>Buildings &amp; Infrastructure</b>					
If the project involves the development/building of, or the acquisition of a building has the energy usage been considered. Tick +ve if the impact on the council's carbon emission reduce. Due to the nature of these projects a separate detailed assessment may be required to clearly quantify these changes.	X				Energy efficiency works planned to the Depot and Weald Sports centre; plus further plans being drawn up for other key buildings.

<p>Embodied<sup>®</sup> energy - does your project/proposal include construction of buildings, refurbishment and fit-outs or other significant infrastructure? If no, then tick neutral. If yes, have genuine efforts been made to minimise the embodied energy<sup>®</sup> in the materials being used for that construction, and the source of such materials? Detail must be provided. Very often renovation can have a lower carbon footprint.</p>				<p>N/A</p>	
<p><b>Impacts on the Borough in general</b></p>					
<p>Assess the impacts of the project in terms of Borough wide carbon emissions and environmental impacts. Use the categories as listed in this table as a guide.</p> <p>Will this project increase pollution, (include any impacts on air, land, water, light, and noise)?</p>		<p>X</p>			<p>It will not increase emissions. By focusing on reducing the councils carbon emissions it demonstrates a commitment to lead by example.</p>
<p><b>Biodiversity</b></p>					
<p>Protecting, enhancing, and increasing biodiversity (use of chemicals and their impacts e.g., on pollinators)</p>	<p>X</p>				<p>Some positive benefits, in terms of our own green spaces, by reviewing opportunities to promote and implement nature friendly practices in our parks, sports/activity fields and open spaces.</p>

Landscaping of green spaces in construction, civil engineering, highways, grass-cutting verges, and hedgerows		X			Separately, biodiversity and biodiversity net gain is being developed via the local plan.
<b>Climate adaptation and resilience</b>					
Adapting to be able to cope with the effects of climate change, i.e., flooding/extreme heat		X			This is an area that needs to be considered in detail, specifically ensuring the council's own operations and services are resilient to a changing climate as well as supporting our communities to adapt.
<b>Offset scheme</b>					
Carbon offsetting – how will an increase in carbon emissions be offset. Tick +ve only if an effective offset scheme is used		X			An offset scheme has yet to be developed.

for embodied energy information please see the guidance document

**Good Practice Standards:**

Are there any recognised good practice environmental standards in relation to this proposal? If so, please detail how this proposal meets those standards.

For greenhouse gas accounting the greenhouse gas protocol was followed.

In terms of ISO 14001 this sets out the criteria for an environmental management system and can be certified to. It maps out a framework that can be followed to set up an effective environmental management system. Designed for any type of organisation, regardless of its activity or sector, it can provide assurance to the organisation as well as external stakeholders that environmental impact is being measured and improved. The Council currently does not have ISO14001 accreditation, it is possible to review this in the future. However, in the meantime by monitoring our emissions in line with the GHG protocol and developing actions for carbon reduction and support nature recovery and reporting on these, provides transparency and measurability.

**Summary:**

Summarise the findings of your impact assessment, the recommendation in relation to addressing impacts, including any legal advice, mitigation/adaptation, and next steps. This summary paragraph should be used as part of the cross-cutting issues in the main report to the decision maker and include this whole document as part of your appendices or background papers.

This report positively impacts on the environment and biodiversity. It recognises the climate and biodiversity emergency and aims to work towards supporting local improvements to biodiversity if possible and by reducing the Council's own carbon emissions supports environmental benefits.