

Climate Emergency Impact Assessment Form

Before completing this form, it is essential you read the Climate Emergency Impact Assessment guidance document.

This assessment is to help officers think about how their projects, procurements, commissioning, and services can align with the Council’s carbon reduction targets and aid in informed decision making. The level of detail required will be vary significantly. In many cases a simple qualitative assessment may be adequate, the depth of assessment will depend on the type of project/work matter being considered.

Title:

Health Inequalities Action Plan 2023-25
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Type of Project:

Strategy/Policy	✓
Service/Function	
Other – please specify. (e.g. infrastructure/equipment purchase)	

Service area/Directorate	Change and communities
Lead officer	Rebecca Bowers
Names and roles of other people involved in carrying out the impact assessment	N/A
Date impact assessment started	10/02/2023

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

The Health Inequalities Action Plan 2015-19 was developed in 2015 by Tunbridge Wells Borough Council in partnership with members of the Tunbridge Wells Health Action Team (HAT). A review of the existing plan has been completed with many of the actions closed and public health indicators have also been reviewed.

An updated Health Inequalities Action Plan has been written in partnership with the HAT, highlighting new priority areas:

- Mental health
- Loneliness and isolation
- Addictions
- Obesity and physical inactivity
- People with disabilities and older people

The proposed outcome of this report is that Cabinet adopt the Health Inequalities Action Plan, which the HAT will work on at their quarterly meetings.

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.

N/A

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.

No financial impact identified.

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

N/A

Qualitative Impact Appraisal:

<p>How will this proposal impact on carbon/the environment?</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Positive impact (Place a X in the box below where relevant)</p>	<p>No impact (Place an X in the box below where relevant)</p>	<p>Negative impact (Place a X in the box below where relevant)</p>	<p>Explain why will it have this effect and over what timescale?</p> <p>Where possible/relevant depending on type of project please include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes over and above business as usual. • Evidence or measurement of effect. • Figures for CO₂e • Links to relevant documents 	<p>Explain how you plan to improve any positive outcomes as far as possible and mitigate any negative effects.</p>
Energy:					
<p>The Council's energy consumption via its buildings and the services provided (electricity, gas, oil). Tick +ve if consumption will reduce.</p>		x			
Travel and Transport					
<p>The Council's energy consumption via travel (eg petrol/diesel). Tick +ve if consumption will reduce. If an EV is used the energy consumption can be included in the energy row above.</p>	x			<p>The action plan aims to work with economic development on active travel initiatives</p>	<p>To share active travel funding and plans with HAT partners.</p>
Water					

The Council's water usage. Tick +ve if consumption will reduce.		x			
Waste including food waste					
Waste generated and type of waste. Tick +ve if consumption will reduce.		x			
Renewable Energy					
Creation of renewable energy. Tick +ve if it increases renewable energy production. Quantify these changes as part of the project benefits.		x			
Buildings & Infrastructure					
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			
Embodied ¹ 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		x			

<p>the embodied energy¹ 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>Impacts on the Borough in general</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>		x			
<p>Biodiversity</p>					
<p>Protecting, enhancing, and increasing biodiversity (use of chemicals and their impacts e.g., on pollinators)</p>		x			
<p>Landscaping of green spaces in construction, civil engineering, highways, grass-cutting verges, and hedgerows</p>		x			
<p>Climate adaptation and resilience</p>					
<p>Adapting to be able to cope with the effects of climate change, i.e., flooding/extreme heat</p>		x			

Offset scheme					
Carbon offsetting – how will an increase in carbon emissions be offset. Tick +ve only if an effective offset scheme is used		x			

† 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.

N/A


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.


No significant opportunities to reduce carbon emissions from the Council’s own operations have been identified for this area of activity. The impact assessment shows that this action plan will have little to no negative impact on the Council’s carbon reduction targets. It has been identified that the promotion of active travel opportunities to residents, as well as working with partners in Economic Development, will have a positive impact on energy consumption via travel.

Sign off:

This climate change impact assessment was completed by:

Name	Rebecca Bowers
Job title	Health Improvement Team Leader
Service area/Directorate	Health Improvement Team/Change and Communities
Signature	
Completion date	10/02/2023

Authorised by relevant Head of Service/Director:

Name	Gary Stevenson
Title	Head of Housing, Health and Environment
Signature	
Date	14 February 2023