

Environment and Sustainability Assessment

Birmingham City Council is required to assess any positive or negative impacts that any policy/strategy/ decision/development proposal is likely to have on the environment. To complete the assessment, you should consider whether that policy/development/proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on each of the key themes by placing a (✓) for positive, (x) for negative and (?) for unclear impact, and (N/A) for non-applicable impact. The assessment must be completed for all Cabinet reports. It is the responsibility of the Service Director signing off the report to ensure that the assessment is complete. The officers from the sustainability team can help to fill the assessment especially during the early days of implementation.

Theme	Example
Natural Resources - Impact on natural resources including water, soil, air.	<p>Does the decision increase water use?</p> <p>Does the decision have an impact on air quality?</p> <p>Does the decision discourage the use of the most polluting vehicles (private and public) and promote sustainable modes of transport or working from home to reduce air pollution?</p> <p>Does the decision impact on soil?</p> <p>For example, development will typically use water for carrying out various operations and, once complete, water will be needed to service the development. Providing water to development and treating affluent water requires energy and contributes to climate change. Some of the activities including construction or disposal of waste may lead to soil pollution. The decisions may lead to more journeys thereby deteriorating air quality and thus contribution to climate change and greenhouse gases.</p>
Energy use and CO ₂ emissions.	<p>Will the decision have an impact on energy use?</p> <p>Will the decision impact on carbon emissions?</p> <p>Most day-to-day activities use energy. The main environmental impact of producing and using energy such as electricity, gas, and fuel (unless it is from a renewable source) is the emission of carbon dioxide.</p>
Quality of environment.	<p>Does the decision impact on the overall quality of the built environment?</p> <p>Decisions may have an impact on the overall setting, character and distinctiveness in the area. For example, if development involves ground digging and excavations etc. it may have an impact on the local archaeology.</p>

Impact on local green and open spaces and biodiversity	<p>The proposal may lead to localised impacts on the local green and open spaces which may have an impact on local biodiversity, trees and other vegetation in the area.</p> <p>Will the proposal lead to loss (or creation) of green and blue infrastructure? For example, selling an open space may reduce access to open space within an area and lead to a loss of biodiversity. However, creating a new open space would have positive effects.</p>
Use of environmentally sustainable products, equipment and packaging'	<p>Will the decision present opportunities to incorporate the use of environmentally sustainable products (such as compostable bags, paper straws etc.), recycled materials (i.e. Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Timber/wood), non-polluting vehicles, avoid the use of single use plastics and packaging.</p>
Minimising waste	<p>Will the decision minimise waste creation and the maximise recycling during the construction and operation of the development/programme/project?</p> <p>Will the decision provide opportunities to improve recycling?</p> <p>For example, if the proposal involves the demolition of a building or a structure, could some of the construction materials be reused in the new development or recycled back into the construction industry for use on another project?</p>
Council plan priority: a city that takes a leading role in tackling climate change and deliver Route to Zero.	<p>How does the proposal or decision contribute to tackling and showing leadership in tackling climate change and deliver Route to Zero aspirations?</p>

Project Title:	Cabinet report: PROPOSED IN-YEAR VARIATION TO ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS FOR COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY CONTROLLED SCHOOLS 2021/22 AND 2022/2023	
Department:	Team: School Admissions and Fair Access: Education and Skills	Person Responsible for assessment: Alan Michell
Date of assessment: 21/06/2021	Is it a new or existing proposal? The report proposes a technical amendment to an existing policy.	
1.2	Brief description of the proposal: The 2021 School Admissions Code (the Code) includes several changes focused on in-year admission processes including the Fair Access process. A significant change as regards formal admission arrangements requires children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted to be given equal first priority in admission arrangements, alongside looked after children (LAC) and children who were previously looked after by English local authorities (PLAC). This advice refers to these children as internationally adopted previously looked after children – “IAPLAC”.	
1.3	The draft Code and associated regulations were laid before Parliament on 13 May 2021. The Code is laid in Parliament for a 40-day period during which both the House of Commons and the House of Lords have the opportunity to review the Code and any Member can pass a motion to not approve it. This 40-day period is expected to expire on 1 July, and provided there is no such motion, the new Code will come into force on 1 September 2021.	
1.4	This new provision in respect of IAPLAC necessitates variations to Birmingham Council's determined admission arrangements to take effect from 1 September 2021. Admission authorities are required to vary their admission arrangements for 2021/22 (which would have been determined by 28 February 2020) and their admission arrangements for 2022/23 (which would have been determined by 28 February 2021). Without these variations, admission arrangements that have already been determined will no longer comply with the Code from this date.	
1.5	It is thus expected that admission authorities hold a meeting before 31 August 2021 to determine the necessary variations to admission arrangements for 2021/2022 and 2022/2023. Variations will be conditional on the Code passing through its Parliamentary process (i.e. a date on or around 1 July 2021). If any variations are agreed before then, they must be expressed to be conditional on the Code passing through Parliament. All such variations should come into effect on 1	

September 2021.

- 1.6 As these variations will be necessary to comply with a mandatory requirement of the Code, it will not be necessary to refer a variation request to the Schools Adjudicator (in respect of maintained schools).
- 1.7 Changes are also proposed to the Co-ordinated Scheme and to the Fair Access Protocol.
- 1.8 The purpose of the report is to agree a variation to the admission arrangements for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools for the academic year 2021/2022 and 2022/2023 **Appendix 1A and 1B** respectively.

Potential impacts of the policy/development decision/procedure/ on:	Positive Impact	Negative Impact	No Specific Impact	What will the impact be? If the impact is negative, how can it be mitigated, what action will be taken?
Natural Resources- Impact on natural resources including water, soil, air			N/A	
Energy use and CO ₂ emissions			N/A	
Quality of environment			N/A	
Impact on local green and open spaces and biodiversity			N/A	
Use of sustainable products and equipment			N/A	
Minimising waste			N/A	
Council plan priority: a city that takes a leading role in tackling climate change			N/A	

Overall conclusion on the environmental and sustainability impacts of the proposal	Not Applicable. The report relates to a technical change in the scope of prioritising internationally adopted children who were previously looked after.
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If you require assistance in completing this assessment, then please contact: ESAGuidance@birmingham.gov.uk