

Project Title: NEC Masterplan and Property Strategy				
Department: PPS	Team: Planning – East & South Birmingham		Person Responsible for assessment: Doug Lee, Development Planning Manager – East & South Birmingham	
Date of assessment: 21/06/2023		Is it a new or existing proposal?: New		
Brief description of the proposal: Authorises agreement for joint venture agreement for the redevelopment of a portion of BCC owed land at the NEC. 2.3 Authorises further consideration of options for Bickenhill Plantation including enhanced connectivity and integration with the proposed Urban Village. 2.5 Authorises the process to initiate a procurement process to select a development partner(s) to undertake development and negotiate the terms of a development agreement to be reported to Cabinet at a future date.				
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			x	
Energy use and CO <sub>2</sub> emissions		x		Through their nature, the construction of the new homes will use energy (through construction and operation once occupied) and subsequently emit carbon. However, these detailed matters will be part of the planning process which will be submitted to Solihull MBC. A BCC R20 officer has spoken with SMBC who have confirmed their ambitious stance around their local plan, which aligns with BCC’s own aspirations. So whilst negative, this impact can be adequately mitigated against.
Impact on local green and open spaces and biodiversity		x		There is the high potential for a negative impact on the Bickenhill plantation and its ecosystem/biodiversity. The Plantation is a substantial mature woodland which is a local

				<p>wildlife area. At present, the 28ha site is closed to the public and is home to a herd of deer dating back to before the NEC's initial construction. The NEC currently manage the Plantation (and by extension the deer). The NEC masterplan proposes "The Masterplan proposes greater integration and connectivity with the Urban Village". A BCC ecologist has been consulted and has expressed concerns around this, especially if this access is intended to meet the open space requirements associated with the homes. High footfall could damage the delicate ecosystem that supports the deer. There is also risk of escape and/or deer casualties if the plantation is opened up. The cabinet report requests authorisation for further consideration of options for Bickenhill Plantation. To mitigate this risk, the R20 team and ecologists should be consulted on this matter as this project progresses. This may also involve collaboration with counterparts at SMBC.</p>
Use of sustainable products and equipment			x	<p>These matters will be covered once a development partner(s) has been appointed to undertake development and negotiate the terms of a development agreement. This will be reported to Cabinet at a future date, at which point a further ESA will be undertaken.</p>
Minimising waste			x	<p>These matters will be covered once a development partner(s) has been appointed to undertake development and negotiate the terms of a development agreement. This will be reported to Cabinet at a future date, at which point a further ESA will be undertaken.</p>
Council plan priority: a city that takes a leading role in tackling climate change	x			<p>The proposals involve redeveloping land that is currently occupied by a car park and developing a walkable, sustainable neighbourhood. Moving away from car travel (and by extension car parking) supports the council's active travel and modal shift goals.</p>
Overall conclusion on the environmental and	<p>An outstanding issue remains around the future of the Bickenhill plantation in terms of biodiversity loss and the negative impact upon green space. BCC's R20 team and ecologists will need to be consulted as part of the</p>			

sustainability impacts of the proposal	decisions around access to the plantation to mitigate this risk. The other themes either have no specific impact, or appropriate mitigation measures are in place.
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If you require assistance in completing this assessment, then please contact: [ESAGuidance@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:ESAGuidance@birmingham.gov.uk)