

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>

Project Title:	Oscott Manor Capital Contribution to PSBP2 project
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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? Will the decision provide opportunities to improve recycling? 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>

Department: Education & Skills	Team: Education Infrastructure (Capital Investment)		Person Responsible for assessment: Susan Thomas	
Date of assessment: 08/03/2021		Is it a new or existing proposal? New – decision to relocate Oscott Manor School to a new site with a new purpose-built facility – contribution required from LA to provide additional classroom space.		
Brief description of the proposal: Development of a new purpose-built facility on a new site to address the special educational needs of the pupils and increase capacity.				
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	√			<p>The new development is being built on an existing brownfield site which had four separate uses; day centre, school, school accommodation and children’s centre. As the uses on the site are being reduced and the new building will have more sustainable systems, it is envisaged that the impact on the natural resources would reduce.</p> <p>The site is in a good location for bus and train routes which will assist in reducing the need to rely on car usage. As part of the planning requirements associated with the development the school will need to update their school travel plan and encourage sustainable modes of transport within their school community.</p> <p>The proposals incorporate the use of Sustainable Urban Drainage features, which have been agreed with the LLFA, to slow down the rate of water entering the drainage network when compared to existing; The use of potable water will be kept to a minimum through careful specification of sanitary ware, using dual flush cisterns, and aerating taps.</p> <p>The construction process will aim to limit the pollution to the soil by reusing and recycling demolition waste, spoil and building materials where possible.</p>

Energy use and CO ₂ emissions	√			<p>The design proposals have been based upon the accepted energy hierarchical strategy of "Be Lean, Be Clean, Be Green". The existing school building is in a poor condition with low energy efficiency rating which will be having a negative impact on the environment.</p> <p>The new building has been designed to exceed the current Building Regulations Part L standards and has passive and active measures within the building to facilitate energy efficient control which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvement to Thermal Transmittance of all thermal elements with an average improvement of • 23% on the building regulations • LED Lighting with performance far in excess of the Building Regulations, providing an average • luminous efficacy of 120lm/circuit W. • Lighting control provided with automatic absence/presence detection and daylight dimming. • High Efficiency Gas fired water heaters with low standing losses. • Ventilation solutions including a combination of natural & Mechanical ventilation. All mechanical • ventilation is provided complete with heat recovery • Need for cooling reduced through the provision of hybrid ventilation & high performance glazing. • Variable speed drives to all pumps and main ventilation systems. • BMS installation to facilitate energy efficient control. <p>The new building is designed to have an Energy Performance Asset Rating of B.</p>
Quality of environment	√			<p>The new development is being built on an existing brownfield site which had four separate uses; day centre,</p>

				school, school accommodation and children's centre. The new design brings together the site into two uses which now link together. The master plan for the site includes retained areas for wildlife
Impact on local green and open spaces and biodiversity	√			The new school is being built on an existing brownfield school, accommodation and children's home site. While the development does require a loss of central green space it is predominantly grass. The new design incorporates play spaces, new soft landscaping and ecological enhancements such as bat and bird boxes and wildflower planting to encourage wildlife. Mature trees are being retained to the perimeter of the site and any lost are being replaced with new native tree species.
Use of sustainable products and equipment	√			The project will use responsibly sourced materials (e.g. timber - responsibly and legally sourced with FSC certification or equivalent); Where materials with high embodied content (e.g. concrete) are required their impact will be reduced through the use of recycled aggregates and cement replacement products. The construction will have bulk deliveries of materials to ensure reduced trips to site and reduction in unnecessary wrapping of individual materials.
Minimising waste	√			The demolished material has a high content of asbestos meaning it will not be possible for it to be re-used / recycled on site. The project will re-use excavated earth to change the levels on the whole site. The intention throughout the construction is to ensure a high percentage of the building waste is recycled with the minimum ending up in landfill.
Council plan priority: a city that takes a leading role in tackling climate change	√			The energy strategy has been developed in order to comply with Part L2A 2013 of the Building Regulations which requires a carbon emission calculation to be carried out. SBEM calculation have been carried out for the development based upon the planning drawings and construction specification.

				<p>The Adopted Birmingham Development Plan 2031 requires new developments to maximise energy efficiency and the use of low carbon energy and to incorporate low and zero carbon forms of energy generation where possible, or to connect into low and zero carbon energy generation networks where they exist and where practicable. Further analysis on the Planning Conditions and Drivers can be found in section 3.2 Planning Conditions.</p> <p>An energy and sustainability statement has been prepared to satisfy the planning requirements and provides full details on how these have been considered as part of the design process and that the proposals incorporate appropriate measures.</p>
Overall conclusion on the environmental and sustainability impacts of the proposal	<p>While the proposed works will change the use of the site, the new school and external areas will enhance the area. This will be through consolidation of buildings and enhancement to the general habitat. The new building will have a lesser impact on the environment through use of active and passive measures within the design.</p>			

If you require assistance in completing this assessment, then please contact: ESAGuidance@birmingham.gov.uk