

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 selecting whether the impact of the proposal is positive, negative or has no specific impact on the themes. Please only tick one of these, by deciding what the overall impact is. 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 table below is for guidance only and should not be submitted as part of the report.

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 wastewater 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>
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?</p>

	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.
Use of environmentally sustainable products, equipment and packaging'	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.
Minimising waste	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?
Council plan priority: a city that takes a leading role in tackling climate change and deliver Route to Zero.	How does the proposal or decision contribute to tackling and showing leadership in tackling climate change and deliver Route to Zero aspirations?

Project Title: Swanshurst School Curtain Walling Replacement Works				
Department: Children & Families	Team: Education Infrastructure			Person Responsible for assessment: Vonni Steer
Date of assessment: 25.09.2023		Is it a new or existing proposal? Existing proposal		
Brief description of the proposal: Grant award to approve funding to replace curtain walling to the Central Block at Swanshurst School.				
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	✓			The nature of the project, being a façade refurbishment project, means that there is no specific impact on water, soil. There is an indirect positive impact on air quality as increase energy efficiency, we will burn less gas to heat the building.
Energy use and CO ₂ emissions	✓			The long-term impact of the works will be a reduction in the use of gas in relation to heating as the energy efficiency of the block will increase. The completion of the façade refurbishment of this block will enable the monitoring of energy usage to establishment reduction in energy costs and CO ₂ emissions.
Impact on local green and open spaces and biodiversity			✓	The nature of the project, being a façade refurbishment project, means that there is no specific impact on natural resources including water, soil, air.

Use of sustainable products and equipment	✓			Materials are specific to curtain walling replacement and sustainability data is available from the manufacturer. The manufacturer complies with the requirements of ISO 14001
Minimising waste	✓			Waste material from existing façade, metal work & glass could be recycled but is not suitable for re-use due to age of materials.
Council plan priority: a city that takes a leading role in tackling climate change			✓	The curtain walling replacement scheme across the whole site is focussed on refurbishment thereby prolonging the life of the site rather than demolition and rebuild.
Overall conclusion on the environmental and sustainability impacts of the proposal	The façade refurbishment aspiration is to deliver carbon reduction across the site and also energy usage for the school.			

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