

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 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 quality of the 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 impact on the local green and open spaces which may have an impact on local biodiversity, trees and other</p>

	<p>vegetation in the area. 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>
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:		Capital Bid for Car Parking Programme in Parks		
Department: Neighbourhoods		Team: Parks & Nature Conservation Service		Person Responsible for assessment: Matt Hageney
Date of assessment: May 2021		Is it a new or existing policy/strategy/decision/development proposal? Existing decision		
Brief description of the proposal: To seek capital funding approval for the implementation of car parking in parks				
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	Positive			Improved definition of car park boundaries will prevent unregulated parking across grass areas thereby protecting the soil
Energy use and CO ₂ emissions	Positive			Introducing pay & display car parks will make users think about driving to parks and encourage other sustainable transport options. Recycled granular fill will be used where possible to quality standards. Solar powered pay & display machines will require no electricity provision and are environmentally friendly
Quality of environment	Positive			Improved surfacing and definition of car parks will improve visual appearance by limiting extents of car parking which can currently sprawl across these important public recreational resource
Impact on biodiversity	Positive			Improved definition of car parks will prevent unregulated parking across meadow habitats thereby protecting the biodiversity
Use of sustainable products and equipment	Positive			Timber edging posts / logs will be reused from waste on site. Surfacing and construction materials will be recycled and reused where possible
Council plan priority: a city	Positive			The aim of this programme is to achieve a more

that takes a leading role in tackling climate change				sustainable solution to car parking on these important public recreational resources. Better balancing improved access for all with protecting the environment. The project team will work with Planning and Regeneration (Inclusive Growth Directorate) on the introduction of EV charging points within the car parks in programme, as part of the Council's commitment to net Zero Emission (Route to Zero) and also Clean Air (Clean Air Zone)
Overall conclusion on the environmental and sustainability impacts of the proposal'	Improvements to the surfacing and definition of car parks will have a positive impact on the environment of the parks within programme and encourage more sustainable transport options. Surfacing and construction materials will be recycled and reused wherever possible.			

If you require assistance in completing this assessment then please contact: Amit Bratch (amit.bratch@birmingham.gov.uk).