

User guidance:

- The first section of this form guides users through considering major areas where emissions are likely to occur. If emissions are impacted in a way not covered by these categories, please identify this at the bottom of the section
- The first section should be filled as such:
 - **Impact.** identify, in relation to each area, whether the decision of the proposal does the following: *reduces emissions, increases emissions, or has no impact on emissions*. If it is uncertain this section can be labelled *impact unknown*
 - If **no impact on emissions** is identified: no further detail is needed for this area, but can be added if relevant (e.g. if efforts have been made to mitigate emissions in this area.)
 - **Describe impacts or potential impacts on emissions:** two sections deal respectively with emissions from the Council (including those of contractors), and emissions across Rotherham as a whole. In both sections please explain any factors that are likely to reduce or increase emissions. If **impact unknown** has been selected, then identify the area of uncertainty and outline known variables that may affect impacts.
 - In most cases there is no need to quantify the emission impact of an area after outlining the factors that may reduce or increase emissions. In some cases, however, this may be desirable if factors can be reduced to a small number of known variables (e.g. if an emission impact is attached to a known or estimated quantity of fuel consumed).
 - **Describe any measures to mitigate emission impact:** regardless of the emission impact, in many cases steps should be taken in order to reduce mitigate all emissions associated with each area as far as possible; these steps can be outlined here (For example: if a proposal is likely to increase emissions but practices or materials have been adopted in order to reduce this overall impact, this would be described here).
 - **Outline any monitoring of emission impacts that will be carried out:** in this section outline any steps taken to monitor emission levels, or steps taken to monitor the factors that are expected to increase or reduce emission levels (for example, if waste or transport levels are being monitored this would be described here)
- A **summary paragraph** outlining the likely overall impacts of the proposal/decision on emissions should then be completed - this is not required if the proposal/decision has no impact across all areas.
- The supporting information section should be filled as followed:
 - Author/completing officer
 - **Research, data, or information** may refer to datasets, background documents, literature, consultations, or other data-gathering exercise. These should also be added to the **supporting documents** section of the cabinet report

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- Carbon Impact Assessments are to be appended to the associated cabinet reports
 - Prior to publishing reports, Carbon Impact Assessments should be sent to climate@rotherham.gov.uk for feedback
 - Report authors may also use the above email address to direct any further queries or to access further support regarding completing the assessment

Will the decision/proposal impact...	Impact	If an impact or potential impacts are identified			
		Describe impacts or potential impacts on emissions from the Council and its contractors.	Describe impact or potential impacts on emissions across Rotherham as a whole.	Describe any measures to mitigate emission impacts	Outline any monitoring of emission impacts that will be carried out
Emissions from non-domestic buildings?	No Impact on Emissions	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Emissions from transport?	Counter the impact of Emissions	n/a	<p>The Supplementary Planning Documents provide planning policy guidance for developers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The SPD on Biodiversity Net Gain sets out the requirement for developers to meet the 10% BNG requirement introduced by the Environment Act 2021. This includes the protection and improvements to the natural environment and increased participation in active travel through increased access to Green Infrastructure corridors. 	<p>The Supplementary Planning Documents provide further guidance and clarity to developers to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce the carbon footprint of their development. Provide improvements and enhancements to the natural environment that will lead to improved health of local communities. 	Air quality monitored via the Local Plan Annual Monitoring Report.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Trees SPD sets out the requirements for retention and replacement of trees on development sites, which has been shown to encourage active travel through an enhanced natural environment. 		
Emissions from waste, or the quantity of waste itself?	Reduce Emissions	n/a	The Soils SPD sets out requirements for the management of soils on site. The efficient management and re-use of soils will reduce waste produced by incorrect disposal of soils; and will encourage and protect biodiversity within soils thus supporting all levels of life within the carbon food chain.	n/a	Waste quantity monitored via the Local Plan Annual Monitoring Report.
Emissions from housing and domestic buildings?	Reduce Emissions	n/a	There is potential for a reduction in emissions through the increase in Biodiversity Net Gain and tree cover on residential developments. Increased vegetation of all kinds	The Supplementary Planning Documents provide further guidance and clarity to developers to:	CO2 emissions per capita monitored via the Local Plan Annual Monitoring Report.

			provides carbon capture and 'cleans' the air of emissions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the carbon footprint of their development • Provide improvements and enhancements to the natural environment that will lead to improved health of local communities. 	
Emissions from construction and/or development?	Reduce Emissions	n/a	The proper handling of trees and soils on site will manage any harm to these assets caused by construction and development.	A Soils Strategy is required for new development proposals to be submitted as part of the planning application.	CO2 emissions per capita monitored via the Local Plan Annual Monitoring Report.
Carbon capture (e.g. through trees)?	Reduce Emissions	n/a	<p>The draft Supplementary Planning Documents promote best practice.</p> <p>The Biodiversity Net Gain, Trees, and Soils SPDs will assist in the mitigation of CO₂ emissions. They aim to further protect the natural environment and limit the impacts of new development on the natural environment and to seek compensation off site for</p>	<p>An increase in vegetation, in Rotherham and the improved handling of soils will promote carbon capture and reduce emissions.</p> <p>Increased tree cover will provide carbon capture and 'clean' the air of emissions.</p>	CO2 emissions per capita monitored via the Local Plan Annual Monitoring Report.

			new development proposals where on-site mitigation and enhancement is not possible.		
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Identify any emission impacts associated with this decision that have not been covered by the above fields:

The SPDs will guide decision-making on planning applications, which will influence CO₂ emissions. The threat of climate change has informed Local Plan policy. The promotion of climate resilient developments and delivery of sustainable construction methods are embedded throughout.

- The Biodiversity Net Gain SPD will secure 10% Biodiversity Net Gain for new developments as required in the Environment Act 2021. This includes the potential for new planting and enhancements to the biodiversity of existing open spaces which is known to reduce carbon emissions.
- The Trees SPD sets out the requirements for retention and replacement of trees on site. Trees are known to provide carbon capture along with mitigation of the impacts of climate change and pollution.
- The Soils SPD sets out requirements for the proper management of soils. In the long term, this will maintain the health of the Borough's vegetation, providing enhanced Green Infrastructure to improve carbon capture in the Borough. Good soil conditions will also secure the food supply in the Borough, which is under threat due to climate change¹.

The willingness of developers to work towards zero carbon developments is a key driver to change. Future government legislation will effectively regulate development on site to be zero carbon. Without legislation, the Council can promote best practice through its Development Plan Documents and guidance but cannot insist on carbon-neutral development.

There is a significant demand for new homes and amenities in the Borough. The Council is committed to determining planning applications in accordance with Local Plan policy, and in doing so is seeking to reduce, mitigate and adapt to climate change.

Please provide a summary of all impacts and mitigation/monitoring measures:

¹ [United Kingdom Food Security Report 2021: Theme 2: UK Food Supply Sources - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/92222/uk-food-security-report-2021-theme-2-uk-food-supply-sources.pdf)

The Supplementary Planning Documents provide further guidance and clarity to developers in bringing forward planning applications for development; reducing the carbon footprint of development; promoting higher sustainable construction standards; building climate resilient dwellings; minimising impacts of carbon emissions harmful to local air quality, the natural environment and health.

Supporting information:	
Completed by: (Name, title, and service area/directorate).	Kwame Steadman, Planner, Planning Policy, Planning, Regeneration and Transport
Please outline any research, data, or information used to complete this [form].	National Planning Policy Framework (2021) Rotherham Local Plan Core Strategy (2014) Rotherham Local Plan Sites and Policies Document (2018) United Kingdom Food Security Report 2021: Theme 2: UK Food Supply Sources
If quantities of emissions are relevant to and have been used in this form please identify which conversion factors have been used to quantify impacts.	n/a
Tracking [to be completed by Policy Support / Climate Champions]	Andy Duncan, Planning Policy Manager and Climate Champion, Built Environment – Planning