

Climate Impact Assessment, Appendix 5, Council Plan 2025-30 and Year Ahead Delivery Plan

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 the Borough 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?	Decrease	Year Ahead Delivery Plan 2025 and the Council Plan 2025-30 include data for previous carbon emission reductions and targets for net-zero by 2030 across Council operational buildings.	Programmed upgrades to business centres across the borough could increase emissions (YADP).	Ensuring that Council buildings and its operations are more energy efficient and produce less carbon by investing in renewable technology.	Climate Impact Assessments required for all Cabinet reports. All emissions from operational buildings are monitored and reported publicly. Progress reports of the Council Plan/YADP to Cabinet will include an updated CIA.
Emissions from transport?	Decrease	Extend the purchase and use of electric vehicles, and increase the use of Hydrogenated Vehicle Oil (HVO) in our larger fleet. The development of the fleet replacement programme will decrease emissions (YADP).	May cause an increase in emissions as we construct and develop certain sites, though these will be temporary. The EV infrastructure programme will support the transition to net zero vehicles through increased charging provision. A reduction in Council fleet tailpipe emissions	Transitioning towards environmentally friendly vehicles for our transport team (see first column). Greater provisions of Electric Charging Vehicle infrastructure across the borough.	Approaches to monitoring vehicle usage, emissions, and fuel efficiency. Carbon Impact Assessments required for all cabinet reports. Progress reports of Council Plan/YADP to cabinet will include an updated CIA.

			will result in reduced borough emissions.		
Emissions from waste, or the quantity of waste itself?	Unknown	Plan includes measures for reduction of waste, fly-tipping and environmental crime through the issuing of fines (YADP). Establishment of additional Roadside Cleansing Team could lead to greater reported waste. Increase the proportion of waste sent for reuse (recycling and composting) to 45% (YADP).	A series of events and activities, including Rotherham Show, Signals Festival, Uplift, WoW Rotherham could increase the amount of waste.	Events should consider the waste management hierarchy as part of standard processes. This is built into the guidance provided to Events teams to be used when managing large events.	Improved information and data to take further action in reducing waste, improving recycling rates and reducing contamination. Climate Impact Assessments required for all cabinet reports. Progress reports of Council Plan/YADP to cabinet will include an updated CIA.
Emissions from housing and domestic buildings?	Unknown	Delivery of the Council's Housing Delivery Programme, including: - New development at Bassingthorpe Farm. New homes in the town centre through the Town Centre Masterplan. - Town centre housing programme.	This is difficult to accurately assess as building new homes that are not net zero will increase emissions from both their energy use and in embedded carbon. It is not clear how the improvement in energy efficiency of homes through ECO grants and social housing upgrades will offset this.	Refresh of Housing Strategy for 2025-2028 will include the Green Housing Strategy to reduce energy costs and improve efficiency of homes. All new council homes build will be rated at least EPC grade C, alongside prioritising existing houses. Homes being energy efficient helps to reduce bills and carbon emissions.	Establish housing stock emission baselines, consolidating the available intelligence and gathering further data as required, using existing data on council-owned housing stock, and developing intelligence on the wider housing stock across the Borough. Climate Impact Assessments required for all cabinet reports.

				Incorporating learning from the retrofit pilot in Maltby, which improved the thermal efficiency of 130 homes, to inform the building of new Council homes to be more heat and energy efficient.	Progress Council Plan/YADP progress reports to Cabinet will include an updated CIA.
Emissions from construction and/or development?	Increase	Construction and planned developments, such as the provision of the new library at Wath and Dinnington high street through the Levelling Up Fund will increase emissions. As part of the Levelling Up Fund, redevelopment works at Rother Valley and Thrybergh Country Parks could also rise emissions. Developing new and improved play areas for children and young people across the borough may raise emissions. Plans to improve the conditions of roads and pavements could increase emissions. Construction in Swinton and Maltby through the	As per the impacts on the Council and its contractors.	Specific mitigation to be incorporated into individual schemes.	Climate Impact Assessments required for all cabinet reports. Future Council Plan/YADP progress reports to Cabinet will include an updated CIA.

		Our Places funding may increase emissions. Large scale developments and improvements, such as the construction of the new market and library in the town centre, mainline train station, Templeborough Business Zone Project could significantly increase carbon emissions. Plans connected to the construction of flood alleviation schemes and barriers, such as reaching 'shovel ready' status for the Whiston Brook, Eel Mires Dyke and Kilnhurst flood alleviation schemes will all entail emissions. Support up to 20 businesses to improve shop units in town centre and on other principal high streets through 'shop units grants' (YADP) could potentially increase emissions. Invest £2 million into footway improvements			
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		across the Borough to deliver 11km of footway repairs (YADP).			
Carbon capture (e.g. through trees)?	Unknown	Country Parks master plan (Rother Valley and Thrybergh Country Parks) – sustainable approach, encouraging biodiversity and increasing wildflower areas, which will have potential impact on carbon capture. Plant at least 500 trees across the borough. This quantity of trees will not provide substantial carbon sequestration benefits when compared with the scale of emissions.	Plan includes measures to plant trees and create land for woodland may have potential impact on carbon capture (YADP)		The Council currently has little data related to carbon sequestered via trees, limiting our understanding of the planting required to offset emissions. However, it is unlikely that tree planting as part of the plan will provide substantial benefit overall. Climate Impact Assessments required for all cabinet reports. Future Council Plan/YADP progress reports to Cabinet will include an updated CIA.
Identify any emissions impacts associated with this decision which have not been covered by the above fields: The reduction of carbon emissions and working towards net zero targets, is part of the One Council theme in the Council Plan 2025-30 under the section 'Climate Change'. Actions under this theme encompass plans to decarbonise Council buildings by adopting new technologies; cutting down on activities that waste energy and resources; transitioning towards environmentally friendly vehicles in the transport team and using the Councils influence to encourage partners, local businesses, anchor organisations, and our residents to be mindful of their environmental impact and to be more sustainable. Both the Year Ahead Delivery Plan 2025 and the Council Plan 2025-30 focus on relevant goals regarding climate change and sustainability. However, it should be noted that there may be some increases in emissions due to other schemes that are included within the plan, especially with reference to new buildings, construction and housing development.					

Will the proposal affect Council services' resilience to climate change, or the capacity of people living in the Borough to adapt to climate change?

Flood Alleviation Scheme – done to mitigate the impact of climate change and as a response of the impact of flooding in Rotherham – in catchment areas impacted by flooding events in 2007 and 2019. A priority in both the Council Plan and YADP due to the predicted impacts of a changing climate exacerbating the risk of flooding, and the need for strategic solutions. Alongside the threat of flooding, also poses a threat to energy infrastructure at high risk from flooding events, and disruption to urban drainage systems.

The Council Plan poses the implementation of greater engagement with communities to provide information and develop knowledge in areas of carbon, climate and energy. Plans are set out to work with schools, colleges, and universities to develop green and renewable skills for the future that will support the infrastructure being developed and delivered within the borough, therefore assisting people in the boroughs capacity to adapt more to climate change impacts.

Building standards incorporated within housing strategies will improve resilience through better quality insulation and solar power where appropriate. This will make for more resilient communities when delivered.

Provide a summary of all impacts and mitigation/monitoring measures:

The 'One Council that listens and learns' outcome is focused around reducing harmful levels of carbon emissions to limit the impacts on the climate and environment. Actions within this outcome encompass plans for the reduction of emissions. The 'Places are thriving safe and clean' outcome also includes actions focused on flood alleviation projects and flood resilience measures for communities in the worst-affected areas.

Where individual schemes require cabinet approval a project specific climate impact assessment will be created and further mitigation on a project-by-project basis may be included.

The Council Plan and Year Ahead Delivery Plan will be monitored, reviewed, and updated every six months. Each update will include an accompanying Climate Impact Assessment.

Supporting information:

Climate Impact Assessment Author

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Policy, Performance and Intelligence Service
ACEX

Please outline any research, data or information used to complete this Climate Impact Assessment.	<i>Climate Change Action Plan</i> <i>Local Authority Climate Report</i> <i>Met Office – Climate Report for Rotherham</i>
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.	Not directly relevant for this report but individual actions arising from both the Council Plan and the YADP will include measurement where relevant.
Validation <i>Before submission to Assistant Directors for approval, completed Climate Impact Assessments must be returned by email to climate@rotherham.gov.uk for validation by Climate Change Officers.</i>	Tracking Reference: CIA452 Louise Preston Climate Change Manager