

Appendix 9 - Climate Impact 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 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?	None				
Emissions from transport?	Increase	Vehicle movements to and from sites will be generated during demolition and construction will create emissions, through the movement of building and waste materials and personnel. Addition of the homes to the Council's maintenance programme will also result in increased transport emissions in future years.	While it is possible that new households will increase vehicle movements, they may also reduce them, depending on where new residents work and access services. We do not know before a development is built where new residents will move from and whether this move will increase or decrease vehicle movements. However, it should be noted that the housing provision within this development includes provision for car parking as per planning policy. This does not in itself discourage car use, but this issue is outside of the	Where appropriate, prospective contractors will be required to demonstrate how they will minimise and mitigate emissions from vehicle movements as part of the construction, during the tendering process. All new housing developments are subject to planning controls and the planning process at the plan and policy development and planning application stages takes into account vehicle movements.	Assessment of whether the new households increase or decrease carbon emissions through vehicle movements is not monitored at this time. Overall, Borough emissions are reported annually but are subject to a 2-year lag.

			<p>remit of this carbon impact assessment. Some new properties included in the programme, i.e., the homes the Council purchases as strategic acquisitions will be built regardless of whether the Council purchases them or not.</p>		
<p>Emissions from waste, or the quantity of waste itself?</p>	Increase	<p>Construction will generate waste materials through demolition, exporting of materials from groundworks and waste construction materials.</p>	<p>Although new households may not necessarily mean more people living in the Borough, they are likely to create a small increase in the overall volume of waste created and, in the distance travelled by waste collection vehicles.</p>	<p>Where appropriate, prospective contractors will be required to produce a plan demonstrating how they will minimise and mitigate vehicle emissions from the movement of waste, during the tendering process. This will include the recycling / re use of materials on site where possible.</p>	<p>Where appropriate, we will monitor contractor's implementation of waste minimisation and management plans.</p>
<p>Emissions from housing and domestic buildings?</p>	Increase	<p>No direct emissions increase for the council.</p>	<p>The new properties built as part of the programme will increase emissions from the heating, lighting and powering of the new properties. Properties designed using the Future Homes Standard should decarbonise as the grid becomes more renewable without additional retrofit and are</p>	<p>The Council will ensure that the new homes are high quality, energy efficient and able to meet the challenge of climate change. The use of modern methods of construction will be considered, where value for money can be demonstrated as well as carbon reduction.</p>	<p>Construction will be monitored to ensure that specifications are met and, where appropriate, the energy performance of new buildings will be monitored once occupied to ensure that the stated performance standards are met.</p>

			estimated to be 75% more efficient than part L building regulations. However, as some of these are new builds, there will still be additional emissions until the National Grid becomes decarbonised and as part of the buildings embodied carbon.	All existing stock acquired through the Market Acquisitions will be improved to Energy Performance Certificate C as part of the refurbishment work required to meet the Council's lettable standard.	
Emissions from construction and/or development?	Increase	Emissions will be increased from onsite vehicles and equipment and the lighting of the sites. Also, from the heating lighting and powering of site offices and cabins. The manufacture of construction materials will increase emissions.	The emissions produced in the short term through construction and materials used will impact on Borough wide emissions. Some of the building materials will be manufactured within the Borough.	The use of modern methods of construction will be considered for all new schemes, where value for money can be demonstrated as well as carbon reduction.	This will be monitored through the procurement process.
Carbon capture (e.g. through trees)?	Unknown	It is possible that some mature trees will be removed as part of the development of new sites which will impact on the borough's ability to capture carbon. Some of the Council's own construction projects will include the planting of trees as part of any landscaping schemes.	Removal of trees without replacement could, depending how they are disposed of, increase carbon emissions. This activity will also reduce the carbon sequestration capacity of the Borough. The balance between removal of mature trees and re-planting as part of landscaping schemes is unknown.	Where trees are present on a development site they will be retained where possible. The planning process deals with protection of trees on development sites and where it allows their removal usually requires equivalent or better replacement.	None.

Identify any emissions impacts associated with this decision which have not been covered by the above fields:

N/A

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

Access to a long-term good quality home could help improve residents' resilience more generally. The inclusion of energy efficiency measures such as insulation could help make the homes more resistant during periods of extreme heat.

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

Climate change poses a significant threat to environments, individuals, communities, and economies on local, national, and international scales. In recognition of this the Council has aimed to be net carbon neutral as an organisation by 2030, and for Rotherham as a whole to achieve the same position by 2040.

Council Build: Through its own delivery programme, the Council has the ability to ensure that the new homes are high quality and energy efficient, which will contribute to reducing domestic carbon emissions in the longer-term.

Section 106 Acquisitions: The level of carbon emissions allowed for all new homes is subject to increasing controls. Changes to Part L of the building regulations came into force in June 2022, requiring a 31% reduction in CO2 emissions compared to 2013 standards. All new homes that submit plans after June 2022 or which have not begun construction before June 2023 must comply. New homes acquired by the Council from private builders are specified and built to the housebuilder's usual specification with some changes paid for by the Council to ensure the Council's requirements are met. Further to this the Council will examine whether further changes can be agreed, on a case-by-case basis, to reduce carbon emissions beyond the requirements of building regulations.

Market Acquisitions: All existing stock acquired through the Market Acquisitions will be improved to Energy Performance Certificate C as part of the refurbishment work required to meet the Council's lettable standard. Future energy performance improvements will be considered as part of wider stock investment programmes.

Both Council-build and acquisitions will increase emissions. Whilst mitigations are in place, with an explicit aim to exceed Building Regulations Part L requirements where feasible, the overall net carbon emissions status of Rotherham's social housing stock will increase in the short term. Homes brought forward with electrically sourced heating and hot water provision, however, should become effective carbon neutral once the electricity grid itself achieves zero-carbon. In addition to delivering new homes, the Council continues to improve and sustain its existing homes, including investment to maintain the Decent Homes Standard and improve energy and thermal efficiency.

Supporting information:	
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Please outline any research, data or information used to complete this Climate Impact Assessment.	No relevant data or research used.
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.	No relevant data or research used.
Validation.	Tracking Reference: CIA 555 Arthur King Principal Climate Change Officer