

Climate Impact Assessment, Appendix 4. Homelessness Prevention and Rough Sleeper Strategy 2026-2031.

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	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Emissions from transport?	Increase	<p>Broader multi-agency working between RMBC staff and other services in the borough may require increase travel, increasing the number of work miles covered.</p> <p>There is a potential to see a reduction for the Council / contractors in the form of reduced refurbishment of temporary accommodation units. Reduced demand for temporary accommodation due to increased prevention work will subsequently require less maintenance and upkeep of the TA units, reducing travel time.</p>	<p>Whilst the impacts would be minimal, it could contribute to an increase in the release of greenhouse gasses in the borough. Increased carbon emissions could cause a reduction in air quality within Rotherham.</p>	<p>Promotion of public transport use. Car sharing where possible also encouraged to reduce carbon emissions. Adopt online meetings as a means of reducing carbon footprint.</p>	<p>Review methods of partnership working to ensure unnecessary travel is avoided.</p> <p>Officer travel is included with the Council's Net Zero 2030 greenhouse gas emissions accounting and is monitored by the council's Climate Change team.</p>

Emissions from waste, or the quantity of waste itself?	Decrease	N/A	Increased prevention work will reduce the need for households to utilise temporary accommodation. Reducing TA usage will subsequently reduce the amount of replacement furnishings that will be required due to a high level of turnover that is experienced.	N/A	
Emissions from housing and domestic buildings?	Increase	There is a potential for the Councils utility costs and subsequent emissions through use of gas/electricity in ringfenced temporary accommodation properties to increase. Whilst the properties are void between placements of different households, the Council will be liable for heating and maintaining the property, which will increase energy consumption. Work is ongoing to increase the availability of ringfenced properties to be used as temporary accommodation. Whilst increase RMBC TA provision will reduce need for hotel	Increased energy consumption contributes to greater carbon emissions. This could contribute to a minor decrease in air quality and carbon rating for the Council in terms of energy consumption & efficiency.	<p>Better throughput for households placed into temporary accommodation through providing more access to affordable housing will help to mitigate this. Reducing placement length will reduce maintenance work that is required between placements in a TA property. Reducing the re-let time for TA properties will reduce the cost & carbon emissions the Council will inherit during this process.</p> <p>The combined estimated figure for Visiting Officer mileage in 2025 is 3281 miles. This equates to 8.3 tonnes of CO2, based on</p>	

		<p>placements, which are large consumers of energy, it is worth flagging that increasing the TA portfolio will subsequently greater energy usage whilst properties are void.</p> <p>There is the potential to reduce carbon emissions in the form of streamlining work and reducing duplication.</p>		<p>an average mileage for a petrol vehicle in the UK. A reduction of temporary accommodation placements by 10% would see a saving of 0.8 tonnes of CO2 per year, a saving of 1.3 tonnes for a 15% reduction and 1.7 tonnes for a 20% reduction in use of TA.</p>	
Emissions from construction and/or development?	Unknown	N/A	<p>Delivery of either new build social housing, supported accommodation or hostel-style accommodation to increase access to affordable housing options would cause an increase in the emissions contributed into the environment locally.</p> <p>This could be delivered as part of wider Council strategies that would fall under the Homelessness Prevention and Rough Sleeper Strategy by means of improving access to affordable housing and providing</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>For refurbishment / retrofit schemes, emissions from the construction and refurbishment of properties could be offset by the reduction in carbon emissions from newly installed components having lower or zero carbon emissions.</p>	<p>Housing Strategy for 2022-2025 agreed by Cabinet in July 2022 includes the Green Housing Strategy to reduce energy costs and improve efficiency of homes.</p> <p>Outcomes of the strategies are monitored and reported through internal governance.</p>

			longer-term housing security for local residents. This would not be directly delivered under the strategy.		
Carbon capture (e.g. through trees)?	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
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?

The Strategy will not have any adverse effects on either the Council's or local residents' resilience or capacity to manage any changes regarding climate change. The Strategy will seek to support better outcomes for households at risk of or threatened with homelessness. This will reduce risk of people rough sleeping, subsequently reducing the risks associated with extreme and increasingly adverse weather conditions, such as flooding, heavy snow, freezing temperatures, heatwaves and high winds. Another aim of the Strategy will be to reduce the number of households who lose their accommodation. Preventing homelessness reduces the need for households to potentially access temporary accommodation.

Temporary accommodation requires a lot of resource and energy to sustain and maintain suitability. When households move on from temporary accommodation, deep cleans are often required, along with repairs to the property and replacement of furnishing. Due to the relatively short time frames households are placed in temporary accommodation, this is resource intensive and therefore has a negative impact on the environment. By reducing the need for temporary accommodation, this will have a positive impact on the local environment. In some cases, households requiring temporary accommodation will be placed into hotels. Due to the nature of hotel operation, this accommodation provision is less environmentally friendly. This is due to lighting, heating and staffing of large-scale buildings. Reducing need for hotel placements through prevention of homelessness will again provide better local resilience to the impacts of climate change. By preventing homelessness and reducing use of temporary accommodation, this will also reduce the amount of travel required by both households who are homeless and RMBC staff across the homeless, temporary accommodation and rough sleeper teams.

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

As outlined previously, the aims of the Strategy do not have any adverse effects on the local population. Due to the nature of homelessness and how the Strategy will aim to achieve better outcomes, there are not an extensive list of impacts or monitoring arrangements in place. The main area where climate impact may be identified and monitored is around temporary accommodation usage. If improved prevention outcomes are achieved, less households will require temporary accommodation. In turn, this will reduce the turnover of furnishings, reducing waste and resource to remove items. It will also reduce the mileage the Visiting Officers have to cover, providing potential carbon emission savings (estimations outlined in table above).

Supporting information:

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Please outline any research, data or information used to complete this Climate Impact Assessment.	Due to the similarities and crossover, sections from CIA304, Temporary Accommodation Placement Policy written by Helen Caulfield-Browne have been 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.	N/A
Validation	Tracking Reference: CIA 578 Arthur King Principle Climate Change Officer