

Climate Impact Assessment, Appendix 5, The Rotherham Together Partnership – Rotherham 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?	Increase	New public buildings will be built, including as part of Rotherham Gateway, which will comprise a new mainline rail and tram train station, as well as commercial buildings within the Innovation Campus.	By increasing the number of non-domestic buildings within the borough, although sustainability will be factored into design and development, there will likely be an increase in emissions as a result.	Targeting business growth among the clean energy sector- which has been identified as a potential growth sector for Rotherham with the potential to generate 9,000 jobs by 2050.  Where possible, setting the decarbonisation standard – ensuring new developments built with high energy performance and onsite renewable electricity generation as standard.	Emissions for non-domestic buildings within Council ownership are monitored by the climate change team.
Emissions from transport?	Unknown	The Rotherham Gateway gamechanger sets out plans for a new mainline rail and tram train station centrally positioned in the borough, to improve public transport connectivity. This is likely to reduce the number of council workers who commute by car to	The mainline station will make travel for business and leisure much easier for many residents and therefore reduce the number of car journeys across the borough.  Some activities in relation to the Thriving	Advertising active or public transport via partnership communications as part of external programmes and general promotion of Town Centre, particularly in relation to the new mainline rail and tram-train station, and encouraging car sharing	Emissions for staff transport are monitored annually by the climate change team.  Partners may have their own methods for monitoring this.  Further assessment of the impacts of the

		<p>Riverside House and other locations.</p> <p>However, other activities may lead to increased transportation across the borough, including engagement activities, events, community support programmes and the increase of population through the development of new neighbourhoods. The impact of this is not currently known.</p>	<p>Communities and Town Centre gamechangers may lead to increased transportation emissions from delivery of more events which residents and visitors travel to, and the diversification of the Town Centre offer leading to more visits.</p>	<p>or public transport where possible for colleagues attending events from across the partnership.</p>	<p>Rotherham Gateway project on transport will be included as part of the wider project.</p>
<p>Emissions from waste, or the quantity of waste itself?</p>	<p>Increase</p>	<p>Waste may be increased as a result of construction activities, increasing number of homes across the borough, attracting more businesses/business growth and delivery of events.</p>	<p>Alongside the impact of council operations related waste, an increase in waste through partners activities may result in an increase in borough wide emissions.</p>	<p>Consider the waste hierarchy in all actions.</p> <p>Inclusion of sustainable materials as part of events planning. Advice can be received through the Council's events environmental champion on this topic and plans for the events progress.</p>	<p>Waste management may vary depending on location of event or activity. It will therefore need to be reviewed where monitoring is possible. Alternatively, qualitative monitoring of positive swaps or avoided waste can be monitored.</p> <p>There will be additional project specific monitoring carried out by the relevant teams or organisations further to that which is mentioned here.</p> <p>RMBC conduct regular monitoring of council events, and partners will</p>

					have their own methods of monitoring this.
Emissions from housing and domestic buildings?	Increase	This will increase due to increase in homes built across the borough, as set out within the Town Centre and Rotherham Gateway and Don Valley gamechangers.	If homes are not built to a net zero standard, these new properties will increase the Borough's emissions.	Inclusion of carbon monitoring and sustainability considerations in new tenders.	There will be project specific monitoring carried out by the relevant teams or organisations further to that which is mentioned here.
Emissions from construction and/or development?	Increase	Construction of a number of capital developments, including Rotherham Gateway, housing schemes and refurbishment of public realm.	These developments will all have associated emissions which will increase total construction emissions for the borough.	Inclusion of carbon monitoring and sustainability considerations in new tenders. A net zero operational build should be considered where appropriate.	There will be project specific monitoring carried out by the relevant teams or organisations further to that which is mentioned here.
Carbon capture (e.g. through trees)?	Unknown	Over the course of the last Rotherham Plan nearly 10,000 trees were planted, and partners are supportive of continuing this activity. However, it is not yet known if any trees will be removed due to any of the developments associated with the gamechangers, so the net increase or reduction is unknown.	Some carbon may be captured as part of the plan through landscaping activities though this is likely to be minimal.	Development of planting schemes attached to new developments and through public realm improvements. Partners have also expressed interest in pursuing tree planting schemes with private sector.  Additional protections should be considered for trees within project boundaries such as TPOs where feasible.	RMBC tree planting is monitored and reported on by the green spaces team.  It is likely that Biodiversity Net Gain will apply to the developments involved.

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

The Rotherham Plan 2026-2036 sets out a number of large-scale projects through its four gamechangers for the borough. The gamechanger activities are to varying levels already in progress across different partnership organisations, however the value of this plan is in making them all a priority for all partners to coalesce behind. The partnership adds value in developing and implementing this new plan by ensuring that the experts in areas such as health, business, community safety and inclusion are all in the room together to discuss the gamechangers, facilitating the ability to identify shared priorities and barriers, problem solve and innovate.

Each of the major activities set out within this plan will have their own carbon impact assessments associated with their cabinet decisions, in addition to what is set out here.

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 plan itself, aside from the carbon associated with publishing and storing it electronically and producing any paper copies, will not have a direct climate impact.

The activities arising from delivering the strategy's gamechangers will have direct climate impacts, and separate climate impact assessments will be carried out by the relevant teams as part of the governance process when progressing those actions.

The partnership, in pursuit of the plan's vision of "*an even more innovative and future facing borough where all residents can thrive with fair access to the opportunities and services they need to be happy and healthy*", will add value to the delivery of the gamechangers by ensuring that the associated investments and activities are used to benefit all residents, addressing inequalities, promoting good health and reducing deprivation. This will also include addressing the unequal impact of climate change on Rotherham residents.

The 'growing a fair and thriving economy' gamechanger within the Rotherham Plan 2026-2036 seeks to increase rates of residents who are economically active and ultimately reduce levels of deprivation. In Rotherham, deprivation is correlated with exposure to extreme heat: more than two thirds of the population living in LSOAs (Lower-Level Super Output Areas) with the greatest urban heat island affect were amongst the 20% most deprived in England, as measured by the 2019 Index of Multiple Deprivation (double the proportion of the population living in the least deprived LSOAs, throughout the borough as a whole).

'Unlocking the full potential of Rotherham Gateway' features as another gamechanger within this plan, with the Gateway comprising a new mainline train station and new tram-train stop for the borough. This would improve residents' access to public transport and make rail journeys to and from Rotherham quicker and more convenient (rail journey time to Leeds would be cut from 60minutes to 30 minutes, and more trains would be stopping). This development will make rail travel a more viable and attractive option for many residents, therefore reducing emissions

from car travel. The vision set out for increasing productivity and investment in the Don Valley also seeks to capitalise on the area's potential for growth in clean energy, with the expansion of this sector having potentially huge benefits for carbon reduction.

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

The plan itself will have minimal direct climate impact, aside from the emissions associated with publishing and storing it electronically and producing any paper copies. Paper copies of condensed, public-facing version of the plan will be distributed to all households in June in place of our regular biannual newsletter, but where possible we will distribute electronic copies rather than printed versions of the full plan, which will also be embedded on the Rotherham Together website. Where printing is required, due consideration will be given to the paperstock used.

There will be some further in-person activity which is necessary to achieve the required engagement, including the partnership Showcase event at Magna in June to launch the new plan to circa two hundred attendees. In these cases, mitigations will include encouraging use of active travel and public transport, especially at Magna which was selected as the venue for the Showcase event to spotlight the opening of the new tram-train stop. Any future activities arising from the strategy's vision and gamechangers may have climate impacts. These will be assessed separately by the relevant teams as part of the governance process before implementation.

Supporting information:

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Please outline any research, data or information used to complete this Climate Impact Assessment.	N/A
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 621  Louise Preston Climate Change Manager