

Climate Impact Assessment, Appendix 4, Rotherham Town Centre Strategic Sites Development – Stage 2

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	There is a small increase in emissions from transport of council staff and contractor vehicles. This will occur when contractors are carrying out intrusive site investigations on site tours and as a result of any in person consultation activities.	There will be no impact to the Borough as a whole.	Staff will car share to reduce the amount of vehicles used. Ensure no unnecessary investigations are carried out by providing all relevant data the council already holds on the sites.	Ensure that site investigations are taking place collectively to reduce the number of visits.
Emissions from waste, or the quantity of waste itself?	Increase	There may be a small increase in emissions as a result of waste due to consultation materials at the end of life.	N/A	To consider where materials are required for equality purposes and minimise use where not.	Quantities are expected to be small and cannot be effectively measured.
Emissions from housing and domestic buildings?	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Emissions from construction and/or development?	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Carbon capture (e.g. through trees)?	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
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Identify any emissions impacts associated with this decision which have not been covered by the above fields:

This CIA specifically addresses the works to carry out stage 2 of the identified Strategic Sites locations, which will include intrusive site investigations, therefore there will be very low impact on emissions. Prior to the delivery of each specific project within the Strategic Sites portfolio, a Carbon Impact Assessment will be completed to assess the emissions and impact. This will allow the best opportunity to consider and implement reduced emissions.

These activities do not directly result in physical development but set the groundwork for future construction and regeneration.

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

Extreme weather event mitigation/ CC resilience.

The site investigation works will not affect the Councils' resilience to climate change, however through the delivery of the scheme, it will support climate change adaptations and mitigate against flood risk.

In terms of mitigating the risks from extreme heat events, the Strategic Sites Project delivery will endeavour to include increased green space through mixed use development including the planting of trees and biodiverse rain scaping: both these nature-based solutions will mitigate the 'urban heat island effect'. This is by providing shade and limiting the amount of heat retaining hard standing such as concrete and tarmac.

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

Stage 2 activities are expected to generate only minor, short-term community impacts, including temporary noise and dust that may affect individuals with health conditions, localised disruption to footpaths or public spaces, reduced accessibility for some users, and potential concerns around safety during intrusive investigations. There is also a risk of raising community expectations during a largely preparatory phase, and of local concern if works are not clearly communicated.

To mitigate these impacts, a comprehensive communication and engagement approach will be implemented. This includes early and transparent information about the purpose, timing, and nature of the works; providing clear contact points for queries, and issuing regular

updates to residents, businesses, and members. Multiple communication channels will be used, such as social media, letters, in-person drop-ins, to ensure broad and inclusive engagement. Feedback gathered will inform RIBA Stage 3 designs to reflect local priorities.

Overall, while some short-term disruption is anticipated, these measures will minimise inconvenience and help maintain community trust. Stage 2 is expected to deliver a positive long-term community impact by enabling further regeneration in later phases when the project is in delivery stage.

An expected impact during the delivery of the works will be from contractors who will be encouraged to recycle waste where possible, contractors will also be encouraged to utilise materials to reduce the amount of waste. Emissions are to be expected across the Borough from contractors delivering materials to site. Contractors will be encouraged to combine materials on the same delivery to reduce the number of deliveries made.

Embodied Carbon and Construction Impact:

The construction phases of the Strategic Sites portfolio will include mixed use development within Rotherham Town Centre. The project will involve significant embodied carbon. Each project that comes out of the Strategic Sites developments will include its own detailed Carbon Impact Assessment.

Long-term Benefits: The Strategic Sites Initiative is intent on providing a regeneration boost to the town centre. The project intends to deliver mixed use housing developments across 5 sites in the Town Centre.

The vision for these strategic sites is for the creation of communities that re-invigorate the town centre, providing long term sustainability through increased occupation and usage. The housing-led development is expected to mitigate its environmental impact by providing modern, energy-efficient residential accommodation and supporting a reduction in carbon emissions. New homes will be built to contemporary energy-performance standards, resulting in lower operational energy use, reduced household emissions and improved living conditions compared with the existing older housing stock. The development's mixed-use nature will place homes alongside services, employment space and public transport connections, helping to reduce reliance on private car travel.

This is further strengthened by enhanced active-travel links, including improved connections to the canal and riverside walk within the town centre, creating safe and attractive walking and cycling routes. Locating a mixed-use development next to rail, tram and bus services supports long-term carbon reduction by shifting trips away from private cars; public transport typically produces around 70–80% lower emissions per passenger kilometre than car travel, and concentrating homes and jobs in a walkable, transit-rich area further reduces transport-related emissions over the development's lifetime.

As a brownfield regeneration project, the scheme brings underused land back into productive use while enabling a more sustainable pattern of movement and energy consumption. The feasibility works will allow these carbon benefits to be fully assessed, quantified and embedded in the emerging design.

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.	Not applicable at this stage of the project.
Validation	Tracking Reference: CIA 613 Louise Preston Climate Change Manager