

APPENDIX 6: CARBON 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 Rotherham as a whole.	Describe any measures to mitigate emissions impacts.	Outline any monitoring of emissions impacts that will be carried out.
Emissions from non-domestic buildings?	Unknown	Emissions from commissioned placements in residential and nursing care, as well as Lord Hardy and Davies Court care homes, which are managed by the Council.	Emissions from all residential and nursing care homes in the Borough of Rotherham.	Lord Hardy and Davies Court care homes are within scope of the Council's Buildings Heat Decarbonisation Plan, although site decarbonisation surveys are yet to be completed for these locations. Members of the Climate Change Team will attend a provider forum December this year, to engage with other care home providers.	In the Council's NZ30 greenhouse gas emissions monitoring, natural gas heating and electricity use in the managed care homes are scope 1 and 2 emissions sources, respectively. Emissions from commissioned placements are within scope 3: an initial estimate of these emissions was shared with Adult Care, Housing and Public Health DLT in April 2023.
Emissions from transport?	Unknown	Emissions from vehicle mileage incurred by the Council and its commissioned providers e.g., between home care visits or assessments in people's homes.	Emissions from vehicle mileage in the wider care and support market.		Emissions from corporate fleet vehicles and vehicle mileage incurred by Council officers are monitored as scope 1 and scope 3 respectively, in NZ30 greenhouse gas emissions accounting. An initial estimate of scope 3 emissions from commissioned home care services' vehicle mileage was shared with ACH&PH DLT, April 2023

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Emissions from waste, or the quantity of waste itself?	Nil				
Emissions from housing and domestic buildings?	Unknown		Emissions from people's own homes, principally from natural gas heating and electricity use.		
Emissions from construction and/or development?	Nil				
Carbon capture (e.g., through trees)?	Nil				

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

Material Use

Approval is sought from Cabinet for the implementation of a new Council Strategy for Adult Social Care (2024 – 2027). The strategy will only be published electronically to mitigate the carbon impact.

Adaptation

In May 2023, the World Meteorological Organisation predicted with 98% confidence that at least one of the following five years – and the five-year period as a whole – would be the hottest on record. In the UK, summers as hot as 2022 are expected to happen on average every other year by 2050, even with steep cuts in global greenhouse gas emissions (Met Office, UKCP18).

Older people; people with chronic or severe health conditions; people who live alone and who are socially isolated; and people living in care homes are all at increased risk, during periods of extreme heat (UKHSA, 2022). As the proposed Rotherham Adult Social Care Strategy concerns all these groups, as it coincides with a period 2023 - 2028, predicted to be the hottest on record, the Council will need to consider how people living in Rotherham can be safe, healthy and continue to live well, in the face of mounting climate change impacts.

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Please provide a summary of all impacts and mitigation/monitoring measures:

Approval is sought from Cabinet for the implementation of a new Council Strategy for Adult Social Care (2024 – 2027), which proposes a vision and a set of values for adult social care in Rotherham, with four themes for delivering adult social care. Of these, the “Wellbeing and Independence” theme was ranked highest priority, by people who responded to the Council’s public consultation.

Wellbeing and independence are relevant to carbon and other climate change impacts. As detailed above, people with care and support needs may be more vulnerable to extreme heat, whether due to old age or ill health, because of social isolation or because they live in a care home. Climate change will become increasingly relevant to the wellbeing of people living in Rotherham, as the average UK summer temperature increases.

By promoting people’s independence and helping people to remain at home for as long as possible, the strategy will have an unknown impact on some sources of greenhouse gas emissions. For example, if more people stay healthy and well at home, or if more people choose home care, then there may be increased greenhouse gas emissions from transport and domestic energy use, across the Borough of Rotherham: with a corresponding decrease in greenhouse gas emissions, from care homes’ energy use.

More research is needed to understand the relative carbon impact of different models of care and support, to ensure the Council can achieve its vision for adult social care in Rotherham, while also achieving its Net Zero 2030 and Net Zero 2040 climate change goals.

Supporting information:	
Completed by: (Name, title, and service area/directorate).	Kirsty-Louise Littlewood, Assistant Director, Adult Care & Integration Adult Care, Housing and Public Health
Please outline any research, data, or information used to complete this form.	None
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
Tracking [to be completed by Policy Support / Climate Champions]	Tracking Reference: CIA 153 Arthur King, Principal Climate Change Officer, Strategic Asset Management, Regeneration and Environment