

Appendix 5 - Carbon Impact Assessment – Council Plan Update

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 emission impacts	Outline any monitoring of emission impacts that will be carried out
Emissions from non-domestic buildings?	N/A	<p>The Council has developed a heat decarbonisation plan, which targets operational buildings with heating systems that are reaching the end of their serviceable life.</p> <p>Greenhouse gas emissions from have decreased over the last three financial years, driven by Council activity and decarbonisation of the UK electricity system. Data for the 22/23 financial year indicates a 4.21% reduction in carbon emissions across the corporate estate, against an overall target of 18%. It is not expected that the 2023/24 target of a 10% reduction in emissions during the year can be achieved however the Council continues to carry out actions to reduce gas emissions.</p> <p>A pre-planning application has been submitted for a potential site to confirm its suitability for renewable</p>	<p>Completion of the new Century business centre at Manvers and delivery of a range of business support and advice projects to help local companies recover are likely to increase emissions from new office buildings or other businesses.</p>	<p>Asset Management Board adopted a policy that all new and refurbishment properties will look at the feasibility of low carbon heating and energy efficiency measures as a first option. Business centres are included in the Council's decarbonisation Plan.</p> <p>Alongside the decarbonisation of the grid, the Council has committed to decarbonising five Council buildings which will further reduce carbon emissions. Investigations are also underway with regards to the feasibility of 'sleeving power purchase arrangements' (PPA) as a potential source for our electricity, which allow customers to directly purchase renewable energy directly from the generator with reduced costs.</p>	<p>Carbon Impact Assessments required for all Cabinet reports.</p> <p>All emissions from operational buildings are monitored and reported publicly.</p>

		<p>energy generation. Officers are currently reviewing the report to inform next steps, including exploring the impact of the new Biodiversity Net Gain legislation.</p> <p>Following the launch of the Family Hubs programme other organisations will be co-locating across Council buildings, which could increase building emissions.</p>			
Emissions from transport?	N/A	<p>A fleet conversion plan has been developed and a fleet programme officer has been appointed. In addition, a trial has commenced of an alternative low carbon fuel known as 'Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil' in place of diesel across a sample size of 10 vehicles, which aims to deliver a 90% carbon reduction from emissions. If the trial is successful, this may be implemented across the wider fleet for vehicles that are not currently in the fleet replacement plan with the aim of improving borough wide emissions from Council vehicles.</p> <p>A draft Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy has been developed and a working group has been set up to review and further develop the draft Strategy for discussion with Members and</p>	<p>Transforming Cities Fund programme includes various bus, tram, and cycle improvements. These will be expected to reduce transport emissions.</p> <p>Decreases may be offset by induced demand for transport arising from other projects (e.g. Century Business Centre). Currently not possible to calculate net impact.</p> <p>The plan for neighbourhood road safety engagement, including 20 mph zones, will if successful decrease emissions.</p> <p>The Government Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) funded scheme at Drummond Street car park has been approved by Cabinet. The scheme will look will provide a solar photovoltaic canopy, ultra-rapid bays, rapid bays,</p>	<p>See actions outlined in previous two columns.</p> <p>An Independent Travel Training offer has been developed to support children with special educational needs or disabilities who would normally access the Council's Home to School transport services. This initiative is promoting more sustainable travel and transport solutions.</p>	<p>Approaches to monitoring vehicle usage, emissions and fuel efficiency.</p> <p>Carbon Impact Assessments required for all cabinet reports.</p> <p>Data captured from the pilot to monitor and assess the environment in local areas.</p>

		<p>to agree timeframe for Cabinet.</p> <p>A report on Rotherham Council Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Expansion was approved at Cabinet on 16 October 2023.</p> <p>Greenhouse gas emissions from these sources have increased over the last three financial years, driven by increasing business mileage since the end of COVID-19 social distancing restrictions. Data for 22/23 financial year indicates an increase of 3.23% against a target of 18% reduction. It is not expected that the 2023/24 target of a 10% reduction in emissions from fleet and EV infrastructure during the year can be achieved however the Council continues to carry out actions to reduce these types of gas emissions.</p>	<p>fast bays, and standard bays. The next stage will be to commence the procurement process. There are two design components for this programme, including the infrastructure design and the charger which will be managed by concession by a third party. The design will be specified in advance of the procurement process.</p> <p>New systems implemented to monitor and assess the environment in local areas and enable improvements in grounds maintenance and street cleansing. This will help to reduce unnecessary visits/travel to certain zones.</p>		
Emissions from waste, or the quantity of waste itself?	N/A	An action plan to tackle single use plastics has been approved by Cabinet as part of the wider Climate Change Action Plan in March 2023.		See actions outlined in previous two columns.	<p>Improved information and data to take further action in reducing waste, improving recycling rates and reducing contamination.</p> <p>Carbon Impact Assessments required for all cabinet reports.</p>

Emissions from housing and domestic buildings?	N/A		<p>The Council is continuing to deliver on its commitment to build 1,000 new homes through the Housing Growth Programme, including;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Commencing groundwork on new homes across sites in Eastwood, Harthill and Maltby (forecasting 99 homes) b) Commencing groundwork on new homes in Canklow as part of a joint development with a new day opportunities centre, "Castle View" (forecasting 25 homes) c) Completing 13 new homes across sites in East Herringthorpe & Thrybergh <p>In addition to this, the Council are also providing four new two-bedroom homes to make sure looked-after children and young people in Rotherham can stay in the borough, all due to open by the end of Quarter 4.</p>	<p>Housing Strategy for 2022-2025 includes the Green Housing Strategy to reduce energy costs and improve efficiency of homes.</p> <p>The ECO4-FLEX project is still proving very popular with residents in the borough. The number of installers permitted to have ECO4-FLEX work signed off via the council has now increased from four in August 2022 to ten as of July 2023.</p> <p>This now allows more domestic retrofit projects to be completed in the borough each month, resulting in the increased rate of decarbonisation of our private housing stock.</p> <p>This has meant that in the last 11 months the Council has saved residents approximately £3,507,592.40 in total across the 520 projects delivered.</p>	<p>Establish housing stock emission baselines, consolidating the available intelligence and gathering further data as required, using existing data on council-owned housing stock, and developing intelligence on the wider housing stock across the Borough.</p> <p>Carbon Impact Assessments required for all cabinet reports.</p>
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			These houses will imply an increase in emissions from domestic buildings, however in the case of buildings being taken up by existing residents this may not be significantly different to current domestic emissions from those residents.		
Emissions from construction and/or development?	N/A	<p>Construction and planned developments, such as improving the condition of local neighbourhood roads through the 2024 roads programme, provision of the new library at Thurcroft, building works to improve day facilities, developing new and improved play areas for children and young people, a feasibility study for the Rotherham Theatre will increase emissions.</p> <p>Plans for large scale developments and improvements, such as the towns and villages fund, construction of the market and library schemes as part of Future High Streets Fund programme and construction of the leisure development on Forge Island could significantly increase carbon emissions.</p> <p>Plans connected to the construction of flood</p>		<p>Introduction of further SPDs (supplementary planning documents) relevant to climate change – SPDs can elaborate on Local Plan policies, giving developers additional technical guidance, speeding up applications and resulting in better quality development for the community and environment.</p> <p>See actions outlined in previous two columns.</p>	Carbon Impact Assessments required for all cabinet reports.

		alleviation schemes and barriers, such as achieving 'shovel ready' status for the priority flood alleviation schemes, securing funding to implement the schemes, embankment will all entail emissions.			
Carbon capture (e.g. through trees)?	N/A		<p>24,000 trees have been planted to date, over the last two years since November 2021. Activity will commence again in November 2023 and a further update will be provided once the tree planting season is over.</p> <p>Improvements in the approach to weed control and removal, as well as sustainable management of verges and greenspaces to encourage biodiversity and increase wildflower areas, with potential (but likely negligible) impact on carbon capture.</p>	.	<p>The Council currently has little data related to carbon sequestered via trees, limiting our understanding of the planting required to offset emissions.</p> <p>Carbon Impact Assessments required for all cabinet reports.</p>

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

25 ward plans produced and published informed by local communities, many of which include priorities to improve the local environment and tackle climate change.

The Climate Change Action plan and was refreshed and approved at Cabinet on the 20 March 2023 alongside the Climate Change Annual Report.

To ensure the Council remains focussed on working towards the outcomes and commitments set out in the Council Plan, a review of the Council Plan performance measures will be carried out, and a new Year Ahead Delivery Plan developed for 2024-25. These include performance measure targets and new actions/activities which will contribute to reducing carbon emissions across the borough during the financial year.

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

Given that this is a progress report, and implies no direct recommendations or decisions, there are no relevant emission impacts to consider. Where progress on certain actions has implied a specific definable impact on emissions, this has been included indicatively.

Supporting information:

Completed by:
(Name, title, and service area/directorate).

Tanya Lound
Simon Dennis
Michael Holmes
Leonie Wieser
Florence Drew

Policy, Performance and Intelligence, Assistant Chief Executives Directorate.

Please outline any research, data, or information used to complete this [form].

Directorate Year Ahead Delivery Plan trackers and KPI data for Quarter 2.

Council Plan targets and Year Ahead Delivery Plan actions for 2023-24.

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.

Tracking [to be completed by Policy Support / Climate Champions]