

Appendix 4 – 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 emission impacts	Outline any monitoring of emission impacts that will be carried out
Emissions from non-domestic buildings?	No Impact				
Emissions from transport?	No Impact				
Emissions from waste, or the quantity of waste itself?	No Impact				
Emissions from housing and domestic buildings?	No Impact				
Emissions from construction and/or development?	No impact				
Carbon capture (e.g. through trees)?	No Impact				

Identify any emission impacts associated with this decision that have not been covered by the above fields:
 Changes to the Council's Health and Safety Policy will not have a carbon impact, but carbon emissions will affect the Council's management of health and safety at work. Hotter summer temperatures, more rainfall and more intense downpours in Rotherham are likely to increase Council employees' exposure to heat stress, flooding and new or emerging hazards, such as vector-borne diseases.

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

Changes recommended to the Council's Health and Safety Policy following its two years' review are unlikely to affect greenhouse gas emissions from the Council's activity, or otherwise negatively affect actions to mitigate climate change in Rotherham: there is no expected increase in energy use, transport, waste etc. implied by the present report and its recommendations.

However, in its next review of Health and Safety Policy in two years' time, the Council should consider how arrangements for health and safety can support employees' and services' adaptation to climate change, including but not limited to: increasing exposure to high temperatures, more frequent flooding and emergence of vector-borne diseases which are not presently established in the UK.

Climate change impacts will affect Council employees and services differently e.g., staff working outdoors will be more exposed to risks of dehydration and heat stress during periods of high temperatures. HSE guidance is available which recommends rescheduling work to cooler times of day, providing more frequent rest breaks, access to cool drinking water and shade: these and similar measures have already been adopted by Council services *ad hoc*, but increasing frequency of heatwaves merits their treatment in corporate policy, alongside arrangements such as those for Display Screen Equipment, driving at work and infectious disease.

Climate change will disproportionately affect services and employees who are involved in the Council's emergency response e.g., to an extreme weather event or flood. An International Labour Organization report notes the mental as well as physical impacts, for emergency responders: as the frequency of extreme weather events increases, services' resilience and ability to recover may be degraded.

Supporting information:

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

Claire Hanson
Emergency Resilience and Safety Manager
Community Safety and Street Scene
Regeneration and Environment

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

- *Temperature in the Workplace*. Health and Safety Executive. [Online]. Accessed 28 October 2024. Available from: <<https://www.hse.gov.uk/temperature/employer/outdoor-working.htm>>
- *Climate Report for Rotherham*. (2024). Local Authority Climate Service, Met Office. Available from: <<https://www.reports.esriuk.com/view-report/b8eb3cee8f764147a2cfc69cf36238f/E08000018>> *Ensuring Safety and Health at Work in a Changing Climate*. (2024). International Labour Organization. Available from: <https://www.ilo.org/sites/default/files/2024-07/ILO_SafeDay24_Report_r11.pdf>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health Effects of Climate Change in the UK: State of the Evidence 2023.</i> (2023). UK Health Security Agency. Available from: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/climate-change-health-effects-in-the-uk • <i>Health and Safety Policy, version 3.2.</i> (2024). Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council. Available at Appendix 1.
<p>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.</p>	
<p>Tracking [to be completed by Policy Support / Climate Champions]</p>	<p>Tracking reference: CIA 357</p> <p>Arthur King Principal Climate Change Officer Property and Facilities Services Finance and Customer Services</p>