

## Climate Impact Assessment, Appendix 3, SEND Sufficiency Aspire Pupil Referral Unit

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	A marginal increase in greenhouse gas emissions from energy use at Rotherham Aspire Pupil Referral Unit is expected, as a direct consequence of its increased provision. All buildings on site are currently occupied.		Adaptations to existing buildings / extensions to existing buildings to create the additional SEND capacity across the Borough will be completed to current building code and overseen by asset management service.	Greenhouse gas emissions from energy use and other utilities at Rotherham Aspire PRU are monitored as part of the Council's energy procurement portfolio.
Emissions from transport?	Unknown	There may be some variations to journey travel for children to enable them to attend the new provision. Some journeys may increase, and others decrease. Any Transport journeys will be evaluated by RMBC Corporate Transport Unit and EHCP team.	Pupils travel to school in line with their travel to school plan.  Any changes to school placement are determined via the EHCP and School Transport process.	Mitigating measures are considered via the individual pupil's travel to school plan and monitored by the Transport team. If the Council did not provide sufficient SEND places within Rotherham, then SEND provision would need to be sought from outside the Borough, which could have a greater impact on carbon emissions from transport.	Transport to school arrangements are kept under review by the Corporate Transport Unit.  Ongoing monitoring / assessment by Transport Unit.
Emissions from waste, or the quantity of waste itself?	None	There may be a marginal increased in the amount of waste produced at Rotherham Aspire PRU, as a direct consequence	There will be no change in the overall amount of waste generated by schools overall compared to present.	Schools have a statutory obligation to separate their recycling, food and residual waste for collection and treatment.	Impact will be monitored by the school governing body and LA.

		of its increased provision.			
Emissions from housing and domestic buildings?	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Emissions from construction and/or development?	Increase	There will be an increase in emissions during development from construction wastes, energy use on site and embodied carbon impacts of construction materials.	N/A	<p>Refurbishing an existing building is less carbon intensive than building a new building.</p> <p>The proposed new provision is refurbished existing school space developed in line with necessary building regulations and with oversight from Asset Management</p>	Monitoring of the construction process will be coordinated by Asset Management Service and Governing Bodies.
Carbon capture (e.g. through trees)?	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<p>Identify any emissions impacts associated with this decision which have not been covered by the above fields:</p> <p><i>None</i></p>					

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

*Learning from Lives and Deaths: People with a Learning Disability and Autistic People* 2022 annual report identified an increase in excess deaths in July 2022, with a spike in notifications of deaths on 19 July 2025, when temperatures in England exceeded 40°C for the first time. According to UK climate projections (UKCP18, Met Office), summers as hot as 2022 are expected to happen every other year by 2040-2060. Special educational needs and disabilities might increase people's exposure to effects of climate change such as extreme heatwaves, by interacting with other risk factors such as social isolation. With the right SEND provision, the Council can support children and young people to live happier, healthier and more connected lives, which may increase their resilience to climate change in later life.

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

Increasing provision at Rotherham Aspire PRU will have a marginal impact on carbon emissions from travel to, waste from and energy use in existing buildings. If the Council cannot provide sufficient SEND support in Rotherham, then it will need to procure additional services from outside the Borough, with no less carbon impact from energy use or waste, but with a greater carbon impact from transport. Refurbishing and extending existing buildings will mitigate the carbon impact from construction. Ensuring sufficient provision for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities is an essential first step to support their life chances and social inclusion, which may increase their resilience to extreme heatwaves and other effects of climate change, in later life.

Supporting information:

Climate Impact Assessment Author	Mark Cummins Transformation Lead Commissioning Children and Young People's Services
Please outline any research, data or information used to complete this Climate Impact Assessment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>White, A., Sheehan, R., Ding, J., Roberts, C., Magill, N., Keagan-Bull, R., Carter, B., Chauhan, U., Tuffrey-Wijne, I. and Strydom, A. 2023. <i>Learning from Lives and Deaths - People with a learning disability and autistic people (LeDeR) report for 2022</i>. [Online]. LeDeR Autism and learning disability partnership, King's College London. [Accessed 14 May 2025]. Available from: <a href="https://www.kcl.ac.uk/ioppn/assets/fans-dept/leder-2022-v2.0.pdf">https://www.kcl.ac.uk/ioppn/assets/fans-dept/leder-2022-v2.0.pdf</a>.</li> <li>Kafeety, A., Henderson, S. B., Lubik, A., Kancir, J., Kosatsky, T. and Schwandt, M. 2020. Social connection as a public health adaptation to extreme heat events. <i>Canadian Journal of Public Health</i>. [Online]. 111(6), pp.876-879. [Accessed 14 May 2025]. Available from: <a href="https://doi.org/10.17269/s41997-020-00309-2">https://doi.org/10.17269/s41997-020-00309-2</a></li> </ul>
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.	

Validation	Tracking Reference: CIA Arthur King Principal Climate Change Officer
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