



Environmental Impact Assessment [version 1.0]

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| Proposal title: Southern Region Residential Framework For Children | | |
| Project stage and type: <input type="checkbox"/> Initial Idea Mandate <input type="checkbox"/> Outline Business Case <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full Business Case | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Strategy <input type="checkbox"/> Function <input type="checkbox"/> Service <input type="checkbox"/> Other [please state] | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Already exists / review | <input type="checkbox"/> Changing |
| Directorate: Children and Education | | Lead Officer name: Marie Stoner |
| Service Area: Children’s Commissioning | | Lead Officer role: Commissioning Manager |

Step 1: What do we want to do?

The purpose of this Environmental Impact Assessment is to help you develop your proposal in a way that is compliant with the council’s policies and supports the council’s strategic objectives under the [One City Climate Strategy](#), the [One City Ecological Emergency Strategy](#) and the latest [Corporate Strategy](#).

This assessment should be started at the beginning of the project proposal process by someone with a good knowledge of the project, the service area that will deliver it, and sufficient influence over the proposal to make changes as needed.

It is good practice to take a team approach to completing the Environmental Impact Assessment. See further [guidance](#) on completing this document. Please contact the [Sustainable City and Climate Change Service](#) early for advice and feedback.

1.1 What are the aims and objectives/purpose of this proposal?

Briefly explain the purpose of the proposal and why it is needed. Please use plain English, avoiding jargon and acronyms.

Bristol City Council to purchase Residential Care placements, for children and young people in Social Care, which will be secured from The Southern Region Framework, or may be spot purchased in the event that the framework is unable to meet the requirements. This approval is for the period of the framework contract: 4 + 2 + 2 years. Starting in Oct 24 – Sept 28 plus any contract extensions agreed. The framework agreement contains provision for 2 + 2 years to Sept 2032. There is no minimum commitment spend on a framework. The spend on residential placements is expected to be approximately £16 million a year, which over the life of the framework is £128 million (spend contained within annually approved budgets set by Council).

1.2 Will the proposal have an environmental impact?

Could the proposal have either a positive or negative effects for the environment now or in the future? If ‘No’ explain why you are sure there will be no environmental impact, then skip steps 2-3 and request review by the [Sustainable City and Climate Change Service](#).

If ‘Yes’ complete the rest of this assessment.

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | [please select] |
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1.3 If the proposal is part of an options appraisal, has the environmental impact of each option been assessed and included in the recommendation-making process?

If ‘Yes’ please ensure that the details of the environmental impacts of each option are made clear in the pros and cons section of the [project management options appraisal document](#).

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not applicable | [please select] |
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If 'No' explain why environmental impacts have not been considered as part of the options appraisal process.

Step 2: What kinds of environmental impacts might the project have?

Analysis of impacts must be rigorous. Please demonstrate your analysis of any impacts of the proposal in this section, referring to evidence you have gathered. See detailed [guidance documents](#) for advice on identifying potential impacts.

2.1 Does the proposal create any benefits for the environment, or have any adverse impacts?

Outline any potential benefits of the proposal and how they can be maximised. Identify how the proposal will support [our corporate environmental objectives](#) and the wider [One City Climate and Ecological Emergency strategies](#).

Consider how the proposal creates environmental impacts in the following categories, both now and in the future.

Reasonable efforts should be made to quantify stated benefit or adverse impacts wherever possible.

Where the proposal is likely to have a beneficial impact, consider what actions would enhance those impacts. Where the proposal is likely to have a harmful impact, consider whether actions would mitigate these impacts.

Enhancements or mitigation actions are only required when there is a likely impact identified. Remember that where enhancements or mitigation actions are listed, they should be assigned to staff and appropriately resourced.

| GENERAL COMMENTS (highlight any potential issues that might impact all or many categories) | | |
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| <p>Increasing residential services in the Southern Region will help reduce the amount of travel that social workers are required to undertake to visit children and young people. Additionally, this will increase the number of services within the CAZ, encouraging use of compliant transport. The alternative is for residential provisions to be much further away adding environmental risk.</p> <p>Opportunity to encourage young people to undertake increased healthier and sustainable behaviour through the support workers, such as active travel, making better food choices, and where appropriate buying locally through service support delivery.</p> <p>Consumption of energy and creation of waste through delivery of the service – this will be mitigated through tendering processes, social value commitments and ongoing QA of services.</p> | | |
| <p>ENV1 Carbon neutral: Emissions of climate changing gases</p> <p>BCC has committed to achieving net zero emissions for its direct activities by 2025, and to support the city in achieving net zero by 2030.</p> <p>Will the proposal involve transport, or the use of energy in buildings? Will the proposal involve the purchase of goods or services? If the answer is yes</p> | <p>Benefits</p> | <p>By working with more providers as part of a local Authority consortium in the Southern Region this will reduce the distance that social workers have to travel to visit children in care, reducing emissions. This will also increase the number of services within the Clean Air Zone which will encourage providers and staff to use CAZ compliant modes of transport.</p> |
| | <p>Enhancing actions</p> | <p>The Southern Framework uses a social value delivery plan that includes carbon reduction and Environmental Performance Certificates (EPCs) for buildings. These measures will be used as part of the ongoing contract performance monitoring.</p> |
| <p>Persistence of effects: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year or less <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 – 5 years <input type="checkbox"/> 5+ years</p> | | |

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| <p>to either of these questions, there will be a carbon impact.</p> <p>Consider the scale and timeframe of the impact, particularly if the proposal will lead to ongoing emissions beyond the 2025 and 2030 target dates.</p> <p>Further guidance</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No impact</p> | <p>Adverse impacts</p> | <p>Consumption of energy through delivery of the service, such as heating (gas) and electricity.</p> |
| | <p>Mitigating actions</p> | <p>As part of the Southern Region tender process for Residential providers to apply to join tender questions on environmental impact and through social value commitments are required.</p> <p>As part of the service to support young people, the framework requirements asks providers to encourage young people to undertake increased healthier and sustainable behaviour such as active travel, making better food choices, and where appropriate buying locally.</p> |
| | <p>Persistence of effects: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year or less <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 – 5 years <input type="checkbox"/> 5+ years</p> | |
| <p>ENV2 Ecological recovery: Wildlife and habitats</p> <p>BCC has committed to 30% of its land being managed for nature and to halve its use of pesticides by 2030.</p> <p>Consider how your proposal can support increased space for nature, reduced use of pesticides, reduce pollution to waterways, and reduce consumption of products that undermine ecosystems around the world.</p> <p>If your proposal will directly lead to a reduction in habitat within Bristol, then consider how your proposed mitigation can lead to a biodiversity net gain. Be sure to refer to quantifiable changes wherever possible.</p> <p>Further guidance</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No impact</p> | <p>Benefits</p> | |
| | <p>Enhancing actions</p> | |
| | <p>Persistence of effects: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year or less <input type="checkbox"/> 1 – 5 years <input type="checkbox"/> 5+ years</p> | |
| | <p>Adverse impacts</p> | |
| | <p>Mitigating actions</p> | |
| <p>Persistence of effects: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year or less <input type="checkbox"/> 1 – 5 years <input type="checkbox"/> 5+ years</p> | | |
| <p>ENV3 A cleaner, low-waste city: Consumption of resources and generation of waste</p> <p>Consider what resources will be used as a result of the proposal, how they can be minimised or swapped for</p> | <p>Benefits</p> | |
| | <p>Enhancing actions</p> | |

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| <p>less impactful ones, where they will be sourced from, and what will happen to any waste generated</p> <p>Further guidance</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No impact</p> | Persistence of effects: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year or less <input type="checkbox"/> 1 – 5 years <input type="checkbox"/> 5+ years | | |
| | Adverse impacts | <p>Generation of waste through business operations.</p> | |
| | Mitigating actions | <p>Southern Region tender questions and social value commitments on environmental impact, including how services will ensure appropriate waste management and waste reduction systems are in place.</p> | |
| | Persistence of effects: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year or less <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 – 5 years <input type="checkbox"/> 5+ years | | |
| <p>ENV4 Climate resilience: Bristol’s resilience to the effects of climate change</p> <p>Bristol’s climate is already changing, and increasingly frequent instances of extreme weather will become more likely over time.</p> <p>Consider how the proposal will perform during periods of extreme weather (particularly heat and flooding).</p> <p>Consider if the proposal will reduce or increase risk to people and assets during extreme weather events.</p> <p>Further guidance</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No impact</p> | Benefits | | |
| | Enhancing actions | | |
| | Persistence of effects: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year or less <input type="checkbox"/> 1 – 5 years <input type="checkbox"/> 5+ years | | |
| | Adverse impacts | | |
| | Mitigating actions | | |
| | Persistence of effects: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year or less <input type="checkbox"/> 1 – 5 years <input type="checkbox"/> 5+ years | | |
| <p>Statutory duty: Prevention of Pollution to air, water, or land</p> <p>Consider how the proposal will change the likelihood of pollution occurring to air,</p> | Benefits | | |
| | Enhancing actions | | |
| | Persistence of effects: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year or less <input type="checkbox"/> 1 – 5 years <input type="checkbox"/> 5+ years | | |

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| water, or land and what steps will be taken to prevent pollution occurring. Further guidance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No impact | Adverse impacts | |
| | Mitigating actions | |
| | Persistence of effects: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year or less <input type="checkbox"/> 1 – 5 years <input type="checkbox"/> 5+ years | |

Step 3: Actions

3.1 Action Plan

Use this section summarise and assign responsibility for any actions you have identified to improve data, enhance beneficial, or mitigate negative impacts. Actions identified in section two can be grouped together if named responsibility is under the same person.

This action plan should be updated at each stage of the project. Please be aware that the Sustainable City and Climate Change Service may use this action plan as an audit checklist during the project’s implementation or operation.

| Enhancing / mitigating action required | Responsible Officer | Timescale |
|--|---------------------|-----------|
| As part of the service, we will ask providers to encourage young people to undertake increased healthier and sustainable behaviour such as active travel, making better food choices, and where appropriate buying locally | Hannah Gillett | Oct 24 |
| The Southern Framework uses a social value delivery plan that includes carbon reduction and Environmental Performance Certificates (EPCs) for buildings. These measures will be used as part of the ongoing contract performance monitoring. | Hannah Gillett | Oct-24 |
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Step 4: Review

The Sustainable City and Climate Change Service need at least five working days to comment and feedback on your impact assessment. Assessments should only be marked as reviewed when they provide sufficient information for decision-makers on the environmental impact of the proposal. Please seek feedback and review from the [Sustainable City and Climate Change Service](#) before final submission of your decision pathway documentation¹.

Where impacts identified in this assessment are deemed significant, they will be summarised here and included on the cover sheet of the decision pathway documentation.

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| Summary of significant beneficial impacts and opportunities to support the Climate, Ecological and Corporate Strategies (ENV1,2,3,4): |
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| Summary of significant adverse impacts and how they can be mitigated: |
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¹ Review by the Sustainable City and Climate Change Service confirms there is sufficient analysis for decision makers to consider the likely environmental impacts at this stage. This is not an endorsement or approval of the proposal.

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| Environmental Performance Team Reviewer: Daniel Shelton | Submitting author: Marie Stoner |
| Date: 03/07/2026 | Date: 03/07/2026 |