

## Eco Impact Checklist

<b>Title of report: City Centre &amp; High Streets Recovery</b>
<b>Report author: Jason Thorne</b>
<b>Anticipated date of key decision 13/07/21</b>
<p><b>Summary of proposals:</b> The City Centre &amp; High Streets Recovery Programme will deliver £5,110,982 worth of investment across the city, to safeguard and create businesses and employment opportunities as we emerge out of lockdown. It will also provide transitional support for businesses and support for high streets to adapt to the accelerated pace of change in; retail trends (rise of online shopping), working patterns (more people working from home) and function of high streets (greater focus on leisure, entertainment, culture, hospitality, night-time economy and housing, co-existing with retail) brought on by the Covid -19 pandemic. (The Changing High Street, High Street Task Force, 2020)</p> <p>The programme includes two citywide packages of support: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vacant Commercial Property Grant Scheme, focused on bringing vacant properties back into use, diversifying the current high street offer, attracting more footfall and creating additional business and employment opportunities</li> <li>• Business Support, for high street businesses will deliver a mix of 1:1 and online business support, advice and signposting across a range of City Centre and high street business sectors, including retail, hospitality, leisure, health and beauty, and creative. Areas of support will be tailored to the needs of City Centre and high streets businesses with a focus on short to medium term recovery and will include:- Covid-19 secure guidance, advice on adapting premises (including use of outside space/public realm where appropriate), diversification, productivity and growth, information and guidance on sustainable/green business practices, promotion of Living Wage, trading on-line and marketing.</li> </ul> <p>and</p> <p>Geographically targeted interventions for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Culture and Events activity, focussed on developing a two-year culture and events programme to support the recovery and re-purposing of the City Centre, celebrating cultural diversity and hospitality offer, and attracting visitors and families back into the city. This will include meanwhile activities to build skills, support test trading, and foster enterprise and to diversify and enhance the offer. For each of the nine selected high streets a series of locally distinctive and inclusive culture and event programmes, will be developed. The activities will be co-designed with local communities, to help animate high streets, celebrate local diversity, increase footfall, and spend and re-connect high streets to local people.</li> <li>• Street Scene and Green Infrastructure Enhancements will deliver small scale interventions to improve key public spaces within the City Centre and nine high streets. These interventions will improve the appearance of the areas and support biodiversity and climate priorities. These will be co-designed with businesses, communities, and other stakeholders.</li> </ul>

The targeted interventions are focussed on the City Centre and nine local high streets - East St, Church Road, Shirehampton, Stapleton Road, Stockwood, Filwood Broadway, Filton Avenue, Brislington Hill and Two Mile Hill. These have been selected based on mix of town and local centres, geographical spread, vacancy rates, deprivation, and potential for change.

The City Centre and High Streets Recovery Programme, is underpinned by the following principles:

- Engaging, collaborating and co-designing with diverse communities, businesses and stakeholders to re-connect places to people.
- Supporting the creative and cultural sector, to create locally distinctive places and experiences.
- Skills development and employability, supporting local, regional and national priorities for economic inclusion and improving access to jobs.
- Environmental sustainability and climate and ecological emergency priorities, considering, raising awareness, and addressing priorities, through proposed interventions.
- Supporting Equality and Diversity celebrating, integrating, and delivering inclusive, diverse, and open interventions, to meet the needs of diverse local communities.

The programme will have a particular focus on supporting sectors most impacted by Covid-19, such as the creative and cultural sector, and the hospitality sector.

Will the proposal impact on...	Yes/No	+ive or -ive	If Yes...	
			Briefly describe impact	Briefly describe Mitigation measures
Emission of Climate Changing Gases?	Y	+/-	<p>The programme will encourage people to visit the City Centre and high streets that may encourage people to use their cars.</p> <p>Programme will encourage people to shop local and support walking/cycling by improving street scene and green infrastructure e.g. planters, pocket parks, cycle parking</p> <p>Programme will promote and encourage</p>	<p>Working with the Council's Transport team, we will encourage the use of active and sustainable transport e.g. walking, cycling, scooters, bus</p>

			sustainable business practices, directly and through procurement.	
Bristol's resilience to the effects of climate change?	Y	+	<p>Programme will encourage people to shop local and support walking/cycling by improving street scene and green infrastructure e.g. planters, pocket parks, cycle parking</p> <p>Programme will promote and encourage sustainable business practices, directly and through procurement.</p>	
Consumption of non-renewable resources?	Y	+/-	<p>The programme will encourage people to visit the City Centre and high streets that may encourage people to use their cars.</p> <p>Programme will encourage people to shop local and support walking/cycling by improving street scene and green infrastructure e.g. planters, pocket parks, cycle parking</p>	Working with the Council's Transport team, we will encourage the use of active and sustainable transport e.g. walking, cycling, scooters, bus
Production, recycling or disposal of waste	Y	+/-	Our Business Support programme will promote and encourage sustainable business practices, directly and through procurement.	

			<p>Vacant Commercial Property scheme may create construction related waste.</p> <p>Our Cultural events programme will increase the demand for recycling and disposal of waste.</p>	<p>Work with businesses and contractors to promote best practice in recycling and disposal of waste.</p> <p>Work with event organisers to promote best practice in recycling and disposal of waste in line with Site Permissions process.</p>
The appearance of the city?	Y	+	Investment in street scene and green infrastructure, bringing vacant commercial units back into use which can blight City Centre and high streets. We work closely with the Council's City Design team on this.	
Pollution to land, water, or air?	Y	+/-	<p>The programme will encourage people to visit the City Centre and high streets that may encourage people to use their cars.</p> <p>Our Business Support programme will promote and encourage sustainable business practices.</p>	Working with the Council's Transport team, we will encourage the use of active and sustainable transport e.g. walking, cycling, scooters, bus
Wildlife and habitats?	Y	+	Investment in green infrastructure will encourage wildlife and habitats. Linkage with the schemes such Forest of Avon Trees for Climate will be considered, or with	

		community groups using the Queens Green Canopy scheme.	
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**Consulted with:**

**Summary of impacts and Mitigation - to go into the main Cabinet/ Council Report**

The significant impact of this proposal are likely to be public travel to the City Centre and high streets, with a small amount of material use and waste from works carried out in these locations. There will be a beneficial impact from improvement of local green infrastructure.

Mitigation for transport emissions will include working closely with Transport colleagues to encourage more active and sustainable travel. Encouraging best practice in reducing, reusing, recycling and correctly disposing of residual waste will apply to both works and events.

It is difficult to quantify the measurable effects of more transport with the less tangible beneficial impacts of more community involvement in local spaces and carbon removal from enhance ecology. The net effects of the proposals will be small, but may be either positive or negative.

**Checklist completed by:**

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