

Eco Impact Checklist

Title of report: Community Resilience Fund			
Report author: Ellie Stevens			
Anticipated date of key decision : Full cabinet February 2022			
<p>Summary of proposals: This proposal is about a new grant fund which will contribute to the goal: To build city resilience by growing the power of communities experiencing the greatest inequality.</p> <p>The community resilience fund (CRF) will invest £4million capital funding in community and voluntary sector organisations, to support recovery and strengthen and build longer term resilience of both organisations and communities. This could mean investing in infrastructure, community buildings or equipment.</p> <p>Our focus will be on the communities (both geographic and communities of interest) who experience the greatest inequality, and funds will be allocated to neighbourhoods within the 30% most deprived in Bristol, or organisations which are 'of' the equalities communities they work with or represent, as equalities communities are historically the least likely to receive capital investment.</p> <p>To achieve the overall goal, we will prioritise proposals which address the following priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Environmental sustainability <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Energy efficiency improvements to save money on bills, make spaces more usable, increase environmental sustainability b. Energy generation projects to create an income, save money on bills, increase environmental sustainability c. Investment in natural capital? B. Financial security <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Space improvements or expansions to bring in income C. Accessibility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Accessibility improvements to community spaces D. Digital infrastructure E. Equipment which contributes to any of the above <p>Priorities will be identified by the community. This framework is given to illustrate the broad ways in which we believe capital investment can contribute to resilience, community building and equity. We want to empower community and voluntary organisations to pursue priorities which are particularly important to the communities they work with and will be open to creative ideas throughout the process.</p>			
Will the proposal impact on...	Yes/No	+ive or -ive	If Yes...
			Briefly describe impact
			Briefly describe Mitigation measures
Emission of Climate Changing Gases?	Yes	both	The proposal aims to support VCSe sector to make improvements to
Bristol's resilience to	Yes	+ive	We will ask organisations applying to the grant fund to set out any actions

the effects of climate change?			<p>community infrastructure including buildings and equipment, with the end result of increasing resilience of the sector. This could include energy efficiency improvements to community buildings, extensions or building works on community buildings, installation of renewable energy infrastructure, or improvements to digital infrastructure.</p> <p>Furthermore, many VCSE organisations explicitly deliver work in a range of areas including enhancement of the physical appearance of the city; increase tree cover; reduce climate change; raise awareness of recycling, ecology and promote energy efficiency in the city. By increasing their resilience, we will empower these organisations to continue their positive work. Funding will be focused on communities in the 30% most deprived areas of Bristol as well as organisations which are 'of' the community they work with or represent. There may be some negative impacts due to this fund investing capital in infrastructure which could create short term pollution and carbon emissions through construction works.</p>	<p>which they will take over the course of the implementation of their project to contribute positively to One City Plan's Ecological Emergency Strategy and Climate Strategy. We will record these as part of the evaluation of the impact of the CRF programme; We will use the 3 year period of the fund to raise awareness of the positive impacts of the investment in community infrastructure is having. We will encourage organisations to consider the environmental impact and carbon emissions associated with their projects and will fund the provision of technical advice to ensure funding is invested in the most appropriate measures and works. We will encourage organisations to carry out their own energy efficiency audits to consider the best measures to implement. We will also encourage the use of sustainable building materials where possible and appropriate.</p>
Consumption of non-renewable resources?	Yes	both		
Production, recycling or disposal of waste	No			
The appearance of the city?	No			
Pollution to land, water, or air?	Yes	-ive		
Wildlife and habitats?	Yes	+ive		

Consulted with:
VCSE sector since July 2021, including equalities specific workshop.
Bristol City Council Climate Change team, September 2021. To ensure alignment with existing grant funds and seek input to proposal.

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

The significant impacts of this proposal are that it has the potential to have a positive impact on energy consumption and energy efficiency of community spaces and empowers and builds resilience of community and voluntary organisations who often embed work with a positive impact on the environment within their agendas.

The proposals include the following measures to mitigate the impacts: We will encourage organisations to think about the impact of their projects both positive and negative and record this. We will seek to minimise negative impacts by providing funding for technical advice and support, encouraging the use of sustainable building materials where possible.

The proposal contributes to the impact that VCSE organisations can have in addressing One City Plan 2050 Environment Vision. Many groups within the VCSE sector have explicitly undertaken work around mitigating climate change; addressing fuel poverty; food growing; recycling; habitat restoration, green energy and energy efficiency. The proposal explicitly seeks to increase the resilience of the VCSE sector in delivering into the One City Plan, which includes the 2050 Vision for Environment.

Checklist completed by:

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Date:	30/09/2021
Verified by Environmental Performance Team	Daniel Shelton 30/11/2021