## **Eco Impact Checklist**

Title of report: Project 1000: Affordable Housing Delivery Plan 2022-25

Report author: Matthew Brown/Elaine Olphert

Anticipated date of key decision: Tuesday 8th February, 2022

## **Summary of proposals:**

Project 1000: Affordable Housing Delivery Plan 2022-25, due to go to Cabinet in February 2022, is a refresh of the previous Housing Delivery Plan 2017-2020. It is an overarching plan that is intended to offer a vision, purpose, and to focus Bristol City Council's limited resources of land, time, money, and influence to:

- Bring alignment across its operations and partnerships around a shared vision and purpose of delivering affordable housing at pace,
- Enable improved outcomes for housing as a powerful intervention for creating longer term value in health and city resiliency in the face of the climate and ecological emergencies, and
- Ensure the critical engagement of communities in the process of designing and developing affordable housing to ensure the support of local residents.

Project 1000 is a delivery plan, not a housing strategy. It is a plan for accelerating the delivery of affordable homes across the city. The assessment of ecological impact of any development identified in the pipeline will occur at a site-specific level, not at this strategic level. As well as direct loss of habitat and species, development can also impact negatively by fragmenting habitats and isolating less mobile populations. Therefore, specific ecological impact assessments will still need to be carried out as part of any specific decision making and governance through the delivery of the plan.

Furthering the Council's declaration of a climate and ecological emergency, the Council's Corporate Strategy 2022-27 states that, "While building new homes across the city, it is vital we ensure we are building new housing in low carbon ways that help us meet our ecological and environmental ambitions for a sustainable economic recovery." The Council will ensure that low carbon strategies are integrated into all developments to reduce the ecological impact of any new affordable housing. This impact will be managed through the planning process for individual developments through documents such as Biodiversity Management Plans.

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	-ive	Climate changing gases likely to be emitted through site preparation and construction processes. New buildings, increased population, increased journeys and footfall will be balanced	Mitigations to be set out on an individual project basis through planning, not at this strategic level. However, development projects will ensure whole lifecycle carbon management is an

			by high sustainability standards for buildings, employment & leisure opportunities provided locally, greater public transport capacity, new pedestrian & cycle access and measures to reduce dependency on the car.	integral part of decision making and design processes.
Bristol's resilience to the effects of climate change?	Yes	Both	Impact on Bristol's resilience likely to be affected through site preparation and construction processes. These have the potential to be positive impacts in some instances. Increasing population and developing in areas at risk of flooding will be counterbalanced by new flood defence measures, potentially featuring as part of new developments, that will enhance performance of enhance the city's overall flood defence infrastructure, as well as new green spaces, new access routes for pedestrians and cyclists and jobs and services available locally to meet local need.	Mitigations to be set out on an individual project basis through planning, not at this strategic level. However, strategically, the Council will include sustainability assessments of all council-led developments.
Consumption of non-renewable resources?	Yes	-ive	Consumption of non- renewable resources likely to be emitted through site preparation and construction processes until development processes are made renewable. Large amounts of construction processes offer the potential for	Mitigations to be set out on an individual project basis through planning, not at this strategic level. However, strategically, the Council will explore best available practice in sourcing of sustainable construction materials for use across all

			the scale of consumption and associated mitigation to be significant.	development sites.
Production, recycling or disposal of waste	Yes	-ive	Production, recycling or disposal of waste likely through site preparation and construction processes.	Mitigations to be set out on an individual project basis through planning, not at this strategic level. However, strategically, the Council will explore low waste and circular construction processes through modern methods of construction and stringent site waste management plans.
The appearance of the city?	Yes	+ive	The increase in the number of homes in the city will change the fabric and appearance of Bristol. Through high quality design and placemaking, this has the potential to positively transform the urban landscape. This will be both on a micro level, through improvements to active travel infrastructure required as part of development, to streetscape enhancements on a building and street scale.	The impact on the appearance of the city is to be set out on an individual project basis through planning, not at this strategic level.
Pollution to land, water, or air?	Yes	-ive	Construction processes carry the danger of causing pollution particularly to land due to use of on site machinery and equipment.	The impact to be assessed and strategic mitigated on an individual project basis through planning, not at this strategic level. Robust site control and emergency preparedness measures will be in place during all phases

				of construction.
Wildlife and habitats?	Yes	-ive	Some wildlife and habitats are likely to be impacted as site preparation and construction processes may reduce existing green spaces or fragment habitat.	Mitigations/impacts to be set out on an individual project basis through planning, not at this strategic level. However, strategically, the Council will reduce any negative impacts from Project 1000 developments by pursuing net biodiversity gain in all associated developments.

## Consulted with:

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

The significant impacts of this proposal are potentially very wide-ranging given the scale of the Project 1000: Housing Delivery Plan and its geographical coverage. It is too wide ranging to be specific about what these impacts may be, however, it is critical that ecological and environmental impact is considered fully as it evolves. Individual project impacts will be assessed through statutory planning processes, and council-led briefs will be tied to wider corporate strategies. This – and the need for resource to support it – will be factored into the work-programming and delivery of the programme as it moves forward.

The aim of the programme at all stages of its development and implementation – including extensive consultation and public engagement to be undertaken on an ongoing basis throughout the life of the plan– will be to have a positive ecological and environmental impact whilst still building the affordable homes Bristol needs.

Checklist completed by:			
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