

Eco Impact Checklist

Title of report: Proposed permanent Gypsy Traveller site at Western Drive in Hengrove				
Report author: Ian Bowen				
Anticipated date of key decision: 7 February 2023				
Summary of proposals:				
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	-ve	<p>The construction of the site will involve the inclusion of concrete pads on which to park caravans and campervans. Conventional concrete has high embodied emissions, but alternative options are available.</p> <p>There is an estimated 69 tonnes of carbon dioxide locked up in the trees and scrub currently occupying the site, so clearing this will likely cause the loss of this to the atmosphere.</p>	<p>We will explore the use of Low carbon cement, BioBasedBricks, and robust soil matrices such as grasscrete as alternatives over concrete slabs.</p> <p>Unlike existing sites where the whole site area is covered in a concrete bed, this small site will be made up of individual, separate pitches which are separated by planting of shrubs and maturing trees. We currently envisage the 0.85 acre site to be built with sufficient and suitable trees so as to eventually create a canopy of cover that provides shade to pitches and offsets the use of concrete.</p> <p>We make a commitment to evaluate alternatives to conventional concrete hardstanding and will be using modern methods of construction (MMC) as a way to help mitigate omissions.</p>
Bristol's resilience to the effects of climate change?	No			The site is unlikely to be affected by either flooding or overheating

Consumption of non-renewable resources?	Yes	-ve	The construction of a new site will require the use of large amounts of concrete and other building materials which are generally non-renewable.	As part of the planning process and build contracts for the site, we will be insisting on the use of as many renewable construction materials as possible within the build process. Other similar sites elsewhere in the UK have seen the use of timber framed amenities buildings with “living” roofs which have proved attractive, come from renewable sources and have increased biodiversity on sites.
Production, recycling or disposal of waste	Yes	-ve	The new site will have between 6 and 8 pitches for permanent use by different families and so could provide homes for as many as 40 adults and children. This will impact on waste. The construction of the site will produce some construction waste.	The site will be provided with waste and recycling facilities in line with other bricks and mortar housing options. We hope to mitigate construction waste by using modern methods of construction (MMC).
The appearance of the city?	Yes	+ve	The site is currently disused wasteland and has been for the last 20+ years. It is not overlooked by any buildings or people.	By redeveloping the site, we can rejuvenate an abandoned area into one full of life and vitality. Removing the current scrub and replacing with managed planting will visually improve the area and bring added value to the land. For the city as a whole, having additional permanent pitch space for Gypsy Travellers not only helps us work towards meeting our

				requirements under section 225 of the Housing Act 2004, but also enhances our reputation as a city of sanctuary.
Pollution to land, water, or air?	No			
Wildlife and habitats?	Yes	+ve	Because the site has been left alone for so long, it has started to change into woodland edge habitat for at least 20 years, which means that biodiversity will be fairly good (although an ecological survey would be needed to be sure). The redevelopment of the site, for any purpose, is very likely to reduce biodiversity on the site.	<p>We would make a commitment to having an ecological survey to establish what biodiversity would be lost and how much biodiversity mitigation might be possible through the green roof, planting schemes, etc.</p> <p>Adding managed planting of shrubs and maturing trees, combined with living roofs on all amenity's buildings will provide an immediate habitat for insects, butterflies and birds. Biodiversity of the site should increase as the trees mature.</p>
Consulted with:				
<u>Summary of impacts and Mitigation - to go into the main Cabinet/ Council Report</u>				
<p>The significant impacts of this proposal are the development of a waste ground site with the addition of concrete hardstanding for vehicles, amenities buildings for pitches and a permanent occupancy of the site which will bring with it associated waste.</p> <p>The proposals include the following measures to mitigate the impacts: planned and managed planting of maturing trees, shrubs and garden areas for individual pitches, building constructed from renewable resources and with living roofs.</p> <p>We will make the commitment to having an ecological survey to establish what biodiversity would be lost and how much biodiversity mitigation might be possible through the green roof, planting schemes, etc.</p> <p>Planting could help screen noise (if needed) from the neighbouring sites, provide shade</p>				

for parked vehicles (eventually) in the summer and mitigate biodiversity loss.

Checklist completed by:

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