

Eco Impact Checklist

Title of report: Gas supply renewal				
Report author: Helen Reed				
Anticipated date of key decision 5th Sept 23				
<p>Summary of proposals: Essentially, the proposal is the renewal of the Council's gas supply contracts, for up to four years. This is being raised now as due to the Flexible procurement mechanism used; we need to be in contract with the new supplier ahead of the supply start date in order to allow trading for BCC gas requirements to commence.</p> <p>The requirement assumes a reduction in gas demand over the new contracting period (Oct 24 – Mar 28) as a result of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Sites connecting to the growing District Heat Network (DHN), replacing current gas-fuelled heating systems b. Gas boilers coming to the end of their operational life and being replaced with either a DHN connection or with electric heating (heat pumps/electric boilers) c. Improvements in energy efficiency achieved as a result of City Leap-delivered projects d. BCC sites being closed or disposed of as a result of estate rationalisation <p>This has been factored in to the demand profile for the new contract. This will still leave a significant residual gas demand across the BCC estate, including sites within the scope of the 2025 Carbon Neutrality target. The proposal is that gas still being used by these sites should be supplied, subject to availability and affordability, as 100% 'Green' gas. This would initially be RGGO-backed biomethane, but with an option for Hydrogen generated from the electrolysis of water using renewable energy sources should this become available as part of wider plans to blend hydrogen in to the UK gas grid. This would increase BCC Green gas usage from around 6% currently to around 25%, but there are significant risks around securing sufficient Green gas at an affordable price to meet this requirement.</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	+ve	Expected reductions in BCC gas usage, and greater use of Green gas, will reduce related emissions	If insufficient Green gas is available or affordable, a greater number of Carbon Offsets may need to be procured.
Bristol's resilience to the effects of climate change?	No			

Consumption of non-renewable resources?	Yes	-ive and +ive	Fossil-fuel gas is not considered to be a renewable resource, but less fossil gas will be purchased under this proposal than previously.	An increased proportion of certified green gas will be purchased if available and affordable.
Production, recycling or disposal of waste	No			
The appearance of the city?	No			
Pollution to land, water, or air?	No			
Wildlife and habitats?	No			
Consulted with:				
Summary of impacts and Mitigation - <u>to go into the main Cabinet/ Council Report</u>				
<p>The significant impacts of this proposal are to offset the continued use of natural gas on the BCC estate by greater use of Green gas and wider decarbonisation measures.</p> <p>The proposals include the following measures to mitigate the impacts – if insufficient Green gas is available or affordable, further Carbon offsets would be required.</p> <p>The net effects of the proposals are to reduce BCC carbon emissions related to the use of natural gas.</p>				
Checklist completed by:				
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Dept.:			Growth and Regeneration	
Extension:				
Date:			24/08/2023	
Verified by Environmental Performance Team			Giles Liddell, Project Manager - Environmental	