

Eco Impact Checklist

Title of report: Environment Act 2021: Introduction of Penalty for emission of smoke in smoke control area				
Report author: Kurt James				
Anticipated date of key decision Sept 2023				
<p>Summary of proposals: To agree to introduce a new financial penalty (civil) under the regulation of smoke in smoke control areas. Amendments to the Clean Air Act 1993 made under Schedule 12 of the Environment Act 2021 came into force from 1 May 2022 by adding Section 19A and Schedule 1A, introducing civil financial penalties. Enforcement in Smoke Control Areas through the Clean Air Act amendments is a key element of the Government's plan to reduce particulate pollution levels and the populations exposure to it. The aim of this initiative is to deter offending by providing advice and information rather than to raise revenue.</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?	No		This intends to reduce the incidence of burning solid fuels in breach of regulations designed to reduced emissions of particulate matter. Wood is seen as a low carbon heat source, however, this is dependant on many factors and in many cases it is not seen as positive for emissions of climate change gas emissions. Burning of wet wood is highly polluting and inefficient in terms of heat generation, so a reduction of this activity is potentially positive for climate change gas emissions.	None required.
Bristol's resilience to the effects of climate change?	No			
Consumption of non-renewable resources?	No		This proposal is not stopping the use of solid fuel, it is	

			requiring the use of the correct appliance/fuel to reduce emissions.	
Production, recycling or disposal of waste	No			
The appearance of the city?	No			
Pollution to land, water, or air?	Yes	+ve	Breaches of smoke control regulations will be easier to enforce with the adoption of this legislation and therefore has the potential to improve air pollution and public health by raising awareness and as a last resort, through enforcement.	
Wildlife and habitats?	No			
Consulted with: Andrew Edwards, Sustainable City and Climate Change Team				
Summary of impacts and Mitigation - <u>to go into the main Cabinet/ Council Report</u>				
<p>The significant impacts of this proposal are to reduce emissions of particulate matter by ensuring that BCC have the available powers to actively enforce the smoke control regulations when necessary.</p> <p>The net effects of the proposals are positive on air pollution and do not have any significant negative effects on other areas such as wildlife and carbon emissions.</p>				
Checklist completed by: Andrew Edwards				
Name:		Andrew Edwards		
Dept.:		Sustainable City and Climate Change Team		
Extension:				
Date:		26.04.23		
Verified by Environmental Performance Team		Nicola Hares – Environmental Project Manager – 02/05/2023		