



# Environmental Impact Assessment [version 1.0]

<b>Proposal title:</b> Bristol City Council Endorsement of Bristol's Just Transition Declaration	
<b>Project stage and type:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initial Idea Mandate <input type="checkbox"/> Outline Business Case <input type="checkbox"/> Full Business Case	
<input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Strategy <input type="checkbox"/> Function <input type="checkbox"/> Service <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other [Report]	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Changing <input type="checkbox"/> Already exists / review
<b>Directorate:</b> Economy of Place	<b>Lead Officer name:</b> Alex Minshull
<b>Service Area:</b> Sustainable City and Climate Change	<b>Lead Officer role:</b> Sustainable City and Climate Change Service manager

## Step 1: What do we want to do?

The purpose of this Environmental Impact Assessment is to help you develop your proposal in a way that is compliant with the council's policies and supports the council's strategic objectives under the [One City Climate Strategy](#), the [One City Ecological Emergency Strategy](#) and the latest [Corporate Strategy](#).

This assessment should be started at the beginning of the project proposal process by someone with a good knowledge of the project, the service area that will deliver it, and sufficient influence over the proposal to make changes as needed.

It is good practice to take a team approach to completing the Environmental Impact Assessment. See further [guidance](#) on completing this document. Please email [environmental.performance@bristol.gov.uk](mailto:environmental.performance@bristol.gov.uk) early for advice and feedback.

### 1.1 What are the aims and objectives/purpose of this proposal?

Briefly explain the purpose of the proposal and why it is needed. Please use plain English, avoiding jargon and acronyms.

For Cabinet to note that the Council is endorsing the principles within the Just Transition Declaration and will seek to align them within its governance and ways of working.

### 1.2 Will the proposal have an environmental impact?

Could the proposal have either a positive or negative effects for the environment now or in the future? If 'No' explain why you are sure there will be no environmental impact, then skip steps 2-3 and request review by sending this form to [environmental.performance@bristol.gov.uk](mailto:environmental.performance@bristol.gov.uk)

If 'Yes' complete the rest of this assessment.

Yes  No [please select]

### 1.3 If the proposal is part of an options appraisal, has the environmental impact of each option been assessed and included in the recommendation-making process?

If 'Yes' please ensure that the details of the environmental impacts of each option are made clear in the pros and cons section of the [project management options appraisal document](#).

Yes  No  Not applicable [please select]

If 'No' explain why environmental impacts have not been considered as part of the options appraisal process.

## Step 2: What kinds of environmental impacts might the project have?

Analysis of impacts must be rigorous. Please demonstrate your analysis of any impacts of the proposal in this section, referring to evidence you have gathered. See detailed [guidance documents](#) for advice on identifying potential impacts.

### Does the proposal create any benefits for the environment, or have any adverse impacts?

Outline any potential benefits of the proposal and how they can be maximised. Identify how the proposal will support our corporate environmental objectives and the wider [One City Climate and Ecological Emergency strategies](#).

Consider how the proposal creates environmental impacts in the following categories, both now and in the future.

**Reasonable efforts should be made to quantify stated benefit or adverse impacts wherever possible.**

Where the proposal is likely to have a beneficial impact, consider what actions would enhance those impacts. Where the proposal is likely to have a harmful impact, consider whether actions would mitigate these impacts.

Enhancements or mitigation actions are only required when there is a likely impact identified. Remember that where enhancements or mitigation actions are listed, they should be assigned to staff and appropriately resourced.

<b>GENERAL COMMENTS</b> (highlight any potential issues that might impact all or many categories)		
The Environmental impact comes from embedding this declaration into governance and processes we use across the council such as Business Plan and Climate in all policies approach. This should strengthen our approaches in this field, by applying a just transition element to work undertaken by the council within but not limited to sustainability, ecology and net zero.		
<p><b>ENV1 Carbon neutral: Emissions of climate changing gases</b></p> <p>BCC has committed to achieving net zero emissions for its direct activities by 2025, and to support the city in achieving net zero by 2030.</p> <p>Will the proposal involve transport, or the use of energy in buildings? Will the proposal involve the purchase of goods or services? If the answer is yes to either of these questions, there will be a carbon impact.</p> <p>Consider the scale and timeframe of the impact, particularly if the proposal will lead to ongoing</p>	<b>Benefits</b>	<p>The declaration sets out the rationale for why and how considerations of Just Transition should be embedded in all the work that we do on the Climate and Ecological emergencies. Whilst the council already makes efforts to do this, the declaration provides detailed information that formalises the approach and provides a framework for how this should be achieved. Given that BCC’s Corporate Strategy objective ENV1 states that we will “Bring everyone with us in our just transition to a low-carbon future”, adopting the Just Transition declaration is an important step to embedding these approaches into our work in a clearly defined way.</p>
	<b>Enhancing actions</b>	<p>The impacts of adoption on the council’s work will be reviewed in 2 years.</p>
	<b>Persistence of effects:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year or less <input type="checkbox"/> 1 – 5 years <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5+ years	
<b>Adverse impacts</b>		

<p>emissions beyond the 2025 and 2030 target dates.</p> <p><a href="#">Further guidance</a></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No impact</p>	<p>Mitigating actions</p>	
<p>Persistence of effects: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year or less <input type="checkbox"/> 1 – 5 years <input type="checkbox"/> 5+ years</p>		
<p><b>ENV2 Ecological recovery: Wildlife and habitats</b></p> <p>BCC has committed to 30% of its land being managed for nature and to halve its use of pesticides by 2030.</p> <p>Consider how your proposal can support increased space for nature, reduced use of pesticides, reduce pollution to waterways, and reduce consumption of products that undermine ecosystems around the world.</p> <p>If your proposal will directly lead to a reduction in habitat within Bristol, then consider how your proposed mitigation can lead to a biodiversity net gain. Be sure to refer to quantifiable changes wherever possible.</p> <p><a href="#">Further guidance</a></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No impact</p>	<p>Benefits</p>	<p>The declaration sets out the rationale for why and how considerations of Just Transition should be embedded in all the work that we do on the Climate and Ecological emergencies. Whilst the council already makes efforts to do this, the declaration provides detailed information that formalises the approach and provides a framework for how this should be achieved.</p> <p>Principle 3 of the declaration sets out a commitment to “Empowering disadvantaged communities to take climate and ecological action”. This commitment will be embedded into the work we do on nature recovery.</p>
<p>Enhancing actions</p>	<p>The impacts of adoption on the council’s work will be reviewed in 2 years.</p>	
<p>Persistence of effects: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year or less <input type="checkbox"/> 1 – 5 years <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5+ years</p>		
<p>Adverse impacts</p>		
<p>Mitigating actions</p>		
<p>Persistence of effects: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year or less <input type="checkbox"/> 1 – 5 years <input type="checkbox"/> 5+ years</p>		
<p><b>ENV3 A cleaner, low-waste city: Consumption of resources and generation of waste</b></p> <p>Consider what resources will be used as a result of the proposal, how they can be minimised or swapped for</p>	<p>Benefits</p>	
<p>Enhancing actions</p>		
<p>Persistence of effects: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year or less <input type="checkbox"/> 1 – 5 years <input type="checkbox"/> 5+ years</p>		

<p>less impactful ones, where they will be sourced from, and what will happen to any waste generated</p> <p><a href="#">Further guidance</a></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No impact</p>	<p><b>Adverse impacts</b></p>	
	<p><b>Mitigating actions</b></p>	
	<p>Persistence of effects: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year or less <input type="checkbox"/> 1 – 5 years <input type="checkbox"/> 5+ years</p>	
<p><b>ENV4 Climate resilience: Bristol’s resilience to the effects of climate change</b></p> <p>Bristol’s climate is already changing, and increasingly frequent instances of extreme weather will become more likely over time.</p> <p>Consider how the proposal will perform during periods of extreme weather (particularly heat and flooding).</p> <p>Consider if the proposal will reduce or increase risk to people and assets during extreme weather events.</p> <p><a href="#">Further guidance</a></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No impact</p>	<p><b>Benefits</b></p>	<p>The declaration sets out the rationale for why and how considerations of Just Transition should be embedded in all the work that we do on the Climate and Ecological emergencies. Whilst the council already makes efforts to do this, for example through the <a href="#">Keep Bristol Cool Framework</a>, the declaration provides detailed information that formalises the approach and provides an overarching framework for how this should be achieved.</p> <p>Principles 5, 8 and 9 of the declaration are of particular relevance to our climate resilience work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Fair distribution of costs and benefits (page 8)</li> <li>8. Building inclusive resilience (page 9)</li> <li>9. Infrastructure for all (page 9)</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Enhancing actions</b></p>	<p>The impacts of adoption on the council’s work will be reviewed in 2 years.</p>
	<p>Persistence of effects: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year or less <input type="checkbox"/> 1 – 5 years <input type="checkbox"/> 5+ years</p>	
	<p><b>Adverse impacts</b></p>	
	<p><b>Mitigating actions</b></p>	
	<p>Persistence of effects: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year or less <input type="checkbox"/> 1 – 5 years <input type="checkbox"/> 5+ years</p>	
<p><b>Statutory duty: Prevention of Pollution to air, water, or land</b></p>	<p><b>Benefits</b></p>	

<p>Consider how the proposal will change the likelihood of pollution occurring to air, water, or land and what steps will be taken to prevent pollution occurring.</p> <p><a href="#">Further guidance</a></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No impact</p>	<p><b>Enhancing actions</b></p>	
	<p>Persistence of effects: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year or less <input type="checkbox"/> 1 – 5 years <input type="checkbox"/> 5+ years</p>	
	<p><b>Adverse impacts</b></p>	
	<p>Persistence of effects: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year or less <input type="checkbox"/> 1 – 5 years <input type="checkbox"/> 5+ years</p>	
	<p><b>Mitigating actions</b></p>	
	<p>Persistence of effects: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year or less <input type="checkbox"/> 1 – 5 years <input type="checkbox"/> 5+ years</p>	

### Step 3: Action Plan

Use this section summarise and assign responsibility for any actions you have identified to improve data, enhance beneficial, or mitigate negative impacts. Actions identified in section two can be grouped together if named responsibility is under the same person.

This action plan should be updated at each stage of the project. Please be aware that the Sustainable City and Climate Change Service may use this action plan as an audit checklist during the project’s implementation or operation.

Enhancing / mitigating action required	Responsible Officer	Timescale
The impacts of adoption on the council’s work will be reviewed in 2 years.	Climate Change Team Manager	December 2025

### Step 4: Review

The Sustainable City and Climate Change Service need at least five working days to comment and feedback on your impact assessment. Assessments should only be marked as reviewed when they provide sufficient information for decision-makers on the environmental impact of the proposal.

Please seek feedback and review by emailing [environmental.performance@bristol.gov.uk](mailto:environmental.performance@bristol.gov.uk) before final submission of your decision pathway documentation<sup>1</sup>.

Where impacts identified in this assessment are deemed significant, they will be summarised here by the Sustainable City and Climate Change Service and must be included in the ‘evidence base’ section of the decision pathway cover sheet.

<p><b>Summary of significant beneficial impacts and opportunities to support the Climate, Ecological and Corporate Strategies (ENV1,2,3,4):</b></p> <p>BCC’s Environmental Impact Assessment has determined significant beneficial impacts from the proposal: The declaration contains detailed justification and recommended approaches, for embedding Just Transition considerations into work that addresses the climate and ecological emergencies. Formal adoption of the</p>
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<sup>1</sup> Review by the Sustainable City and Climate Change Service confirms there is sufficient analysis for decision makers to consider the likely environmental impacts at this stage. This is not an endorsement or approval of the proposal.

declaration will strengthen the adoption of these approaches into BCC's programme of works making an important contribution to the realisation of our corporate objectives in this area.

**Summary of significant adverse impacts and how they can be mitigated:**

**Environmental Performance Team Reviewer:**

Daniel Shelton

**Date:**

06.12.23

**Submitting author:**

Olly Henderson

**Date:**

06.12.23