



# Environmental Impact Assessment [version 1.1]

<b>Proposal title:</b> Electricity Supplies 2025		
<b>Project stage and type:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Initial Idea Mandate <input type="checkbox"/> Outline Business Case <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full Business Case		
<input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Strategy <input type="checkbox"/> Function <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Service	<input type="checkbox"/> New	<input type="checkbox"/> Changing
<input type="checkbox"/> Other [please state]	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Already exists / review	
<b>Directorate:</b> Property Assets & Infrastructure	<b>Lead Officer name:</b> David Gray	
<b>Service Area:</b> City Leap Client Function	<b>Lead Officer role:</b> Energy Supply 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 contact the [Environmental Performance Team](#) 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.

To seek approval to procure and award contracts for the council’s electricity supply from April 2025 to March 2029.
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### 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 the [Environmental Performance Team](#).

If ‘Yes’ complete the rest of this assessment.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	[please select]
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Key to this proposal is they supply of locally-generated zero-carbon electricity provided to BCC sites from local renewable energy systems by a ‘sleeving’ (virtual supply) arrangement.
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### 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](#).

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable	[please select]
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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.

### 2.1 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.

#### GENERAL COMMENTS (highlight any potential issues that might impact all or many categories)

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<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 a Just Transition to 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>Key to this procurement is the supply of zero-carbon electricity, ideally from local renewable energy systems. This will reduce the carbon impact of BCC's continued and potentially growing (due to electrification of heat and transport) electricity demand.</p>
	<b>Enhancing actions</b>	<p>The recommended option would involve the supply of all of BCC's electricity from local renewable energy systems, as part of a wider pool of zero-carbon electricity also made available other local organisations.</p> <p>This supply contract would be supported by separate Generation contracts, which could include community energy systems, supporting local communities to fund and build their own renewable energy systems.</p>
	<b>Persistence of effects:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year or less <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 – 5 years <input type="checkbox"/> 5+ years	
	<b>Adverse impacts</b>	None identified.

<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>n/a</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>There may be potential beneficial ecological impacts from the operation of local renewable energy systems supported and encouraged by this supply arrangement.</p>
<p>Enhancing actions</p>	<p>Each proposed renewable energy system would be required to carry out an appropriate ecological assessment.</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>Adverse impacts</p>	<p>There may be potential adverse ecological impacts from the construction and operation of local renewable energy systems supported and encouraged by this supply arrangement.</p>	
<p>Mitigating actions</p>	<p>Each proposed renewable energy system would be required to carry out an appropriate ecological assessment.</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><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 less impactful ones, where they will be sourced from, and what will happen to any waste generated</p>	<p>Benefits</p>	<p>None identified.</p>
<p>Enhancing actions</p>	<p>n/a</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>Adverse impacts</p>	<p>Any new renewable energy systems supported or encouraged by this procurement will eventually come to the end of its operational life and will need to be decommissioned.</p>	

<a href="#">Further guidance</a>  <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No impact</b>		
	<b>Mitigating actions</b>	Suitable recycling measures should be in place for end-of-life renewable energy systems.
	<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>ENV4 Climate resilience: Bristol’s resilience to the effects of climate change</b>  Bristol’s climate is already changing, and increasingly frequent instances of extreme weather will become more likely over time.  Consider how the proposal will perform during periods of extreme weather (particularly heat and flooding).  Consider if the proposal will reduce or increase risk to people and assets during extreme weather events.  <a href="#">Further guidance</a> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No impact</b>	<b>Benefits</b>	None identified.
	<b>Enhancing actions</b>	n/a
	<b>Persistence of effects:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year or less <input type="checkbox"/> 1 – 5 years <input type="checkbox"/> 5+ years	
	<b>Adverse impacts</b>	The location of some proposed renewable energy systems may be subject to long-term flooding risks.
	<b>Mitigating actions</b>	Ensure that all critical systems are raised above potential future flood depths.
<b>Persistence of effects:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year or less <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 – 5 years <input type="checkbox"/> 5+ years		
<b>Statutory duty: Prevention of Pollution to air, water, or land</b>  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.	<b>Benefits</b>	
	<b>Enhancing actions</b>	
	<b>Persistence of effects:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year or less <input type="checkbox"/> 1 – 5 years <input type="checkbox"/> 5+ years	
	<b>Adverse impacts</b>	

<a href="#">Further guidance</a> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No impact	Mitigating actions	
	Persistence of effects: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year or less <input type="checkbox"/> 1 – 5 years <input type="checkbox"/> 5+ years	

## Step 3: Actions

### 3.1 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
Primary benefits on carbon reduction comes from the delivery of this procurement	David Gray	April 2025
Ecological surveys would be carried out on each proposed renewable energy system and its location	System developer	tbc
Recycling proposals for end-of-life should be considered in the outline design for all new renewable energy systems	System developer	tbc
All proposed new renewable energy system designs should consider flood risk and flood mitigation measures	System developer	tbc

## Step 4: Review – for completion by the Environmental Performance Team

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 from the [Environmental Performance Team](#) 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 and included on the cover sheet of the decision pathway documentation.

<b>Summary of significant beneficial impacts and opportunities to support the Climate, Ecological and Corporate Strategies (ENV1,2,3,4):</b>
BCC’s Environmental Impact Assessment has determined significant beneficial impacts from the proposal: There is the potential to purchase 100% of the electricity the council uses from known renewable sources.
<b>Summary of significant adverse impacts and how they can be mitigated:</b>
BCC’s Environmental Impact Assessment has determined significant adverse impacts from the proposal:

<b>Environmental Performance Team Reviewer:</b> Giles Liddell, Environmental Performance Co-ordinator	<b>Submitting author:</b> David Gray
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<sup>1</sup> Review by the Environmental Performance Team confirms there is sufficient information for decision makers to consider the most relevant environmental impacts at the current stage of the proposal. This is not an endorsement or approval of the proposal.

<b>Date:</b> 22 May 2024	<b>Date:</b> 18 May 2024