

Equality Impact Assessment [version 2.12]



Title: Decision of Environment and Sustainability Committee on the Approach to take regarding the production of a Bristol Climate Action Plan and A Bristol Climate Investment Plan.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Strategy <input type="checkbox"/> Function <input type="checkbox"/> Service <input type="checkbox"/> Other [please state]	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Already exists / review <input type="checkbox"/> Changing
Directorate: G&R	Lead Officer name: Alex Minshull
Service Area: Sustainable City and Climate Change	Lead Officer role: Sustainable City and Climate Change Manager

Step 1: What do we want to do?

The purpose of an Equality Impact Assessment is to assist decision makers in understanding the impact of proposals as part of their duties under the Equality Act 2010. Detailed guidance to support completion can be found here [Equality Impact Assessments \(EqIA\) \(sharepoint.com\)](#).

This assessment should be started at the beginning of the process by someone with a good knowledge of the proposal and service area, and sufficient influence over the proposal. It is good practice to take a team approach to completing the equality impact assessment. Please contact the [Equality and Inclusion 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. Describe who it is aimed at and the intended aims / outcomes. Where known also summarise the key actions you plan to undertake. Please use **plain English**, avoiding jargon and acronyms. Equality Impact Assessments are viewed by a wide range of people including decision-makers and the wider public.

Bristol’s One City Climate Strategy sets out the city’s goals for achieving a climate neutral city and identifies at a high level the billions of pounds of investment that is needed to achieve this.

The above Mission is a programme to support 100 EU Member State cities and 12 cities from countries formally associated to the Horizon Europe research and innovation programme, which now includes the UK. The focus of the mission is to help cities to secure financial investment to achieve their net zero goals and ensure a just transition. Cities receive technical support to develop a package of:

- a. Statement of Commitment from the City Council and key partners
- b. A Bristol Climate Action Plan which sets out the actions which the city considers necessary to achieve its climate goals
- c. A Bristol Climate Investment Plan which sets out the financial investment needed to deliver the action plan.

Work has commenced on development of the above with the aim of submitting the package in early October to receive official European Commission endorsement of the Plans in January 2025. This endorsement by the European Commission will give the council access to the emerging European Capital Hub which the Mission is setting up. This will support cities to access finance from private sector investors and national governments, and where applicable European Union funding programmes. This support could be very helpful for Bristol in accessing investment beyond the Bristol City Leap Business Plan, but also assist with delivery of that plan.

It is proposed to continue work on the development of a Bristol Climate Action Plan and a Bristol Climate Investment Plan as part of the Council’s continued participation in the European Union Climate Neutral and Smart Cities Mission. This is intended to help meet the goals of the One City Climate Strategy.

The Committee are asked to consider 4 Options

1. Cease work on the Bristol Climate Action and Investment Plans described above and leave the European Union Climate Neutral and Smart Cities Mission. This would result in the loss of access to the European Capital Hub, to the technical support of the programme and potential to apply for further funding opportunities which may be limited to Mission Cities. It does not mean ceasing work on other parts of the council's net zero work.
2. Continue work on the plans and delegate to the Executive Director Growth and Regeneration, in consultation with the Chair of the Environment and Sustainability Policy Committee, the submission of the plans in the autumn submission window.
3. Continue work on the plans and bring the plans for approval by the Environment and Sustainability Committee on 26 September 2024 for submission immediately after.
4. Continue work on the plans and undertake informal briefing and engagement with some or all of the committee members on the details of the plans before bringing back to Committee on 26 September 2024.

The decision is not to approve the content of the Plans as they have not yet been created.

1.2 Who will the proposal have the potential to affect?

<input type="checkbox"/> Bristol City Council workforce	<input type="checkbox"/> Service users	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The wider community
<input type="checkbox"/> Commissioned services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City partners / Stakeholder organisations	
Additional comments: The proposed plans will be developed with Partners and the actual plans will have significant potential impacts if they successfully secure investment into climate action to support a Just Transition.		

1.3 Will the proposal have an equality impact?

Could the proposal affect access levels of representation or participation in a service, or does it have the potential to change e.g. quality of life: health, education, or standard of living etc.?

If 'No' explain why you are sure there will be no equality impact, then skip steps 2-4 and request review by Equality and Inclusion Team.

If 'Yes' complete the rest of this assessment, or if you plan to complete the assessment at a later stage please state this clearly here and request review by the Equality and Inclusion Team.

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	[please select]
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The paper presents 4 options to cease work or to continue with various decision-making processes. See section 1.1.

Option 1 to cease the process will require a different and yet undefined approach to achieving the goals of the strategy and it is not possible to determine the impacts of that.

The choice between Options 2-4 have not equalities impacts, as it simply refers to the decisions making process. In each case the actual approval of the plans will be accompanied by an EQIA.

Step 5: Review

The Equality and Inclusion Team need at least five working days to comment and feedback on your EqIA. EqIAs should only be marked as reviewed when they provide sufficient information for decision-makers on the equalities impact of the proposal. Please seek feedback and review from the [Equality and Inclusion Team](#) before requesting sign off from your Director¹.

¹ Review by the Equality and Inclusion Team confirms there is sufficient analysis for decision makers to consider the likely equality impacts at this stage. This is not an endorsement or approval of the proposal.

Equality and Inclusion Team Review:
Reviewed by Equality and Inclusion Team

Director Sign-Off:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Allean", with a checkmark at the end of the signature.

Date: 28/5/2024

Date: 21/6/2024