

Climate emergency impact assessment

Having declared a climate emergency, we need to ensure that all of our strategies, policies, procurements, service and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to mitigating and adapting to climate change, as well as reducing the impacts of biodiversity loss.

This impact assessment will help prompt consideration of the key areas where climate and biodiversity impacts could be reduced. More information can be found in the [‘Decision making in a climate emergency’](#) guidance document.

This form should be completed at the start of any decision making process to:

- determine potential negative environmental impact areas,
- prompt consideration of actions that could reduce negative impacts,
- produce a climate emergency action plan.

Directorate: Communities, Housing & Environment	Service area: Climate, Energy & Green Spaces
Lead person: Darren Gibson	Contact number: 3782885

1. Title: Footpath Weed Control
Is this a:
<input type="checkbox"/> Strategy or Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Service or Function <input type="checkbox"/> Other
If other, please specify

2. Please provide a brief description of what you are assessing
The extension of an existing contract to treat broad leaf weeds and grasses growing from cracks, blemishes and joints in footways adjoining the public highway and hard surfaces in open plan communal areas managed by Housing Leeds. Contract reference DN516349 for weed spraying activities originally commencing April 2021. Extension will commence April 2024 and end on 31st March 2026

3. Climate emergency impact assessment

Please assess the environmental impact of the proposal/decision on the following objectives using the assessment criteria below. For more information on each objective please refer to the 'Decision making in a climate emergency' guidance document. Please provide an explanation for the assessment you have given, i.e. why you would consider the impact to be negative, positive, neutral or not applicable. If the impact is negative, please provide an action for reducing the impact going forward. The actions raised should then be added into the climate emergency action plan in section 4.

Assessment criteria	
Negative or positive impact	Description
-	Negative environmental impact that could undermine the objective
0 or N/A	Not applicable or no positive or negative impacts on the objective
+	Positive environmental impact that achieves the objective

	Objectives <i>What impact will the proposal/decision have on the following objectives?</i>	Negative or positive or impact			Explanation <i>Please provide an explanation for the assessment you have given, i.e. why you would consider the impact to be negative, positive, neutral or not applicable.</i>	Action <i>If the impact is negative, please provide an action for reducing the impact going forward. The actions raised should then be added into the climate emergency action plan in section 4.</i>
		-	0 or N/A	+		
Energy	Reducing energy demand			+	Traditional production methods required use of heat to separate the active ingredient. New methods are now being phased in by producers where less or no heat is required	
	Improving energy efficiency		0		Minimal energy use at point of delivery. Contractor follows energy efficient	

					working practices at their office and workshop.	
	Switching to low-carbon energy supply, including renewable energy			+	The contractor currently uses an energy supplier providing electricity from renewable sources	
Waste	Reducing consumption			+	Product supplied in concentrated form, minimising impact of packaging and transport	
	Specifying requirements for recycled or reused materials and avoiding single-use packaging			+	Contract stipulates recyclable packaging of any materials used	
	Ensuring unwanted resources are reused, recycled or composted where possible		0		Material applied is biodegradable. Containers are recycled	
Water	Reducing water demand			+	Weeds are spot treated, using lowest quantity of water possible	
	Improving water-use efficiency			+	Use of water is metered and controlled via Yorkshire Water licence to contractor	
	Reusing and recycling water		0		Recycled water not compatible with this process due to possible impact on safety or efficacy of products applied	
Food	Reducing food waste		0		Not applicable	
	Reducing meat and dairy consumption		0		Not applicable	
	Buying seasonal and local produce		0		Not applicable	
Travel and transport	Improving infrastructure to enable a transition to a low carbon, integrated transport system		0		Not applicable	

	Reducing staff travel and switching to lower carbon alternatives		0		Not applicable	
	Decarbonising the council vehicle fleet and grey fleet (council mileage in employees' private cars)		0		Not applicable	
Homes, buildings and infrastructure	Reducing impact during construction		0		Not applicable	
	Design that encourages low-carbon living and travel		0		Not applicable	
	Conforming to environmental standards		0		Not applicable	
Climate adaptation and resilience	Assessing climate risks		0		Not applicable	
	Adapting to be able to cope with the effects of climate change		0		Not applicable	
Biodiversity	Protecting, enhancing and increasing biodiversity			+	Specified products are 'clean label'/non hazardous. Active ingredient becomes inert on contact with soil and does not persist within it	
	Landscaping of green spaces in construction, civil engineering and highways		0		Not applicable	

4. Climate emergency action plan			
Insert all of the actions raised in section 3 here, and then set timescales, measures and identify a lead person for each action. The climate emergency action plan should be referred back to regularly to ensure actions are being met.			
Action	Timescale	Measure	Lead person

No Actions Required