

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 and Environment	Service area: Strategy & Investment
Lead person: Richard Stokes / Paul Rounding	Contact number: 0113 378 1196

1. Title: Ground Source Heat Pumps 3 (GSHP) – Queenswood Court and Queenswood Heights					
Is this a:					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Strategy or Policy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Service or Function	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other
If other, please specify					

2. Please provide a brief description of what you are assessing
<p>The planned works are to remove the existing aging electrical heating/ hot water system in two high rise housing blocks in Leeds. These are Queenswood Court and Queenswood Heights, both are 12 storey Wimpey high rise construction blocks consisting of 90 flats in total, both are a mix of one and two bedrooms. The works will replace them with a more sustainable heating/ hot water system via ground source heat pumps (GSHP).</p> <p>This scheme will benefit residents by reducing fuel costs as well as improving their ease and ability to control heating.</p> <p>The works are planned to be designed and undertaken by an external contractor.</p>

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 Installing a renewable energy system is a positive impact in helping to reduce carbon output, lower fuel bills and allow better control of heating whilst improving comfort in homes and wellbeing of residents.
-	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			+	It is anticipated that the new heating solution will reduce overall energy demand for the properties included in the scheme. There will be no negative impact from the current status.	
	Improving energy efficiency			+	SAP rating is expected to increase and there is an aim to	

					improve the EPC rating above D for all properties.	
	Switching to low-carbon energy supply, including renewable energy			+	Ground Source Heat Pump draws heat energy from the ground and uses renewable energy. This significantly reduces the CO2 emissions.	
Waste	Reducing consumption			+	Heating will be more controllable by residents. They will be able to control the heating through smart metering therefore allowing them to reduce consumption and reduce waste. It is anticipated that resident energy bills will be reduced by 10% as a minimum.	
	Specifying requirements for recycled or reused materials and avoiding single-use packaging		N/A			
	Ensuring unwanted resources are reused, recycled or composted where possible	-		+	The contractor through their social value work will aim to recycle what they can of the site waste. However, even if this achieved there will still be some resources which are not able to be recycled, reused or composted.	All suitable materials e.g. metal from the old electric heaters will be recycled.
Water	Reducing water demand		N/A			
	Improving water-use efficiency		N/A			
	Reusing and recycling water		N/A			
Food	Reducing food waste		N/A			

	Reducing meat and dairy consumption		N/A			
	Buying seasonal and local produce		N/A			
Travel and transport	Improving infrastructure to enable a transition to a low carbon, integrated transport system		N/A			
	Reducing staff travel and switching to lower carbon alternatives			+	Operatives will share vehicles and use public transport where feasible. They will also use electric vehicles when available. Deliveries of materials will be minimised as much as possible.	
	Decarbonising the council vehicle fleet and grey fleet (council mileage in employees' private cars)		N/A			
Homes, buildings and infrastructure	Reducing impact during construction			+		Comments from the contractor – We will: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recycle and use recycled office supplies. 2. Reduce resource use – printing double sided as applicable, discourage unnecessary printing. 3. Reduce energy use – ensure all appliances and electrical equipment are turned off when not in use. 4. Use low carbon transport (public transport) when reasonably possible.

						<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Communicate sustainability to stakeholders on an annual basis. 6. Comply with all UK legislation as a minimum and where possible exceed. 7. Managing and improving our Environmental Management System in line with our ISO 14001 accredited EQMS. 8. Encourage employee initiatives such as tree planting and litter walks on the sites and surrounding areas we work in, ensuring rubbish found is recycled where possible. 9. Consider how our work effects the local environments we work in. 10. Reduce the CO2 emissions of the communities we work with. <p>When on site: To reduce CO2 footprint by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Using local merchants and local labour agencies where possible. 2. Seeded reinstatement of the ground after our construction activities on sites. 3. Actively manage waste recycling through the WEE
--	--	--	--	--	--	--

						<p>directive and aim to procure products for projects with a minimum of 10% recycled materials.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Selecting UK manufactured products where possible. 5. Reducing travel for suppliers and staff. 6. Using public transport. 7. Choosing Green vehicles such as electric cars and hybrids.
	Design that encourages low-carbon living and travel			+	Ground Source Heat Pump will save carbon output and literature provided with the installation will look to encourage residents to follow low carbon living.	
	Conforming to environmental standards			+	GSHP is more environmentally friendly than electric heating systems.	All construction work will conform to industry environmental standards.
Climate adaptation and resilience	Assessing climate risks	-			Land scarring	Surrounding land will need piles drilling into ground.
	Adapting to be able to cope with the effects of climate change		N/A			
Biodiversity	Protecting, enhancing and increasing biodiversity		N/A			
	Landscaping of green spaces in construction, civil engineering and highways	-		+		The landscape will have some visual changes due to the borehole drilling and the installation of pipework to support the installation of ground source heat pumps.

						The contractor has committed to the seeded reinstatement of the ground after the construction activities.
--	--	--	--	--	--	---

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
To review this survey with the contractor when appointed and update as necessary.	Monthly	Monthly project review	Project Manager