

Report to:	Climate Change and Sustainability Committee
Date of Meeting:	20 September 2023
Report by:	Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)

Subject:	Sustainability Impact Assessments of Capital Project Submissions and Revenue Budget Proposals
----------	--

1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ Update the Climate Change and Sustainability committee on the proposed Sustainability Impact Assessment process and;
- ◆ Receive endorsement for the Sustainability Impact Assessment process to be used during future capital and revenue budget processes.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the attached Sustainability Impact Assessments are endorsed for use in future capital and revenue budget processes.

3. Background

3.1. The Council has a statutory duty under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 to:

- ◆ reduce carbon emissions from its activities and influence the reduction of carbon emissions in the wider community;
- ◆ take action to adapt to the impacts caused by the effects of climate change – in our local communities, on our buildings, infrastructure, service delivery and the natural environment; and;
- ◆ to act sustainably in everything it does as a Council

3.2. The above legislation requires the Council to consider the above within its decision-making processes. The Council's capital and revenue budget process is one of these decision-making processes and the proposed sustainability impact assessment process aims to ensure that we continue to ensure that factors related to carbon reduction, climate change adaptation and the wider principles of sustainable development are included within capital and revenue budget processes.

3.3. As part of the annual revenue and capital budget process, assessments of the impact of projects, and changes to the revenue budget, are prepared and shared with Members, prior to them making decisions around these budgets.

- 3.4. The proposed Sustainability Impact Assessment process included in this report will allow Officers and Elected Members to complete a more detailed assessment of the sustainability impacts resulting from either budget or project proposals, which can aid their decision making.
- 3.5. At the meeting of Council on 23 August 2023 it was agreed via a Motion that “Officers provide high level guidance for political groups to complete a sustainability impact assessment of their proposed budgets in the run up to the Council’s budget setting process in February; and encourages all budget motions to include an accompanying statement to their proposals which sets out how their spending plans align with the Council’s climate strategies, including this as an appendix”.
- 3.6. Officers will use the documents included in this paper when presenting revenue and capital budgets to Members.
- 3.7. Separate documents have been created for the process asked for under the Motion as detailed at section 3.5. It should be noted that Council agreed that Members are encouraged to complete these assessments in any proposed budget motions. Standing orders have not been changed, therefore this is not mandatory.

4. Sustainability Impact Assessments

- 4.1. Copies of the proposed sustainability impact assessment process are attached as appendices to this paper. Appendix 1 provides the document for revenue budget proposals that can be used by Members to accompany their budget motions (as covered at section 3.5). Appendix 2 provides the document that officers will use when considering capital projects. Appendix 3 provides the guidance document which will aid the completion of the Sustainability Impact assessment.
- 4.2. The proposed sustainability impact assessment templates feature fifteen impact categories which are divided into reference numbers, examples of impact categories include Energy, Water, Waste and Greenhouse Gas Emissions. Prompted questions are also available within the template to help guide those completing the forms consideration to key sustainability issues. The template then prompts the user to decide whether there is a possible impact because of the budget proposal by using drop-down menus built into the template, the options for this is as follows: yes – positive, yes – negative, no impact and unknown. The template then details a section for the user to provide a description of the impact. If it is decided that there is an impact, either negative or positive, the template prompts users to consider the significance of the impact before scoring the impact on a varying scale of significance by using the drop-down menus built into the template, the options for this are as follows: major adverse/ beneficial, moderate adverse/ beneficial, minor adverse/ beneficial, negligible, no impact and further information required.
- 4.3. It is proposed that these documents are rolled out across the Council and should be used to consider the impacts of capital projects and revenue budget options in response to the motion agreed by Council on 23 August 2023.

5. Employee Implications

- 5.1. There are no direct employee implications from this report.
- 5.2. Support for completion of the sustainability impact assessments has been provided in the form of a guidance document with further support available during budget-setting from the Council’s Sustainable Development and Climate Change team.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1. There are no direct financial implications of this report. The continued assessments undertaken on revenue and capital plans will continue to support our duties which requires public bodies to include in their annual climate change reports “how the public body will align its spending plans and use of resources with emissions targets”.

7. Sustainability, Climate Change and Environmental Implications

- 7.1. The proposed sustainability impact assessments will help to embed sustainability considerations within the Council’s decision-making processes ensuring that both Officers and Elected Members consider the impacts of their proposals, both negative and positive, within the realms of carbon emissions, adapting to the effects of climate change, social justice, economic wellbeing, and good environmental stewardship, as well as the steps taken (or planned) to mitigate any adverse impacts of the Council’s operations.

8. Other Implications

- 8.1. Furthermore, well developed and considered sustainability impact assessments will help mitigate one of the Council’s top risks: ‘the failure to meet sustainable development and climate change objectives’ and supports a main objective of the Council’s Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy 2022-2027: ‘to build a sustainable, climate resilient and net zero South Lanarkshire together in a fair and inclusive way’.

9. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 9.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy and, therefore, no impact assessment is required. The Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy 2022-2027 has undergone full Strategic Environmental Assessment and Equality Impact Assessments.

- 9.2. There were no consultation arrangements required for this report.

Paul Manning

Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)

David Booth

Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)

31 August 2023

Link(s) to Council Values/Priorities/Outcomes

Values

- ◆ Fair, open and sustainable

Priorities

- ◆ We will work towards a sustainable future in sustainable places.

Outcomes

- ◆ Good quality, suitable and sustainable places to live.
- ◆ Caring, connected, sustainable communities.

Previous References

- ◆ Meeting of Full Council on 23 August 2023

List of Background Papers

- ◆ Sustainable Development Strategy 2022-2027

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

Kirsten Allan (Sustainable Development Officer)

E-mail: Kirsten.Allan@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Appendix 1: Sustainability Impact Assessment for Revenue Budget Proposals

Sustainability Impact Assessment for Revenue Budget Proposals

Background Information

Reducing our contribution to climate change and taking action to reduce the impacts of climate change is central to living and working sustainably.

The Council has a statutory duty under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 to:

- ♦ reduce carbon emissions from its activities and influence the reduction of carbon emissions in the wider community;
- ♦ take action to adapt to the impacts caused by the effects of climate change – in our local communities, on our buildings, infrastructure, service delivery and the natural environment; and;
- ♦ to act sustainably in everything it does as a Council

The above legislation requires the Council to consider all the above within its decision-making processes. The Council's revenue budget process is one of these decision-making processes and this template aims to ensure that factors related to carbon, climate change adaptation and sustainability are included within a budget proposal.

Completion of this template also supports the Climate Change (Duties of Public Bodies: Reporting Requirements) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2020 which requires public bodies to include in their annual climate change reports "how the body will align its spending plans and use of resources with emissions targets".

Use of the template will help mitigate one of the Council's top risks: 'the failure to meet sustainable development and climate change objectives' and supports a main objective of the Council's Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy 2022-2027: 'to build a sustainable, climate resilient and net zero South Lanarkshire together in a fair and inclusive way'.

Completing a Sustainability Impact Assessment of Budget Proposals

This sustainability impact assessment aims to consider likely effects of budget proposals on South Lanarkshire's people, infrastructure, natural and physical environment. It is **not an in-depth** expert assessment but rather a high-level assessment which helps consider impacts in terms of carbon emissions, adapting to the effects of climate change, social justice, economic wellbeing, and good environmental stewardship, as well as the steps taken (or planned) to mitigate any adverse impacts. It is expected that this template will accompany submission of any revenue budget proposal.

- Guidance on completing the assessment is available.
- Support in completing the form can also be requested from the Council's Sustainable Development Officers by emailing Sustainability@southlanarkshire.gov.uk.
- The process outlined within this report is an evolving process and will be trialled during February's budget setting process with a review taking place following this.

Please complete the budget details template, before moving on to completion of the sustainability impact assessment.

Budget Details	
Budget Option (number/title)	
Prepared By:	

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT TEMPLATE					
Ref No.	Category	Question(s)	Yes/No/Unknown	Description of Impact	If Yes, How Significant is the Impact?
1	Energy (<i>usage, demand and generation</i>)	Does the activity/proposal impact energy demand, use and provision?	Select impact level.		Select an assessment level.
2	Water (<i>quality, demand, use and disposal</i>)	Does the activity/proposal impact on the sustainable use, management and conservation of water?	Select impact level.		Select an assessment level.
3	Environmental Good Stewardship (<i>air and soil quality, noise and light pollution</i>)	Does the activity/proposal result in any emissions to air, soil and/or water? Does the activity/proposal impact air quality or noise and light pollution?	Select impact level.		Select an assessment level.
4	Waste (<i>total volume, end of life disposal and recycling, resource use and product consumption</i>)	Does the activity/proposal impact waste generation or disposal methods?	Select impact level.		Select an assessment level.
5	Active Travel and Sustainable Transport (<i>walking, wheeling, cycling</i>)	Does the activity/proposal impact the use of fossil fuelled vehicles and the provision of low carbon travel opportunities in communities?	Select impact level.		Select an assessment level.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT TEMPLATE

Ref No.	Category	Question(s)	Yes/No/Unknown	Description of Impact	If Yes, How Significant is the Impact?
6	Transport (Fleet)	Does the activity/proposal impact the use of Council-owned fleet/ staff travel?	Select impact level.		Select an assessment level.
7	Communities (resilience, awareness, communication, skills)	Does this activity help build awareness, willingness, and skills in our communities to address climate change?	Select impact level.		Select an assessment level.
8	Reduced Inequalities and Social Justice (poverty, inclusion, cost of living, fair work)	Does the proposal build capacity to identify and tackle poverty and exclusion? Does the proposal improve quality of life?	Select impact level.		Select an assessment level.
9	Services (demand and use)	Does the proposal or activity increase overall consumption of services or decreasing them?	Select impact level.		Select an assessment level..

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT TEMPLATE

Ref No.	Category	Question(s)	Yes/No/Unknown	Description of Impact	If Yes, How Significant is the Impact?
10	Procurement/ Supply Chain <i>(e.g. purchased goods and services, contractor and sub-contractor activities, local supply chain, SMEs, community wealth building)</i>	Does the activity/proposal increase consumption of resources? Does the activity/proposal impact local supply chains and local spend? Are there opportunities for local employment?	Select impact level.		Select an assessment level.
11	Land Use and Land Use Change	Does the activity/proposal alter or change the function of land and/or impact on peatland or vacant and derelict land?	Select impact level.		Select an assessment level.
12	Nature/ Biodiversity <i>(protection, restoration and enhancement)</i>	Does the activity/proposal impact on the protection, enhancement and restoration of biodiversity and nature?	Select impact level.		Select an assessment level.
13	Health and Wellbeing <i>(physical, mental and social)</i>	Does the proposal promote and support improved social, physical and mental wellbeing?	Select impact level.		Select an assessment level.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT TEMPLATE

Ref No.	Category	Question(s)	Yes/No/Unknown	Description of Impact	If Yes, How Significant is the Impact?
14	Extreme weather/ climate events <i>(drought, flooding, heat, storms)</i>	Does the activity/proposal impact on resilience of both South Lanarkshire Council and communities to extreme weather events (flooding, drought, wildfires, storms)?	Select impact level.		Select an assessment level.
15	Greenhouse Gas Emissions <i>(increase or decrease in emissions)</i>	Does the activity/proposal impact on greenhouse gas emissions?	Select impact level.		Select an assessment level.

Sustainability Impact Assessment for Capital Project Proposals

Background Information for Officers

Reducing our contribution to climate change and taking action to reduce the impacts of climate change is central to living and working sustainably.

The Council has a statutory duty under the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 to:

- reduce carbon emissions from its activities and influence the reduction of carbon emissions in the wider community;
- take action to adapt to the impacts caused by the effects of climate change – in our local communities, on our buildings, infrastructure, service delivery and the natural environment; and;
- to act sustainably in everything it does as a Council

The above legislation requires the Council to consider all the above within its decision-making processes. The Council's annual capital budget development process is one of these decision-making processes and this template aims to ensure that factors related to carbon, climate change adaptation and sustainability are included within capital project proposals.

Completion of this template also supports the Climate Change (Duties of Public Bodies: Reporting Requirements) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2020 which requires public bodies to include in their annual climate change reports "how the body will align its spending plans and use of resources with emissions targets".

Use of this template will help mitigate one of the Council's top risks: 'the failure to meet sustainable development and climate change objectives' and supports a main objective of the Council's Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy 2022-2027: 'to build a sustainable, climate resilient and net zero South Lanarkshire together in a fair and inclusive way'.

- Section 1 –

Completing a Sustainability Impact Assessment of Capital Project Proposals

This sustainability impact assessment aims to consider likely effects of budget proposals on South Lanarkshire's people, infrastructure, natural and physical environment. It is **not an in-depth** expert assessment but rather a high-level assessment which helps consider impacts in terms of carbon emissions, adapting to the effects of climate change, social justice, economic wellbeing, and good environmental stewardship, as well as the steps taken (or planned) to mitigate any adverse impacts. An example project has been included below to help with completion.

It is expected that this template will accompany submission of any capital budget proposal.

- A worked example of a capital project submission is available to help guide completion of the below templates.
- Guidance on completing the sustainability impact assessment template is available.
- Support in completing the form can also be requested from the Council's Sustainable Development Officers: sustainability@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Please complete the project information template, before moving on to completion of the sustainability impact assessment.

PROJECT INFORMATION	
Proposal/Project Title:	
Project Information:	
Status:	
Lead Officer Name:	
Lead Officer Job Title:	
Service Name:	
Resource Name:	
Completed By:	
Proposal/Project/Report Summary - why it is required, and expected outcomes:	
Actions: Actions required to mitigate the negative effects of the proposal, should it be implemented:	

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT TEMPLATE					
Ref No.	Category	Question(s)	Yes/No/Unknown	Description of Impact	If Yes, How Significant is the Impact?
1	Energy (<i>usage, demand and generation</i>)	Does the activity/proposal impact energy demand, use and provision?	Select impact level.		Select an assessment level.
2	Water (<i>quality, demand, use and disposal</i>)	Does the activity/proposal impact on the sustainable use, management and conservation of water?	Select impact level.		Select an assessment level.
3	Environmental Good Stewardship (<i>air and soil quality, noise and light pollution</i>)	Does the activity/proposal result in any emissions to air, soil and/or water? Does the activity/proposal impact air quality or noise and light pollution?	Select impact level.		Select an assessment level.
4	Waste (<i>total volume, end of life disposal and recycling, resource use and product consumption</i>)	Does the activity/proposal impact waste generation or disposal methods?	Select impact level.		Select an assessment level.
5	Active Travel and Sustainable Transport (<i>walking, wheeling, cycling</i>)	Does the activity/proposal impact the use of fossil fuelled vehicles and the provision of low carbon travel opportunities in communities?	Select impact level.		Select an assessment level.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT TEMPLATE

Ref No.	Category	Question(s)	Yes/No/Unknown	Description of Impact	If Yes, How Significant is the Impact?
6	Transport (Fleet)	Does the activity/proposal impact the use of Council-owned fleet/ staff travel?	Select impact level.		Select an assessment level.
7	Communities (resilience, awareness, communication, skills)	Does this activity help build awareness, willingness, and skills in our communities to address climate change?	Select impact level.		Select an assessment level.
8	Reduced Inequalities and Social Justice (poverty, inclusion, cost of living, fair work)	Does the proposal build capacity to identify and tackle poverty and exclusion? Does the proposal improve quality of life?	Select impact level.		Select an assessment level.
9	Services (demand and use)	Does the proposal or activity increase overall consumption of services or decreasing them?	Select impact level.		Select an assessment level..

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT TEMPLATE

Ref No.	Category	Question(s)	Yes/No/Unknown	Description of Impact	If Yes, How Significant is the Impact?
10	Procurement/ Supply Chain <i>(e.g. purchased goods and services, contractor and sub-contractor activities, local supply chain, SMEs, community wealth building)</i>	Does the activity/proposal increase consumption of resources? Does the activity/proposal impact local supply chains and local spend? Are there opportunities for local employment?	Select impact level.		Select an assessment level.
11	Land Use and Land Use Change	Does the activity/proposal alter or change the function of land and/or impact on peatland or vacant and derelict land?	Select impact level.		Select an assessment level.
12	Nature/ Biodiversity <i>(protection, restoration and enhancement)</i>	Does the activity/proposal impact on the protection, enhancement and restoration of biodiversity and nature?	Select impact level.		Select an assessment level.
13	Health and Wellbeing <i>(physical, mental and social)</i>	Does the proposal promote and support improved social, physical and mental wellbeing?	Select impact level.		Select an assessment level.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT TEMPLATE

Ref No.	Category	Question(s)	Yes/No/Unknown	Description of Impact	If Yes, How Significant is the Impact?
14	Extreme weather/ climate events (drought, flooding, heat, storms)	Does the activity/proposal impact on resilience of both South Lanarkshire Council and communities to extreme weather events (flooding, drought, wildfires, storms)?	Select impact level.		Select an assessment level.
15	Greenhouse Gas Emissions (increase or decrease in emissions) <u>If assessment level is considered to be major or minor adverse (i.e.. There's a significant or minor increase in greenhouse gas emissions),go to next section and complete the carbon impact assessment.</u> <u>If no adverse impact, you have now completed the template.</u>	Does the activity/proposal impact on greenhouse gas emissions?	Select impact level.		Select an assessment level.

- Section 2 -

Completing a Carbon Impact Assessment of Capital Projects

Background

As an organisation we have a duty to understand the carbon impact of our activities. The council has a statutory responsibility to act in a sustainable way and contribute to emission reduction targets. We must where possible avoid increasing emissions through our daily activities, projects and policies.

Instructions for Completing a Carbon Impact Assessment

Step 1: Has the project been subject to a previous Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) or Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)?

EIA OR SEA	
Have the details of your report been directly subject to an Environmental or Strategic Environmental Impact Assessment previously?	<p>If yes, please add a short outline of the EIA/SEA below and continue with the following carbon impact assessment.</p> <p>If no, please complete the following impact assessment.</p>

Step 2: Now complete the table(s) below, considering whether any of the emission sources will be impacted by the proposed activity/project.

CARBON IMPACT ASSESSMENT TEMPLATE

Please consider whether any of the following emissions sources will be impacted by proposed activity/project

Emission Source(s)	Is an Impact Expected? (Yes/No/Unknown)	If <u>Yes</u>, How Significant is the Impact <i>Positive impact = reduction in emissions Negative impact = increase in emissions</i>	Description <i>(please provide an explanation of emissions, how you have taken actions to limit emissions, provide emission quantities or consumption data if known and describe how emissions will be monitored)</i>
Existing Buildings <i>(electricity, gas, gas oil, water for heating, cooling and cooking)</i>	Choose an impact level	Choose an assessment level.	
New Buildings <i>(domestic and non-domestic) (electricity, gas, gas oil, water for heating, cooling and cooking)</i>			
Travel <i>(staff commuting, business travel, working from home)</i>			
Transport <i>(fleet)</i>			
Waste <i>(recyclates, landfill, incineration/energy from waste)</i>			
Renewables <i>(air source/ground source heat pumps, wind, solar, water, geothermal use and generation)</i>			
Whole Lifecycle Carbon (Embodied Carbon) <i>(material extraction, use, disposal)</i>			

CARBON IMPACT ASSESSMENT TEMPLATE			
Carbon offsetting/insetting <i>(e.g tree planting, peatland restoration)</i>			
Procurement/ Supply Chain <i>(e.g purchased goods and services, consider contractor, sub-contractor activities)</i>			
Land Use Changes <i>(e.g deforestation, land degradation, conversion of land for agriculture or urbanisation)</i>			
Other emissions <i>(e.g street lighting, refrigerants, fugitive emissions, air travel and shipping)</i>			

Step 3: Consider the current and future changes in our weather and climate and how they may impact on the project/activity?

FUTURE CLIMATE AND WEATHER SCENARIOS
<p><i>If appropriate, have you considered the current and future changes in our weather and climate? If yes, please provide a description (including any adaptation actions taken) below:</i></p> <p><i>(RCP Pathway Scenarios (1.5, 2, 3+ degrees), assessment against drought, wildfires, flooding, combined climactic effects)</i></p>

Step 4: Provide a summary of the above assessment which can be included within the 'Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications' section of committee reports.

Step 5: Receive Head of Service sign-off on the assessment.

SUMMARY (for inclusion in reports and project submission forms)	
Use the box below to summarise your responses for inclusion within the 'Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications' section of your report/project submission	

Carbon Impact Assessment Approved by Head of Service	
Date	

Appendix 3: Guidance on Completing a Sustainability Impact Assessment

Guidance on Completing a Sustainability Impact Assessment

The following table aims to help officers and elected members assess the impact of their proposal – whether if the proposal is implemented, it will have a negative or positive impact.

Table 1.0: Questions for Consideration When Assessing Sustainability Impacts		
Ref No.	Impact Category	Questions for Consideration
1	Energy (usage, demand and generation) Consider operational council buildings, offices, libraries, community centres, schools, wet leisure	<p>Does the proposal change overall energy demand? This might include installation of more efficient systems, or management to allow reduced heating or lighting energy demand? Will energy usage be reduced by minimising energy demand, improving energy efficiency or using renewable energy sources?</p> <p>Does the proposal represent additional emissions for South Lanarkshire Council (I.e. installation of new gas boilers in a new facility)?</p> <p>If construction is required, does the proposal embrace the principles of circular design and construction i.e. prioritising building/material reuse, low embodied carbon materials?</p> <p>Does the proposal ensure adequate management, monitoring and control of services are adopted i.e. through a building management system?</p> <p>Does the proposal include changes to local capacity for renewable electricity heat generation? This might include solar PV panels, heat pumps, biomass boilers, wind turbines etc.</p> <p>Does this activity involve an increase or decrease in static fossil fuel technologies (transport is covered later)? For example, replacement of an existing gas boiler with a heat pump of an equivalent rating would be a decrease in fossil fuel consumption.</p>
2	Water (<i>quality, demand, use and disposal</i>)	<p>Does the proposal result in an increase in water consumption?</p> <p>Does the proposal promote the efficient use of water and prevent pollution to local sewerage systems, rivers, streams and other water courses?</p> <p>Does the proposal promote water conservation such as the use of a permanent water leak detection system or flow control devices or water efficient appliances?</p>

Table 1.0: Questions for Consideration When Assessing Sustainability Impacts

3	Environmental Good Stewardship (<i>air and soil quality, noise and light pollution</i>)	<p>Will levels of consumption and damage to the natural and built environment be reduced as part of this option?</p> <p>Does the proposal result in any emissions to air, soil and/or water?</p> <p>Does the proposal result in any noise and light pollution?</p>
4	Waste (<i>total volume, end of life disposal and recycling, resource use and product consumption</i>)	<p>Will the proposal make efficient use of natural resources?</p> <p>Does the proposal prevent waste? Does the proposal increase or decrease the proportion of waste recycled?</p> <p>Does it increase segregation rates, improve infrastructure around waste segregation to facilitate easier and less contaminated recyclates?</p> <p>Does the proposal support minimal waste disposal, and does it dispose of any waste arising in accordance with good practice and legislation?</p> <p>Does the proposal support a 'circular economy' e.g. keeping resources in use for as long as possible, extract the maximum value from them whilst in use, then recover and regenerate products and materials at the end of each service life?</p> <p>Will the proposal reduce reliance on single-use plastics?</p>
5	Active Travel and Sustainable Transport (<i>walking, wheeling, cycling</i>)	<p>Does the activity decrease or increase the use of fossil-fuelled vehicles?</p> <p>Does the activity provide support or accessibility for people to use active forms of travel (mainly cycling and walking)?</p> <p>Does this activity mean that staff will need to travel more or less?</p> <p>Can this be reduced? Can we modify the project to change the mode of transport (public transport, cycling, walking).</p>
6	Transport (<i>Fleet</i>)	<p>Will fuel consumption and/or business mileage be reduced by minimising travel demand, modal shift (e.g. changing to walking, cycling, bus or train instead of cars or taxis), or using alternative fuels (e.g. electric vehicles) as part of this option? Will any staff travel be conducted using pool cars instead of owned vehicles? Will meetings be conducted via MS Teams where possible rather than in-person?</p>
7	Communities (<i>resilience, awareness, communication, skills</i>)	<p>Does this activity increase awareness of climate change, and the council's actions to address climate change issues?</p> <p>Does this activity help build awareness, willingness, and skills in our communities to address climate change? Does</p>

Table 1.0: Questions for Consideration When Assessing Sustainability Impacts

		<p>it have a cost or benefit in terms of our relationships with community groups?</p> <p>Does this activity provide training to individuals and businesses in improving their climate change performance, or in developing marketable green skills?</p> <p>Will implementing this option decrease residents' and communities' vulnerability to the impacts of climate change (e.g. storms, high winds, flooding, high temperatures) which could result in damage to infrastructure, transport disruption and service delivery?</p>
8	Reduced Inequalities and Social Justice <i>(poverty, inclusion, cost of living, fair work)</i>	<p>Does the proposal build capacity to identify and tackle poverty and exclusion? Promote the participation of minority or underrepresented groups in public consultations? Provide services in a non-discriminatory way? Align budgets to boost employment opportunities and income in disadvantaged communities? Does the proposal improve people's quality of life?</p>
9	Services <i>(demand and use)</i>	<p>Does the proposal or activity increase overall consumption of services or decreasing them?</p> <p>Suppliers and external business have their own associated carbon footprints and emissions. Is the service necessary?</p> <p>Does the activity support the development of green business i.e. new technologies, research and development, services etc?</p>
10	Procurement/ Supply Chain <i>(e.g. purchased goods and services, contractor and sub-contractor activities, local supply chain, SMEs, community wealth building)</i>	<p>Are we exerting influence over external service providers, partners and communities to ensure they are acting to improve their environmental performance? I.e., do they have a sustainability and/or environmental policy? Are we taking steps in this activity to ensure that we are working with partners with similar values to ours in relation to climate change?</p> <p>Does the proposal increase local spend? Improve local supply chains? Improve opportunities to work with SMEs and/or local businesses? Does the proposal support community wealth building? Does the proposal increase local employment and fair work opportunities?</p> <p>Are we working to ensure that we specify lower carbon options when we buy in food and drink? Typically, we want to use food that is less land and carbon intensive to produce, process, and transport. This means we should ideally be reducing red meat and dairy consumption and keeping supply chains as short as possible (i.e. buying locally produced food where possible). How is the food packaged? Is it wrapped in foil or plastic? Are we decreasing the quantities?</p>

Table 1.0: Questions for Consideration When Assessing Sustainability Impacts

11	Land Use and Land Use Change	<p>Does this project result in a net increase or decrease in land carbon storage? This is likely to be directly correlated with the amount of timber (or mature trees) on the site, but may also be affected by peat formation, wetlands, or peat use as a horticultural medium.</p> <p>Is this activity reducing or increasing the risk of flooding due to changes in land use? Rough vegetation, woodland, and artificial flood storage areas will decrease the risk, impermeable surfaces, open ground, and drainage directly into watercourses will increase it.</p>
12	Nature/ Biodiversity (protection, restoration and enhancement)	<p>Are we creating, modifying or destroying habitats? Does the proposal protect existing natural resources and habitats? Does the proposal seek to enhance natural resources and habitats? Does the proposal result in a biodiversity and natural capital net gain (i.e. the introduction of street trees, bird and bat boxes, joining up of hedgerows etc). Does the proposal create new habitats ie greenspaces, improve resilience within habitats or join up existing habitats? Will the project use pesticides? Will the project avoid converting wildland or greenfield to developed land, by reusing redundant buildings or repurposing brownfield sites or derelict urban land?</p>
13	Health and Wellbeing (physical, mental and social)	<p>Does the proposal promote <i>social</i> wellbeing by encouraging integration and positive connection with others – both indoors and outdoors?</p> <p>Does the proposal promote <i>physical</i> wellbeing through the delivery of healthy, comfortable and active places? Does the proposal promote <i>mental</i> wellbeing of all users through high-quality, attractive and supportive internal and external environments?</p>
14	Extreme weather/ climate events (drought, flooding, heat, storms)	<p>How vulnerable is the proposal to drought? How vulnerable is the activity to flooding both from rivers and surface water? How vulnerable is the activity to heatwaves? How vulnerable is the proposal to extreme weather events?</p> <p>Has consideration been given to future climate changes and measures put in place to adapt to them? Will implementing this option decrease the vulnerability of the Council's premises and infrastructure to the impacts of climate change (e.g. damage to buildings, roads and pavements and transport disruption) caused by extreme weather events such as storms, high winds, flooding and high temperatures? Will implementing this option decrease or increase the vulnerability of the Council's services to the impacts of climate change? Will the implementation of this option lessen the effect climate change could have on Council premises and local infrastructure? These effects include</p>

Table 1.0: Questions for Consideration When Assessing Sustainability Impacts

		<p>road deterioration, failure of drainage infrastructure, significant increases in maintenance costs and replacement infrastructure or disruption.</p> <p>Will action to improve the resilience of the Council's premises and infrastructure to climate change be considered for this option?</p>
15	Greenhouse Gas Emissions (<i>increase or decrease in emissions</i>)	<p>Will this option, if implemented, result in an increase / a decrease / no change in carbon emissions, considering both short-term and long-term emissions? What measures will be taken to minimise or off-set any emissions?</p> <p>Is the project compatible with the Council's and Scotland's net-zero ambitions?</p> <p>If emissions are unavoidable, can off-setting emissions be considered?</p>

Further Information/ Useful Links:

- Climate Ready Clyde has developed a climate risk screening toolkit to help incorporate adaptive measures in projects that involve infrastructure and the built environment. This toolkit can be used as a reference for all projects that include infrastructure and the built environment Climate Ready Clyde: [Climate Ready Clyde](#)
- Adaptation Scotland: [Adaptation Scotland :: Home](#)
- SEPA Flood Risk Maps: [Flood maps | Scottish Environment Protection Agency \(SEPA\)](#)
- Scotland's Climate Change Plan: [Climate change - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](#)
- UN Sustainable Development Goals: [THE 17 GOALS | Sustainable Development \(un.org\)](#)
- Ellen McArthur Foundation: [What is a circular economy? | Ellen MacArthur Foundation](#)
- Zero Waste Scotland: [Zero Waste Scotland](#)
- Net Zero Nation Scotland: [Home | Net Zero Nation](#)
- Built Environment – Smart Transformation Scotland: [Built Environment - Smarter Transformation Scotland - BE-ST](#)
- NatureScot: [NatureScot](#)