



Tackle inequality so people have a fair chance

INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT TEMPLATE

Title of proposal: Gateshead Council's Environmental Policy	Age	Race	Sex	Gender reassignment	Disability	Religion or Belief	Pregnancy and Maternity	Sexual Orientation	Marriage and Civil Partnership	Description of potential mitigation
Equality impact: (✓ all that apply. The assessment should also consider impact on council employees and carers where applicable) Description of impact: Impact on equality and those with protected characteristics would be positive.										<p>There is no requirement to provide mitigation. Where positive impacts can be maximised for particular groups with protected characteristics, these will be explored, for example through engaging with young people or provision of affordable energy to those most in need.</p>



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Health impact: (eg physical, mental health, wellbeing, substance misuse) <p>The health impacts of the protection of the environment and tackling climate change are positive. Health objectives and environmental objectives closely align for example the provision of open space, provision of low cost renewable energy, promotion of walking and cycling and provision of locally produced fruit and vegetables and reduced risk of flooding.</p>										<p>There is no requirement to provide mitigation. Where positive impacts can be maximised for health these will be explored, for example promoting healthy and sustainable lifestyles and resilience to climate events.</p>
Socio Economic impact: (eg neighbourhood, ward, area of deprivation, household group, income, wealth) <p>Socio economic impacts of the environmental policy are neutral to positive. Promotion of a green economy and green jobs will increase economic prosperity. Tackling climate change has the potential to reduce the need for investment for example in flood infrastructure and reduce expenditure in other areas such as the health service resulting from improved air quality and healthier environments and lifestyles.</p> <p>There are potential financial implications of for some environmental and carbon reduction actions that will arise from the environmental policy both for the Council and community, however often</p>										<p>Where there is an increased cost arising from actions for the environment or climate change, fully explore options to offset these costs.</p> <p>Start to account for the environmental and carbon benefits of action.</p>



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<p>these costs can be offset, for example increasing the electric vehicle fleet will reduce fuel costs. Long term, the socio economic impacts of not protecting the environment or addressing climate change would be greater than not doing.</p>	<p>Maximise any economic benefits arising.</p>
<p>Environmental impact: (does the proposal impact on climate change and the Council's commitment to be carbon neutral by 2030?)</p> <p>This policy is entirely in alignment with environmental and carbon reduction targets.</p> <p>There will be a positive impact on various aspects of the environment including;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biodiversity Green space creation Woodland creation Water Quality Air Quality Carbon reduction Waste management 	<p>There is no requirement to provide mitigation.</p>
<p>Cumulative impact: (consider impact based on successive budgetary decisions relating to the proposal or is the proposal part of wider budgetary considerations that may collectively have an impact on service users, and is potentially at odds with the Thrive agenda)</p> <p>There is a positive cumulative impact of the Environmental Policy. The Environmental Policy is linked with both Thrive and the Health and Wellbeing Strategy. Climate Change and sustainability are fully integrated into budget considerations and all Cabinet reports for the Council.</p>	



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<p>Summary of consultation/data/research undertaken to inform the assessment: (eg feedback and engagement with service users, trade unions, employees, partners, public, benchmarking, case studies)</p> <p>The Environmental policy has been written in collaboration with various departments in the Council.</p> <p>Environment and Transport Portfolio and CMT have been consulted.</p>	
<p>Signed: (completing officer) Lucy Greenfield</p> <p>Date:8/2/21</p>	
<p>Service Director: (approved) Anneliese Hutchinson</p> <p>Date:8/2/21</p>	