

TRDC Climate and Sustainability Impact Assessment

This toolkit is a self-assessment to help officers think about how their policies, project commissioning and services can align with Three Rivers' Climate Emergency and Sustainability supports report authors to draft the environmental implications section on decision reports.

How to use the tool

The self-assessment is intended to help officers reflect critically on their project or service as a reflective tool, not a framework for approving or rejecting a decision, so it will only be considered honestly and carefully.

We envision this tool will be used early in the design of a project/policy/procurement where environmental harms can be mitigated, and environmental benefits enhanced. If you are unsure, discuss with your Head of Service, and contact the Climate and Sustainability Team. Once you are happy that your proposal is optimised, then complete this form, and add it to your decision report (committee/synopsis report) where applicable.

The next tab presents a set of questions about the proposal on a range of sustainability issues, colour-coded to indicate its environmental impact as below:

Colour code	Recommendation
Dark green (4)	Strong positive impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to proceed.
Light green (3)	Some positive impact for sustainability. Recommendation to further assess.
Yellow (2)	Some negative impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to revise proposal.
Red (1)	Considerable inconsistency with the council's sustainability objectives. Recommendation to reject proposal.
Grey (0)	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how best to proceed.

Once you've selected your answer in the "Impact" column (C), then give the relevant score. Higher scores indicate more sustainable proposals.

These questions should be considered for services, goods and projects we procure directly. Delivery models, specifications and tender evaluation should be shaped to be aligned with our sustainability and net-zero commitments.

Against each area, the assessment presents prompts to highlight best practice suggestions of how negative impacts could be lessened on a project.

This assessment was inspired by Jim Cunningham at Hammersmith and Fulham

Version

Date

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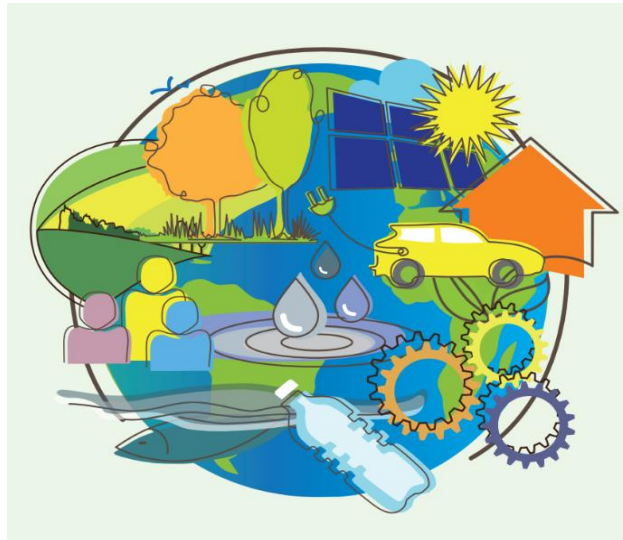
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to identify areas where
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**THREE RIVERS
DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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TRDC Climate and Sustainability Impact Assessment

Score / Colour Code	Impact and Recommendation
Dark green (4)	Strong positive impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to proceed as is with this aspect.
Light green (3)	Some positive impact for sustainability. Recommendation to further enhance this aspect where possible and proceed.
Yellow (2)	Some possible negative impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to review these aspects and find mitigations where possible.
Red (1)	Considerable inconsistency with the council's sustainability objectives. Strong recommendation to review these aspects and find mitigations.
Grey (0)	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.

Guidance for use
Please answer all questions from the drop-down options in the 'Impact' column (C), including 'not applicable' as needed.

Please email your completed copy of the form to
Joanna.Hewitson@threeivers.gov.uk.

Key to the colour coding of answers is given at the top of the page.

Name of project/policy/procurement and date	Street Trading Policy June 2026
Brief description (1-2 sentences):	Policy already existing but changes would seek a further exemption reducing the need for a consent application to the council. This would assist in reducing the number of applications made to the council. The change could increase the number of events across the district, although the levels are expected to be low.

Homes, buildings, infrastructure, equipment and energy						Ways to optimise sustainability and work towards net zero carbon:
Question	Impact (select from list)	Score (-1 to 4)	Justification or mitigation	Impact (select from list)	Revised Score (1-4)	
1 What effect will this project have on overall energy use (electricity or other fuels) e.g. in buildings, appliances or machinery?	Some possible negative impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to review these aspects and find mitigations where possible.	0	Trading confirmed to external spaces	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	3	
2 What effect will this project have on the direct use of fossil fuels such as gas, petrol, diesel, oil?	Strong positive impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to proceed as is with this aspect.	2	Some stalls/street trading vans would require generators. Most ice cream vans are diesel engines / policy seeks Euro 6 emissions.	Some possible negative impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to review these aspects and find mitigations where possible.	2	
3 Does this project further maximise the use of existing building space? E.g. co-locating services; bringing under-used space into use; using buildings out-of-hours	Considerable inconsistency with the council's sustainability objectives. Strong recommendation to review these aspects and find mitigations.	0	Trading confirmed to external spaces	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	
4 Will any new building constructed or refurbished be highly energy efficient in use? (e.g. high levels of insulation, low energy demand per sq. m., no servicing with fossil fuels such as gas heating, EPC)	Some positive impact for sustainability. Recommendation to further enhance this aspect where possible and proceed.	3	Trading confirmed to external spaces	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	
5 Does this make use of sustainable materials? Inputs in your project? E.g. re-used or recycled construction materials; timber in place of concrete	Some positive impact for sustainability. Recommendation to further enhance this aspect where possible and proceed.	0	Trading confirmed to external spaces	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	
6 Does this use more sustainable processes in the creation of the project? E.g. modular and off-site construction; use of electrical plant instead of petrol/diesel.	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	Trading confirmed to external spaces	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	
7 Will this increase the supply of renewable energy? e.g. installing solar panels; switching to a renewable energy tariff	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	Trading confirmed to external spaces	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	
8 Do any appliances or electrical equipment to be used have high energy efficiency ratings?	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	This would be subject to each specific stall holder or mobile street trader.	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	
Average Score		2.50			2.50	
Travel						Ways to optimise sustainability and work towards net zero carbon:
Question	Impact	Score (0-4)	Justification or mitigation	Impact (select from list)	Revised Score (0-4)	
9 Reducing travel: what effect will this project have on overall vehicle use?	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	3	Local events will likely draw on the local population who could walk. Some car usage.	Some positive impact for sustainability. Recommendation to further enhance this aspect where possible and proceed.	3	
10 Will this project use petrol or diesel vehicles or EV, hybrid?	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	2	Individual mobile street traders may use diesel vehicles	Some possible negative impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to review these aspects and find mitigations where possible.	2	
11 Will this support people to use active or low-carbon transport? E.g. cycling, walking, switching to electric transport	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	3	Local events will likely draw on the local population so it may encourage walking.	Sustainability. Recommendation to further enhance this aspect where possible and proceed.	3	
12 Will it be easily accessible for all by foot, bike, or public transport, including for disabled people?	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	Depends on the event.	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	
13 Has the project taken steps to reduce traffic? Using e-cargo bikes; timing activities or deliveries to be outside peak congestion times	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	n/a	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	
Average Score		2.67			2.67	
Goods and Consumption						Ways to optimise sustainability and work towards net zero carbon:
Question	Impact	Score (0-4)	Justification or mitigation	Impact (select from list)	Revised Score (0-4)	
14 Has this project considered ways to reuse existing goods and materials to the greatest extent possible, before acquiring newly manufactured ones?	Some positive impact for sustainability. Recommendation to further enhance this aspect where possible and proceed.	3	Policy does state that preference given to the local environment, such as power supply, waste disposal etc.	Some positive impact for sustainability. Recommendation to further enhance this aspect where possible and proceed.	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Design waste, including food waste, out of business models e.g. separating (and composting) food waste; replacing single-use items with reusable items. - Use contact points with residents, community groups and businesses to engage and enable them to adopt low-waste, low-carbon behaviours.
15 Does it reduce reliance on buying newly manufactured goods? E.g. repair and re-use; sharing and lending goods between services or people; leasing or product-as-a-service rather than ownership	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	3	Some events are likely to have sustainably sourced produce.	Some positive impact for sustainability. Recommendation to further enhance this aspect where possible and proceed.	3	
16 Does it use products and resources that are re-used, recycled, or renewable?	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	n/a	Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	
17 Does it enable others to make sustainable choices within their lifestyles, or engage people about this?	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	n/a	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	
18 Is there a plan to reduce waste sent to landfill in manufacture?	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	3	Policy does state that preference given to the local environment, such as power supply, waste disposal etc.	Some positive impact for sustainability. Recommendation to further enhance this aspect where possible and proceed.	3	
19 Is the material used able to be re-used, re-purposed, or recycled at end of its life?	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	3	Consideration given within Policy	Some positive impact for sustainability. Recommendation to further enhance this aspect where possible and proceed.	3	
20 Has it taken steps to ensure any food it offers is more sustainable? E.g. less and high-quality (high welfare) meat and dairy; minimises food waste; seasonal produce; locally sourced.	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	3	Policy does state that preference given to those who are residents in the local area offering local products.	Some positive impact for sustainability. Recommendation to further enhance this aspect where possible and proceed.	3	
Average Score		3.00			3.00	
Ecology						Ways to optimise sustainability and work towards net zero carbon:
Question	Impact	Score (0-4)	Justification or mitigation	Impact (select from list)	Revised Score (0-4)	
21 What effect does this project have on total area of non-amenity green/blue space? (Amenity green space = playing fields, play areas, sporting lakes etc. Non-amenity= e.g. woodland, grassland, wetland,	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	Some open/green space would be used which may have an impact on its condition.	Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	
22 Does the project create more habitat for nature? E.g. native plants, trees, and flowers	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	n/a	Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	
23 Does it make changes to existing habitats and have a negative impact on nature? E.g. use of pesticides, reduced extent and variety of plants, planting non-native species	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	n/a	Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	
24 Does it help people understand the value of biodiversity, and encourage residents to support it in their private and community spaces?	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	n/a	Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	
Average Score		0			0	
Adaptation						Ways to optimise sustainability and work towards net zero carbon:
Question	Impact	Score (0-4)	Justification or mitigation	Impact (select from list)	Revised Score (0-4)	
25 Does any planned project, construction or building use include measures to conserve water?	Strong positive impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to proceed as is with this aspect.	0	n/a	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	
26 Does anythe project , consider how to sustainably protect people from extreme weather?	Some positive impact for sustainability. Recommendation to further enhance this aspect where possible and proceed.	0	n/a	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	
27 Has any planned building work or infrastructure considered how to mitigate flood risk? E.g. Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS), de-paving areas; green roofs	Some positive impact for sustainability. Recommendation to further enhance this aspect where possible and proceed.	0	n/a	Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	
28 Does any planned infrastructure or building work increase the overall footprint of hard surfacing? (as opposed to green or permeable surfacing)	Some possible negative impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to review these aspects and find mitigations where possible.	0	n/a	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	
29 Has the project considered its own resilience to future extreme heat, flood risk, or water shortage?	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	n/a	Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.	0	
Average Score		0.0			0.00	
Engagement and Influence						Ways to optimise sustainability and work towards net zero carbon:
Question	Impact	Score (0-4)	Justification or mitigation	Impact (select from list)	Revised Score (0-4)	
30 Does this project raise awareness and understanding of the climate and ecological emergency, and the steps that people can take?	Some positive impact for sustainability. Recommendation to further enhance this aspect where possible and proceed.	3	Policy seeks higher vehicle standards for mobile traders (Euro 6) and consideration into waste disposal and energy use.	Sustainability. Recommendation to further enhance this aspect where possible and proceed.	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vehicles to be Euro 6 on application - to align with future Taxi Policy
Average Score		3			3	
Total Overall Average Score		1.86			1.9	

Now assessment is complete copy and paste box into your business case, committee report, (under environmental implications 6). Whole assessment can be an appendix. Procurement tenders are expected to submit complete report with application.

Climate and Sustainability Impact Assessment Summary	
Homes, buildings, infrastructure, equipment and energy	2.50
Travel	2.67
Goods and Consumption	3.00
Ecology	0.00
Adaptation	0.00
Engagement and Influence	3
Total Overall Average Score	1.9

List 1

Strong positive impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to proceed as is with this aspect.
Some positive impact for sustainability. Recommendation to further enhance this aspect where possible and proceed.
Some possible negative impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to review these aspects and find mitigations where possible.
Considerable inconsistency with the council's sustainability objectives. Strong recommendation to review these aspects and find mitigations.
Neutral or not applicable. Recommendation to consider how benefits could be achieved in this area, but otherwise proceed.
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List 2	List 3
4	No
3	To some extent N/A
2	N/A
-1	
0	Yes
0	Yes
4	
3	
2	
-1	

Ok -	Strong positive impacts for sustainability. Recommendation to proceed as is with this aspect.
Light green (3)	Some positive impact for sustainability. Recommendation to further enhance this aspect where possible and proceed.
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