

**Stockport Council - Corporate Leaders Team Reports**  
**Environmental Impact Assessment**  
**MTFP – Radically Digital**

The purpose of completing this section is to help identify, forecast and understand any environmental impacts/consequences of your proposal at an early stage so necessary mitigations can be considered. For construction projects full EIAs are required. Please see below the table for guidance on completion.

Criteria	Beneficial Impact		No Impact	Adverse Impact		Cause & Mitigation
	Extent	Term S or L / R or I		Extent	Term S or L / R or I	
<b>Nature</b> Loss of habitats & species, topography changes			No impact			
<b>Water</b> Potential for pollution, flood, drainage, use			No impact			
<b>Air</b> Quality, emissions			No impact			
<b>Transport</b> Method, fuel type and use, staff travel, supplier miles			No impact			
<b>Local Resources</b> Energy, materials, paper, electricity, buildings, local sourcing	Local (council operations)	Long term Irreversible		Local (council operations)	Long term Irreversible	<p>Maximising all our digital capabilities may reduce greenhouse gas emissions from energy use (due to streamlined processes / automation / self-service / effective signposting that reduces enquiries) and materials (paper, printing, postage) for council operations and to a lesser extent for residents.</p> <p>An EIA may need to be completed if the Council need to increase their data storage capacities. 5. Robust technical foundations, 6. Improved data / intelligence and 7. Improved information advice and guidance online may result in an increase in data storage which would increase greenhouse gas emissions through increased energy use. To mitigate: robust data management will continue to be in place ensuring non-</p>

	Local (Council operations)	Short term Irreversible				<p>duplication of documents stored and that data/digital clean ups take place whilst ensuring legal requirements continue to be met.</p> <p>Digital mail room and reducing the number of printers may lead to a further reduction in the amount of printing which would reduce greenhouse gas emissions from use of paper, ink and energy.</p>
<p><b>Waste</b> Increase, disposal, recycling, non-reusable materials. Does it follow the waste hierarchy: reduce, re-use, recycle</p>	Local (Council operations)	Short term Irreversible				<p>Digital mail room and reducing the number of printers may lead to a reduction in paper recycling which would reduce the greenhouse gas emissions from the recycling process.</p>

KEY			
Extent		Term	
National - UK	<b>N</b>	Short	<b>S</b>
Regional - Greater Manchester	<b>R</b>	Long	<b>L</b>
Borough - Stockport	<b>B</b>	Is the impact reversible?	<b>R</b>
Local - within one ward	<b>L</b>	Is the impact irreversible?	<b>I</b>

### Guidance on Completing the EIA Table:

Consider the likely impacts that your activity being reported on could have for each of the criteria. Using the key provided, complete each of the columns as required for beneficial, adverse or no impact outcomes. When doing this take account of the extent of the beneficial or adverse impacts:

- Will it benefit or adversely affect only local areas or will it affect wider geographies?
- If there is an impact, will it be short term (days, weeks or a month) or longer term (months, years, decades, etc.)
- Could the impact be reversed or mitigated?
- Use the final column to explain the causes and likely mitigation of impacts that could affect reversibility etc.
- Remember to capture beneficial impacts as well as negative ones since this can help clarify how adverse impacts can be better avoided or managed.

If you feel that you don't have enough knowledge of the criteria to assess impacts to enable you to respond, then consider using an internet search engine to research the terms next to each criteria in the table below to find out more about possible impacts and benefits.

Criteria	Searchable Terms
<b>Nature</b> loss of habitats & species, topography changes	Natural capital; biodiversity net gain; planting native plants / trees; providing space and corridors for plants, insects and animals; pollinators; water features; tree shade; low maintenance native trees & shrubs.
<b>Water</b> Potential for pollution, flood, drainage, use	Water UK; permeable paving; sustainable drainage; water butts; water efficiency; greywater flushing; Refill.
<b>Air</b> Quality, emissions	Air quality; clean air zones; public transport; active travel; planting to help air quality
<b>Transport</b> Method, fuel type and use, staff travel, supplier miles	Traffic emissions; traffic congestion; accessible routes; sustainable transport; shared vehicles; virtual meetings; home working; electric vehicles; sustainable paving; travel plan; solar car ports
<b>Local Resources</b> Energy, materials, paper, electricity, buildings, local sourcing	Green suppliers and technologies; renewable energy; energy efficiency; sustainable procurement; local economy; food miles; economies of scale; Social Enterprises; procurement policy
<b>Waste</b> Increase, Disposal, Recycling, non reusable materials. Does it follow the waste hierarchy: reduce, re-use, recycle	Waste hierarchy; circular economy; sustainable procurement; recycled goods; Plastics Pact.

For general queries on completing the Environmental Impact Assessment please contact Liz Atherton in the Climate Action Now team at [liz.atherton@stockport.gov.uk](mailto:liz.atherton@stockport.gov.uk)

Remember that the Council's Climate Action Now Strategy has the following aim:

**'We will** incorporate climate impact assessment into everything we do by incorporating it into decision making, report templates and all key strategies'

[www.stockport.gov.uk/can-climate-strategy-stockport/can-overview](http://www.stockport.gov.uk/can-climate-strategy-stockport/can-overview)