

Project: Biodiversity Strategy Midterm Review

Date: 10/11/2025

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1. IMPACT ON CARBON EMISSIONS (MITIGATION OF CLIMATE CHANGE)			CLIMATE CHANGE RATING: <i>Use drop down list</i>	WILL THE PROJECT MOVE CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL CLOSER TO THE OBJECTIVE OF BEING NET ZERO CARBON BY 2030? <i>Use drop down list</i>	WILL THE PROJECT MOVE THE CITY CLOSER TO THE OBJECTIVE OF A NET ZERO CARBON CAMBRIDGE BY 2030? <i>Use drop down list</i>	PLEASE DETAIL HERE THE ACTION THAT WILL BE TAKEN TO AVOID, MITIGATE OR COMPENSATE FOR THE NEGATIVE IMPACTS AND MAXIMISE POSITIVE IMPACTS?	HAS A NET ZERO CARBON OPTION BEEN CONSIDERED? PLEASE PROVIDE DETAILS.
1	ENERGY USE	Positive Impact: Energy use will be reduced or renewable energy will be used	Medium Positive	Yes	Yes	Consider: - Reducing demand for energy - Specifying energy efficiency measures (e.g. insulation, low energy lighting) - Generating renewable energy (e.g. heat pumps, Semi natural habitats, tree canopy and water courses cool the city and reduces energy demand in heatwaves.	
		Nil Impact: No extra energy use is involved					
		Negative Impact: More energy (gas and/ or electricity) will be consumed (by CCC or others)					
2	WASTE GENERATION	Positive Impact: Less waste will be generated OR amount of waste that is reused/ recycled will be increased	Nil	No	No	Consider: - Will resources be reduced or reused? - Will you use recycled goods? - Will recycling facilities be increased? Review of park leaf clearance will reduce operational carbon use and enhance soil carbon capture. However, additional meadow creation will require cut and collect management with transport of green waste within the City. Options for onsite composting will be explored for suitable sites.	No
		Nil Impact: No waste will be generated					
		Negative Impact: More waste will be generated (by CCC or others)					
3	USE OF TRANSPORT	Positive Impact: The use of transport and/or of fossil fuel-based transport will be reduced	Nil	No	No	Consider: - Will you purchase an electric vehicle? - Will you specify the use of public transport? - How will you reduce the need to travel or transport goods? Additional Hay cuts may require increase use of vehicle to move green waste. Options for onsite composting will be explored for suitable sites.	No
		Nil Impact: No extra transport will be necessary					
		Negative Impact: CCC or others will need to travel more OR transport goods more often/ further					
4	SUSTAINABLE FOOD	Positive Impact: Food will be locally grown and/ or meat-free	Low Positive	No	No	Consider: - Use of locally grown/ produced food - Reducing use of imported food - Reducing use of meat Produce available from community orchards and gardens. Foraging for blackberries, Sloes etc on Local Nature Reserves	No
		Nil Impact: No change in supply of food					
		Negative Impact: Food will travel long distances and include meat					
2. IMPACT ON RESILIENCE (ADAPTATION) TO THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE							
HOW WILL THIS PROJECT/PROPOSAL AFFECT THE FOLLOWING KEY AREAS :			CLIMATE CHANGE RATING: <i>Use drop down list</i>	WILL THE PROJECT HELP CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL TO BE MORE RESILIENT TO THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE?	WILL THE PROJECT HELP CAMBRIDGE TO BE MORE RESILIENT TO THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE? <i>Use drop down list</i>	PLEASE DETAIL HERE THE ACTION THAT WILL BE TAKEN TO AVOID, MITIGATE OR COMPENSATE FOR THE NEGATIVE IMPACTS AND MAXIMISE POSITIVE IMPACTS?	HAS A NET ZERO CARBON OPTION BEEN CONSIDERED? PLEASE PROVIDE DETAILS.
5	HEATWAVES	Positive Impact: Increased/ improved shade & natural ventilation	High Positive	Yes	Yes	Consider: Building orientation and installing measures such as Brise Soleil to reduce heat gain and plant hydration methods. Significant contribution to reducing urban heat island effect, through shading and cooling effect of semi natural habitats	No
		Nil Impact: No impact on existing levels of shade & ventilation					
		Negative Impact: Lack of or reduced shade (e.g. from trees or buildings) & natural ventilation					
6	WATER AVAILABILITY	Positive Impact: Provision made for an enhancement of water efficiency measures to minimise the impact on water resource availability	Medium Positive	Yes	Yes	Consider: Managing water use efficiently, installing measures to use less water such as low water use taps, planting drought resistant plants and using rainwater for irrigation. Watercourse enhancements and reconnecting sites to their floodplain. Greater Cambridge Chalk Stream Project focuses on water use and quality. Rainwater harvesting project will reduce our reliance on aquifer abstraction for operations such as tree watering	No
		Nil Impact: Levels of water use will not be changed					
		Negative Impact: Water use will increase and/or no provision made for water management = Negative Impact					
7	FLOODING	Positive Impact: Sustainable drainage measures incorporated, positive steps to reduce & manage flood risk	Medium Positive	Yes	Yes	Consider: The installation of measures to reduce the speed and increase the absorption of rainwater e.g. green roofs, SuDS, permeable paving etc. and alternative arrangements (business continuity) Reconnecting the river to its floodplain through habitat creation schemes, tree canopy and sustainable urban drainage schemes will help 'slow the flow'	No
		Nil Impact: Levels of surface water run-off & flood risk are not affected					
		Negative Impact: Levels of surface water run-off will increase, no management of flood risk					
8	HIGH WINDS / STORMS	Positive Impact: Exposure to higher wind speeds is being actively managed & reduced	Low Positive	Yes	Yes	Consider: the need to install stabilisation measures and ensure robust structures resilient to high winds A healthy urban forest provides shelter for streets and parks	No
		Nil Impact: No change to existing level of exposure to higher wind speeds					
		Negative Impact: Exposure to higher wind speeds is increased or is not managed = Negative Impact					
9	FOOD SECURITY	Positive Impact: Opportunities & resources for local food production are increased/ enhanced	Medium Positive	Yes	Yes	Source food locally, and provide meat-free catering to reduce vulnerability to food shortages and reduce emissions from transport and farming of food Urban Forest and LNR habitats nurture a healthy pollinator population for pollination of food crops.	No
		Nil Impact: No change to opportunities & resources for local food production					
		Negative Impact: Opportunities & resources for local food production are reduced					
10	BIODIVERSITY	Positive Impact: Biodiversity will be protected/ enhanced	High Positive	Yes	Yes	Provide net gain mitigation if required and seek enhancement in projects of all types and scale Main outcomes are to protect and enhance biodiversity at a city and landscape scale.	No
		Nil Impact: Level of biodiversity will not change					
		Negative Impact: Biodiversity will decrease					
Weighing up the negative and positive impacts of your project, what is the overall rating you are assigning to your project?:			Medium Positive	This overall rating is what you need to include in your report/ budget proposal, together with your explanation to be included in the red box below			

Guidance on Assessing the Degree of Negative and Positive Impacts:

Note: Not all of the considerations/ criteria listed below will necessarily be relevant to your project

Low Impact (L)

- * No publicity
- * Relevant risks to the Council or community are Low or none
- * No impact on service or corporate performance
- * No capital assets; or capital assets with lifetime of less than 3 years

Medium Impact (M)

- * Local publicity (good or bad)
- * Relevant risks to the Council or community are Medium
- * Affects delivery of corporate commitments
- * Affects service performance (e.g.: energy use; amount of waste; distance travelled) by more than 10%
- * Capital assets with a lifetime of more than 3 years

High Impact (H)

- * National publicity (good or bad)
- * Relevant risks to the Council or community are Significant or High
- * Affects delivery of regulatory commitments
- * Affects corporate performance by more than 10%
- * Capital assets with a lifetime of more than 6 years

In the box below please summarise the projects impacts (the reasons for the ratings given in column E above) to explain how the overall rating for the project/ proposal has been derived (Cell E37). Please also highlight any negative impacts your project may have and how you plan to avoid, mitigate or compensate for these (as you will have detailed in column I above).

The overall impact of the Biodiversity Strategy mid term review is assessed as being moderately positive in terms of reducing impacts of climate change and enhancing biodiversity.