

The 'Better Decision Making' tool has been designed to help you consider the impact of your proposal on the health and wellbeing of communities, the environment, and local economy. It draws upon the priorities set out in our Council Plan and will help us to provide inclusive and discrimination-free services by considering the equalities and human rights implications of the decisions we make. The purpose of this tool is to avoid decisions being made in isolation, and to encourage evidence-based decision making that carefully balances social, economic and environmental factors, helping us to become a more responsive and resilient organisation.

The Better Decision Making tool should be used when proposing new projects, services, policies or strategies, or significant amendments to them. The tool should be completed at the earliest opportunity, ideally when you are just beginning to develop a proposal. However, it can be completed at any stage of the decision-making process. If the tool is completed just prior to the Executive, it can still help to guide future courses of action as the proposal is implemented.

**The Better Decision Making tool must be attached as an annex to Executive reports. A brief summary of your findings should be reported in the One Planet Council / Equalities section of the report itself.**

Guidance to help you complete the assessment can be obtained by hovering over the relevant question.

Please complete all fields. If you wish to enter multiple paragraphs in any of the boxes, hold down 'Alt' before hitting 'Enter'.

**Introduction**

<b>Service submitting the proposal:</b>	
<b>Name of person completing the assessment:</b>	
<b>Job title:</b>	
<b>Directorate:</b>	
<b>Date Completed:</b>	
<b>Date Approved</b> (form to be checked by head of service):	

**Section 1: What is the proposal?**

1.1	<b>Name of the service, project, programme, policy or strategy being assessed?</b>
1.2	<b>What are the main aims of the proposal?</b>
1.3	<b>What are the key outcomes?</b>

**Section 2: Evidence**

2.1	<b>What data / evidence is available to support the proposal and understand its likely impact?</b> (e.g. hate crime figures, obesity levels, recycling statistics)
2.2	<b>What public / stakeholder consultation has been undertaken and what were the findings?</b>

2.3	<p><b>Are there any other initiatives that may produce a combined impact with this proposal?</b> (e.g. will the same individuals / communities of identity also be impacted by a different project or policy?)</p>
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**Section 3: Impact on One Planet principles**

Please summarise any potential positive and negative impacts that may arise from your proposal on residents or staff. This section relates to the impact of your proposal on the ten One Planet principles.

For 'Impact', please select from the options in the drop-down menu.  
If you wish to enter multiple paragraphs in any of the boxes, hold down 'Alt' before hitting 'Enter'.

**Equity and Local Economy**

Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.1	Impact positively on the business community in York?		
3.2	Provide additional employment or training opportunities in the city?		
3.3	Help improve the lives of individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds or underrepresented groups?		

**Health & Happiness**

Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.4	Improve the physical health or emotional wellbeing of residents or staff?		
3.5	Help reduce health inequalities?		
3.6	Encourage residents to be more responsible for their own health?		
3.7	Reduce crime or fear of crime?		
3.8	Help to give children and young people a good start in life?		

**Culture & Community**

Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.9	Help bring communities together?		
3.10	Improve access to services for residents, especially those most in need?		
3.11	Improve the cultural offerings of York?		
3.12	Encourage residents to be more socially responsible?		

**Zero Carbon and Sustainable Water**

Does your proposal?	Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?

3.13	<b>Minimise the amount of energy we use and / or reduce the amount of energy we pay for?</b> E.g. through the use of low or zero carbon sources of energy?		
3.14	<b>Minimise the amount of water we use and/or reduce the amount of water we pay for?</b>		

**Zero Waste**

	Does your proposal?	Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.15	<b>Reduce waste and the amount of money we pay to dispose of waste by maximising reuse and/or recycling of materials?</b>		

**Sustainable Transport**

	Does your proposal?	Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.16	<b>Encourage the use of sustainable transport, such as walking, cycling, ultra low emission vehicles and public transport?</b>		
3.17	<b>Help improve the quality of the air we breathe?</b>		

**Sustainable Materials**

	Does your proposal?	Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.18	<b>Minimise the environmental impact of the goods and services used?</b>		

**Local and Sustainable Food**

	Does your proposal?	Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.19	<b>Maximise opportunities to support local and sustainable food initiatives?</b>		

**Land Use and Wildlife**

	Does your proposal?	Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.20	<b>Maximise opportunities to conserve or enhance the natural environment?</b>		
3.21	<b>Improve the quality of the built environment?</b>		
3.22	<b>Preserve the character and setting of the historic city of York?</b>		
3.23	<b>Enable residents to enjoy public spaces?</b>		

3.40	<b>Additional space to comment on the impacts</b>		

**Section 4: Impact on Equalities and Human Rights**

Please summarise any potential positive and negative impacts that may arise from your proposal on staff or residents. This section relates to the impact of your proposal on **advancing equalities and human rights** and should build on the impacts you identified in the previous section.

For 'Impact', please select from the options in the drop-down menu.  
If you wish to enter multiple paragraphs in any of the boxes, hold down 'Alt' before hitting 'Enter'

**Equalities**

Will the proposal **adversely impact** upon 'communities of identity'?  
Will it **help advance equality** or **foster good relations** between people in 'communities of identity'?

		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
4.1	Age		
4.2	Disability		
4.3	Gender		
4.4	Gender Reassignment		
4.5	Marriage and civil partnership		
4.6	Pregnancy and maternity		
4.7	Race		
4.8	Religion or belief		
4.9	Sexual orientation		
4.10	Carer		
4.11	Lowest income groups		
4.12	Veterans, Armed forces community		

**Human Rights**

Consider how a human rights approach is evident in the proposal

	Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
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4.13	Right to education		
4.14	Right not to be subjected to torture, degrading treatment or punishment		
4.15	Right to a fair and public hearing		
4.16	Right to respect for private and family life, home and correspondence		
4.17	Freedom of expression		
4.18	Right not to be subject to discrimination		
4.19	Other Rights		

4.20	<b>Additional space to comment on the impacts</b>		



**Section 5: Planning for Improvement**

5.1	<b>What have you changed in order to improve the impact of the proposal on the One Planet principles?</b> (please consider the questions you marked either mixed or negative, as well as any additional positive impacts that may be achievable)

5.2	<b>What have you changed in order to improve the impact of the proposal on equalities and human rights?</b> (please consider the questions you marked either mixed or negative, as well as any additional positive impacts that may be achievable)

5.3	<b>Going forward, what further evidence or consultation is needed to ensure the proposal delivers its intended benefits?</b> e.g. consultation with specific vulnerable groups, additional data)

5.4	<b>Please record any outstanding actions needed to maximise benefits or minimise negative impacts in relation to this proposal?</b> (Expand / insert more rows if needed)
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Action	Person(s)	Due date

**In the One Planet / Equalities section of your Executive report, please briefly summarise the changes you have made (or intend to make) in order to improve the social, economic and environmental impact of your proposal.**