

The 'Better Decision Making' tool should be completed when proposing new projects, services, policies or strategies.

This integrated impact assessment tool was designed to help you to consider the impact of your proposal on social, economic and environmental sustainability, and equalities and human rights. The tool draws upon the priorities set out in our Council Plan and will help us to provide inclusive and discrimination-free services. The purpose of this new tool is to ensure that the impacts of every proposal are carefully considered and balanced and that decisions are based on evidence.

Part 1 of this form should be completed as soon as you have identified a potential area for change and when you are just beginning to develop a proposal. If you are following the All About Projects Framework it should be completed before going through Gateway 3.

Part 2 of this form should be filled in once you have completed your proposal and prior to being submitted for consideration by the Executive. If you are following the All About Projects Framework it should be completed before going through Gateway 4. Your answer to questions 1.4 in the improvements section must be reported in any papers going to the Executive and the full 'Better Decision Making' tool should be attached as an annex.

Guidance to help you complete the assessment can be obtained by hovering over the relevant text or by following this link to the 'Better Decision Making' tool on Colin.

Guidance on completing this assessment is available by hovering over the text boxes.

Please complete all items (and expand if necessary).

Introduction

Service submitting the proposal:	Forward Planning
Name of person completing the assessment:	Anna Pawson
Job title:	Development Officer
Directorate:	Economy and Place
Date Completed:	06/05/2021
Date Approved: form to be checked by service manager	

Part 1

Section 1: What is the proposal?

1.1	Name of the service, project, programme, policy or strategy being assessed?
	Heslington Neighbourhood Plan - Examiner's Report

1.2	What are the main aims of the proposal?
	Heslington Neighbourhood Plan's main aim is to influence change in Heslington Parish, not to prevent it. By working with residents, the University of York and other local stakeholders, future developments will be welcomed but need to be sympathetic and protect the historic character and rural environment of the area. The main purpose of the report is to request that Members agree the recommendations of the Examiner and allow the Heslington Neighbourhood Plan to proceed to referendum.

1.3	What are the key outcomes?
	To ensure that the Heslington Neighbourhood Plan can be progressed.

Section 2: Evidence

	What data / evidence is available to understand the likely impacts of the proposal? (e.g. hate crime figures, obesity levels, recycling statistics)
2.1	The Neighbourhood Plan uses the emerging Local Plan evidence base to support its policies.

	What public / stakeholder consultation has been used to support this proposal?
2.2	Previous consultation responses received in relation to the Pre-Submission Consultation: 29th January to 12th March 2019 and the Submission consultation: 30th October to 11th December 2019, have shaped policy formation.

	Are there any other initiatives that may produce a combined impact with this proposal? (e.g. will the same individuals / communities of identity also be impacted by a different project or policy?)
2.3	The Neighbourhood Plan has been developed alongside an emerging City of York Local Plan. The residents, businesses and people with a land interest in the Heslington area will also be consulted on as part of the Local Plan process.

Part 1

Section 3: Impact on One Planet principles

This section relates to the impact of your proposal on the 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?	Positive	Several policies in the Heslington Neighbourhood Plan impact positively including: Policy HES: 1 Main Street - Change of Use, Policy HES: 2 New Business and Employment Development, Policy HES: 3 Agriculture and Rural Enterprise. To promote employment opportunities in Heslington that help to create sustainable life-work balance and to support the viability of working farms in Heslington.
3.2 Provide additional employment or training opportunities in the city?	Positive	Several policies in the Heslington Neighbourhood Plan impact positively including: Policy HES: 1 Main Street - Change of Use, Policy HES: 2 New Business and Employment Development, Policy HES: 3 Agriculture and Rural Enterprise. To promote employment opportunities in Heslington that help to create sustainable life-work balance and to support the viability of working farms in Heslington.
3.3 Help individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds or underrepresented groups to improve their skills?	Neutral	There are no specific policies relating to individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds.

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 staff or residents?	Positive	The Neighbourhood Plan includes policies to protect local and significant green spaces (Policy HES:13, Local Green Spaces Designation, Policy HES: 14 Green Infrastructure), to ensure that that local and significant Green Space is valued and protected and to protect and enhance Heslington's green environment. To improve walking and cycling routes (Policy HES: 15 Sustainable Transport Provision, Policy HES: 18 Paths and Other Rights of Way).
3.5 Help reduce health inequalities?	Positive	The Neighbourhood Plan includes policies to protect local and significant green spaces (Policy HES:13, Local Green Spaces Designation, Policy HES: 14 Green Infrastructure), to ensure that that local and significant Green Space is valued and protected and to protect and enhance Heslington's green environment. To improve walking and cycling routes (Policy HES: 15 Sustainable Transport Provision, Policy HES: 18 Paths and Other Rights of Way).
3.6 Encourage residents to be more responsible for their own health?	Positive	The Neighbourhood Plan includes policies to protect local and significant green spaces (Policy HES:13, Local Green Spaces Designation, Policy HES: 14 Green Infrastructure), to ensure that that local and significant Green Space is valued and protected and to protect and enhance Heslington's green environment. To improve walking and cycling routes (Policy HES: 15 Sustainable Transport Provision, Policy HES: 18 Paths and Other Rights of Way).
3.7 Reduce crime or fear of crime?	Positive	The Neighbourhood Plan includes a policy in relation to crime prevention and reduction (Policy HES: 5 Crime Prevention and Reduction).
3.8 Help to give children and young people a good start in life?	Positive	The Neighbourhood Plan includes a policy in relation to the University of York (HES:19 University of York). This policy seeks to ensure the continued development of the University. Policy HES13: Local Green Spaces Designation and HES:14 Green Infrastructure also protects local and significant green spaces.

Culture & Community

Does your proposal?	Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.9 Help improve community cohesion?	Positive	The production of a Neighbourhood Plan should help improve community cohesion by bringing people together with a shared goal of improving their neighbourhood.
3.10 Improve access to services for residents, especially those most in need?	Positive	The Neighbourhood Plan includes policies which seeks to ensure that development proposals incorporate choice of modes of transport, including sustainable options (Policy HES: 15 Sustainable Transport Provision and HES:18 Paths and Other Rights of Way).
3.11 Improve the cultural offerings of York?	Positive	Policy HES:6 Urban Character highlights particular characteristics that contribute to Heslington village's distinctive character and the need for high quality contemporary design.
3.12 Encourage residents to be more socially responsible?	Positive	There is a policy in the Heslington Neighbourhood Plan relating to supporting affordable housing (Policy HES: 9 Housing Mix and Affordability).

Zero Carbon and Sustainable Water

Does your proposal?	Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.13 Minimise the amount of energy we use, or reduce the amount of energy we will use/pay for in the future?	Positive	There are policies in the Neighbourhood Plan which relates to sustainable urban design and character to ensure that development proposals incorporate sustainable design and complement the distinctive character of Heslington, (Policy HES: 4 Sustainable Design, HES:6 Urban Character).

3.14	Minimise the amount of water we use or reduce the amount of water we will use/pay for in the future?	Positive	There are policies in the Neighbourhood Plan which relates to sustainable urban design and character to ensure that development proposals incorporate sustainable design and complement the distinctive character of Heslington, (Policy HES: 4 Sustainable Design, HES:6 Urban Character).
3.15	Provide opportunities to generate energy from renewable/low carbon technologies?	Positive	There are policies in the Neighbourhood Plan which relates to sustainable urban design and character to ensure that development proposals incorporate sustainable design and complement the distinctive character of Heslington, (Policy HES: 4 Sustainable Design, HES:6 Urban Character).

Zero Waste

Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.16	Reduce waste and the amount of money we pay to dispose of waste by maximising reuse and/or recycling of materials?	Neutral	No specific reference.

Sustainable Transport

Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.17	Encourage the use of sustainable transport, such as walking, cycling, ultra low emission vehicles and public transport?	Positive	The Neighbourhood Plan incorporates policies which include opportunities that exist to improve walking and cycling routes and the provision of new bus stops in relation to new development (Policy HES: 15 Sustainable Transport Provision and Policy HES: 18 Paths and Other Rights of Way).
3.18	Help improve the quality of the air we breathe?	Positive	The Neighbourhood Plan incorporates policies which include opportunities that exist to improve walking and cycling routes and the provision of new bus stops in relation to new development (Policy HES: 15 Sustainable Transport Provision and Policy HES: 18 Paths and Other Rights of Way).

Sustainable Materials

Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.19	Minimise the environmental impact of the goods and services used?	Neutral	No specific reference

Local and Sustainable Food

Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.20	Maximise opportunities to support local and sustainable food initiatives?	Positive	Section 9, Agriculture and Rural Enterprise supports the viability of working farms in the Heslington Parish as thriving businesses including the importance of food security and food production through modernising and becoming more efficient.

Land Use and Wildlife

Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.21	Maximise opportunities to conserve or enhance the natural environment?	Positive	The Neighbourhood Plan includes policies to protect local and significant green spaces (Policy HES13: Local Green Spaces Designation and HES:14 Green Infrastructure).The policies seek to conserve and protect Heslington's local rural identity.
3.22	Improve the quality of the built environment?	Positive	There are policies in the Neighbourhood Plan which relates to sustainable urban design and character to ensure that development proposals incorporate sustainable design and complement the distinctive character of Heslington, (Policy HES: 4 Sustainable Design, HES:6 Urban Character)
3.23	Preserve the character and setting of the historic city of York?	Positive	The Neighbourhood Plan includes a policy on the Green Belt and recognises the important role the Green Belt plays in determining the setting, character and identity of the village of Huntington and wider area.
3.24	Enable residents to enjoy public spaces?	Positive	The Neighbourhood Plan includes policies to protect and enhance public space, (Policy HES:4 Sustainable Design), protect local and significant green spaces (Policy HES:13 Local Green Spaces Designation and HES:14 Green Infrastructure).

3.25	Additional space to comment on the impacts		

Part 1

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?	Relevant quality of life indicators	
4.1	Age	Neutral	None deemed likely	N/A
4.2	Disability	Neutral	None deemed likely	N/A
4.3	Gender	Neutral	None deemed likely	N/A
4.4	Gender Reassignment	Neutral	None deemed likely	N/A
4.5	Marriage and civil partnership	Neutral	None deemed likely	N/A
4.6	Pregnancy and maternity	Neutral	None deemed likely	N/A
4.7	Race	Neutral	None deemed likely	N/A
4.8	Religion or belief	Neutral	None deemed likely	N/A
4.9	Sexual orientation	Neutral	None deemed likely	N/A
4.10	Carer	Neutral	None deemed likely	N/A
4.11	Lowest income groups	Neutral	None deemed likely	N/A
4.12	Veterans, Armed forces community	Neutral	None deemed likely	N/A

Human Rights

Consider how a human rights approach is evident in the proposal

	neutral	What are the impacts and how do you know?	
4.13	Right to education	neutral	None deemed likely
4.14	Right not to be subjected to torture, degrading treatment or punishment	neutral	None deemed likely
4.15	Right to a fair and public hearing	neutral	None deemed likely
4.16	Right to respect for private and family life, home and correspondence	neutral	None deemed likely
4.17	Freedom of expression	neutral	None deemed likely

4.18	Right not to be subject to discrimination	neutral	None deemed likely
4.19	Other Rights	neutral	None deemed likely

4.20	Additional space to comment on the impacts		

Part 1

Section 5: Developing Understanding

Based on the information you have just identified, please consider how the impacts of your proposal could be improved upon, in order to balance social, environmental, economic, and equalities concerns, and minimise any negative implications.

It is not expected that you will have all of the answers at this point, but the responses you give here should form the basis of further investigation and encourage you to make changes to your proposal. Such changes are to be reported in the final section.

Taking into consideration your responses about <u>all of the impacts</u> of the project in its <u>current form</u>, what would you consider the overall impact to be on creating a fair, healthy, sustainable and resilient city?	
5.1	Given the wide range of policy areas covered by the Neighbourhood Plan and its over all vision which responds to the issues, opportunities and challenges facing the area it is considered that the plan will have a positive impact overall on creating a fair, healthy, sustainable and resilient neighbourhood.

What could be changed to improve the impact of the proposal on the <u>One Planet principles</u>? (please consider the questions you marked either mixed or negative, as well as any additional positive impacts that may be achievable)	
5.2	No improvements considered necessary.

What could be changed to improve the impact of the proposal on <u>equalities and human rights</u>? (please consider the questions you marked either mixed or negative, as well as any additional positive impacts that may be achievable)	
5.3	No mixed or negative impacts on equality and human rights are considered likely.

Section 6: Planning for Improvement

What further evidence or consultation is needed to fully understand its impact? (e.g. consultation with specific communities of identity, additional data)	
6.1	The community has been widely consulted on the content of the Plan. Members are being asked to agree the Examiner's recommendations which include progressing the Plan to referendum. Therefore, the community will have the final say when they vote in the referendum whether or not to agree with the final Plan.

6.2	What are the outstanding actions needed to maximise benefits or minimise negative impacts in relation to this proposal? Please include the action, the person(s) responsible and the date it will be completed (expand / insert more rows if needed)
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Action	Person(s)	Due date

6.3	Additional space to comment on the impacts

Part 2

Section 1: Improvements

Part 2 builds on the impacts you identified in Part 1. Please detail how you have used this information to make improvements to your final proposal.

Please note that your response to question 1.4 in this section must be reported in the One Planet Council implications section of reports going to the Executive.

1.1	<p>For the areas in the 'One Planet' and 'Equalities' sections, where you were unsure of the potential impact, what have you done to clarify your understanding?</p> <p>Given the wide ranging policy areas covered in the plan and the process taken so far in preparing the plan there are inherent links and good understanding of the one planet principles and equalities.</p>
1.2	<p>What changes have you made to your proposal to increase positive impacts?</p> <p>No changes considered necessary.</p>
1.3	<p>What changes have you made to your proposal to reduce negative impacts?</p> <p>No negative impacts anticipated.</p>
1.4	<p>Taking into consideration everything you know about the proposal <u>in its revised form</u>, what would you consider the overall impact to be on creating a fair, healthy, sustainable and resilient city?</p> <p>Your response to this question must be input under the One Planet Council implications section of the Executive report. Please feel free to supplement this with any additional information gathered in the tool.</p> <p>Given the wide range of policy areas covered by the Neighbourhood Plan and its over all vision which responds to the issues, opportunities and challenges facing the neighbourhood it is considered that the plan will have a positive impact overall on creating a fair, healthy, sustainable and resilient neighbourhood.</p>
	<p>Any further comments?</p>

1.5