

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

Service submitting the proposal:	Housing Strategy and Development
Name of person completing the assessment:	Andrew Bebbington
Job title:	Housing Development Officer
Directorate:	Health, Housing and Adult Social Care
Date Completed:	11/09/2018
Date Approved (form to be checked by head of service):	02/10/2018

Section 1: What is the proposal?

1.1	Name of the service, project, programme, policy or strategy being assessed? Duncombe Barracks site purchase for an affordable housing-led scheme
1.2	What are the main aims of the proposal? Accelerate development of a high quality, sustainable housing site Deliver much needed affordable housing for rent and sale
1.3	What are the key outcomes? An housing scheme which provides for a mixed and sustainable community, and contributes towards meeting the ongoing high level of affordable housing need in the City of York

Section 2: Evidence

2.1	What data / evidence is available to support the proposal and understand its likely impact? (e.g. hate crime figures, obesity levels, recycling statistics) The Strategic Housing Market Assessment 2016 demonstrates that there is a very significant need for affordable and market housing to be built in the City in sustainable locations. The site is capable of delivering ambitions set out in the council's Local Plan (submitted to the Secretary of State in May 2018), meeting the density targets and located in an area with good local amenities and pedestrian and public transport links.
2.2	What public / stakeholder consultation has been undertaken and what were the findings? The extensive Local Plan consultation undertaken earlier this year has reinforced the local need and demand for a high quality affordable and market housing offer.

	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 proposal is a part of the council's City-wide strategy to lead the development of affordable housing above planning requirements, and its work with Registered Providers to meet these ambitions. This will benefit all groups who experience disadvantage in accessing suitable housing in the City.



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?	Positive	Investment in local construction industry; homes for workers in the City across the income scale
3.2 Provide additional employment or training opportunities in the city?	Positive	Employment and training opportunities will be created by the construction of the homes
3.3 Help improve the lives of individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds or underrepresented groups?	Positive	A minimum 40% of the properties will be affordable housing for households in the City with low and middle incomes

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?	Positive	Adequate housing is widely recognised to be an essential contributor to physical and mental health
3.5 Help reduce health inequalities?	Positive	As noted above, the affordable housing in the development delivers targeted benefit to disadvantaged communities
3.6 Encourage residents to be more responsible for their own health?	Neutral	
3.7 Reduce crime or fear of crime?	Positive	A high quality scheme will 'design out' crime and anti-social behaviour and will provide an environment where residents feel more secure in their own homes
3.8 Help to give children and young people a good start in life?	Positive	The affordable family housing included in the scheme will be available for families whose current housing circumstances are inadequate, particularly benefitting the children in those households

Culture & Community

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

Zero Carbon and Sustainable Water

Does your proposal?	Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
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3.13	Minimise the amount of energy we use and / or reduce the amount of energy we pay for? E.g. through the use of low or zero carbon sources of energy?	Positive	The new homes will be built to a high quality environmental standard which minimises energy use
3.14	Minimise the amount of water we use and/or reduce the amount of water we pay for?	Neutral	

Zero Waste

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

Sustainable Transport

Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.16	Encourage the use of sustainable transport, such as walking, cycling, ultra low emission vehicles and public transport?	Positive	The development is located in close proximity to the city centre and other local amenities, encouraging the use of walking and cycling
3.17	Help improve the quality of the air we breathe?	Neutral	

Sustainable Materials

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

Local and Sustainable Food

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

Land Use and Wildlife

Does your proposal?		Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.20	Maximise opportunities to conserve or enhance the natural environment?	Neutral	
3.21	Improve the quality of the built environment?	Neutral	
3.22	Preserve the character and setting of the historic city of York?	Neutral	
3.23	Enable residents to enjoy public spaces?	Positive	The open space on the site is currently in private ownership, public open and amenity spaces in the development will be accessible to local residents

3.40	Additional space to comment on the impacts		

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	Positive	The combination of family homes and accessible apartments will foster a multigenerational community and provide housing opportunities to all age groups
4.2	Disability	Positive	The high quality homes will offer opportunities to better meet the need of residents with a disability
4.3	Gender	Neutral	
4.4	Gender Reassignment	Neutral	
4.5	Marriage and civil partnership	Neutral	
4.6	Pregnancy and maternity	Neutral	
4.7	Race	Neutral	
4.8	Religion or belief	Neutral	
4.9	Sexual orientation	Neutral	
4.10	Carer	Neutral	
4.11	Lowest income groups	Positive	The high proportion of affordable homes on the site will be targeted at households with lower/middle income levels
4.12	Veterans, Armed forces community	Neutral	

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	Positive	Opportunities to access family housing in the development will support children's educational rights
4.14	Right not to be subjected to torture, degrading treatment or punishment	Neutral	
4.15	Right to a fair and public hearing	Neutral	
4.16	Right to respect for private and family life, home and correspondence	Positive	New housing for market and affordable provision supports this right
4.17	Freedom of expression	Neutral	
4.18	Right not to be subject to discrimination	Neutral	
4.19	Other Rights	Neutral	

4.20	Additional space to comment on the impacts		



Section 5: Planning for Improvement

5.1	What have you changed in order to improve the impact of the proposal on the One Planet principles? (please consider the questions you marked either mixed or negative, as well as any additional positive impacts that may be achievable)
	Maximising the amount of affordable housing on the scheme achieves a positive impact across many of the dimensions of the One Planet Council decision marking tool

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

5.3	Going forward, what further evidence or consultation is needed to ensure the proposal delivers its intended benefits? e.g. consultation with specific vulnerable groups, additional data)
	Provision of affordable housing is a national central government priority with a significant evidence base demonstrating the range of benefits from successful delivery of additional, well designed affordable homes

5.4	Please record any outstanding actions needed to maximise benefits or minimise negative impacts in relation to this proposal? (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.