



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:	School Services
Name of person completing the assessment:	Mark Ellis
Job title:	Head of School Services
Directorate:	Children, Education & Communities
Date Completed:	14/08/19
Date Approved (form to be checked by head of service):	14/08/19

Section 1: What is the proposal?

1.1	Name of the service, project, programme, policy or strategy being assessed? Danesgate Community School - Academisation Land Issues
1.2	What are the main aims of the proposal? To confirm which land areas of the school will remain part of the school when it becomes an academy and joins the South York Multi Academy Trust
1.3	What are the key outcomes? To ensure the school has sufficient land and facilities to deliver the education requirements for those pupils who will attend the school.

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) Numbers, ages and needs of those pupils who attend the school both now and in the future. This will include the special educational need requirements for some of those pupils
2.2	What public / stakeholder consultation has been undertaken and what were the findings? Danesgate School Governing Body as part of the academisation process had to consult with its parental community and staff before deciding it wanted to convert to become an academy.

	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	No





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?	Neutral	Initially there will be no impact but the site does need to redevelopment work. There is the potential therefore that local businesses could be involved in the redevelopment of the site
3.2 Provide additional employment or training opportunities in the city?	Neutral	See above
3.3 Help improve the lives of individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds or underrepresented groups?	Positive	This school does provide education for some of the City's most vulnerable children therefore by enabling them to have access to the full school site as recommended will enable the school to continue to provide a flexible and varied curriculum

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?	Neutral	Staff and pupils will continue to have access to outdoor space and the local community will be encouraged to make use of the school facilities outside of normal school times
3.5 Help reduce health inequalities?	Neutral	The school does support some of the city's most vulnerable pupils including some with health needs. Access to existing facilities will continue to help support health improvements
3.6 Encourage residents to be more responsible for their own health?	Neutral	The school will continue to have access to playing fields and walled garden meaning it allows the school to support pupils in be responsibility for some of their own health needs
3.7 Reduce crime or fear of crime?	Neutral	Along with all schools across the city Danesgate will provide education to it pupils around subjects such as citizenship, where issues around reducing and the fear of crime will be part of the curriculum
3.8 Help to give children and young people a good start in life?	Positive	The specialist education facilities provided by Danesgate provides will enable those you people to access more specialist facilities for their needs

Culture & Community

Does your proposal?	Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.9 Help bring communities together?	Positive	There has always been a good relationship between the school and teh local community, recommendations contained within the paper should not affect this.
3.10 Improve access to services for residents, especially those most in need?	Positive	The specialist education provision provided by the Danesgate School will continue available to those youn people and children who require it.
3.11 Improve the cultural offerings of York?	Unsure	Danesgate School will continue to provide an appropriate curriculum which will include cultural elements. The facilities available at the school will enhance this
3.12 Encourage residents to be more socially responsible?	Positive	Some of the type of education provision being offered at Danesgate is around working with some young people who will need the message of social responsibility including within the education packages being provided

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?	Neutral	The buildings will become the responsibility of the South York Multi Academy Trust enabling them to consider options around energy saving options
3.14	Minimise the amount of water we use and/or reduce the amount of water we pay for?	Neutral	The building and land will become the responsibility of the South York Multi Academy Trust enabling them to look at the issue of water use on the site

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?		

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 council will work with the South York Multi Academy Trust to reduce the numbers of vehicles (home to school transport) accessing the site.
3.17	Help improve the quality of the air we breathe?	Positive	By reducing home to school transport vehicles, this will have a positive impact on air quality.

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?		The project will not impact positively or negatively on the environmental impact of goods and services used

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	The project will not impact positively or negatively on maximising opportunities to support local and sustainable food initiatives.

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?	Positive	Within the land transferring to the South York Multi Academy Trust and within the school grounds are the wall gardens and wooded areas which will continue to be used by the school and local residents if required.
3.21	Improve the quality of the built environment?	Neutral	The project will not impact positively or negatively on the built environment
3.22	Preserve the character and setting of the historic city of York?	Neutral	The project will not impact positively or negatively on the historic city of York.
3.23	Enable residents to enjoy public spaces?	Neutral	The project will not impact positively or negatively on enabling residents to enjoy public spaces.

3.40	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)
	Discussions with the South York Multi Academy Trust around the unique position of the school in and its relationship with the local community have taken place. The Trust recognise this and they therefore will continue to work alongside its local community to enable them where necessary to access the walled garded and woodlands areas. Also enabled previous education land to possibly become available for residents parking area.

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)
	In the short term this project is unlikely to have any immediate impact or improvement on equalities or human rights, however in the longer term the on-going relationship between the South York Multi Academy Trust and the council will allow for high quality specialist education provision to be delivered from Danesgate School

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)
	On-going communication between the South York Multi Academy Trust and the local community

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)

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.