

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:	Major Transport Projects
Name of person completing the assessment:	Brendan Murphy
Job title:	Senior Transport Project Manager
Directorate:	Economy and Place
Date Completed:	06/11/2018
Date Approved (form to be checked by head of service):	

Section 1: What is the proposal?

1.1	Name of the service, project, programme, policy or strategy being assessed? York Station Front Improvements
1.2	What are the main aims of the proposal? City of York Council (CYC), in collaboration with Network Rail (NR) and London North East Railway (LNER), has developed a masterplan that proposes to reorganise highway and public realm areas to the front of York Station through: <ul style="list-style-type: none">the removal of the Queen Street Road Bridge and rebuilding the Inner Ring Road at grade;
1.3	What are the key outcomes? A better and more organised arrival experience and transport interchange in York for users of all demographics

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) Traffic and pedestrian data and traffic models showing vehicle, cycle and pedestrian flows.
2.2	What public / stakeholder consultation has been undertaken and what were the findings? One month full public consultation across modern and traditional platforms. Key findings were: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- In total 14 stakeholder groups responded and over 1,400 comments were received from the general public. Responses were channelled through a variety of sources including social media, email and written responses, together with face-to-face meetings and

	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	York Central and York Station improvements scheme will form part of a broader upgrade of the area.

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	Improved access to York Station encouraging more travel to the area.
3.2 Provide additional employment or training opportunities in the city?	Positive	Improved access and to the station and raised profile to the city will encourage new businesses to the city.
3.3 Help improve the lives of individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds or underrepresented groups?	Positive	The reorganised station seeks to improve dramatically access to the station and reduce conflict with different forms of transport.

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	An easier to use station will reduce stress in station users. Better cycle access will encourage more healthier forms of travel too and from the station.
3.5 Help reduce health inequalities?	Positive	Through better station access
3.6 Encourage residents to be more responsible for their own health?	Positive	Simpler and more legible station and improved cycle facilities will encourage cycling and walking to the station.
3.7 Reduce crime or fear of crime?	Positive	Through anti-terror measures and providing a more open public realm.
3.8 Help to give children and young people a good start in life?	Unsure	N/A

Culture & Community

Does your proposal?	Impact	What are the impacts and how do you know?
3.9 Help bring communities together?	Positive	Better transport interchange will provide better station access and ease of travel.
3.10 Improve access to services for residents, especially those most in need?	Positive	The transport interchange and public realm spaces are designed with equality in mind.
3.11 Improve the cultural offerings of York?	Positive	The scheme will provide a much improved arrival experience sympathetic to the city's cultural heritage.
3.12 Encourage residents to be more socially responsible?	Neutral	N/A

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	More cyclists and pedestrians will reduce car use.
3.14	Minimise the amount of water we use and/or reduce the amount of water we pay for?	Neutral	N/A.

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?		
3.17	Help improve the quality of the air we breathe?		

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?	Unsure	

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	N/A.

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	The scheme will incorporate a soft landscape design, including trees and planting. This will encourage biodiversity.
3.21	Improve the quality of the built environment?	Positive	The scheme will incorporate a soft landscape design, including trees and planting. This will greatly enhance the area in front of the station.
3.22	Preserve the character and setting of the historic city of York?	Positive	Conservation architects have been engaged, along with a dialogue with Historic England and relevant stakeholders to present a design that is sympathetic to the heritage of the city.
3.23	Enable residents to enjoy public spaces?	Positive	Greatly enhanced public spaces will be created.

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	Improved public realm designed through consultation with older peoples groups creating greatly improved and inclusive areas.
4.2	Disability	Positive	Improved public realm designed through consultation with disability groups creating greatly improved and inclusive areas.
4.3	Gender	Neutral	N/A
4.4	Gender Reassignment	Neutral	N/A
4.5	Marriage and civil partnership	Neutral	N/A
4.6	Pregnancy and maternity	Neutral	N/A
4.7	Race	Neutral	N/A
4.8	Religion or belief	Neutral	N/A
4.9	Sexual orientation	Neutral	N/A
4.10	Carer	Neutral	N/A
4.11	Lowest income groups	Neutral	N/A
4.12	Veterans, Armed forces community	Neutral	N/A

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	Neutral	N/A
4.14	Right not to be subjected to torture, degrading treatment or punishment	Neutral	N/A
4.15	Right to a fair and public hearing	Neutral	N/A
4.16	Right to respect for private and family life, home and correspondence	Neutral	N/A
4.17	Freedom of expression	Neutral	N/A
4.18	Right not to be subject to discrimination	Neutral	N/A
4.19	Other Rights	Neutral	N/A

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)
	The scheme has been designed through careful consultation with a very diverse range of stakeholders and members of the public to create greatly enhanced and inclusive proposals.

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)
	Following detailed consultation with the public and disability groups, various elements to improve the legibility and usability will be incorporated into station access and public realm design.

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)
	A broad and diverse consultation process has already been carried out, the results of which have been analysed and a detailed statement of Community Involvement has been produced. This statement will be submitted as part of a full planning application.

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
Investigate an appropriate level of anti-terrorism response to incorporate into the landscape design	Senior Project Manager	Mar-19
Research methods to provide sustainable landscape and sustainable drainage options	Design Team	Mar-19
Continue to research and build an understanding of heritage in and around station	Design Team	Mar-19
Identify a philosophy to provide public art to enhance public engagement and wellbeing in the public realm	Design Team	Mar-19

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.