

Environmental Sustainability Full Impact Assessment

Impact Assessment Id: #386

1.0 Screening Information

Project Name

Relocation of Redditch Library

Name of Project Sponsor

Hannah Perrott

Name of Project Manager

Emily Morrall

Name of Project Lead

Rob Elmes

Please give a brief description of the project

In June 2021 Redditch secured a historic investment of £15.6 million Town Deal which will help fund ambitious new projects for the town. Plans involve the re-development of the current Redditch Library site which includes the demolition of the existing library building and the delivery of a new public square and associated commercial development. Worcestershire County Council is actively supporting the regeneration of Redditch within its Town Plan and wants to work collaboratively with the Borough Council on the re-location of the existing Library into other suitable premises. Early discussions have started with Redditch Borough Council to further develop the plan and approval is sought from Cabinet to approve the high level plans and set of requirements for the proposed newly located Library and authorise the commencement of public consultation.

The project purely involves relocation of the existing library services from their current location into a shared Community Hub space in Redditch Town Hall, a distance of 0.2 miles from the current library building.

Data Protection screening result

Does not need a full impact assessment

Equality and Public Health screening result

Does not need a full impact assessment

Environmental Sustainability screening result

Will require a full impact assessment

1.1 Background and Purpose

Background and Purpose of Project?

To support your answer to this question, you can upload a copy of the project's Business Case or similar document. Cabinet report to be uploaded when finalised. Due for publication on 14 September 2022.

Redditch Borough Council are submitting a bid to redevelop Redditch Town Centre. As a part of this bid, Redditch require support from Worcestershire County Council specifically on proposals to relocate library services from the current building in Redditch Town Centre into a new Community Hub at Redditch Town Hall. The town development including and building works and demolition are being led by Redditch Borough Council and as such will be subject to separate governance and impact assessments. This impact assessment focuses on the impact of relocation of library services only.

Upload Business Case or Support documents

No files uploaded

Project Outputs

Briefly summarise the activities needed to achieve the project outcomes.

The project involves the transfer of Library and DWP services from their current location in the dedicated Redditch Library building to a new space to be created within Redditch Town Hall. Worcestershire County Council are asked to approve the relocation of services, from a service delivery and financial perspective, and support the physical move from building to building. Building works and demolition of the current library building will be led by Redditch Borough Council.

Project Outcomes

Briefly summarise what the project will achieve.

The relocation of services will support ongoing development of Redditch Town Centre

Is the project a new function/service or does it relate to an existing Council function/service?

Existing

Was consultation carried out on this project?

Yes

1.2 Responsibility

Directorate/Organisation

People

Service Area

Communities

1.3 Specifics

Project Reference (if known)

Not Recorded

Intended Project Close Date *

May 2023

1.4 Project Part of a Strategic Programme

Is this project part of a strategic programme?

No

2 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Could the project result in an increase in GHG emissions (including CO2)? No

Please be mindful that the Council has committed to reduce its GHG emissions to zero by 2050 and most projects are likely to have an impact on this target. This should be a key consideration in your project delivery and should be reviewed when completing the assessment.

Have you undertaken an assessment of the project to know if there will likely be an increase in GHG emissions? No

3 Resources

Will the project result in increased consumption of electricity, gas or other heating fuels? No

e.g. project may require use of additional buildings, lighting and heating in buildings, additional ICT equipment, etc.

Will the project reduce energy needs and result in reduced consumption? Yes

e.g. disposal of WCC property assets

Will the project require additional water resources leading to an increase in water consumption? No

e.g. increased use of water through construction processes

Might there be a decrease in water consumption? Yes

e.g. will the project involve water saving measures or initiatives

Please explain your answer below:

Library services may see a reduction in water consumption when part of a shared building.

Will the project result in the use of other resources, materials or minerals? No

e.g. use of natural resources such as wood; or use of aggregate minerals?

4 Transport

Will the project result in more people needing to travel? No

e.g. will there be additional cars on the road

Have alternative transport modes been considered? No

e.g. could use be made of public transport/walking/cycling etc.

5 Waste

Is there likely to be an increase in waste as a result of the project? No

e.g. construction waste, packaging waste etc.

Have opportunities to prevent, minimise, reuse or recycle waste been identified and considered? No

e.g. will recycling facilities be available as part of the project

6 Wildlife and Biodiversity

Will there be any negative impacts on the natural environment? No

e.g. will the project involve removal of green space/trees; have wildlife surveys been considered; result in enhancements to green infrastructure; increased biodiversity opportunities etc.?

Has a preliminary ecological appraisal been undertaken? No

Has there been consideration of statutory assessments? No

e.g. Sustainability Appraisals, Strategic Environmental Assessments and Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening?

N.B. This is a matter of legal compliance - All plans and projects (including planning applications) which are not directly connected with, or necessary for, the conservation management of a habitat site, require consideration of whether the plan or project is likely to have significant effects on that site. This consideration – typically referred to as the 'Habitats Regulations Assessment screening' – should take into account the potential effects both of the plan/project itself and in combination with other plans or projects.

7 Pollution to land/air/water

Is there a risk of pollution to the local environment? No

e.g.

- will there be surface water run-off or discharge into local water source?
- will there be any impact on local water quality?
- will any waste water require treatment?
- is there the potential for spillage of chemicals?
- is there the potential for emissions to air from combustion processes resulting in poor air quality?

8 Resilience to climate risks

Could climate risks affect your project? No

N.B. some projects may be more sensitive to future changes in the climate e.g. hotter and drier summers; milder and wetter winters; increased likelihood of extreme weather events. These climate risks may affect project delivery and should be considered at the early stages of project development.

Has the impact of extreme weather events on the project been considered? No

e.g. heat waves and flooding.

Is there a business/project continuity plan in place to ensure climate risks are minimised? No

e.g. can you ensure that the project is resilient to climate risks and can continue to deliver on outcomes.

Could the project exacerbate climate risks? No

e.g. increase flood risk or worsen temperature extremes in the locality.

Will the project result in the use of other resources, materials or minerals? No

e.g. use of natural resources such as wood; or use of aggregate minerals?

9 Historic Environment

Have you checked with the WCC Historic Environment team as to whether there are any impacts on the Historic Environment (negative or positive)?

Yes

Check every development with the Historic Environment Team at the planning stage of each project. Further assessment may be required depending on the nature and scale of development. There may also be design options that would negate any need for further assessment (and lessen costs), or even opportunities to enhance heritage assets or their setting through the development.

Please explain your answer below:

There has been some debate about whether the existing Library Building should be added to the List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest. Confirmation was received on the 20 December 2021 that the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport has made his decision not to list and is minded to issue a Certificate of Immunity from Listing (COI) for Redditch Library.

Does the development have the potential to result in any impacts to the historic environment or opportunities for enhancement?

No

If yes, then further assessment will be required. This could take the form of a watching brief during groundworks if the potential is clearly understood and relatively low, or a more comprehensive desk-based and/or field investigation prior to development.

10 Procurement

Could any procurement associated with the project have a detrimental environmental impact? No

e.g. procurement of goods from overseas that have to be shipped; use of unsustainable materials or materials that cannot be recycled at the end of their use?

Is there likely to be increased Greenhouse Gas emissions from products purchased for the project? No

e.g. carbon emissions from transport and manufacturing

Will you be able to make use of sustainable products? No

e.g. recycled, local, ethical etc.

Have you considered the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012? No

All major contracts let by the Council (those of more than £100,000 in total value) will be expected to deliver a meaningful contribution to our vision of Social Value in the county. The Act requires us to consider how the services we commission and procure might improve the economic, social and environmental well-being of the local area.

– please see: [Social Value](#)

11 Declaration

I have confirmed that to the best of my knowledge that the information I have provided is true, complete and accurate

I have confirmed that I will make sure that Environmental Sustainability has been and continues to be considered throughout the project life cycle and should circumstances change in the project a further Environmental Sustainability Assessment Screening will be carried out.

12 Application Details

Last Updated Date Time

18/10/2022 15:04:32

Screening Submitted Date Time

31/08/2022 14:01:37

Last Reopened Date Time

No Date Recorded

Full Impact Submitted Date Time

18/10/2022 15:04:32

Approved/Rejected Date Time

No Date Recorded

Current User Dashboard Request Status

Submitted

13.0 People with access to the original screening

[Emily Morrall \(EMorrall@worcestershire.gov.uk\)](mailto:EMorrall@worcestershire.gov.uk)

13.1 People with access to this environmental sustainability assessment

[Emily Morrall \(EMorrall@worcestershire.gov.uk\)](mailto:EMorrall@worcestershire.gov.uk)

14 Direct Questions

No Questions Asked