

# Environmental Sustainability Full Impact Assessment

## Impact Assessment Id: #580

### 1.0 Screening Information

**Project Name**

Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS)

**Name of Project Sponsor**

Emily Barker

**Name of Project Manager**

Cody Levine

**Name of Project Lead**

Cody Levine

**Please give a brief description of the project**

LNRS are a statutory requirement from the Environment Act requiring the Secretary of State to appoint Responsible Authorities (WCC in the case of Worcestershire) to collaborate with the public and Supporting Authorities in production of a spatial plan for nature's recovery, establishing local priorities and locations for conservation and enhancement action which will also help deliver wider environmental benefits.

**Data Protection screening result**

Will require a full impact assessment

**Equality and Public Health screening result**

Will require 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.

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**Upload Business Case or Support documents**

No files uploaded

**Project Outputs**

Briefly summarise the activities needed to achieve the project outcomes.

Public consultation on a Statement of Biodiversity Priorities and Local Habitat Map setting out how and where Worcestershire will achieve nature's recovery

**Project Outcomes**

Briefly summarise what the project will achieve.

The LNRS, once adopted, will help influence land-use decision making, for example helping spatially focus Biodiversity Net Gain offsets and Environmental Stewardships.

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

New

**Was consultation carried out on this project?**

No

## 1.2 Responsibility

### Directorate/Organisation

Economy & Infrastructure

### Service Area

Major Projects & Waste

## 1.3 Specifics

### Project Reference (if known)

LNRS

### Intended Project Close Date \*

March 2025

## 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? No

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:

An output will be Local Habitat Map opportunity mapping illustrating appropriate locations for creation/restoration of wetland habitats suitable for surface water attenuation and flood alleviation

### 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? Yes**

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.?

**Please explain your answer below:**

in order to create and restore habitats land-use change may be required, LNRS will be subject to a Habitats Regulation Assessment and will also recommend that projects and site-level activities are supported by ecological assessments to be commissioned by project and site owners for legislative compliance

**Has a preliminary ecological appraisal been undertaken? No**

**Please explain your answer below:**

Not recorded

**Has there been consideration of statutory assessments? Yes**

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.

**Please explain your answer below:**

SEA has been commissioned and is currently undergoing consultation with statutory bodies. HRA will be commissioned as the LNRS moves from Issues and Options towards detailed reporting stage.

## 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? Yes**

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.

**Please explain your answer below:**

the success or failure in creation and restoration of habitats could be influenced by climatic change and detailed LNRS development will need to be informed by climate change vulnerability datasets

**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)?**

**No**

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.

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

**Yes**

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.

**Please explain your answer below:**

the strategy sets a land-use framework for the county (but does not compel land owners to undertake any specific activities) and therefore it is incumbent on individual land owners and project managers to commission site-levels surveys to ensure they remain legislatively and policy compliant

## 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

14/08/2023 14:54:49

### Screening Submitted Date Time

14/08/2023 14:44:00

### Last Reopened Date Time

No Date Recorded

### Full Impact Submitted Date Time

14/08/2023 14:54:49

### Approved/Rejected Date Time

No Date Recorded

### Current User Dashboard Request Status

Submitted

## 13.0 People with access to the original screening

[Cody Levine \(CLevine@worcestershire.gov.uk\)](mailto:CLevine@worcestershire.gov.uk)

## 13.1 People with access to this environmental sustainability assessment

[Cody Levine \(CLevine@worcestershire.gov.uk\)](mailto:CLevine@worcestershire.gov.uk)

## 14 Direct Questions

No Questions Asked