

## Equality Impact Assessment: Exeter's Greenhouse Gas Emissions 2022

The Equality Act 2010 includes a general duty which requires public authorities, in the exercise of their functions, to have due regard to the need to:

- **Eliminate discrimination**, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act.
- **Advance equality of opportunity** between people who share a relevant protected characteristic and people who do not share it.
- **Foster good relations** between people who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not

In order to comply with the general duty authorities must assess the impact on equality of decisions, policies and practices. These duties do not prevent the authority from reducing services where necessary, but they offer a way of developing proposals that consider the impacts on all members of the community.

Authorities which fail to carry out equality impact assessments risk making poor and unfair decisions which may discriminate against particular groups and worsen inequality.

Committee name and date:	Report Title	Decisions being recommended:	People with protected characteristics potentially impacted by the decisions to be made:
Strategic Scrutiny 5 December 2024	Exeter's Greenhouse Gas Emissions 2022	<p>Members note the latest Exeter GHG inventory report and support the work being undertaken to reduce city wide GHG emissions, led by the Programme Manager City Wide Net Zero.</p> <p>From data provided from the University of Exeter, the Centre for Energy and the Environment report (Appendix 1), members support the priority areas of focus going forward, which supports our</p>	<p>Race &amp; Ethnicity Disability Age Pregnancy and maternity</p>

Committee name and date:	Report Title	Decisions being recommended:	People with protected characteristics potentially impacted by the decisions to be made:
		communities and business community: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Power</li> <li>• Buildings</li> <li>• Industry</li> <li>• Transport</li> <li>• Waste</li> </ul>	

**Factors to consider in the assessment:** For each of the groups below, an assessment has been made on whether the proposed decision will have a **positive, negative or neutral impact**. This must be noted in the table below alongside brief details of why this conclusion has been reached and notes of any mitigation proposed. Where the impact is negative, a **high, medium or low assessment** is given. The assessment rates the impact of the policy based on the current situation (i.e. disregarding any actions planned to be carried out in future).

**High impact** – a significant potential impact, risk of exposure, history of complaints, no mitigating measures in place etc.

**Medium impact** – some potential impact exists, some mitigating measures are in place, poor evidence

**Low impact** – almost no relevancy to the process, e.g. an area that is very much legislation led and where the Council has very little discretion

Protected characteristic/ area of interest	Positive or Negative Impact	High, Medium or Low Impact	Reason
<b>Race and ethnicity</b> (including Gypsies and Travellers; migrant workers; asylum seekers).	Positive	High	There could be the potential for jobs for migrant workers within construction sector and others that support net zero and clean growth
<b>Disability:</b> as defined by the Equality Act – a person has a disability if they have a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse impact on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.	Positive	High	Buildings built to passivhaus standard in Exeter, would support mental health & wellbeing for individuals.
	Negative	High	If active and sustainable travel is the only option, those with a disability are unable to access services, to shop or to meet family & friends

Protected characteristic/ area of interest	Positive or Negative Impact	High, Medium or Low Impact	Reason
	Negative	High	If city car parks are used for alternative means, those less able may not be able to access city centre parking and use a car park not at their desired location, or to using park & ride.
	Negative	High	Those that are older or frail may need to keep their homes warm in colder times of the year – which has a negative impact on carbon emissions
	Positive	Medium	Some energy efficiency schemes support those who claim various benefits, dependant on eligibility criteria
	Negative	High	Some active & sustainable travel options may not be accessible to this with limited mobility
	Positive	medium	New EV charging infrastructure to be available and accessible for those with a disability
	Negative	High	Projects and actions related to climate change adaptations (such as extreme weather) need to take into account those with limited mobility
<b>Sex/Gender</b>			No impact
<b>Gender reassignment</b>			No impact
<b>Religion and belief</b> (includes no belief, some philosophical beliefs such as Buddhism and sects within religions).			No impact
<b>Sexual orientation</b> (including heterosexual, lesbian, gay, bisexual).			No impact
<b>Age</b> (children and young people aged 0-24; adults aged 25-50; younger older people aged 51-75/80; older people 81+; frail older people; people living with age related conditions. The	Positive	High	Delivering Net Zero across the city is likely to be embraced by younger people who live, study, work and socialise in Exeter.
	Negative	Medium	Some age categories may not engage with the aims and aspirations of Net Zero, and projects to deliver net zero.

Protected characteristic/ area of interest	Positive or Negative Impact	High, Medium or Low Impact	Reason
age categories are for illustration only as overriding consideration should be given to needs).	Negative	High	Those that are older or frail may need to keep their homes warm in colder times of the year – which has a negative impact on carbon emissions
	Positive	Medium	Some energy efficiency schemes support older people, dependant on eligibility criteria
	Positive	High	The building of new sustainable and active travel routes, would support positive mental health and wellbeing and increase accessibility for those less able
<b>Pregnancy and maternity</b> including new and breast feeding mothers	Positive	Medium	As a result of tackling the impacts of climate change there will be a healthier environment for expectant mothers, as well as the ability to walk/exercise in a safe environment.
<b>Marriage and civil partnership status</b>			

#### **Actions identified that will mitigate any negative impacts and/or promote inclusion**

- For each project Exeter City Council leads on in the delivery of the Net Zero Exeter 2030 Action Plan, an EQIA will be undertaken to ensure no project discriminates against any characteristic.

**Officer: Head of Service City centre & Net Zero**

**Date: 22 November 2024**