

EQIA Submission – ID Number

Section A

EQIA Title

Net Zero

Responsible Officer

Katie Jones - GT - ECE

Approved by (Note: approval of this EqIA must be completed within the EqIA App)

Helen Shulver - GT - ECE

Type of Activity

Service Change

No

Service Redesign

No

Project/Programme

No

Commissioning/Procurement

No

Strategy/Policy

Strategy/Policy

Details of other Service Activity

No

Accountability and Responsibility

Directorate

Growth Environment and Transport

Responsible Service

Environment and Circular Economy

Responsible Head of Service

Helen Shulver - GT - ECE

Responsible Director

Matthew Smyth - GT - ECE

Aims and Objectives

Kent County Council is committed to achieving Net Zero for its estate and operations (scope 1 & 2) by 2030. The existing Net Zero Plan, published in 2020, requires update to reflect current understanding, best practice, and context of the organisation.

The revised Net Zero Plan has been prepared by the Energy and Climate Change Team following an Internal Audit and full review of the current plan to reflect the challenges and realities of implementing different net zero projects. A 'stage gate' approach is proposed to enable individual projects to be progressed and deployed at different times (i.e. 'the right' time), ensuring the best solution to both maximise impact and value and minimise risk.

Given that much of the focus of the Net Zero Plan is based around achieving Net Zero for its estate and operations across KCC, it is anticipated that any impacts will be positive for residents, service users and staff with net zero improving health.

However, having undertaken this analysis, it is possible that the following might apply to certain groups with protected characteristics:

Residents, service users, or staff with visual impairments or learning disabilities, who are seeking to access guidance provided on KCC's website or public health messaging, will be disadvantaged if accessibility functions are not considered. Therefore, mitigating any negative impact will be resolved by consulting with the digital communications team to ensure that the correct resources are incorporated.

Similarly, certain age groups (both younger and older audiences) may not have access to the technology or digital skills to access online resources or messaging. Therefore, mitigating any negative impact will be resolved by exploring opportunities for providing non-digital copies to be provided to users that cannot access digital resources online, upon request.

Section B – Evidence

Do you have data related to the protected groups of the people impacted by this activity?

Yes

It is possible to get the data in a timely and cost effective way?

Yes

Is there national evidence/data that you can use?

Yes

Have you consulted with stakeholders?

Yes

Who have you involved, consulted and engaged with?

Environment board

Infrastructure

CPMG

Has there been a previous Equality Analysis (EQIA) in the last 3 years?

No

Do you have evidence that can help you understand the potential impact of your activity?

Yes

Section C – Impact

Who may be impacted by the activity?

Service Users/clients

Service users/clients

Staff

Staff/Volunteers

Residents/Communities/Citizens

Residents/communities/citizens

Are there any positive impacts for all or any of the protected groups as a result of the activity that you are doing?

Yes

Details of Positive Impacts

Overall, the impacts of the plan should benefit service users, residents, and KCC staff by reducing emissions having a positive impact on health, particularly impacting age and disability.

Age: Reduced emissions lead to reduced air pollution. This reduces the likelihood of a range of acute and chronic health conditions. This will benefit all ages, in particular children and people with existing medical conditions and obesity.

Disability: benefits from reduced air pollution minimising the likelihood of ill health or exacerbating existing conditions/disabilities.

Pregnancy/Maternity: children including the unborn foetus can be harmed by poor air quality. By reducing emissions it will have a positive effect on improving poor air quality.

Carer: reduction in emissions should have a positive impact on minimising instances of poor health and hence reduce the demand on carers due to a reduced likelihood that those being cared for will become unwell/ existing symptoms may be minimised.

Negative impacts and Mitigating Actions

19. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Age

Are there negative impacts for age?

Yes

Details of negative impacts for Age

Only in regards to reading the plan and associated documents, rather than the outcomes of the plan itself: Any resources provided digitally via the KCC website may not reach certain age groups due digital inaccessibility.

Mitigating Actions for Age

Non-digital copies to be provided to users that cannot access digital resources online, upon request.

Responsible Officer for Mitigating Actions – Age

Ben Hudson

20. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Disability

Are there negative impacts for Disability?

Yes

Details of Negative Impacts for Disability

Only in regards to reading the plan and associated documents, rather than the outcomes of the plan itself: Those with disabilities may have difficulty in accessing any resources that may be shared on KCC's website.

Mitigating actions for Disability

Any content listed on KCC's website must adhere to digital accessibility requirements. If content is uploaded to KCC's website, KCC's Digital Accessibility Team will be contacted prior to making a request for new material to be uploaded. If desired materials are found to be inaccessible, efforts will be made to ensure that materials are adjusted to meet digital accessibility requirements.

Responsible Officer for Disability

Ben Hudson

21. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Sex

Are there negative impacts for Sex?

No

Details of negative impacts for Sex

Not Applicable

Mitigating actions for Sex

Not Applicable

Responsible Officer for Sex

Not Applicable

22. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender

Are there negative impacts for Gender identity/transgender?

No

Negative impacts for Gender identity/transgender

Not Applicable

Mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender

Not Applicable

Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender

Not Applicable

23. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Race
Are there negative impacts for Race
No
Negative impacts for Race
Not Applicable
Mitigating actions for Race
Not Applicable
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Race
Not Applicable
24. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Religion and belief
Are there negative impacts for Religion and belief
No
Negative impacts for Religion and belief
Not Applicable
Mitigating actions for Religion and belief
Not Applicable
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Religion and Belief
Not Applicable
25. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation
Are there negative impacts for Sexual Orientation
No
Negative impacts for Sexual Orientation
Not Applicable
Mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation
Not Applicable
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation
Not Applicable
26. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity
Are there negative impacts for Pregnancy and Maternity
No
Negative impacts for Pregnancy and Maternity
Not Applicable
Mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity
Not Applicable
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity
Not Applicable
27. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
Are there negative impacts for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
No
Negative impacts for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
Not Applicable
Mitigating actions for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
Not Applicable
Responsible Officer for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
Not Applicable
28. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Carer's responsibilities
Are there negative impacts for Carer's responsibilities
No
Negative impacts for Carer's responsibilities
Not Applicable

Mitigating actions for Carer's responsibilities
Not Applicable
Responsible Officer for Carer's responsibilities
Not Applicable