

Committee Decisions Sustainability Impact Assessment Guidance and Form

SIA Guidance

Alongside considering other impacts (e.g. financial) of your proposed Council decision, you will need to consider the broader social and environmental impacts.

What is Sustainable Development

Sustainable development **does not** focus solely on environmental issues. Achieving sustainable development means securing a balance to deliver:

- Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone
- Effective protection of the environment
- Prudent use of natural resources
- Maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment.

What is Sustainability?

Sustainability is the process for ensuring the balance between the economic, social and environmental needs of a community. This could be for a single community or the whole of the Borough or communities beyond the Borough's boundary which may be affected by the decision being taken.

What is a sustainability impact?

Any change (good or bad) in the environment or a community resulting from a Council decision or activity (e.g. a new service or infrastructure project). Each potentially negative impact poses a risk to the success of the decision or activity being proposed.

Your proposed decision should be designed wherever possible to:

- Reduce solid and liquid waste and increase the re-use, recovery or recycling of waste
- Reduce energy and water demand and use of carbon-based fuels
- Improve energy, fuel and water efficiency
- Protect and create new beneficial habitats and re-introduce native species
- Reduce demand on the drainage or sewerage system
- Reduce the risk of local flooding and improve community resilience to flooding and extreme weather
- Improve access to local services and facilities
- Reduce traffic congestion and accidents
- Help the local economy, employment and skills
- Improve health and wellbeing
- Reduce crime and disorder.

Filling in the SIA form

A template form is attached to this guidance. The assessment needs to be undertaken at the early stages of planning the decision which you are putting forward for consideration by the relevant Council committee or panel. The SIA process takes approximately 15-20 minutes to complete.

Further guidance is available via <http://intranet.stedsbc.gov.uk/ems/1envmgmt.htm>

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SIA Form

Decision to be taken by the Council		Bury Road Car Park Land Swap	
SIA Form completed by		Richard Combes	
Date completed		Feb 2013	
	Will the Council decision or work leading to the Council decision:	Yes/No	Summarise what action will be taken to deal with any significant negative impact
1	Be subject to health and safety, environmental or social (e.g. anti-discriminatory or human rights) legislation or permissions which could result in legal action being taken against the Council if breached by the Council or those acting on its behalf (e.g. contractors)?	No	
2	Be likely to have a major negative impact on the environment, wildlife or habitats?	No	
3	Be likely to harm human health or cause a nuisance or major public concern to the local community?	No	
4	Be likely to result in damage to the cohesion of a community or communities, or cause crime and disorder?	No	
5	Adversely affect (please specify): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • waste management practices • energy or water demand and greenhouse gas emissions • habitats and native species • the drainage or sewerage system • the risk of flooding or community resilience (e.g. to flooding or extreme weather) • access to local services and facilities • traffic congestion and accidents • the local economy, employment and skills • health and wellbeing • crime and disorder. 	N/A	

Now e-mail your completed form to peter.gudde@stedsbc.gov.uk and incorporate any findings into your proposal. If your work is subject to reporting to the Council's Programme Board, please include a copy of the completed SIA with your Project Initiation Form. Thank you.