

## Herefordshire Council Environmental Impact Assessment Form

Name of proposal	Learning disability and complex needs services redesign (S1)
Directorate and Service Area	Adults & Communities - Commissioning
Saving £k	£ 1,500k
Name of Lead Officer(s)	Paul Smith, Assistant Director All Ages Commissioning Jas Kakkar, Care Commissioning Consultant Angela Wilson, Senior Project Manager

### Step 1: What is the proposal?

Please explain your proposal in plain English, avoiding acronyms and jargon.

#### 1.1 What is the proposal?

This project will review the pathways and commissioned services offered for individuals with a learning disability and/or complex needs who are under the age of 65, and develop new ways of meeting these individuals' needs while promoting better outcomes, independence, choice and control, and ensuring value for money.

The project will also review the costing model for supported living providers to ensure individual's outcomes continue to be met within the Council's financial envelope. Savings of £1.5million are expected through modernising commissioning, assessment and services delivery for clients with learning disability and complex needs.

### Step 2: What environmental aspects will be affected by the development and implementation of this proposal?

Air quality	X	Hazardous materials	
Biodiversity		Noise pollution	
Carbon emissions	X	Soil and water quality	
Flooding and climate resilience		Waste and recycling	
		Other	

If other please state:

Is this:

Review of an existing activity	X
New activity	
Planning to withdraw or reduce a service, activity or presence?	

### **Step 3: What information and evidence have you reviewed to help inform this assessment?**

For example name sources e.g. traffic assessments, carbon and energy calculations, air quality assessment, ecological surveys, waste analysis etc.

#### **3.1 What information and evidence have you reviewed to help inform this assessment?**

Carbon and energy calculations and air quality assessment.

#### **3.2 Summary of engagement or consultation undertaken**

Engagement will take place with social workers and service users as part of their individual reviews. This will allow social workers to have a conversation with service users on alternative ways to meet their needs; such as using technologies and a virtual offer. It should be noted that there may still be a need for a reduced building based provision and that 'one size will not fit all' due to the changing and complex needs of this service user group.

Engagement will also take place with providers to identify alternative ways to offer services and with the Council's Digital Programme and Talk Community and other relevant stakeholders.

#### **3.3 Summary of relevant findings**

The project will work to ensure it meets the Council's Carbon Management Plan to become carbon neutrality by 2030/31. This will be achieved through behavioural change, efficiencies and the use of technology. These principles are fundamental in redesigning the service offer and reducing our carbon footprint.

Care services are necessary for sustaining and improving wellbeing, yet they have an environmental footprint that contributes to environment-related threats to health. Bearing this in mind, improvements can be made by increasing efficiency at a delivery level, through the use of energy-efficient technologies and offering services that don't require the need for transportation and the use of buildings to meet the needs of individuals. The current service model for learning disabilities and complex needs is heavily dependent on delivery services in a building and requires service users to commute mostly using some form of transportation to the building in order to receive a service. To help reduce the carbon footprint and carbon emission it is imperative that through this project the service consider alternative ways to transform and redesign the

learning disabilities and complex needs offer for services users that still ensures they continue to meet their desired outcomes and live independently.

## Step 4: The impact of this proposal

### 4.1 The impact of this proposal

Please consider the potential impact of this activity (during development and implementation) on each of the key considerations outlined below. Please tick one or more impact box below for each and explain your rationale. Please note it is possible for the potential impact to be both positive and negative within the same group and this should be recorded.

	Potential <u>positive</u> impact	Potential <u>neutral</u> impact	Potential <u>negative</u> impact	Reasons
Air quality	Y			The project's aim of delivering learning disabilities and complex needs services in a different way is expected to aid in reducing poor air quality, as the project will be considering alternative ways of accessing services
Protection and enhancement of Biodiversity				
Carbon emissions	Y			The new Learning Disabilities and Complex Needs offer is expected to reduce vehicle emission, by ensuring the offer has a focus on alternative ways of service delivery through technology and virtual opportunities. In addition, the project will be looking at the modernisation of the accommodation model to ensure renewable energy, electricity and fuel are a key influencer in redesigning the future provision.
Flooding and climate resilience				
Use/management of hazardous materials				
Noise pollution				
Soil and water quality				
Waste and recycling				
Other				

**4.2 What actions will you take to mitigate any potential negative impacts?**

There is a small risk that the changes implemented may have an adverse effect on carbon emissions and air quality.

The benefits/adverse effects will be monitored as part of the project and form part of decisions made on redesign of the services.

**Step 5: Monitoring and Review**

**5.1 How will you monitor and review these actions?**

Environmental impacts (reducing carbon emissions and improving air quality) will be added as a non-financial benefit of the project, to be monitored with benefits.

Environmental impact will be considered as part of decisions on service changes. The project lead and project manager will monitor this.

This EnIA will be reviewed 6 months into Delivery of the project (September 2021), and at the end of Delivery (March 2022).

**Service Director sign-off:**

Paul Smith  
Assistant Director  
All Ages Commissioning



**Date:**

26 January 2021