

Environmental Sustainability Full Impact Assessment

Impact Assessment Id: #589

1.0 Screening Information

Project Name

Proposed increase of places at Special Schools for Sept 2023 (WF, FR, RH)

Name of Project Sponsor

Sarah Wilkins & Mel Barnett

Name of Project Manager

Rachel Kiernan

Name of Project Lead

Rachel Kiernan

Please give a brief description of the project

Demand for special school places has increased in Worcestershire and it is proposed to increase the places commissioned at Wyre Forest, Fort Royal and Rigby Hall to support our statutory duty to meet this sufficiency need.

Data Protection screening result

Does not need 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. The proposals include increasing the number of school places available at Wyre Forest, Rigby Hall and Fort Royal Special Schools.

Upload Business Case or Support documents

No files uploaded

Project Outputs

Briefly summarise the activities needed to achieve the project outcomes.

No additional accommodation is required at Rigby Hall.

An additional classroom is required at Fort Royal, an existing double classroom block is being converted into three classrooms.

Additional space is being provided at Wyre Forest, through relocating pupils and staff from St Johns Primary School, who currently share space, to new accommodation on the St Johns Primary School site.

Project Outcomes

Briefly summarise what the project will achieve.

The number of school places at each school will increase for September 2023:

Fort Royal from 200 to 256, Rigby from 163 to 220, and Wyre Forest from 300 to 354.

These place will be allocated to children and young people awaiting a special school place.

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

Existing

Was consultation carried out on this project?

Yes

1.2 Responsibility

Directorate/Organisation

Worcestershire Children First

Service Area

Education and Early Years

1.3 Specifics

Project Reference (if known)

Not Recorded

Intended Project Close Date *

September 2023

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)? Yes

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.

Please explain your answer below:

More pupils on a school site may result in more energy being consumed.

Have you undertaken an assessment of the project to know if there will likely be an increase in GHG emissions? No

Please explain your answer below:

Not recorded

3 Resources

Will the project result in increased consumption of electricity, gas or other heating fuels? Yes

e.g. project may require use of additional buildings, lighting and heating in buildings, additional ICT equipment, etc.

Please explain your answer below:

More pupils on a school site is likely to result in more consumption of fuels.

Will the project reduce energy needs and result in reduced consumption? No

e.g. disposal of WCC property assets

Please explain your answer below:

Not recorded

Will the project require additional water resources leading to an increase in water consumption? Yes

e.g. increased use of water through construction processes

Please explain your answer below:

More pupils on a school site is likely to result in additional water resource and increased water consumption

Might there be a decrease in water consumption? No

e.g. will the project involve water saving measures or initiatives

Will the project result in the use of other resources, materials or minerals? Yes

e.g. use of natural resources such as wood; or use of aggregate minerals?

Please explain your answer below:

Physical adaptations to existing buildings are required at Fort Royal and Wyre Forest. Building resources are required to deliver the changes needed.

4 Transport

Will the project result in more people needing to travel? Yes

e.g. will there be additional cars on the road

Please explain your answer below:

More pupils at each school will be travelling to school, some will be transported using existing modes of transport eg.. school buses or taxis. Others may be transported by parent carers. Each school works with Education Transport and parent carers to mitigate the number of vehicles dropping off and collecting pupils each day.

Have alternative transport modes been considered? Yes

e.g. could use be made of public transport/walking/cycling etc.

Please explain your answer below:

Education Transport and schools consider the options available for their pupils.

5 Waste

Is there likely to be an increase in waste as a result of the project? Yes

e.g. construction waste, packaging waste etc.

Please explain your answer below:

Building works will create construction waste.

Have opportunities to prevent, minimise, reuse or recycle waste been identified and considered? Yes

e.g. will recycling facilities be available as part of the project

Please explain your answer below:

Recycling facilities are already available on school sites. Existing furniture and storage will be reutilised where possible.

6 Wildlife and Biodiversity

Will there be any negative impacts on the natural environment? No

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.?

Has a preliminary ecological appraisal been undertaken? No

Has there been consideration of statutory assessments? No

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.

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? No

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.

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? Yes

e.g. use of natural resources such as wood; or use of aggregate minerals?

Please explain your answer below:

Physical adaptations to existing buildings are required at Fort Royal and Wyre Forest. Building resources are required to deliver the changes needed.

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?

No

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.

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

22/08/2023 12:28:46

Screening Submitted Date Time

21/08/2023 19:35:46

Last Reopened Date Time

22/08/2023 12:10:36

Full Impact Submitted Date Time

22/08/2023 12:23:03

Approved/Rejected Date Time

22/08/2023 12:28:46

Current User Dashboard Request Status

Complete

13.0 People with access to the original screening

[Rachel Kiernan \(rkiernan@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk\)](mailto:rkiernan@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk)

13.1 People with access to this environmental sustainability assessment

[Rachel Kiernan \(rkiernan@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk\)](mailto:rkiernan@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk)

14 Direct Questions

Question:

Hi Rachel, as discussed

Section 3. Will the project require additional water resources leading to an increase in water consumption? increasing pupils will likely increase water consumption so suggest this is a yes.

I'll be able to accept the submission once this is completed. Many Thanks, Anna

Asked by Anna Wardell-Hill (AWardellHill@worcestershire.gov.uk) at 22/08/2023 12:10:30

Rachel Kiernan (rkiernan@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk) has been asked this question.

Currently Unanswered

Add Response