

An assessment must be completed for all key decisions included in the Forward Plan.

Stage 1 This stage determines whether a full assessment is required

1.1 Description of the proposed decision

To adopt the Core Strategy Development Plan Document, having taken on board recommendations made in the Inspector's Binding Report. The Core Strategy is the Council's high level strategic planning document setting out the Council's intentions for the location, amount and type of future development in Rossendale.

1.2 Will the proposed decision have the effect of flora and fauna of either increasing or reducing the range of species and habitats within the Borough?

Yes No

If no, proceed no further if yes continue to stage 2

Stage 2 This stage helps understand whether any impact on biodiversity is positive or negative.

2.1 Will the proposed decision have a positive or negative impact on biodiversity? (A positive impact would increase the range of species or habitats or increase the protection of existing habitats, a negative impact would do the opposite.)

Positive Negative

2.2 Describe the impact, in particular drawing attention to scale. For example removing the only habitat in the North West for a particular plant is clearly of great significance, whereas a negative impact on a very common plant is of less significance.

The Core Strategy contains policies which seek to increase the overall amount, quality and interconnectedness of habitats within the Borough, and the connectivity between habitats inside and outside of the Borough. A full Sustainability Appraisal was undertaken of each of the policies, as was a Habitat Regulations Assessment to consider impacts on European designated sites (none of which were within the Borough). A full assessment will be undertaken for policies and projects which will arise as a consequence of the Core Strategy DPD.

If the impact is positive you need go no further.

Stage 3 This stage allows any negative impact to be balanced against the other positive benefits of the proposed decision using the framework created by the wellbeing power set out in the Local Government Act 2000

3.1 Indicate the benefits which will be delivered by this decision under the following headings. As far as possible quantify benefits (eg by jobs created).

Economic N/A

Environmental N/A

Social N/A

3.2 Are there steps which are planned or could be taken to mitigate the impact on biodiversity (eg relocating certain species during building work).

N/A

Stage 4 This stage sets out the balance between the negative impacts on biodiversity and the other positive impacts so that Councillors can make an informed decision.

Positive impacts
(eg X jobs created)
N/A

Negative Impacts
(eg acres of habitat lost)
N/A

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