

The Climate Impacts Framework - MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS

The Council have declared a Climate Emergency with a goal for the Borough to be net carbon neutral by 2030, which means we must find ways to reduce our carbon emissions.

Buildings (new and existing) and transport are major contributors to greenhouse gas emissions and so it is crucial that new development considers the climate emergency. The Local Plan is a key tool to help us reduce carbon emissions and adapt to climate change, and Core Policy CP5 sets that all development must consider climate through its design and evidence this through the Climate Impact Framework (CIF). This will help make sure that climate considerations are embedded in planning's decision making.

The CIF is explained in full detail through the CIF Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). The SPD supports Local Plan Policy CP5: Climate Change and the wider objectives and policies of the Local Plan, by providing guidance on a variety of design considerations that can help us reduce carbon emissions and make us more resilient to a rapidly changing climate. **Developers are expected to use the Local Plan, and the CIF SPD, to guide what will be expected from a development in respect of the climate emergency and to demonstrate climate change resilience and adaptation has been appropriately considered.**

For all relevant applications, this CIF Form must be completed and submitted with your planning application. All relevant questions must be completed (or marked as not applicable) The form will automatically assign Red, Amber and Green ratings to different elements of the scheme to determine the sustainability of the proposed development by how well it meets, exceeds (or fails against) local planning policies. For the proposed development to be considered acceptable against Policy CP5, the ratings for each question should achieve Amber or Green status (or not applicable). The Applicant should seek to achieve Amber or Green status prior to the formal submission of an application to the Local Authority. **Red ratings do not mean your application will be refused.** However, red ratings will not be acceptable unless there are exceptional circumstances to justify departure, and where a red rating remains following further discussions between the Applicant and the Local Authority, appropriate weighting will be given to the red ratings and unacceptable impacts through the planning assessment/determination process in consideration of the acceptability of the proposals considered against all other relevant Local Plan policies.

How to complete the CIF

The Climate Impact Framework (CIF) acts as an assessment tool for both the Applicant and the Local Authority to assess the predicted impacts of the proposed development in relation to climatic factors against the relevant policy framework.

Guidance:

The 'Climate Impact Framework' Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) has been prepared to provide guidance on how developments should be designed to mitigate and adapt to climate change. The document should ideally be used to inform the development proposal from its early stages of design. Guidance on how to complete the CIF assessment can be found through the SPD, or through each of the CIF tabs in this tool – whether in text boxes, as 'hover-over' links, or direct web links.

Mapping:

An online mapping tool has been created to support the CIF, and help provide answers to the questions which require identification of distances to services, heat networks etc - as shown within the CIF form. The mapping can be found at [AURORA](#). Guidance on how to use the mapping tool can be found within the CIF SPD.

The Applicant:

The Applicant should complete the yellow boxes within the CIF form. Red/Amber/Green ratings will be automatically assigned based on the answers provided and how they relate to Local Plan policies and the guidance in the SPD. Where relevant, further supporting commentary to justify the rating should be provided in the 'Assessment Conclusions/Additional Supporting Commentary' section of the form to assist planning officers. Applicants should also identify where information can be found in the planning application's supporting information. All questions should be answered (or marked as not applicable). Following completion, the form should be saved and emailed to planning@blackburn.gov.uk.

The Local Authority:

Upon receipt of the completed CIF from the Applicant, the Local Authority will check the CIF form to assess the proposals. Where there are areas of difference or where information is not clear or not provided, the Local Authority will liaise with the Applicant to seek further information or clarity. Where, through negotiations, details of the proposed scheme change, the officer may update the CIF form to ensure answers provided through it remain accurate. The CIF 'RAG' summary will be included in the officer or committee report to show the climate emergency has been considered as part of the decision making process.

Assessment:

The CIF is split into the following categories:

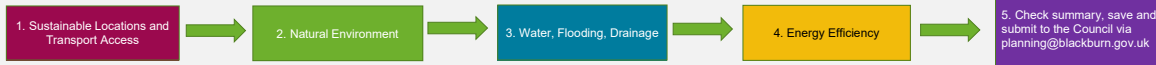
1. Sustainable Transport
2. Natural Environment
3. Flooding/SUDS
4. Energy

A note on assessments,

Typically, the assessments assign colours as shown by the box to the right and are designed to be broadly indicative of how well a development accords with policy and/or guidance. For example, Policy CP6(5) encourages developments to achieve the Building with Nature award, but there is no formal policy requirement for developments to do so. Therefore, in the RAG assessments, developments that achieve the award will be assessed positively (dark green), but no accreditation will not result in a negative assessment (red) because there is no specific policy requirement. Conversely, Policy DM17(3) requires the loss of trees to be replaced at a 3:1 ratio, and so failure to replace at this ratio will result in a negative assessment against policy (red), although justification text can be prepared to explain the deviation from policy requirements.

- Exceeds local policy requirements
- Meets local policy requirements
- Meets local policy guidance / doesn't fail policy requirements
- Fails to meet local policy requirements
- Not applicable / no formal policy requirement

Begin CIF Assessment



Section 1. Sustainable Locations and Transport Access (1 of 4)

INTERNAL USE ONLY

Why is this important?

Planning can support a shift in transport and travel behaviour to reduce private car usage and carbon emissions, improve air quality, promote active travel and encourage health improvement opportunities. The Council will give positive weight to those development proposals that have good connections to local transport, services and amenities and support 20 minute neighbourhoods. Your responses should indicate whether the development proposal is within short distance of transport services, key services and existing retail centres (designated as town, district or local). You can provide any additional comments in the accompanying comments field, and specify any relevant supporting information submitted with your application.

What information can I use?

Information can be sourced from our online mapping, and from supporting documents to your planning application, including:

- o Planning Statement,
- o Design and Access Statement,
- o Transport Assessment/Statement

How to complete:

Complete the yellow boxes below. The RAG assessments will calculate automatically.

CIF Questions

Your responses (please complete the yellow boxes)

Supporting Policy, Guidance and Mapping Links

RAG Assessment

		Response - please select an answer from the drop down box	Additional / supporting comments - including any explanation of why you consider the development to be sustainable	Supporting documents - detail where evidence / further information may be found	Mapping Link Available?	Relevant Local Plan Policies / Additional guidance	Specific Policy Requirements / Why it matters	Things to consider	RAG Score
Bus services	1.1	Is the proposed development within 800 metres of an existing bus stop?				CP3: Health and wellbeing CP5: Climate Change CP9: Transport and Accessibility CP11: Town Centres & Commercial Development		Things to consider	0
	1.2	Is the creation of new or enhancement of existing bus stops proposed through the development?							0
Rail services	1.3	Is the proposed development within 800 metres of an existing rail station?			ACCESS MAPPING	DM1: Health DM16: Green and Blue Infrastructure DM29: Transport and Accessibility DM34: District & Local Centres	Specific Policy Requirements / Why does this matter?	Things to consider	0
Cycling	1.4	Is the proposed development within 800 metres of an existing/proposed cycle path or route?							0
	1.5	Is the creation of new, or enhancement of existing, cycle paths proposed through the development?				0			
Services & Amenities	1.6	Is the proposed development within 800m of a retail centre (town or district or local centre)?			ACCESS MAPPING		Specific Policy Requirements / Why does this matter?	Things to consider	0
	1.7	Is the proposed development within 800m of a primary school?							0
	1.8	Is the proposed development within 800m of a GP?							0
	1.9	Does the proposed development introduce any new services? For example, local retail, GPs, schools.							0
General Transport	1.10	Will the proposal contribute to the enhancement of sustainable transport in any way (e.g. through S106 contributions or design)?				CP9: Transport and Accessibility	Specific Policy Requirements / Why does this matter?	Things to consider	0
	1.11	If required, has a Travel Plan been provided? (see Policy CP9(2))							0
	1.12	If required, has a Transport Assessment / Statement provided? (see Policy CP9(2))							0
Electric vehicle charging points (EVs / EVCPs)	1.13	Does the proposed development provide appropriate provision for electric vehicle charging points (EVCPs) in line with the appropriate parking standards? (Until BwD requirements are set through an updated Parking Standards SPD this will be Building Regulation Standard. The BwD Air Quality Planning Advisory Note provides further information.)				DM29: Transport and Accessibility	Specific Policy Requirements / Why does this matter?	Things to consider	0
Cycle parking	1.14	Does the proposed development provide an appropriate level of cycle parking, as specified in the latest Parking Standards?				Planning Advisory Note: Air Quality (July 2018)	Specific Policy Requirements / Why does this matter?	Things to consider	0

Section 2. Natural Environment (2 of 4)

INTERNAL USE ONLY

Why is this important?

The Climate Emergency and the Nature Emergency are closely intertwined, and we can't solve one without the other. Nature is a critical ally in the fight against climate change. Addressing climate change and biodiversity need to be considered together, and Nature-based solutions (NBS) can help us both reduce carbon emissions and allow nature to prosper. Addressing nature alongside climate change, can bring environmental, social and economic benefits.

What information can I use?

Information can be sourced from our online mapping, and from supporting documents to your planning application, including:

- o Planning Statement,
- o Design and Access Statement,
- o Biodiversity Metrics
- o Biodiversity Statement
- o Tree Surveys
- o Landscaping proposals

How to complete:

Complete the yellow boxes below. The RAG assessments will calculate automatically.

CIF Questions

Your responses (please complete the yellow boxes)

Supporting Policy, Guidance and Mapping Links

RAG Assessment

		Response - please select an answer from the drop down box	Additional / supporting comments - including any explanation of why you consider the development to be sustainable	Supporting documents - detail where evidence / further information may be found.	Mapping Link Available?	Relevant Local Plan Policies / Additional Guidance	Specific Policy Requirements / Why it matters	Things to consider	RAG Score
Biodiversity	2.1	Is your development required to provide Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)?							0
	2.2	If Yes to Q2.1, does the proposed development provide a minimum of 10% biodiversity net gains?				Environment Act 2021; CP6: Natural Environment;	Specific Policy Requirements / Why does this matter?		0
	2.3	If Yes to Q2.1, is BNG to be provided on site, off-site, or a combination of the two? Or national credits?				DM15: Protecting and Enhancing Wildlife Habitats; DM27: Design in New Development		Things to consider	0
	2.4	Are other design features included, for example bird boxes, swift bricks, bat boxes, hedgehog highways, hibernacula or ponds/SuDS?				BNG Planning Advisory Note	Specific Policy Requirements / Why does this matter?		0
	2.5	If a major residential scheme, does the proposed development achieve a Building with Nature Design Award?							0
Trees & Woodlands	2.6	Does the proposed development result in the loss of trees on site?							
	2.7	If Yes, How many trees are to be lost?							
	2.8	Does the proposed development include new tree planting?							
	2.9	If Yes, how many trees are to be planted?				DM16: Green and Blue Infrastructure DM17: Trees and Woodland	Specific Policy Requirements / Why does this matter?	Things to consider	
	2.10	Net change (auto-calculated)	0			Tree and Woodland Strategy			
2.11	Ratio (auto-calculated, policy requires min 1:3 = 0.33)	#DIV/0!						#DIV/0!	
Soils	2.12	Is the site allocated on carbon rich (peat) soils?				CP6: Natural Environment	Specific Policy Requirements / Why does this matter?	Things to consider	0
	2.13	If Yes, is there mitigation of restoration / enhancement proposed?							0
	2.14	Is the proposed development located on high quality agricultural land (Grade 1,2,3a)				ACCESS MAPPING			0
Air Quality	2.15	Is the proposed development located in an AQMA?				CP6: Natural Environment	Specific Policy Requirements / Why does this matter?	Things to consider	
	2.16	If Yes, is any mitigation of air quality proposed?				DM2: Protecting living and working environments			0

Section 3. Water, Flooding and Drainage (3 of 4)

INTERNAL USE ONLY

Why is this important?

Changing weather patterns are expected to bring wetter weather, with the potential for flooding, and drier weather, with the potential for drought. It is increasingly important to responsibly manage water as a vital and precious resource. Managing water at a local level, for example harvesting and storing rain water, can help alleviate flood and drought and reduce carbon emissions. Rivers, streams, canals, reservoirs, watercourses etc are also an essential part of green/blue infrastructure, acting as habitat and corridors for wildlife, providing active travel and leisure opportunities, and helping cool surrounding air in a warming climate. There can be a range of opportunities to link new developments to blue infrastructure, for example by improving cycle and pedestrian links to canals and river ways.

What information can I use?

Information can be sourced from our online mapping, and from supporting documents to your planning application, including:

- o Planning Statement
- o Design and Access Statement
- o Flood Risk Assessment
- o Drainage Assessment

How to complete:

Complete the yellow boxes below. The RAG assessments will calculate automatically.

CIF Questions

Your responses (please complete the yellow boxes)

	Response - please select an answer from the drop down box	Additional / supporting comments - including any explanation of why you consider the development to be sustainable	Supporting documents - detail where evidence / further information may be found.
Fluvial Flood Risk	3.1 Is the site located within the Environment Agency's designated Flood Zone 2 or 3 areas?		
	3.2 Is the site at other risk of fluvial flooding (e.g. river, stream)?		
	3.3 If 'Yes' to Q3.1 or Q3.2, is mitigation proposed?		
Other Flood Risk	3.4 Is the site at risk of pluvial (rainfall) or surface water flooding?		
	3.5 Is the site at risk of sewer flooding?		
	3.6 Is the site at risk of groundwater flooding?		
	3.7 Is the site at risk of reservoir flooding?		
	3.8 If 'Yes' to Q3.4, Q3.5, Q3.6 or Q3.7, has the risk been mitigated to provide a flood resilient design?		
	3.9 If a Flood Risk Assessment is required, has one been undertaken and provided with this application?		
Natural Drainage	3.10 Does the proposed development include SuDS / Natural Flood Management (NFM)?		
	3.11 Have any of the following SuDS / NFM techniques been included in the design? Greywater / Rainwater recycling Rain gardens Bio-retention tree pits / landscaping Soakaways Swales Attenuation ponds Green roofs / walls Water butts Permeable surfaces Other (please state)		
Blue Infrastructure	3.12 Is the development expected to have a negative impact on blue infrastructure?		
	3.13 If Yes, have mitigation measures been proposed?		
Water Quality	3.14 Is the development expected to have a negative impact on water quality?		
	3.15 If Yes, have mitigation measures been proposed?		
Water Efficiency	3.16 If this is a residential development, will each unit achieve a water efficiency of 110 litres per person per day?		

Supporting Policy, Guidance and Mapping Links

RAG Assessment

Mapping Link Available?	Relevant Local Plan Policies / Additional Guidance	Specific Policy Requirements / Why it matters	Things to consider	RAG Score
ACCESS, MAPPING	CP5: Climate Change DM13: Flooding/SuDS DM28: Development affecting watercourses, bodies and catchment land	Specific Policy Requirements / Why does this matter?	Things to consider	0 0 0 0 0 0 0
	DM13: Flooding/SuDS DM16: Green and Blue Infrastructure DM27: Design in new developments DM28: Development affecting watercourses, bodies and catchment land	Specific Policy Requirements / Why does this matter?	Things to consider	0
	CP6: The Natural Environment DM16: Green and Blue Infrastructure	Specific Policy Requirements / Why does this Matter?	Things to consider	0
	CP6: The Natural Environment DM15: Protection and enhancement of wildlife habitats DM28: Development affecting	Specific Policy Requirements / Why does this matter?	Things to consider	0
	DM3: Housing mix, standards & densities	Specific Policy Requirements / Why does this matter?	Things to consider	0

Section 4. Energy Efficiency (4 of 4)

INTERNAL USE ONLY

Why is this important?

Energy efficiency, clean energy and renewable and low carbon energy schemes have a key role to play in promoting more sustainable forms of development, improving energy efficiency and reducing the production of greenhouse gases. This brings additional benefits, such as reduced fuel bills for households, particularly against a backdrop of rising energy prices. Improving energy efficiency can therefore help tackle issues like fuel poverty and help to rebalance climate inequalities.

What information can I use?

Information can be sourced from our online mapping, and from supporting documents to your planning application, including:

- o Planning Statement,
- o Design and Access Statement,
- o Energy Statement
- o Sustainability Statement

Potential liaison

Local Authority liaison may be required (depending upon the proposal) with the following consultees:

- o Environmental Protection, Energy Providers/Assessors

How to complete:

Complete the yellow boxes below. The RAG assessments will calculate automatically.

CIF Questions

Your responses (please complete the yellow boxes)

		Response - please select an answer from the drop down box	Additional / supporting comments - including any explanation of why you consider the development to be sustainable	Supporting documents - detail where evidence / further information may be found.
Energy Hierarchy & "Fabric First" approach	4.1	Has the proposed development considered the energy hierarchy?		
	4.2	Have any of the following been considered through design? Orientation Layout Shading Ventilation Materials Glazing / daylight Thermal Mass Other		
Energy Efficiency, Enhanced Emissions & Renewable or Low Carbon Energy	4.3	Does the proposed development provide energy efficiency measures above Building Regulations?		
	4.4	Does the proposed development include any renewable or low carbon energy generation?		
	4.5	If Yes, What type of energy will be provided? Solar Wind Air source heat pump Ground source heat pump Heat network Other		
Heat network	4.6	Is the proposed development in an area marked as a district heat network?		
	4.7	Is the proposed development connected, or can be connected, to a district heat network?		
Residential Accreditation	4.8	If residential development, has any accreditation been achieved? (e.g. If 'other', please state		
Commercial Accreditation	4.9	If commercial development, above 2500sqm, has any accreditation been achieved? (e.g. BREEAM) If 'other', please state		

Supporting Policy, Guidance and Mapping Links

RAG Assessment

Mapping Link Available?	Relevant Local Plan Policies	Specific Policy Requirements / Why it matters	Things to consider	RAG Score
	CP3: Health and Wellbeing CP5: Climate Change DM12: Clean and Green Energy DMZ7: Design in new developments	Specific Policy Requirements / Why does this matter?	Things to consider	0
	CP3: Health and Wellbeing CP5: Climate Change DM12: Clean and Green Energy DMZ7: Design in new developments	Specific Policy Requirements / Why does this matter?	Things to consider	0
ACCESS MAPPING	DM12: Clean and Green Energy	Specific Policy Requirements / Why does this matter?	Things to consider	0
	CP3: Health and Wellbeing CP5: Climate Change DM12: Clean and Green Energy	Specific Policy Requirements / Why does this matter?	Things to consider	0

NB. It is intended that these will link directly to the policies in the Plan, once adopted.

Section 5. Application details / Summary checks

(Version 1.1)

Application details

Planning portal number (if known)	
Planning application reference (if known)	
Site Address of Proposed Development	
Proposed Development Description	
Development Type	
Applicant Name	
Agent Name	
Completed by (Applicant/Agent/Local Authority)	
Date of completion	

Please answer this question
 Please answer this question
 Please select from the drop down
 Please answer this question
 Please answer this question
 Please answer this question
 Please answer this question

There are still 7 questions you have not answered!

Climate Impacts Framework Summary Sheet

Question	Sustainable Transport -Services - Accessibility	Rating (R/A/G)
1.1	Accessibility to a bus stop (800m)?	0
1.2	Creation /enhancement bus stops?	0
1.3	Accessibility to a rail station (800m)?	0
1.4	Accessibility to a cycle route (800m)	0
1.5	Creation /enhancement cycling routes?	0
1.6	Accessibility to a local retail/commercial centre (800m)?	0
1.7	Accessibility to a primary school (800m)?	0
1.8	Accessibility to a GP (800m)?	0
1.9	Creation of new services/amenities?	0
1.10.	Creation / enhancement of sustainable transport?	0
	Natural Environment	Rating (R/A/G)
2.2	Achieves minimum of 10% BNG?	0
2.3	Delivers BNG on-site or off-site?	0
2.11	Achieves minimum of 3:1 tree replacement (where applicable)?	#DIV/0!
2.13	Mitigation if site located on carbon-rich (peat) soils?	0
2.14	Site located on high quality agricultural land?	0
	Flooding - Drainage - Water	Rating (R/A/G)
3.1	Site located in Flood Zone 2/3	0
3.2	Site at other risk of fluvial flooding?	0
3.4	Site at risk of pluvial or surface water flooding?	0
3.10.	SuDS or NFM measures proposed?	0
3.14	Mitigation if site likely to impact negatively on water quality?	0
	Energy	Rating (R/A/G)
4.1	Considered energy hierarchy?	0
4.3	Building Regulations standards for energy efficiency exceeded?	0
4.4	Includes renewable or low carbon energy?	0
4.8	Residential accreditation obtained?	0
4.9	Commercial accreditation obtained?	0

Indicative RAG Ratings

- (Dark Green) Exceeds local policy requirements
- (Green) Meets local policy requirements
- (Amber) Meets local policy guidance / doesn't fail policy requirements
- (Red) Fails to meet local policy requirements
- (Grey) Not applicable

Once complete, please check all details and save this workbook and send to planning@blackburn.gov.uk

Please also supply a PDF copy of this workbook.

Version Log

- 1.0 Draft CIF Tool
Tool was consulted on in Autumn 2023
- 1.1 Final CIF Tool (Adopted)
 - Details of changes outlined in consultation statement and summary of representations