Project / Proposal Name or Reference: Civic Quarter - Guildhall

26/10/2026 **Your Name: Jaques van der vyver**

1. IMPACT ON CARBON EMISSIONS (MITIGATION OF CLIMATE CHANGE)

	HOW WILL THIS PROJECT/PROPOSAL AFFECT THE FOLLOWING KEY AREAS:	WHAT IS THE IMPACT CONSIDERED TO BE? *See guidance in the purple box, below, to help you assess the degree of the negative and positive impacts e.g. High, Medium or Low*		CLIMATE CHANGE RATING: *Use drop down list*	WILL THE PROJECT MOVE CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL CLOSER TO THE OBJECTIVE OF BEING NET ZERO CARBON BY 2030? *Use drop down list*	WILL THE PROJECT MOVE THE CITY CLOSER TO THE OBJECTIVE OF A NET ZERO CARBON CAMBRIDGE BY 2030? *Use drop down list*	PLEASE DETAIL HERE THE ACTION THAT WILL BE TAKEN TO AVOID, MITIGATE OR COMPENSATE FOR THE NEGATIVE IMPACTS AND MAXIMISE POSITIVE IMPACTS?		HAS A NET ZERO CARBON OPTION BEEN CONSIDERED? PLEASE PROVIDE DETAILS.
1	ENERGY USE	Positive Impact:	Energy use will be reduced or renewable energy will be used	Medium Positive	Yes	Yes	**Consider:** ▫ Reducing demand for energy ▫ Specifying energy efficiency measures (e.g. insulation, low energy lighting) ▫ Generating renewable energy (e.g. heat pumps, solar photovoltaic panels)	The work undertaken for the concept design stage provides for the extensive use of Photovoltaics (PVs) on roofspaces and major internal retrofit works to ensure operational efficiency. Current considerations not relaxation fot he enrphit measures originally targeted in favour of optimised delivery of fabric improvements within budgetary constraints.	Design has been undertaken in accordance with fabric upgrades and alignment with ENERPHIT and LETI standards. Delivery however is targeted within budgetary constraints and as such meeting of net zero building standards is not expected. full decarbonisation in future willbe relaint on external optimisation through proejcts such as the City Centre District Heating proposals, should that proceed.
		Nil Impact:	No extra energy use is involved						
		Negative Impact:	More energy (gas and/ or electricity) will be consumed (by CCC or others)						
2	WASTE GENERATION	Positive Impact:	Less waste will be generated OR amount of waste that is reused/ recycled will be increased	Low Positive	Yes	Yes	**Consider**: ▫ Will resources be reduced or reused? ▫ Will you use recycled goods? ▫ Will recycling facilities be increased?	The design team have looked at various options to improve the waste storage for the Guildhalll and surrounding resturants. This not only reduces street clutter but would lead to thrice weekly collections from existing two. Detailed plans for a larger waste storage facility at the Guildhall (than at present) and subterranean bins for Corn Exchange and Market Square will need to be worked up further in the next stage and this approach if implemented could reduce street litter. A hierarchical waste management strategy of “Prevent, Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle” will been employed during the design, construction and operation of the development. During the design phase, this means striving for material efficiency and eliminating excessive material usage through minimising new construction and where possible re-using materials on-site	
		Nil Impact:	No waste will be generated						
		Negative Impact:	More waste will be generated (by CCC or others)						
3	USE OF TRANSPORT	Positive Impact:	The use of transport and/or of fossil fuel-based transport will be reduced	Low Positive	Yes	Yes	**Consider:** ▫ Will you purchase an electric vehicle? ▫ Will you specifiy the use of public transport? ▫ How will you reduce the need to travel or transport goods?	Consolidation of office space may reduce the number of staff making journeys as they continue work in a hybrid manner and work from a location that's best to do their job on a particular day. Bike parking and facilities for cyclists have been expanded within the refurbishment of the Guildhall to facilitate active travel and encourage occupants to cycle to work	
		Nil Impact:	No extra transport will be necessary						
		Negative Impact:	CCC or others will need to travel more OR transport goods more often/ further						
4	SUSTAINABLE FOOD	Positive Impact:	Food will be locally grown and/ or meat-free	Nil	Yes	Yes	**Consider:** ▫ Use of locally grown/ produced food ▫ Reducing use of imported food ▫ Reducing use of meat	For internal catering council guidance already advises sustainable supply. for commercial premises this aspects will rely on letting and any specific clauses placed on the lease.	
		Nil Impact:	No change in supply of food						
		Negative Impact:	Food will travel long distances and include meat						

2. IMPACT ON RESILIENCE (ADAPTATION) TO THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

HOW WILL THIS PROJECT/PROPOSAL AFFECT THE FOLLOWING KEY AREAS :		WHAT IS THE IMPACT CONSIDERED TO BE? *See guidance in the purple box, below, to help you assess the degree of the negative and positive impacts e.g. High, Medium or Low*		CLIMATE CHANGE RATING: *Use drop down list*	WILL THE PROJECT HELP CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL TO BE	WILL THE PROJECT HELP CAMBRIDGE TO BE MORE RESILIENT TO THE	PLEASE DETAIL HERE THE ACTION THAT WILL BE TAKEN TO AVOID, MITIGATE OR COMPENSATE FOR THE NEGATIVE IMPACTS AND MAXIMISE POSITIVE IMPACTS?		HAS A NET ZERO CARBON OPTION BEEN CONSIDERED? PLEASE PROVIDE DETAILS.
5	HEATWAVES	Positive Impact:	Increased/ improved shade & natural ventilation	Low Positive	Yes	Yes	Consider: Building orientation and installing measures such as Brise Soleil to reduce heat gain and plant hydration methods.	Focus on Fabric Improvements and design aligning to Overheating regulations. The project will use 'CIBSE TM52 The limits of thermal comfort: avoiding overheating' as the standard for assessing the building's resilience to summer overheating.	
		Nil Impact:	No impact on existing levels of shade & ventilation						
		Negative Impact:	Lack of or reduced shade (e.g. from trees or buildings) & natural ventilation						
6	WATER AVAILABILITY	Positive Impact:	Provision made for an enhancement of water efficiency measures to minimise the impact on water resource availability	Medium Positive	Yes	Yes	Consider: Managing water use efficiently, installing measures to use less water such as low water use taps, planting drought resistant plants and using rainwater for irrigation.	Improvements currently targetting a 55% reduction in water usage over baseline	
		Nil Impact:	Levels of water use will not be changed						
		Negative Impact:	Water use will increase and/or no provision made for water management = Negative Impact						
7	FLOODING	Positive Impact:	Sustainable drainage measures incorporated, positive steps to reduce & manage flood risk	Low Positive	No	No	Consider: The installation of measures to reduce the speed and increase the absorption of rainwater e.g. green roofs, SuDS, permeable paving etc. and alternative arrangements (business continuity)	The site is within Flood Zone 1. The risk of surface water flooding will be assessed further as part of the planning application. Plans include relaying the Market drainage system which includes fish and fat drains to ensure the quality of water run-off is improved The existing above and below ground drainage systems for the Guildhall would not have been designed for current rainfall parameters and anticipated increases in rainfall intensity due to climate change. Following completion of the drainage surveys, hydraulic modelling will be undertaken to understand performance of the existing networks under these conditions.	
		Nil Impact:	Levels of surface water run-off & flood risk are not affected						
		Negative Impact:	Levels of surface water run-off will increase, no management of flood risk						
8	HIGH WINDS / STORMS	Positive Impact:	Exposure to higher wind speeds is being actively managed & reduced	Low Positive	Yes	No	Consider: the need to install stabilisation measures and ensure robust structures resilient to high winds	Guildhall - There will be refurbishment of roofs, sky lights and new atrium roofs	
		Nil Impact:	No change to existing level of exposure to higher wind speeds						
		Negative Impact:	Exposure to higher wind speeds is increased or is not managed = Negative Impact						
9	FOOD SECURITY	Positive Impact:	Opportunities & resources for local food production are increased/ enhanced	Nil	No	No	Source food locally, and provide meat-free catering to reduce vulnerability to food shortages and reduce emissions from transport and farming of food	This will depend on the commerclalisation aspect of the Guildhall and extended facilities at the Corn Exchange and Parsons Court and what concessions are within the buidings once refurbished.	
		Nil Impact:	No change to opportunities & resources for local food production						
		Negative Impact:	Opportunities & resources for local food production are reduced						
10	BIODIVERSITY	Positive Impact:	Biodiversity will be protected/ enhanced	Low Positive	Yes	Yes	Provide net gain mitigation if required and seek enhancement in projects of all types and scale	The project is seeking Net Gain in Biodiversity of 20% across the Civic Quarter. The current landscape plan aims to address this through an increase in planting and landscaped area throughout Peas Hill and the west side of the market square. Trees that support native wildlife will be planted throughout the civic quarter including across the front of the guildhall, the east side of the market square, at the junction between Guildhall street and Wheeler street, as well as integrated into the planting on Peas Hill and the west side of the market square.	
		Nil Impact:	Level of biodiversity will not change						
		Negative Impact:	Biodiversity will not decrease						

Weighing up the negative and positive impacts of your project, what is the overall rating you are assigning to your project?:	**Low Positive**	*This overall rating is what you need to include in your report/ budget proposal, together with your explanation to be included in the red box below*

Guidance on Assessing the Degree of Negative and Positive Impacts: *Note: Not all of the considerations/ criteria listed below will necessarily be relevant to your project*	
Low Impact (L)	* No publicity
	* Relevant risks to the Council or community are Low or none
	* No impact on service or corporate performance
	* No capital assets; or capital assets with lifetime of less than 3 years
Medium Impact (M)	* Local publicity (good or bad)
	* Relevant risks to the Council or community are Medium
	* Affects delivery of corporate commitments
	* Affects service performance (e.g.: energy use; amount of waste; distance travelled) by more than 10%
	* Capital assets with a lifetime of more than 3 years
High Impact (H)	* National publicity (good or bad)
	* Relevant risks to the Council or community are Significant or High
	* Affects delivery of regulatory commitments
	* Affects corporate performance by more than 10%
	* Capital assets with a lifetime of more than 6 years

In the box below please summarise the projects impacts (the reasons for the ratings given in column E above) to explain how the overall rating for the project/ proposal has been derived (Cell E37). Please also highlight any negative impacts your project may have and how you plan to avoid, mitigate or compensate for these (as you will have detailed in column I above).

At this stage of the project, the overall climate change rating is considered to be Low Positive, considering the otucome of review against budgetary allowance and a relaxation of the target Enerphit delivery target being anticipated.

The RIBA stage 2 designs have been tested against the project's key Sustainability targets of Operational Net Zero for the Guildhall, water neutrality and a Biodiversity Net gain of 20% across the Civic Quarter. Proposals have been developed by the consortium's Sustainability consultant, Max Fordham who provided MEP Engineering and Sustainability services on the exemplar Entopia building in Cambridge and specialise in low-carbon design.

One of the restricting factors at commencement of design was the absence of an agreed Net Zero standard. Therefore, delivering to Enerphit standards - which can be characterised as Passivhaus for existing buildings – was agreed with the Council's Principal Sustainability Officer as the appropriate tool to drive the required improvements to existing buildings.

Towards the end of the RIBA stage 2 process, the Pilot Net Zero Building Standard was released. Modelling was undertaken that demonstrated the proposed Enerphit interventions to the Guildhall deliver the required improvements to meet the new Pilot Net Zero Standard, without the need for offsetting and reliance of the possible connection to the future District Heat Network.

No