

Sustainability Impact Appraisal **A tool for Sunderland**

to develop projects, services and business plans in a way that maximises the mutual benefit to all of the city's objectives, helping the City work towards the goal of sustainable development

Definition of Sustainable Development

their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life, without compromising the quality of life of future generations. That goal will be pursued through a sustained, innovative and productive economy that delivers high levels of employment; and a just society that promotes social inclusion, sustainable communities and personal wellbeing. This will be done in ways that protect and enhance the physical and natural environment, and use

Sunderland's sustainability challenges

and sets out the economic, social and environmental objectives which are required to ensure Sunderland has a sustainable future. The Sunderland Strategy, together with the Economic Masterplan, outline the aims for the development of the city, with sustainability set as a cross cutting theme. The Sustainability Impact Appraisal was originally based on Local Area Agreement criteria, meaning that the tool is focused and relevant to the key

Instructions

Appraisal.

at key areas of your project or services, to identify whether potentially significant sustainability impacts might exist, and so benefit from a fuller Sustainability Impact Appraisal. Please note, on the 'Sustainability Impact Filter' page of the tool, the "Project/Service Cost" (cell F8) should be filled with the costs likely to result directly from

Team, at sustainability@sunderland.gov.uk, to be checked, logged and held on file for auditing purposes.

YOU DO NOT NEED TO FILL IN THE FULL SIA WORKSHEET AT THIS STAGE.

significant, you should contact the Sustainability Team for some general guidance on project / service development, but you will not be required to carry out the more detailed Sustainability Impact Appraisal, although would be encouraged to do so independently. Significant, you should contact the Sustainability Team to arrange for a more detailed Sustainability Impact Appraisal to be conducted. The results of this would be to first identify, and then jointly develop ways to mitigate, any potential negative impacts against any sustainability objectives for you to build into service or project plans.

Completing the Full Sustainability Impact Appraisal

the set list of topic areas given. The topic areas are distilled from the key objectives contained in the last Local Area Agreement, with some additional issues to consider around environmental impacts. For each area think about what impact your project could

Score the perceived impact that your project in 'Impact Score of Project Outcomes' using
Use the 'Evidence' section to provide evidence of how the relative change in impact will occur, this could be for example through a changed business processes, or through
Use the 'Action' section to identify any countermeasure(s) you would need to put in place if the impact is negative. This section can also be used to identify support for a neutral or questions, with appraisers having an understanding of the process and of the project they are appraising. Where possible as much information should be gathered in advance of the appraisal to inform and guide decision making about the scoring of impacts. This could be in the form of the current environmental, social and economic baseline data, or an understanding of key issues in the area. Discussions around the topic areas will also help

Although it is unlikely that all areas of the assessment will apply to the impacts your activity will have it is, however, important that each area is considered for the entire scope of the

Should a significant negative impact be identified for any area on the assessment, please contact the Sustainability Team on 0191 561 2434 for advice.