Climate Impact Assessment

250-6105-25

12-08-2025

# 250806 Land acquisition at Merafield Road

## Project details

### Assessment author

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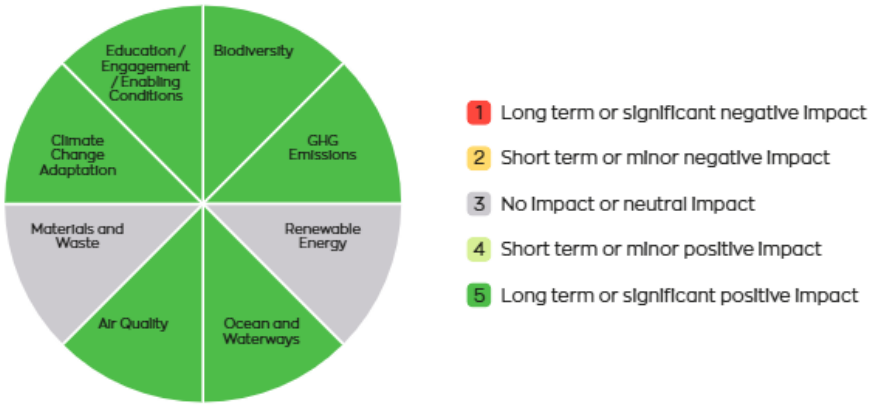
### Project summary

PCC has identified the opportunity to purchase land at Merafield Road, with further opportunity to create woodland at the site, enhancing adjacent woodlands at Hardwick Wood, and to increase biodiversity contributing Net Zero targets, carbon sequestration, and the potential for future enhanments

## Summary of assessment




The delivery of tree planting and woodland creation on this site will provide multiple benefits and lasting positive impacts across numerous Climate Assessment criteria

## Assessment scores

### Biodiversity

#### Score

(5) Long lasting or extensive positive impact

#### Score justification

The creation of new woodland and tree planting at this site will significantly increase habitat enhancement and biodiversity

## GHG Emissions

### Score

(5) Long lasting or extensive positive impact

### Score justification

Creation of new woodlands and tree planting alongside other habitat enhancements will create a net positive contribution to carbon sequestration and emissions mitigation

## Renewable Energy

### Score

(3) No impact or neutral impact

### Score justification

There is neutral impact on renewable energy provision through the delivery of new treescapes at this site

## Ocean and Waterways

### Score

(5) Long lasting or extensive positive impact

### Score justification

This project has the potential to slow and halt runoff in the area due to the steep aspect of the proposed planting site. This has the potential to impact storm overflows and pressure on existing sewer systems

## Air Quality

### Score

(5) Long lasting or extensive positive impact

### Score justification

Tree planting at this location will have a long lasting impact on air quality, with proximity to the A38 increasing these benefits for adjacent residents.

## Materials and Waste

### Score

(3) No impact or neutral impact

### Score justification

There will be consistent review of any materials used to deliver tree planting at this site. There is a commitment to ensuring appropriate materials and methods are employed which deliver the least harm and detrimental impact and waste

## Climate Change Adaptation

### Score

(5) Long lasting or extensive positive impact

### Score justification

This project will contribute greatly to climate change adaptation. It will enhance air quality, it will reduce flood risk, it will reduce the impact of Urban Heat Island effects in the city, it will sequester carbon.

## Education / Engagement / Enabling Conditions

### Score

(5) Long lasting or extensive positive impact

### Score justification

This site will provide enhanced access to woodland for residents, and through its design and delivery there is the potential to directly engage residents with the benefits of the scheme in the context of the climate emergency and biodiversity crisis. It will support the direct residential areas with climate change adaptation through the benefits of flood mitigation, air quality improvements and cooling effects.