Climate Considerations

Questions for scrutiny committee members to ask

1. Will the proposal/project result in an increase in carbon emissions?
    - How have you ensured that energy is not wasted or lost through poor insulation, heating the wrong areas or inefficient lighting?
    - Will there be an increase in business travel or commuting?
    - How easy will it be for people to travel by public transport, bicycle or walking?
    - Is there a need for travel at all?
    - Will there be an increase in waste disposal?
2. How will you reduce emissions?
    - How can you reduce energy use?
    - How can you reduce use of natural resources?
    - How can you ensure suppliers are working in a sustainable way?
    - How can you reduce waste?
    - How can you improve energy efficiency?

3. Will the proposal have any impacts on biodiversity (positive or negative)?
    - Will there be a net reduction in trees?
    - Are there opportunities for planting?
    - Are there other habitats or wildlife considerations?

4. Does the proposal incorporate/promote the development of renewable energy?
    - How can you increase the use of renewable energy in your project?

5. How can you minimise emissions from transport?
    - How can your project enable and encourage active travel?
    - How can you reduce the need for travel at all?

6. How will you make the proposal/project resilient to the impacts of climate change, such as more frequent severe weather, floods and heatwaves?
    - How can your project be designed to be resilient to these occurrences?
    - How can you ensure the building does not overheat in summer?
    - How will your service travel during these events?
    - How can communities using your service be protected?

Supplementary questions

- Does any procurement consider the impact on the environment?
- How does the project/proposal support the climate change strategy, tree and woodland strategy and sustainable communities strategy?
- How does the project/proposal support local businesses and employers to be sustainable?
- How can the project/proposal help develop local skills?