HUDU Planning for Health

Rapid Health Impact Assessment Tool

Third Edition
April 2017
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HUDU Planning for Health

Rapid Health Impact Assessment Tool

Background

The Watch Out for Health guide and checklist was first published in 2008 to help ensure that health is properly considered when evaluating and determining planning proposals, and that where possible development plans and proposals have a positive rather than a negative influence on health.

The assessment tool was completely revised in January 2013 to take into account new legislation and policy changes both nationally and in London that relate to health and spatial planning. This third edition has been fully updated to be consistent with The London Plan, the Spatial Development Strategy for London consolidated with alterations since 2011, published in March 2016. This will be referred to simply as the London Plan 2016. From this date, the formal alterations to the London Plan form part of the statutory development plans for London Boroughs.

- *The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).* The NPPF came into effect in March 2012 and has replaced existing planning guidance notes and statements. The NPPF supports the role of planning to create healthy, inclusive communities by supporting local strategies to improve health, social and cultural wellbeing for all and by working with public health leads and health organisations to understand and take account of the health status and needs of the local population.

- *The London Plan and other Mayoral strategies in London.* In the London Plan, health is treated as a cross-cutting issue linking planning and health throughout the plan. The plan contains a policy on improving health and addressing health inequalities, which requires that the impacts of major development proposals on the health and wellbeing of communities should be considered through the use of health impact assessments. It notes that areas of areas of deprivation align with designated growth areas and the development and regeneration of these areas provides a significant opportunity to improve health and reduce health inequalities in London.

- *Fair Society, Healthy Lives (the Marmot Review).* Published in 2010, the review found that individual health is influenced by wider determinants such as income, education, local environmental quality and employment – what Marmot calls the ‘social determinants of health’. The review set out six policy objectives for reducing health inequalities including ‘to create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities’.

- *Healthy Lives, Healthy People: our strategy for public health in England.* Published in November 2010, the White Paper sets out the Government’s long-term vision for the future of public health in England. It aims is to create a ‘wellness’ service (Public Health England) and to strengthen both national and local leadership. It adopts the Marmot
Review’s life course framework for tackling the social determinants, and aims to support healthy communities.

- **The Localism Act 2011.** The Act enshrines a new layer of development plan called the neighbourhood plan. These are initiated by communities, although they are subject to a formal approval process and a referendum. The Act also paves the way for neighbourhoods to initiate a neighbourhood development order, which allows local people to designate for particular development without it requiring planning permission.

- **The Health and Social Care Act 2012.** The Act brings about the transfer of responsibility for commissioning most healthcare services to consortia of GPs, known as clinical commissioning groups, and establishes an NHS Commissioning Board for commissioning primary care services and specialist acute services. The Act gives boroughs the responsibility of promoting joined up commissioning of local NHS services, social care and health improvement. The PCT and strategic health authority estate were transferred to either NHS providers or a NHS Property Services Ltd as of April 2013.

- **A Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and joint health and wellbeing strategy.** Prepared by local health and wellbeing boards they will inform GP commissioning plans and support the integration of services. A new Public Health Outcomes Framework summarises the new public health responsibilities of boroughs and includes outcomes closely linked to planning, including air quality, the use of green space, road casualties and fuel poverty.

Taken together, this legislative and policy context sends a strong signal that local authorities, health and wellbeing boards and NHS commissioners and providers should engage in the planning system to address the health impacts of development and regeneration proposals and improve health outcomes in new and existing communities.

**Using the assessment tool**

The tool is designed to assess the likely health impacts of development plans and proposals, including planning frameworks and masterplans for large areas, regeneration and estate renewal programmes and outline and detailed planning applications. It is partly based on the World Health Organization publication *Healthy Urban Planning by Hugh Barton and Catherine Tsourou (2000)*.

It helps identify those determinants of health which are likely to be influenced by a specific development proposal. It does not identify all issues related to health and wellbeing, but focuses on the built environment and issues directly or indirectly influenced by planning decisions. Not all the issues or assessment criteria may be relevant and the user is encouraged to prioritise specific actions which focus on key impacts.

The **Mayor of London’s Social Infrastructure Supplementary Planning Guidance (May 2015)** describes three types of health impact assessment:

- A ‘desktop’ assessment which draws on existing knowledge and evidence, often using published checklists which provide a broad overview of potential health impacts
A ‘rapid’ assessment, which is a more resource intensive process, involving a more focused investigation of health impacts and recommending mitigation and enhancement measures

A ‘full’ assessment which involves comprehensive analysis of all potential health and wellbeing impacts, which may include quantitative and qualitative information, data from health needs assessments, reviews of the evidence base and community engagement.

HUDU has developed this Rapid HIA tool using existing evidence to quickly assess the impacts of a development plan or proposal. The Mayor’s Supplementary Planning Guidance recommends the use of the tool and advises that Opportunity Area Planning Frameworks and strategic planning applications may require a rapid HIA as a minimum.

The guidance recommends initial screening to determine the need for and type of HIA required. It refers to HUDU’s Healthy Urban Planning Checklist as a possible ‘desktop’ assessment, which can also be used for screening.

The Rapid HIA Tool should be used prospectively at the earliest possible stage during plan preparation or prior to the submission of a planning application to inform the design, layout and composition of a development proposal. The assessment should also include arrangements for monitoring and evaluating the impacts and mitigation and enhancement measures.

Potential users of the tool could include:

- **Developers and consultants** formulating a development proposal and assessing the health impacts of a subsequent planning application.

- **Local authorities and NHS organisations** assessing the health impacts of regeneration or development proposals, who may want to scrutinise planning applications to ensure that health impacts are addressed and health benefits maximised. Use of the tool could be coordinated by health and wellbeing boards and be supported by the joint strategic needs assessment.

- **Community, voluntary groups and organisations** such as neighbourhood forums who may want to identify the health impacts of a proposed development or of a proposed neighbourhood plan or development order.

The assessment tool is generic and should be localised for specific use. It is designed to highlight issues and to facilitate discussion. As a rapid assessment tool, its purpose is to quickly ensure that the health impacts of a development proposal are identified and appropriate action is taken to address negative impacts and maximise benefits. It may be supplemented by further information, such as a policy and literature review, a needs assessment and community engagement.

The tool overlaps with other assessments, in particular environmental impact assessment and sustainability appraisal (see summary of assessments in Table 1). In London, the Mayor of London has used Integrated Impact Assessments to assess the Mayoral strategies, including the London Plan, which includes an assessment of health impacts.
This tool could be used as a ‘stand-alone’ assessment to assess the impact of large-scale development plans or projects, such as area action plans or masterplans, or strategic planning applications. Alternatively, it could form part of an integrated impact assessment process. In the case of major planning applications subject to environmental impact assessment (EIA), the environmental statement could include a separate chapter on health impacts using this tool. Cross-references should be made to other relevant chapters in the environmental statement, such as socio-economic impacts, transport, noise and air quality. Incorporating health impacts into EIA also allows the cumulative impacts of other neighbouring developments to be addressed. For example, the cumulative impact of a number of developments might necessitate the need for new health or social infrastructure.
Table 1 Summary of relevant assessments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Process</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM)</td>
<td>A BREEAM assessment should be undertaken for all major development proposals. Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) assesses the environmental performance of new and refurbished buildings. Bespoke assessments can be carried out for unusual or mixed-use buildings. The assessment gives buildings a score of pass, good, very good or excellent. <a href="http://www.breeam.org/">http://www.breeam.org/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Note on Code for Sustainable Homes</td>
<td>Previous editions of this tool advocated the use of the Code for Sustainable Homes to assess major development proposals. Following the technical housing standards review, the Government has withdrawn the Code for Sustainable Homes, aside from the management of legacy cases. Legacy cases are those where residential developments are legally contracted to apply a code policy (eg. under an affordable housing programme), or where planning permission has been granted subject to a condition stipulating discharge of a code level. In these instances, it is possible to continue to conduct code assessments. Details of the current approach to the setting of technical housing standards in England were announced in March 2015 and a new set of streamlined national technical standards have been published. These have now been adopted by the London Plan 2016 and the <a href="https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2016/1490">Housing Supplementary Planning Guidance 2016</a>.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Sustainability appraisal (SA)                                            | An SA is mandatory under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. The process seeks to promote sustainable development through the integration of social, environmental and economic considerations in the preparation of development plan documents and supplementary planning documents. SA provides a critical evaluation of the performance of policy against predetermined social, economic and environmental criteria so that the plan’s performance can be improved. It usually involves:  
  - reviewing current best practice with regard to the subject of the plan  
  - scoping national, regional and local policy guidance  
  - reviewing the plan’s assumptions, objectives and forecasts  
  - identifying criteria for appraising the plan’s sustainability performance  
  - appraising policies against the criteria (usually in a matrix) |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Process</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health Impact Assessment (HIA)</td>
<td>Health Impact Assessment (HIA) is a means of assessing the health impacts of policies, plans and projects using quantitative, qualitative and participatory techniques. It aims to produce a set of evidence-based recommendations to inform decision-making to maximise the positive health impacts and minimise the negative health impacts of proposed policies, plans or projects. It assumes that policies, programs and projects have the potential to change the determinants of health. Changes to health determinants then leads to changes in health outcomes or the health status of individuals and communities. World Health Organization Health Impact Assessment: <a href="http://www.who.int/hia/en/">http://www.who.int/hia/en/</a> Mayor of London Social Infrastructure Supplementary Planning Guidance (May 2015): [<a href="https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/planning/implementing-london-plan">https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/planning/implementing-london-plan</a> supplementary-planning-guidance/social-infrastructure](<a href="https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/planning/implementing-london-plan">https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/planning/implementing-london-plan</a> supplementary-planning-guidance/social-infrastructure) The HIA Gateway: <a href="http://www.apho.org.uk/default.aspx?QN=P_HIA">http://www.apho.org.uk/default.aspx?QN=P_HIA</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrated Impact Assessment</td>
<td>The Mayor of London has adopted an integrated approach to assessing the impacts of his strategies, which incorporates the following legal requirements: Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), Sustainability Appraisal, a Health Impact Assessment (related to the duty to reduce health inequalities as set out in the GLA Act 1999 as amended), an Equalities Impact Assessment, and a Community Safety Impact Assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment</td>
<td>Process</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assessment Process</td>
<td>Carrying out an Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) enables any synergies and cross-cutting impacts of the assessments to be identified.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To meet the requirement of the SEA Directive, the significant effects of implementing the London Plan are monitored through a set of key performance indicators, which are reported in the London Plan Annual Monitoring Report (AMR).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental impact assessment (EIA)</td>
<td>An EIA may be required to identify the environmental effects of a proposed development and ensure that these are thoroughly understood. EIAs are compulsory for certain types of development that include urban development projects where the size of the site is above 0.5ha and where the proposal is likely to have significant environmental impacts.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Note that amendments made to the EIA regulations through The Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 now specify ‘population and human health’ as one of five core ‘factors’ to be assessed in an environmental impact assessment. Thus, there is a clear requirement to ensure that health effects are considered early in the design process and that any likely significant health effects arising from the project are identified and mitigated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design and access statement (DAS)</td>
<td>A DAS is required for both outline and full planning applications. Statements are documents that explain the design thinking behind the application. This includes how everyone, including disabled people, older people and very young children will be able to use the development.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lifetime Homes and Lifetime Neighbourhoods</td>
<td>Lifetime Homes is a set of 16 design criteria that can be incorporated into the construction of new homes at minimal cost. In 2015, the Government withdrew the Lifetime Homes concept. The London Plan no longer includes references to Lifetime Homes standards, but now reflects the Building Regulation requirement M4 (2) on accessible and adaptable dwellings. Many local planning policies will continue to require Lifetime Homes standards in new developments.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.lifetimehomes.org.uk/">http://www.lifetimehomes.org.uk/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lifetime Neighbourhoods places the design criteria of Lifetime Homes into a wider context. It encourages planners to help create environments that people of all ages and abilities can access and enjoy, and to facilitate communities that people can participate in, interact and feel safe.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.lifetimehomes.org.uk/pages/lifetime-neighbourhoods.html">http://www.lifetimehomes.org.uk/pages/lifetime-neighbourhoods.html</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/housing/lifetimeneighbourhoods">http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/housing/lifetimeneighbourhoods</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment</td>
<td>Process</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Building for Life  | Building for Life (BfL), updated in 2012, is the industry standard, endorsed by Government, for well-designed homes and neighbourhoods. BfL12 is a tool that local communities, local authorities and developers are invited to use to stimulate conversations about creating good places to live. It sets out 12 questions to be addressed when designing new developments, grouped under three broad headings:  
  - Integrating into the neighbourhood  
  - Creating a place  
  - Street and home.  
Assessing the plan or proposal

The assessment matrix in Section 1 identifies eleven topics or broad determinants:

1. Housing quality and design
2. Access to healthcare services and other social infrastructure
3. Access to open space and nature
4. Air quality, noise and neighbourhood amenity
5. Accessibility and active travel
6. Crime reduction and community safety
7. Access to healthy food
8. Access to work and training
9. Social cohesion and lifetime neighbourhoods
10. Minimising the use of resources
11. Climate change.

Scoping and assessment

Under each topic Section 2 identifies examples of planning issues which are likely to influence health and wellbeing and provides supporting information and references.

Assessment criteria are suggested derived from the planning issues, but the user is encouraged to add other criteria where necessary. Information and evidence to assess and evaluate the proposal will come from a wide range of sources, including information submitted with a planning application. This could include a planning statement, design and access statement or an environmental statement for applications subject to environmental impact assessment. In some cases, there may be a lack of information and/or data about certain aspects of the proposal. In this case, the impact is likely to be uncertain and more information should be requested.

The planning issues and topics may be assessed according to local priorities and needs, derived from community engagement and a profile of community health and wellbeing needs and assets. In addition, impacts may be short-term or temporary, related to construction or longer-term, related to the operation and maintenance of a development and may particularly affect vulnerable or priority groups of the population, such as older people or black and ethnic minority groups. Some issues may have a local impact, whilst other issues may have a wider or neighbourhood impact.

Where an impact is identified, actions should be recommended to mitigate a negative impact or enhance or secure a positive impact. Recommended actions on development proposals may require design or layout changes, closer adherence to policy requirements or standards or planning conditions or obligations. In some cases it may be helpful to identify non-planning measures, such as licencing controls or maintenance arrangements. The matrix should bring together commitments made in other assessments, for example plans to mitigate construction impacts.
Monitoring and evaluation

To ensure that the recommended actions are implemented, monitoring arrangements should be put in place. It is particularly important that actions and obligations are carried forward from a masterplan or outline approval into detailed planning applications. A separate assessment may be needed for each detailed application having regard to the overall framework of actions and recommendations.

Large-scale development proposals, phased over a long period time will give rise to potential construction, operational and post-occupation health impacts which may be best monitored and evaluated by way of longer-term health study. A post-occupancy survey of new housing may be recommended to assess the profile of the new population and to reassess the health impacts. Relevant indicators from the borough’s Annual Monitoring Report or a sustainability appraisal can help monitor health impacts and outcomes.
Section 1 – HUDU Rapid Health Impact Assessment Matrix

The assessment matrix is designed to rapidly assess the likely health impacts of development plans and proposals, including planning frameworks and masterplans for large areas, regeneration and estate renewal programmes and outline and detailed planning applications. It should be used prospectively at the earliest possible stage during plan preparation, or prior to the submission of a planning application to inform the design, layout and composition of a development proposal.

The matrix does not identify all issues related to health and wellbeing, but focuses on the built environment and issues directly or indirectly influenced by planning decisions. It is generic and should be localised for specific use. Not all the issues or assessment criteria may be relevant and the user is encouraged to prioritise specific actions which focus on key impacts.

The assessment matrix identifies eleven topics or broad determinants. Under each topic, Section 2 of the tool identifies examples of planning issues which are likely to influence health and wellbeing and the section also provides supporting information and references.

Health impacts may be short-term or temporary, related to construction or longer-term, related to the operation and maintenance of a development and may particularly affect vulnerable or priority groups of the population. Where an impact is identified, actions should be recommended to mitigate a negative impact or enhance or secure a positive impact.

Name of assessor / organisation: .......................................................................................................................................................................

Name of project (plan or proposal): ..............................................................................................................................................................

Planning reference (if applicable):..............................................................................................................................................................

Location of project: .......................................................................................................................................................................................

Date of assessment: .....................................................................................................................................................................................
## 1 Housing quality and design

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment criteria</th>
<th>Relevant?</th>
<th>Details/evidence</th>
<th>Potential health impact?</th>
<th>Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Does the proposal seek to meet all 16 design criteria of the Lifetime Homes Standard or meet Building Regulation requirement M4 (2)?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Positive □ Negative □ Neutral □ Uncertain</td>
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<tr>
<td>Does the proposal address the housing needs of older people, ie extra care housing, sheltered housing, lifetime homes and wheelchair accessible homes?</td>
<td>□ Yes □ No □ N/A</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Positive □ Negative □ Neutral □ Uncertain</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Does the proposal include homes that can be adapted to support independent living for older and disabled people?</td>
<td>□ Yes □ No □ N/A</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Positive □ Negative □ Neutral □ Uncertain</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Does the proposal promote good design through layout and orientation, meeting internal space standards?</td>
<td>□ Yes □ No □ N/A</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Positive □ Negative □ Neutral □ Uncertain</td>
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<tr>
<td>Does the proposal include a range of housing types and sizes, including affordable housing responding to local housing needs?</td>
<td>□ Yes □ No □ N/A</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Positive □ Negative □ Neutral □ Uncertain</td>
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<tr>
<td>Does the proposal contain homes that are highly energy efficient (eg a high SAP rating)?</td>
<td>□ Yes □ No □ N/A</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Positive □ Negative □ Neutral □ Uncertain</td>
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</table>
## 2 Access to healthcare services and other social infrastructure

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment criteria</th>
<th>Relevant?</th>
<th>Details/evidence</th>
<th>Potential health impact?</th>
<th>Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Does the proposal retain or re-provide existing social infrastructure?</td>
<td>□ Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Positive</td>
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<td></td>
<td>□ No</td>
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<td>□ Uncertain</td>
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<tr>
<td>Does the proposal assess the impact on healthcare services?</td>
<td>□ Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Positive</td>
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<td></td>
<td>□ No</td>
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<td>□ Negative</td>
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<td>□ Uncertain</td>
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<tr>
<td>Does the proposal include the provision, or replacement of a healthcare facility and does the facility meet NHS requirements?</td>
<td>□ Yes</td>
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<td>□ Positive</td>
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<td></td>
<td>□ No</td>
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<td>□ Negative</td>
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<td>□ Uncertain</td>
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<tr>
<td>Does the proposal assess the capacity, location and accessibility of other social infrastructure, eg schools, social care and community facilities?</td>
<td>□ Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Positive</td>
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<td></td>
<td>□ No</td>
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<td>□ Negative</td>
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<td>□ N/A</td>
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<td>□ Uncertain</td>
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<tr>
<td>Does the proposal explore opportunities for shared community use and co-location of services?</td>
<td>□ Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Positive</td>
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<td></td>
<td>□ No</td>
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<td>□ Uncertain</td>
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<tr>
<td>Does the proposal contribute to meeting primary, secondary and post 19 education needs?</td>
<td>□ Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Positive</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ No</td>
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<td>□ N/A</td>
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<td>□ Neutral</td>
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<td></td>
<td>□ Uncertain</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# 3 Access to open space and nature

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment criteria</th>
<th>Relevant?</th>
<th>Details/evidence</th>
<th>Potential health impact?</th>
<th>Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Does the proposal retain and enhance existing open and natural spaces?</td>
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<tr>
<td>In areas of deficiency, does the proposal provide new open or natural space, or</td>
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<tr>
<td>improve access to existing spaces?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Does the proposal provide a range of play spaces for children and young people?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Does the proposal provide links between open and natural spaces and the public</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>realm?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Are the open and natural spaces welcoming and safe and accessible for all?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Does the proposal set out how new open space will be managed and maintained?</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### 4 Air quality, noise and neighbourhood amenity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment criteria</th>
<th>Relevant?</th>
<th>Details/evidence</th>
<th>Potential health impact?</th>
<th>Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Does the proposal minimise construction impacts such as dust, noise, vibration and odours?</td>
<td>□ Yes □ No □ N/A</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Positive □ Negative □ Neutral □ Uncertain</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does the proposal minimise air pollution caused by traffic and energy facilities?</td>
<td>□ Yes □ No □ N/A</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Positive □ Negative □ Neutral □ Uncertain</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does the proposal minimise noise pollution caused by traffic and commercial uses?</td>
<td>□ Yes □ No □ N/A</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Positive □ Negative □ Neutral □ Uncertain</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## 5 Accessibility and active travel

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment criteria</th>
<th>Relevant?</th>
<th>Details/evidence</th>
<th>Potential health impact?</th>
<th>Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Does the proposal prioritise and encourage walking (such as through shared spaces?)</td>
<td>□ Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Positive</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ No</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Negative</td>
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<td></td>
<td>□ N/A</td>
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<td>□ Neutral</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Uncertain</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does the proposal prioritise and encourage cycling (for example by providing secure cycle parking, showers and cycle lanes)?</td>
<td>□ Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Positive</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ No</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Negative</td>
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<td></td>
<td>□ N/A</td>
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<td>□ Uncertain</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does the proposal connect public realm and internal routes to local and strategic cycle and walking networks?</td>
<td>□ Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Positive</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ No</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Negative</td>
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<td>□ N/A</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Uncertain</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does the proposal include traffic management and calming measures to help reduce and minimise road injuries?</td>
<td>□ Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Positive</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ No</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Negative</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Uncertain</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is the proposal well connected to public transport, local services and facilities?</td>
<td>□ Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Positive</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ No</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Negative</td>
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<td></td>
<td>□ N/A</td>
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<td>□ Neutral</td>
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<td>□ Uncertain</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Details/evidence</td>
<td>Potential health impact?</td>
<td>Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does the proposal seek to reduce car use by reducing car parking provision, supported by the controlled parking zones, car clubs and travel plans measures?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>Positive</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
<td>Negative</td>
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<td></td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<td>Neutral</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Uncertain</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does the proposal allow people with mobility problems or a disability to access buildings and places?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>Positive</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
<td>Negative</td>
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<td></td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<td>Neutral</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Uncertain</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 6 Crime reduction and community safety

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment criteria</th>
<th>Relevant?</th>
<th>Details/evidence</th>
<th>Potential health impact?</th>
<th>Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Does the proposal incorporate elements to help design out crime?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does the proposal incorporate design techniques to help people feel secure and avoid creating 'gated communities'?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Positive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does the proposal include attractive, multi-use public spaces and buildings?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Positive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has engagement and consultation been carried out with the local community?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Positive</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Access to healthy food

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment criteria</th>
<th>Relevant?</th>
<th>Details/evidence</th>
<th>Potential health impact?</th>
<th>Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Does the proposal facilitate the supply of local food, i.e. allotments, community farms and farmers’ markets?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>Positive</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
<td>Negative</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
<td>Neutral</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Uncertain</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is there a range of retail uses, including food stores and smaller affordable shops for social enterprises?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>Positive</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
<td>Negative</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
<td>Neutral</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Uncertain</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does the proposal avoid contributing towards an over-concentration of hot food takeaways in the local area?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td>Positive</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
<td>Negative</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
<td>Neutral</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Uncertain</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## 8 Access to work and training

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment criteria</th>
<th>Relevant?</th>
<th>Details/evidence</th>
<th>Potential health impact?</th>
<th>Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Does the proposal provide access to local employment and training opportunities, including temporary construction and permanent ‘end-use’ jobs?</td>
<td>Yes/No/N/A</td>
<td></td>
<td>Positive/Negative/Neutral/Uncertain</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does the proposal provide childcare facilities?</td>
<td>Yes/No/N/A</td>
<td></td>
<td>Positive/Negative/Neutral/Uncertain</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does the proposal include managed and affordable workspace for local businesses?</td>
<td>Yes/No/N/A</td>
<td></td>
<td>Positive/Negative/Neutral/Uncertain</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does the proposal include opportunities for work for local people via local procurement arrangements?</td>
<td>Yes/No/N/A</td>
<td></td>
<td>Positive/Negative/Neutral/Uncertain</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 9 Social cohesion and lifetime neighbourhoods

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment criteria</th>
<th>Relevant?</th>
<th>Details/evidence</th>
<th>Potential health impact?</th>
<th>Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Does the proposal connect with existing communities, i.e. layout and movement which avoids physical barriers and severance and land uses and spaces which encourage social interaction?</td>
<td>□ Yes □ No □ N/A</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Positive □ Negative □ Neutral □ Uncertain</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does the proposal include a mix of uses and a range of community facilities?</td>
<td>□ Yes □ No □ N/A</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Positive □ Negative □ Neutral □ Uncertain</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does the proposal provide opportunities for the voluntary and community sectors?</td>
<td>□ Yes □ No □ N/A</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Positive □ Negative □ Neutral □ Uncertain</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does the proposal address the six key components of Lifetime Neighbourhoods?</td>
<td>□ Yes □ No □ N/A</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Positive □ Negative □ Neutral □ Uncertain</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# 10 Minimising the use of resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment criteria</th>
<th>Relevant?</th>
<th>Details/evidence</th>
<th>Potential health impact?</th>
<th>Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Does the proposal make best use of existing land?</td>
<td>□ Yes □ No □ N/A</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Positive □ Negative □ Neutral □ Uncertain</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does the proposal encourage recycling (including building materials)?</td>
<td>□ Yes □ No □ N/A</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Positive □ Negative □ Neutral □ Uncertain</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does the proposal incorporate sustainable design and construction techniques?</td>
<td>□ Yes □ No □ N/A</td>
<td></td>
<td>□ Positive □ Negative □ Neutral □ Uncertain</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## 11 Climate change

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment criteria</th>
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<th>Details/evidence</th>
<th>Potential health impact?</th>
<th>Recommended mitigation or enhancement actions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Does the proposal incorporate renewable energy?</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does the proposal ensure that buildings and public spaces are designed to respond to winter and summer temperatures, i.e. ventilation, shading and landscaping?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does the proposal maintain or enhance biodiversity?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does the proposal incorporate sustainable urban drainage techniques?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Section 2: Supporting information

General references

The King’s Fund / London Healthy Urban Development Unit (2009) The health impacts of spatial planning decisions


Spatial Planning and Health Group - formed in November 2010 to take forward the work of NICE’s Spatial Planning and Health Programme Development Group.


Department of Health (2012) No health without mental health: implementation framework

Town and Country Planning Association (2014) Reuniting Health with Planning - this is a UK-wide TCPA initiative focused on improving skills, understanding and knowledge of health and the built environment for a range of practitioners and policy makers. See Publications.


1 Housing quality and design

Issues to consider

- Accessible and adaptable dwellings
- Internal space standards, orientation and layout
- Affordable housing and dwelling mix
- Energy efficiency

Potential health impacts

Access to decent and adequate housing is critically important for health and wellbeing, especially for the very young and very old. Environmental factors, overcrowding and sanitation in buildings as well as unhealthy urban spaces have been widely recognised as causing illness since urban planning was formally introduced. Post-construction management also has impact on community welfare, cohesion and mental wellbeing.

Possible effects of planning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Negative effects</th>
<th>Positive effects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A lack of affordable housing within communities may compromise the health of</td>
<td>Making provision for affordable housing has the potential to improve wellbeing, while</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>low-income residents as they are likely to spend more on housing costs and less</td>
<td>housing quality can be improved by use of appropriate construction methods. This</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>on other health needs.</td>
<td>includes use of good materials for noise insulation and energy-efficiency, and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>detailed design considerations to make sure that homes are accessible, adaptable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>and well oriented.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor choice of location, design and orientation of housing developments can be</td>
<td>Providing a sufficient range of housing tenures with good basic services is also</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>detrimental to physical and mental health. Housing that is overcrowded can also</td>
<td>essential. Adaptable buildings for community uses such as health, education and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>affect mental health, and lead to physical illness and accidents.</td>
<td>leisure can contribute towards a sustainable community.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The quality of design, including internal sound insulation, daylighting and</td>
<td>Providing adaptable homes allows residents to remain in their home despite changing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>provision of private space can influence the health and wellbeing of occupants.</td>
<td>accommodation requirements. In this context, adaptable housing more easily permits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>care to be provided in the community.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
London Plan policies (March 2016)
Policy 3.3 Increasing housing supply
Policy 3.4 Optimising housing potential
Policy 3.5 Quality and design of housing developments
Policy 3.7 Large residential developments
Policy 3.8 Housing choice
Policy 3.9 Mixed and balanced communities
Policy 3.10 Definition of affordable housing
Policy 3.11 Affordable housing targets
Policy 3.12 Negotiating affordable housing on individual private residential and mixed use schemes
Policy 3.13 Affordable housing thresholds
Policy 3.14 Existing housing
Policy 3.15 Coordination of housing development and investment
Policy 3.16 Protection and enhancement of social infrastructure

National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012)
6 Delivering a wide choice of quality homes
7 Requiring good design
8 Promoting healthy communities

Supporting information
BRE Trust (2010) The Real Cost of Poor Housing
Marmot Review Team (2011) The Health Impacts of Cold Homes and Fuel Poverty
World Health Organization (2011) Environmental burden of disease associated with inadequate housing
Mayor of London (2016) Housing Supplementary Planning Guidance
Department for Communities and Local Government Code for Sustainable Homes (archived)
Lifetime Homes Foundation, Lifetime Homes Standards and Revised Standards (2010)

Department for Communities and Local Government (2012) Investigation into overheating in homes: Literature review and Analysis of gaps and recommendations

London Assembly (2011) Crowded houses, Overcrowding in London's social rented housing


2 Access to healthcare services and other social infrastructure

Issues to consider

- Needs and demand for services
- Capacity of existing facilities and services
- Timing, location and accessibility and developer contributions
- Reconfiguring health and social care services
- Multipurpose buildings and co-location of services
- Access and use of buildings by disabled and older people

Potential health impacts

Strong, vibrant, sustainable and cohesive communities require good quality, accessible public services and infrastructure. Access to social infrastructure and other services is a key component of Lifetime Neighbourhoods. Encouraging the use of local services is influenced by accessibility, in terms of transport and access into a building, and the range and quality of services offered. Access to good quality health and social care, education (primary, secondary and post-19) and community facilities has a direct positive effect on human health. Opportunities for the community to participate in the planning of these services has the potential to impact positively on mental health and wellbeing and can lead to greater community cohesion.

Possible effects of planning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Negative effects</th>
<th>Positive effects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Failing to plan for the social infrastructure needs in an area can exacerbate pressure of existing services and worsen health outcomes and inequalities.</td>
<td>The provision of accessible healthcare services and other social infrastructure to support population growth and change is an essential component of creating sustainable, healthy communities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The under-provision of key services can contribute towards unnecessary extra travel, which can damage the environment and social cohesion.</td>
<td>The planning system can help modernise facilities and improve the quality of services. Developer contributions can help provide and fund new facilities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For those with mobility problems, including older people, poor access to local services could limit opportunities for social interaction and lead to isolation and depression.</td>
<td>Co-locating some services can improve the effectiveness and efficiency of service delivery, for example, primary health and social care, dentistry and pharmacies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Access to a range of education, primary, secondary and post-19 improves self-esteem, job opportunities and earning capability.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
London Plan policies (March 2016)

Policy 2.12 Central Activities Zone – predominantly local activities
Policy 3.16 Protection and enhancement of social infrastructure
Policy 3.17 Health and social care facilities
Policy 3.18 Education facilities
Policy 3.19 Sports facilities
Policy 7.1 Lifetime neighbourhoods
Policy 7.2 An inclusive environment

National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012)

8 Promoting healthy communities
Paragraph 162 Infrastructure planning
Paragraph 203-206 Planning conditions and obligations

Supporting information

Mayor of London (2010) Health Inequalities Strategy
Mayor of London (2015) Social Infrastructure Supplementary Planning Guidance
NHS London Healthy Urban Development Unit Planning Contributions Tool (the HUDU Model)
NHS London Healthy Urban Development Unit, London Thames Gateway Social Infrastructure Framework
Environmental Audit Committee inquiry into Transport and the Accessibility of Public Services
Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM)
Sport England, Use Our School
3 Access to open space and nature

Issues to consider

- Opportunities for physical activity
- Access to open and natural space
- Formal and informal outdoor play spaces
- Maintenance of open space and sports facilities
- Integration with other outdoor uses such as food growing

Potential health impacts

Providing secure, convenient and attractive open/green space can lead to more physical activity and reduce levels of heart disease, strokes and other ill-health problems that are associated with both sedentary occupations and stressful lifestyles. There is growing evidence that access to parks and open spaces and nature can help to maintain or improve mental health.

The patterns of physical activity established in childhood are perceived to be a key determinant of adult behaviour; a growing number of children are missing out on regular exercise, and an increasing number of children are being diagnosed as obese. Access to play spaces, community or sport facilities such as sport pitches can encourage physical activity. There is a strong correlation between the quality of open space and the frequency of use for physical activity, social interaction or relaxation.

Possible effects of planning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Negative effects</th>
<th>Positive effects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Failing to protect local green spaces and playing fields near to communities can limit opportunities for physical activity.</td>
<td>The provision of publicly accessible green spaces and play spaces can encourage physical activity and maintain or improve mental health.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green spaces that are of poor quality, feel unsafe, or are inaccessible will discourage physical activity and social interaction.</td>
<td>A growing population, particularly an increase in children will require a range of formal and informal play spaces and equipment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failing to provide a range of different types of open and play spaces may place pressure on existing spaces where formal and informal activities may conflict with each other.</td>
<td>Natural spaces and tree cover provide areas of shade and can improve the air quality in urban areas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>There may be opportunities to integrate play spaces with other related health and environmental programmes such as food growing and increasing biodiversity.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
London Plan policies (March 2016)

Policy 2.4 The 2012 Games and their legacy
Policy 2.18 Green infrastructure: the multi-functional network of green and open spaces
Policy 3.6 Children and young people’s play and informal recreation facilities
Policy 5.1 Climate change mitigation
Policy 5.2 Minimising carbon dioxide emissions
Policy 7.1 Lifetime neighbourhoods
Policy 7.18 Protecting open space and addressing deficiency
Policy 7.19 Biodiversity and access to nature
Policy 7.22 Land for food

National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012)

8 Promoting healthy communities
9 Protecting Green Belt land
11 Conserving and enhancing the natural environment

Supporting information

Department of Health (2011) Healthy Lives, Healthy People: A Call to Action on Obesity in England

Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (2011) Natural Environment White Paper: Natural Choice securing the value of nature

UK National Ecosystem Assessment (2011)


NICE (2008) Guidance on the promotion and creation of physical environments that support increased levels of physical activity (PH8)


Mayor of London (2010) Health Inequalities Strategy

London Health Board

Well London programme

Mayor of London (2012) Shaping Neighbourhoods: Play and Informal Recreation SPG

Faculty of Public Health (2010) Great Outdoors: How Our Natural Health Service Uses Green Space To Improve Wellbeing

Sport England Active Design


4 Air quality, noise and neighbourhood amenity

**Issues to consider**

- Construction impacts
- Air quality
- Land contamination
- Noise, vibration and odour
- Quality of the local environment
- Provision of green space and trees

**Potential health impacts**

The quality of the local environment can have a significant impact on physical and mental health. Pollution caused by construction, traffic and commercial activity can result in poor air quality, noise nuisance and vibration. Poor air quality is linked to incidence of chronic lung disease (chronic bronchitis or emphysema) and heart conditions and asthma levels of among children. Noise pollution can have a detrimental impact on health resulting in sleep disturbance, cardiovascular and psycho-physiological effects. Good design and the separation of land uses can lessen noise impacts.

**Possible effects of planning**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Negative effects</th>
<th>Positive effects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Construction can result in exposure to land contamination, deterioration in air quality and nuisance from noise, dust, vibration and odours.</td>
<td>The use of construction management plans can lessen construction impacts, particularly hours of working and construction traffic movements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High levels of road traffic and congestion generated by new developments can result in higher levels of air pollution and noise.</td>
<td>Reduced levels of car parking and travel plans which encourage the use of public transport, cycling and walking will result in better local environmental conditions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The close proximity of residential units to industrial uses or uses generating late night noise can cause nuisance.</td>
<td>Good design and the sensitive location and orientation of residential units can lessen noise impacts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural spaces and trees can improve the air quality in urban areas.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
London Plan policies (March 2016)

Policy 7.1 Lifetime neighbourhoods
Policy 7.2 An inclusive environment
Policy 7.14 Improving air quality
Policy 7.15 Reducing and managing noise, improving and enhancing the acoustic environment and promoting appropriate soundscapes

National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012)

9 Protecting Green Belt land
11 Conserving and enhancing the natural environment
Paragraph 200 Tailoring planning controls to local circumstances

Supporting information

Mayor of London (2010) Clearing the Air: The Mayor’s Air Quality Strategy
Environmental Protection UK (2010) Development Control: Planning for Air Quality
Aether for the Greater London Authority (2016) Updated Analysis of Air Pollution Exposure in London - Interim Report
Clean Air in London, 10 Steps for Clean Air in London
London Air Quality Network - King's College London, Air Pollution Guide
Trust for London, Policy Exchange and King’s College London (2016), Up in the Air – How to Solve London’s Air Quality Crisis
British Medical Association (July 2012) Healthy transport = Healthy lives
King's College London, Environmental Research Group
Mayor of London (2014) The Control of Dust and Emissions During Construction and Demolition SPG
Health Protection Agency (2010) Environmental Noise and Health in the UK
5 Accessibility and active travel

Issues to consider

- Streetscape
- Opportunities for walking and cycling
- Access to public transport
- Minimising the need to travel
- Discouraging car use
- Road traffic injuries

Potential health impacts

Convenient access to a range of services and facilities minimises the need to travel and provides greater opportunities for social interaction. Buildings and spaces that are easily accessible and safe also encourage all groups, including older people and people with a disability, to use them. Discouraging car use and providing opportunities for walking and cycling can increase physical activity and help prevent chronic diseases, reduce risk of premature death and improve mental health.

Possible effects of planning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Negative impacts</th>
<th>Positive impacts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Greater traffic volumes and speeds have increased the risk of road traffic injuries, with pedestrians and cyclists being particularly vulnerable.</td>
<td>Combining active travel and public transport options can help people achieve recommended daily physical activity levels.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor urban planning has prioritised the car over pedestrians and increased community severance.</td>
<td>By attending to inclusive design, access, orientation and streetscape planners can make it easier for people to access facilities using public transport, walking or cycling.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over provision of car parking in a development can undermine other travel modes such as public transport and cycling.</td>
<td>Reduced levels of car parking and travel plans which encourage the use of public transport, cycling and walking will result in increased opportunities for active travel.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning can promote cycling and walking by connecting routes and public to wider networks, providing safe junctions and calming traffic and providing secure cycle parking spaces.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NHS London Healthy Urban Development Unit

HUDU Rapid Health Impact Assessment Tool
London Plan policies (March 2016)

Policy 2.7 Outer London: economy
Policy 2.8 Outer London: transport
Policy 2.9 Inner London
Policy 2.13 Opportunity Areas and Intensification Areas
Policy 2.15 Town Centres
Policy 6.4 Enhancing London’s transport connectivity
Policy 6.7 Better streets and surface transport
Policy 6.9 Cycling
Policy 6.10 Walking
Policy 6.11 Smoothing traffic flow and tackling congestion
Policy 6.13 Parking
Policy 7.2 An inclusive environment

National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012)

4. Promoting sustainable transport
7 Requiring good design
8 Promoting healthy communities

Supporting information

World Health Organization (2011) Health economic assessment tools (HEAT) for walking and for cycling
Mayor of London (2010) Mayor’s Transport Strategy
Department for Transport (2014) Active Mode Appraisal (Walking and Cycling)
Department for Transport Local Transport Note 1/11: Shared Space
Department of Transport and Department of Health, January 2011, Transport and Health Resource: Delivering Healthy Local Transport Plans

British Medical Association (July 2012) Healthy transport = Healthy lives
6 Crime reduction and community safety

Issues to consider

- Designing out crime
- Security and street surveillance
- Mix of uses
- Community engagement
- Major accidents/disasters

Potential health impacts

Thoughtful planning and urban design that promotes natural surveillance and social interaction can help to reduce crime and the ‘fear of crime’, both of which impacts on the mental wellbeing of residents. As well as the immediate physical and psychological impact of being a victim of crime, people can also suffer indirect long-term health consequences including disability, victimisation and isolation because of fear. Community engagement in development proposals can lessen fears and concerns.

New environmental impact assessment regulations entering into force in 2017 require consideration of any significant effects arising from the vulnerability of the proposed development to major accidents or disasters that are relevant to that development.

Possible effects of planning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Negative effects</th>
<th>Positive effects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Poor urban design can exacerbate crime and community safety by creating under-used, isolated spaces without natural surveillance and segregate places by creating barriers such as roads.</td>
<td>The detailed design and layout of residential and commercial areas can ensure natural surveillance over public space. This can be assisted by creating places which enable possibilities for community interaction and avoiding social exclusion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where the local pedestrian environment is intimidating and inconvenient people are more likely to use cars more or go out less. This reduces social interaction and increases the potential for crime.</td>
<td>Active use of streets and public spaces, combined with effective lighting, is likely to decrease opportunities for anti-social behaviour or criminal activity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A 24 hour or ‘evening’ economy could generate anti-social behaviour and disturbance.</td>
<td>Planners can work with the police to get their advice on making development proposals ‘secured by design’. They can also involve communities to foster a sense of ownership and empowerment, which can also help to enhance community safety.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
London Plan policies (March 2016)

Policy 1.1 Delivering the strategic vision and objectives for London
Policy 2.15 Town Centres
Policy 3.6 Children and young people’s play and informal recreation facilities
Policy 3.16 Protection and enhancement of social infrastructure
Policy 7.2 An inclusive environment
Policy 7.3 Designing out crime
Policy 7.13 Safety, security and resilience to emergency

National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012)

7 Requiring good design
8 Promoting healthy communities

Supporting information

Mayor of London (2010) Health Inequalities Strategy
Department of Health (2012) No health without mental health: implementation framework
ODPM (2004) Safer Places – the planning system and crime prevention (archived)
Secured By Design - Design Guides
Secured by Design Interactive Guide
Design Council - Design out Crime
CABE (2009) This Way to Better Residential Streets
7 Access to healthy food

Issues to consider

- Healthy localised food supply
- Hot food takeaways
- Social enterprises
- Allotments and community food growing spaces

Potential health impacts

Access to healthy and nutritious food can improve diet and prevent chronic diseases related to obesity. People on low incomes, including young families, older people are the least able to eat well because of lack of access to nutritious food. They are more likely to have access to food that is high in salt, oil, energy-dense fat and sugar.

Opportunities to grow and purchase local healthy food and limiting concentrations of hot food takeaways can change eating behaviour and improve physical and mental health.

Possible effects of planning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Negative effects</th>
<th>Positive effects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The centralisation of shopping facilities and growth of large supermarkets can reduce the variety of foods available locally and disadvantage those on limited income to afford a healthy diet.</td>
<td>By considering food access, location and how to facilitate social enterprises planners can help to create the conditions that enable low income people to have better and affordable access to nutritious food.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Redevelopment local allotments, gardens or agricultural land can also reduce the potential for locally grown food.</td>
<td>Planning can assist by preserving and protecting areas for small-scale community projects and local food production, including allotments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An overconcentration of hot food takeaways can restrict healthy eating choices.</td>
<td>Planning can promote an increase in the diversity of shopping facilities in local centres, restrict large supermarkets, and limit concentrations of hot food takeaways.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
London Plan policies (March 2016)

Policy 2.15 Town Centres
Policy 2.18 Green infrastructure: the multi-functional network of green and open spaces
Policy 4.8 Supporting a successful and diverse retail sector and related facilities and services
Policy 5.11 Green roofs and development site environs
Policy 7.22 Land for food

National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012)

2. Ensuring the vitality of town centres
7 Requiring good design
8 Promoting healthy communities

Supporting information

Department of Health (2011) Healthy Lives, Healthy People: A Call to Action on Obesity in England
Mayor of London (2010) Health Inequalities Strategy
London Health Board
Well London programme
London Food Board
London Food Link
Mayor of London (2016) Capital of Food: Ten Years of London Leadership
Mayor of London and Sustain (2016) Developing Food Poverty Action Plans
Sustain (2011) Good planning for good food - using planning policy for local and sustainable food

HUDU Rapid Health Impact Assessment Tool
8 Access to work and training

Issues to consider

• Access to employment and training
• Job diversity
• Childcare
• Business support

Potential health impacts

Employment and income is a key determinant of health and wellbeing. Unemployment generally leads to poverty, illness and a reduction in personal and social esteem. Works aids recovery from physical and mental illnesses.

Possible effects of planning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Negative effects</th>
<th>Positive effects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Locating employment in inaccessible locations or failing to provide a diversity of local jobs or training opportunities can negatively affect health and mental wellbeing both directly and indirectly.</td>
<td>Urban planning linked to clear strategies for economic regeneration, allocation of appropriate sites and coordination of infrastructure provision can help to facilitate attractive opportunities for businesses, encourage diversity in employment and ensure that local jobs are retained.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A poor quality environment and lack of infrastructure can make places less competitive or attractive to business investment.</td>
<td>Equitable transport strategies can play an important part in providing access to job opportunities. The provision of local work can encourage shorter trip lengths, reduce emissions from transport and enable people to walk or cycle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A lack of business and employee support through affordable business space and childcare provision can hinder economic and growth and employment opportunities.</td>
<td>Access to other support services, notably childcare, can make employment opportunities easier to access.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**London Plan policies (March 2016)**

- Policy 2.7 Outer London: economy
- Policy 2.14 Areas for regeneration
- Policy 2.16 Strategic outer London development centres
- Policy 2.17 Strategic industrial locations
- Policy 3.2 Improving health and addressing health inequalities
- Policy 3.18 Education facilities
- Policy 4.12 Improving opportunities for all
- Policy 6.4 Enhancing London’s transport connectivity
- Policy 8.2 Planning obligations
- Policy 8.3 Community infrastructure levy

**National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012)**

- 1 Building a strong, competitive economy
- 2 Ensuring the vitality of town centres
- 3 Supporting a prosperous rural economy

**Supporting information**

- [Fit for Work](#) (UK Government funded initiative)
- [London First - London's Economic Development](#)
- [The Local Enterprise Partnership for London](#)
- [Report of the Marmot Review Social Inclusion and Social Mobility Task Group (2010)](#)
9 Social cohesion and lifetime neighbourhoods

Issues to consider

- Social interaction
- Mixed communities
- Access to community facilities
- Voluntary sector involvement
- Community severance
- Lifetime neighbourhoods.

Potential health impacts

Friendship and supportive networks in a community can help to reduce depression and levels of chronic illness as well as speed recovery after illness and improve wellbeing. Fragmentation of social structures can lead to communities demarcated by socio-economic status, age and/or ethnicity, which can lead to isolation, insecurity and a lack of cohesion.

Voluntary and community groups, properly supported, can help to build up networks for people who are isolated and disconnected, and to provide meaningful interaction to improve mental wellbeing.

Lifetime Neighbourhoods places the design criteria of Lifetime Homes into a wider context. It encourages planners to help create environments that people of all ages and abilities can access and enjoy, and to facilitate communities that people can participate in, interact and feel safe.

Possible effects of planning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Negative effects</th>
<th>Positive effects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social cohesion can be undermined by insensitive housing redevelopment and dispersal of resident communities.</td>
<td>Urban planning can help to facilitate social cohesion by creating safe and permeable environments with places where people can meet informally.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community cohesion can also be affected by infrastructure such as roads or other development that severs community links. Large schemes may disrupt familiar walking routes, or create a barrier to movement.</td>
<td>Mixed-use developments in town centres and residential neighbourhoods can help to widen social options for people.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor planning may also result in the loss of community facilities.</td>
<td>The provision of a range of diverse local employment opportunities (paid and unpaid) can also improve both social cohesion and mental wellbeing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negative effects</td>
<td>Positive effects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning does not directly affect income but it does have many indirect effects. The planning system can be used, for example, to hinder or to help the process of providing a range of facilities and providing opportunities for improving levels of equity.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

London Plan policies (March 2016)

Policy 3.1 Ensuring equal life chances for all
Policy 3.9 Mixed and balanced communities
Policy 3.16 Protection and enhancement of social infrastructure
Policy 7.1 Lifetime neighbourhoods
Policy 7.2 An inclusive environment
Policy 7.3 Designing out crime

National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012)

8 Promoting healthy communities

Supporting information

Mayor of London (2010) Health Inequalities Strategy
Well London programme
Department for Communities and Local Government (2011) Lifetime Neighbourhoods
Office for National Statistics: societal wellbeing theme
Young Foundation (2010) Cohesive Communities
Joseph Rowntree Foundation - Social Exclusion
10 Minimising the use of resources

Issues to consider

- Making the best use of existing land
- Recycling and reuse
- Sustainable design and construction
- Waste management
- Potential hazards.

Potential health impacts

Reducing or minimising waste including disposal, processes for construction as well as encouraging recycling at all levels can improve human health directly and indirectly by minimising environmental impact, such as air pollution.

Possible effects of planning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Negative effects</th>
<th>Positive effects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>If left unchecked, disposal of significant hazardous waste can have a serious</td>
<td>Planning can impose standards and criteria on hazardous waste disposal, recycling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>impact on the health of those communities living near to collection or disposal</td>
<td>and domestic waste and that linked to development. It can ensure that hazardous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sites.</td>
<td>waste is disposed of correctly, as well as ensure that local recycled and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>renewable materials are used whenever possible in the building construction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sending out waste from a redevelopment site to be sorted or disposed can increase</td>
<td>Redevelopment on brownfield sites or derelict urban land also ensures that land is</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vehicle movements, emissions and cause significant disruption including noise and</td>
<td>effectively used, recycled and enhanced</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dust which can contribute towards health problems for residents.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There are also ecological impacts (stripping of materials, mining for minerals</td>
<td>Through encouraging reduction, reuse and recycling, resource minimisation can be</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>etc) through excessive use of resources from a scarce global environment.</td>
<td>better realised and contribute towards a better environment. Examples of various</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>standards to consider include BREEAM (Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method) and CEEQUAL (Civil Engineering Environmental Quality Assessment), which are benchmarking tools for non-residential buildings and infrastructure projects.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
London Plan policies (March 2016)
Policy 5.3 Sustainable design and construction
Policy 5.14 Water quality and wastewater infrastructure
Policy 5.16 Waste net self-sufficiency
Policy 5.17 Waste capacity
Policy 5.18 Construction, excavation and demolition waste
Policy 5.19 Hazardous waste
Policy 5.20 Aggregates
Policy 5.21 Contaminated land
Policy 5.22 Hazardous substances and installations

National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012)
10 Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change
11 Conserving and enhancing the natural environment
13 Facilitating the sustainable use of minerals

Supporting information
Mayor of London (2014) The Control of Dust and Emissions During Construction and Demolition SPG
Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM)
Recycle for London
London Waste and Recycling Board
11 Climate change

Issues to consider

- Renewable energy
- Sustainable transport
- Building design
- Biodiversity
- Flood risk and drainage.

Potential health impacts

There is a clear link between climate change and health. The Marmot Review is clear that local areas should prioritise policies and interventions that ‘reduce both health inequalities and mitigate climate change’ because of the likelihood that people with the poorest health would be hit hardest by the impacts of climate change.

Planning is at the forefront of both trying to reduce carbon emissions and to adapt urban environments to cope with higher temperatures, more uncertain rainfall, and more extreme weather events and their impacts such as flooding. Poorly designed homes can lead to fuel poverty in winter and overheating in summer contributing to excess winter and summer deaths. Developments that take advantage of sunlight, tree planting and accessible green/brown roofs also have the potential to contribute towards the mental wellbeing of residents.

Possible effects of planning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Negative effects</th>
<th>Positive effects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Planning can exacerbate the impacts of climate change by failing to consider relevant influences such as location, materials, designs or technologies that could help to reduce energy consumption or reduce the environmental impact of energy generation.</td>
<td>Urban planning can help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by requiring lower energy use in buildings and transport, and by encouraging renewable energy sources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building in flood plain areas or a lack of local sustainable urban drainage measures may lead to greater flood risk.</td>
<td>Planning can address sustainability and environmental considerations through the use of standards that will help to reduce energy demands and increase the amount of renewable energy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neglecting to consider the microclimate for the siting of a proposed development, and the influence the development might have on that microclimate, could lead to new buildings that are neither suitable nor adaptable to their environment.</td>
<td>Design techniques can ensure that new housing and public realm can adapt to changes in temperature.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Negative effects

### Positive effects

Flood risk can be reduced through a sequential approach to locating development and by introducing mitigation measures, such as sustainable urban drainage systems in new developments.

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**London Plan policies (March 2016)**

Policy 5.1 Climate change mitigation  
Policy 5.2 Minimising carbon dioxide emissions  
Policy 5.3 Sustainable design and construction  
Policy 5.4 Retrofitting  
Policy 5.5 Decentralised energy networks  
Policy 5.6 Decentralised energy in development proposals  
Policy 5.7 Renewable energy  
Policy 5.8 Innovative energy technologies  
Policy 5.9 Overheating and cooling  
Policy 5.10 Urban greening  
Policy 5.11 Green roofs and development site environs  
Policy 5.12 Flood risk management  
Policy 5.13 Sustainable drainage  
Policy 5.14 Water quality and wastewater infrastructure  
Policy 5.15 Water use and supplies

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**National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012)**

10 Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change

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**Supporting information**

- Committee on Climate Change
- Committee on Climate Change (2016) UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2017. Synthesis report: priorities for the next five years
- London Climate Change Partnership
- London Climate Change Partnership - Publications
- Climate Just - Publications
Mayor of London - Scenarios to 2050: London Energy Plan
Mayor of London - London Heat Map
Department for Communities and Local Government (2012) Investigation into overheating in homes: Literature review
Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM)
GRaBS: Green and Blue Space Adaptation for Urban Areas and Eco Towns - Adaptation Action Planning Toolkit
World Health Organization (2013) Climate Change and Health: A Tool to Estimate Health and Adaptation Costs