

Northamptonshire Rapid Health Impact Assessment Tool for Planning (August 2019)

Introduction:

The design of new developments can have a significant impact on community health and wellbeing, through shaping the local environment and influencing the lives of people who live in, work in or visit those developments. This Rapid Health Impact Assessment (HIA) tool has been produced to enable an assessment of the likely health impacts of spatial planning related proposals – including specific development proposals or planning applications. It should be used at the earliest practicable stage of the process in order to influence the proposals as they are being developed.

The tool focusses on the health and wellbeing impacts associated with built environment proposals, particularly those influenced by the planning process. **The purpose of systematically assessing these impacts is to develop the proposals in a way that minimises negative health and wellbeing impacts and maximises positive contributions to community wellbeing, including reducing health inequalities.** This will help achieve the objectives of local strategies and plans to improve health and wellbeing in Northamptonshire, including the Northamptonshire Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, thus contributing to sustainable communities. Where a health impact is identified, any actions that have been / will be undertaken to reduce a negative impact or maximise a positive impact should be identified and described. The completed HIA will help enable relevant organisations to judge whether the proposal effectively addresses health and wellbeing issues.

Further guidance is available to support the use of this tool. For more information and advice about using this tool, contact:

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|-------------------------------------|--|
| Name of assessor and organisation: | |
| Name of project (plan or proposal): | |
| Planning reference (if applicable): | |
| Location of project: | |
| Date of assessment: | |

| Topic / Issue | Nature of Impact (Describe how the proposal affects this issue. Positive or negative? Identify supporting evidence) | Scale of impact (Who will be affected and to what extent?) | Timing/duration of impact Short (<1 yr) Med (1-5 yrs) Long (>5 yrs) | Actions taken or proposed to maximise positive and minimise negative impacts |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| 1. Physical activity – will the proposal create an environment that promotes or hinders physical activities such as active play, active travel formal or informal sport? | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Short term <input type="checkbox"/> Medium term <input type="checkbox"/> Long term | |
| 2. Food, Diet and Obesity – will the proposal support healthy food choices and local food growing opportunities? | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Short term <input type="checkbox"/> Medium term <input type="checkbox"/> Long term | |
| 3. Green infrastructure – inclusion of multi-functional green infrastructure, providing benefits such as; access, play and recreation, attractive environments and wildlife habitat, flooding, climate and air quality management, relaxation and enhanced mental wellbeing. | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Short term <input type="checkbox"/> Medium term <input type="checkbox"/> Long term | |
| 4. Transport & travel – how will the proposal affect participation in active travel (cycling / walking), access to | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Short term <input type="checkbox"/> Medium term <input type="checkbox"/> Long term | |

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|---|--|---|---|--|
| services, road safety, congestion and pollution? | | | | |
| 5.Streets / public spaces – which are safe, interesting and attractive, accessible and not polluted. | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Short term <input type="checkbox"/> Medium term <input type="checkbox"/> Long term | |
| 6.Social interaction & infrastructure – providing facilities and spaces that can be used for formal and informal social interaction and community activity. e.g. community facilities, informal meeting places | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Short term <input type="checkbox"/> Medium term <input type="checkbox"/> Long term | |
| 7.Healthcare infrastructure – providing suitable healthcare infrastructure to meet the needs of the new development and its occupiers. | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Short term <input type="checkbox"/> Medium term <input type="checkbox"/> Long term | |
| 8.Economy and employment – providing access to employment and learning opportunities and creating workplace environments which | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Short term <input type="checkbox"/> Medium term <input type="checkbox"/> Long term | |

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|--|--|---|---|--|
| support employee health and wellbeing. | | | | |
| 9.Community safety and crime reduction - creating a safe and inclusive environment that acts to prevent accidents and discourage crime and antisocial behaviour. | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Short term <input type="checkbox"/> Medium term <input type="checkbox"/> Long term | |
| 10.Healthy homes – which support health and wellbeing, through providing adequate internal and external space, attractive, accessible design and are flexible to meet changing needs. | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Short term <input type="checkbox"/> Medium term <input type="checkbox"/> Long term | |
| 11.Health inequalities – will the proposals cause health inequalities or help to reduce them? | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Short term <input type="checkbox"/> Medium term <input type="checkbox"/> Long term | |
| 12.Hazards to health – ensuring that hazards to health and wellbeing (such as pollution) have been designed out or minimised to an acceptable level. | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Short term <input type="checkbox"/> Medium term <input type="checkbox"/> Long term | |

Summary and Recommendations:

(Please provide a summary of the key issues identified through the Health Impact Assessment process and identify key recommendations for addressing the issues assessed).