

Appendix 4 Health & Equalities Impact Assessment – key findings and recommendations

Assessment Conclusion

The revised Core Strategy and supporting policies represents a well constructed and coordinated effort to address existing environmental and health issues throughout Brighton & Hove, and seek to further improve the successful and sustainable growth of the City and its residents.

Development Areas

The development area policies generally present an opportunity to improve the health and wellbeing of local communities through a range of key health determinants, and further consider local community circumstance and opportunities to improve health and address inequality. Potential adverse health outcomes largely relate to community disruption during the construction of such areas, changes in health need (from population growth or a change in age structure) and transport impacts from a combination of increased population growth and increased visitation to the areas. However, such issues are addressed through the crosscutting core policies and balanced against far more significant long-term health improvement opportunities.

The only unclear outcome during the appraisal of the development area policies is that of the diversification of West Street and the Lower Promenade (DA1). Currently, such areas are associated with a vibrant night-time entertainment district. Diversifying such areas will support broader markets spread throughout the day with associated socio-economic opportunities. However, potentially dispersing the night-time entertainment industries may also result in dispersing associated antisocial behaviour. It is recommended that the Council engage with the emergency services to further investigate what effect such diversification may have on surrounding areas and subsequent emergency service resources.

The development area policies are not anticipated to adversely impact upon any particular sensitive community groups, and are geared to support the development of more sustainable, cohesive and vibrant communities. Such health benefits are further supported by the special area, sustainable neighbourhoods and core policies, which seem implicitly geared at addressing local circumstance and improving the uptake of health benefits locally.

Special Area Policies

The special area policies are geared at enhancing, protecting and supporting the sustainable use of key areas throughout Brighton & Hove. The policies key benefit to health include improving the viability and success of cultural, historic, leisure and retail industries and associated income and employment opportunities, coupled with increased access and accessibility (promoting green and public transport), improved services and amenities and an enhanced built environment. Potential adverse health impacts largely include a potential increase in vehicles (associated with increased visitation) and a potential change in local health care and emergency services to support the safe use of the urban fringe and South Downs (i.e. emergency and rescue services, first aid stations etc). However, it is important to note that the transport issues in particular are addressed through the crosscutting core policies, where the Core Strategy places a strong emphasis on increased physical activity as a core mode of transport and recreation.

The only unclear outcome is associated with the potential change in population number, composition and structure should the contingency of residential development on the urban fringe (SA4) be implemented. However, it is appreciated that in such instance, further assessment will be required and will be further addressed through cross cutting policies such as CP4.

The sustainable neighbourhoods policy is specifically geared to address a range of existing community social, economic, health and inequality issues in Brighton & Hove. The policies represent targeted measures to ensure communities have a part to play in the planning of their local environments, providing key services necessary to achieve good health and to build civic pride.

The special area policies are not anticipated to adversely impact upon any particular sensitive community groups, and are geared to support the development of more sustainable, cohesive and vibrant communities.

Core Policies

The core policies provide a series of cross cutting themes intended to deliver the Core Strategy spatial objectives and support the uptake of socio-economic and health benefits locally.

Due to the focused nature of each of the policies, potential health benefits vary. However, it is important to note that all of the policies have some degree of overlap and appear to have been carefully developed to mutually address a wide range of environmental, socio-economic and health issues and support the delivery and the uptake of potential health benefits. In particular the healthy cities policy (CP4) seeks to ensure community health is an explicit consideration at both the strategic and project level, and aims to actively promote healthy urban design and more coordinated efforts to address and improve community health and inequality.

Potential health issues largely include a change in health needs, education facilities and transport requirements associated with changes in population number and visitation to the area.

Potentially sensitive community groups vary between the policies, but generally relate to benefits to specific community groups. As an example, the affordable housing policy (CP12) will aid in supporting sensitive community groups including, the elderly, the infirm, those experiencing relative socio-economic deprivation and the unemployed. As such, the core policies are inherently geared at protecting and improving the health and wellbeing of communities throughout Brighton & Hove.

Health Impact Assessment

Although the various policies demonstrate a coordinated approach to addressing community health issues at the strategic level, Core Policy 4 (Healthy Cities) provides a clear means to drive healthy urban design throughout Brighton & Hove at the project level. In this instance, the policy forms a local requirement for developers to perform HIA at the project level, and more specifically, requiring all developers to demonstrate how their plans consider local circumstance and inequality, manage potential risks and enhance potential health benefits.

This makes community health and its promotion a material consideration in the local planning process, actively encouraging developments that support both PCT and City Council strategic objectives for healthier, more cohesive and vibrant communities.

However, in 2009, HIA remains a voluntary process with varying guidance, methodologies and outputs. As such, the key recommendation in this instance is to provide developers with clear HIA guidance illustrating:

- the benefit of demonstrating inherent healthy urban design features and how a masterplan will support the Core Strategy Objectives;
- how to effectively integrate the process of HIA into their existing planning process with minimum cost and delay;
- clear communication channels and protocols (i.e. the need to clarify the scope of any HIA with the City Council or PCT);
- Local Planning Authority HIA expectations (for various project types and sizes), in order to ensure all developers provide appropriate, concise and objective focused HIA;
- the principles of Healthy Urban Design, and the specific priority design features for Brighton & Hove; and
- City-wide community support programmes, to encourage and coordinate developer support initiatives to addressing existing inequality and encouraging health improvements.

Such information is necessary to aid developers in supporting the delivery of the core strategy vision and the development of vibrant, cohesive and healthy communities.

Table to show issues and recommendations for each policy

Policy	Issue / Health Pathway	Recommended Change / Policy Providing Mitigation
DA1	Generation of direct, indirect and induced Income and employment opportunities during both construction and operation contributing towards improved socio-economic, mental and physical health.	Establish policies to further improve and target the uptake of such opportunities in socio-economically deprived areas. Such policies might include encouraging developers to provide work experience and apprenticeship during the construction phase, through to targeted local training programmes and partnerships with employment agencies as the development becomes operational.
	Potential educational and apprenticeship opportunities during construction and increased access to cultural facilities and amenities once operational with subsequent benefits to health and wellbeing	It is recommended to where appropriate encourage developers to provide local work experience and apprenticeship during the construction phase. Such an approach could be linked through CP4, where developers will be required to demonstrate and enhance how they will support the core strategy vision and local community health improvements.
	Visitation with subsequent increase in transport, and a potential impact on local air quality and safety (i.e. risk of collision).	The Core Strategy clearly establishes that the development of sustainable transport options (CP8) will be key to the long term success of the proposed development area, encouraging a modal shift away from private vehicle use to green and public transport. As such, the Core Strategy already provides strategic level measures to address this potential health issue.
	The diversification of West Street and the lower seafront promenade has the potential to expand existing markets to a wider demographic, but may also disperse existing markets, with subsequent dispersal of associated and perceived antisocial behaviour and crime.	It is recommended to engage with the Police and Primary Care Trust to further address perceived and actual antisocial behaviour and crime in the area, and to support the delivery and success of new and diversified evening economy leisure and cultural facilities.
	The construction stage has the potential to reduce access and accessibility.	Potential impacts upon access and accessibility during construction will be addressed during the planning application stage, and subject to CP4, likely to be further addressed through the requirement of a HIA.
	The proposed development is not anticipated to increase demand or change local health care requirements.	Given the anticipated increase in visitor throughput, it is recommended to engage with the PCT to discuss any additional health care service requirement/benefit in the redeveloped Churchill Square.
	During construction the proposed development has the potential to result in air and noise emissions with the potential to cause local	Environmental construction issues will be addressed at the project level, and subject to CP4, are likely to be further addressed through an appropriately scoped HIA.

Policy	Issue / Health Pathway	Recommended Change / Policy Providing Mitigation
	community annoyance and disruption	
DA2	Proposed development will increase the local population number, increase population density and present an opportunity to change the age and socio-economic structure of local residents in the area.	In order to full capitalise on such opportunities, it is recommended that the mix, type and flexibility of housing is carefully considered to ensure a varied population demographic and to encourage the development of long term communities
	The proposed development will result in direct, indirect and induced income and employment opportunities during both construction and operation. In particular, the increased resident population will increase the viability of new amenities and services serving both the new and neighbouring communities.	It is recommended that the City Council further target training and employment strategies to build the local skills base and improve the uptake of socio-economic health benefits in neighbouring communities.
	Due to the increased population, and subsequent service demand (i.e. schools, health care etc), the proposed development will either provide appropriate social infrastructure or provide an appropriate planning contribution. Both the additional population and contribution has the potential to improve the long-term viability of local educational services.	The additional demand and shortfall of educational places will be established during the project level, and be largely defined by the number, mix and type of housing. However, where possible it is recommended that such planning contributions are made locally to benefit the neighbouring communities that will incur the additional population.
	The increased resident population will increase local private car use and an associated increase in parking requirements.	Recommended that under CP4, developers are required to demonstrate how their particular transport strategy will encourage such health opportunities (opportunities for physical activity)
	It is unclear how the proposed development might influence actual and perceived crime in the area.	It is recommended that crime and safety are scoped into any project level HIA deemed necessary, and that local communities are engaged
	The proposed development area is supported by clear strategic policies to increase the number of, and access to a wide range of community amenities, facilities, recreation and social areas within and between existing and new communities.	It is recommended, that through CP4, developers clearly establish in their access and accessibility plans, how the proposed development will improve access and accessibility to and between neighbouring communities to remove community barriers and further support the Core Strategy Vision.

Policy	Issue / Health Pathway	Recommended Change / Policy Providing Mitigation
	The additional population will result in an increased demand for primary and secondary health care	It is recommended that developers work with the PCT to establish both existing and planned health care capacity and where appropriate contribute towards the provision of health care services to address any shortfall
DA3	It is unclear how the proposed development might influence actual and perceived crime in the area. There is the potential that by further encouraging the consolidation of student residents in and along the academic corridor may increase opportunistic crime during academic holiday periods	It is further recommended that the police are consulted on the academic corridor, to discuss potential issues and measures to further reduce and prevent crime.
	The proposed development will result in a moderate increase in housing and associated health care need. However, the academic corridor is also likely to increase the appeal of student residents in the area, with different health care requirements to the general public.	It is recommended to engage with the PCT to address the varying health care need in the area, and inform the planning of future health care provision.
DA4	The proposed development will result in increasing the local population and subsequent primary and secondary health care needs.	It is recommended to engage with the PCT to discuss future health care needs in the area.
DA7	The proposed development represents a significant opportunity to balance a predominately elderly population in the Joint Area with a younger / more varied age structure.	The number, type, mix and affordability of housing will ultimately define the number of new residents, their age structure and socioeconomic status. This will also define the scale and viability of necessary infrastructure to deliver the development. It is recommended that a HIA be commissioned to further support the implementation of healthy urban design and the delivery of a successful, sustainable and vibrant community.
	The proposed development and associated population growth will increase transport requirements.	It is recommended that should a HIA be required, that transport be scoped as a key issue to be addressed.
	The population growth attributed to the proposed	It is recommended to engage with the PCTs covering the Joint Area to discuss

Policy	Issue / Health Pathway	Recommended Change / Policy Providing Mitigation
	development is likely to increase primary and secondary health care services in the area. In addition, the change in age structure will also influence future health care provision in the area.	future health care provision, and any necessary health care planning conditions. Furthermore, considering the scale of the development area, it is recommended that a HIA be commissioned and scoped with the PCTs.
SA1	The special area policy seeks to improve the flow of traffic and enhance public and green transport in the area, improving air quality and increasing physical activity as a key mode of transport and recreation. However, there is the potential that increased vehicle flows may result in an increased risk of road traffic collisions along certain routes.	It is recommended that at the project level, the transport strategy include a specific section of on road and pedestrian safety to further manage risk to both residents and visitors to Brighton & Hove.
	The special area policy does not directly influence lifestyle, but presents opportunities for increased access and use of the seafront and associated sports facilities for recreational use.	To increase the uptake of health benefits associated with new and improved access to sport, leisure and cultural facilities, it is recommended that the Council raise awareness and promote the use of such facilities locally.
	The special area policy will increase and spread out the use of the seafront. This may result in increased health and emergency service requirements (i.e. lifeguards, first aiders and coast guard).	It is recommended to engage with the PCT and Emergency services to establish any additional infrastructure required to support the safe delivery of the special area policy (i.e. life guard towers, first aid stations, meeting / visual points etc).
SA2	There is the potential that by dispersing large bars/pubs may disperse associated public safety concerns and services required to address them (i.e. police, ambulance etc).	It is recommended to engage with the PCT and Police to discuss the potential emergency service need to address a more dispersed bars/pubs in Brighton & Hove.
	The special area policy seeks to enhance the attractiveness of pedestrians areas to encourage visitation and walking as the best way of commuting within Brighton & Hove.	It is recommended to further highlight that walking is the best way of exploring what Brighton & Hove has to offer.
SA4	Increased visitation to the urban fringe has the	To manage potential transport risk from visitation, it is recommended that a

Policy	Issue / Health Pathway	Recommended Change / Policy Providing Mitigation
	<p>potential to increase associated transport requirements (public, private and green transport), with associated risks to health.</p> <p>Should the contingency be implemented, population growth in the Urban Fringe has the potential to increase transport requirements to areas of employment, recreation, amenities and facilities. Due to the nature of such areas, it is anticipated that transport via private vehicles will be the key mode of transport.</p>	<p>transport study be performed at the project level to inform the development of appropriate parking facilities (to prevent inappropriate parking practice and associated health risks to both pedestrians and road users), to plan and support viable / sustainable public transport options and support the use of green transport networks.</p> <p>Should the contingency be implemented, it is recommended that a detailed transport assessment be performed to both ensure sufficient access and accessibility and to manage potential transport related health issues.</p>
	<p>The special area policy seeks to increase sustainable tourism along the urban fringe. This may require additional health care and emergency service to the area.</p>	<p>Engage with the PCT and Emergency Services to discuss any necessary infrastructure or additional service to support the delivery of the special area policy (i.e. health stations, rescue services etc). In the instance the housing contingency is implemented, it is again recommended to engage with the PCT to discuss additional health care requirements and the viability of a local health centre</p>
	<p>In the instance that the housing contingency is implemented, there is the potential to increase the environmental burden on such areas through a combination of increased population density, development and the provision of associated infrastructure. Key risks are largely dependant upon the magnitude of development and include potential impacts upon existing communities (i.e. loss of character) and increased demand on local services and amenities reducing access and accessibility.</p>	<p>It is understood that the housing contingency will only be implemented should there be a shortfall in strategic housing post 2020, and if all adverse impacts of development are minimised and appropriately compensated for. In the instance such a contingency is implemented, it is anticipated that potential environmental and health issues will be investigated and addressed through planning, regulatory assessments and the requirements of policy CP4.</p>
SA5	<p>The special area policy will not directly influence lifestyle, but presents an opportunity to increase physical activity as a mode of recreation and transport and encourages locally grown produce.</p>	<p>Promote the use of green networks as a mode of transport and recreation.</p>

Policy	Issue / Health Pathway	Recommended Change / Policy Providing Mitigation
	There is the potential that increasing visitation to such areas may require additional health care facilities / infrastructure (i.e. health stations).	Engage with the PCT and Emergency Services to discuss any additional infrastructure and services to support the delivery of the special area policy (first aid stations, rescue services etc).
SA6	The policy is geared at addressing socioeconomic and associated health inequality by improving access and opportunities for income and employment.	The policy indicates increased empowerment of local residents to aid in defining local improvements. It is recommended that HIA be used as a tool to investigate local community needs and any barriers to potential benefit uptake. It is recommended that developers are required to demonstrate how their developments will support the delivery of the strategic vision (and improve renewal areas). Such information will enable the planning authority to approve projects that best support local communities and address inequality.
	The policy also highlights the requirement to address barriers limiting the uptake of income and employment opportunities, including, raising the local skills base, and working with local strategic partners.	It is recommended that developers are required to demonstrate how their developments they will support the delivery of the strategic vision (and improve renewal areas). Such information will enable the planning authority to approve projects that best support local communities and address inequality.
	The policy is geared at improving the quality of local community environments, supporting healthy, vibrant and cohesive communities through health urban design. The policy will also seek to improve the quality of the built environment of renewal areas and implement the principles of health urban design to address local social, health and economic needs.	It is recommended to encourage developers to demonstrate the inherent health benefits of their developments and to engage with local communities to further support the uptake of local health benefits.
CP2	The policy will increase population density in specific areas of Brighton & Hove to address housing targets and demand. The population number, composition and structure will be defined by the residential type and mix to be ascertained at the project level.	Further assessment will be required to ascertain the level, rate, mix and significance of population growth as the policy is implemented.
	The policy may increase health care need through an increased population density	Engage with the PCT to discuss future health care requirements.

Policy	Issue / Health Pathway	Recommended Change / Policy Providing Mitigation
CP4	The policy makes a requirement for strategic and project level developments to consider a wide range of potential health pathways	<p>It is recommended to provide HIA Best Practice Guidance or Supplementary Planning Guidance to aid delivering this policy.</p> <p>Furthermore, it is recommended to highlight the benefit of demonstrating a projects inherent health features to existing communities and tailoring projects to address local concerns and needs. Such action is mutually beneficial, aiding the Planning Authority to select projects that support the health and wellbeing of local communities, support the delivery of the strategic vision, and improve the success and sustainability of new developments.</p>
CP7	An increase in sports is likely to result in an increase in sports injuries. As such, it is likely that such a change in lifestyle throughout Brighton & Hove, may change subsequent health care requirements.	It is recommended to engage with the PCT to discuss the inherent health benefits of the policy, the potential change in future health care requirements, but also the potential for increased sports related injuries and any necessary additional services and infrastructure (i.e. health stations in proximity to sports venues)
CP9		It is recommended that planning contributions consider the contribution of affordable housing and inherent planning features designed to improve community health, in order to ensure sufficient commercial viability for developments and to prevent less healthy urban design to accommodate planning contributions
	The supporting text of the policy indicates the where appropriate, developers will be required to support health care services to manage any shortfall in capacity directly attributed to the proposed development.	It is recommended that when investigating potential health care planning contributions, such provision consider design features geared at preventing the onset of poor health and exclude affordable housing units (as such residents will have already been accounted in local health care funding). This will not only support the rationalisation of such contributions, but also prevent developers from removing healthy design features intended to prevent the onset of poor health to pay for treatment based health care

Policy	Issue / Health Pathway	Recommended Change / Policy Providing Mitigation
CP11	The policy will not directly influence educational infrastructure, but may increase demand.	The policy clearly establishes that all proposed residential developments will be required to demonstrate impacts on existing physical/social infrastructure and to clearly demonstrate how additional demand for associated infrastructure and local services will be met as part of the development proposal.
	The policy does not directly seek to influence services or amenities, and clearly states that increased demand upon key services and amenities will be addressed as part of the development proposal. Such a requirement extends to the housing contingency of SA4.	The policy clearly establishes that all proposed residential developments will be required to demonstrate impacts on existing physical/social infrastructure and to clearly demonstrate how additional demand for associated infrastructure and local services will be met as part of the development proposal.
CP16/17	Although the policy will not directly influence transport. The policy indicates the benefit of locating high tech employment opportunities in Shoreham to facilitate local regeneration. However, it is important note that a relatively mature population coupled with a relatively low skills base in the joint area may reduce viability and/or encourage a predominately commuting workforce with associated transport issues.	Regeneration and business appeal will go hand in hand, where areas such as Shoreham will require significant regeneration, transport, housing, retail etc) in order to attract a younger and more professional demographic to the area.

