Healthy Urban Development Unit

Watch out for health

A checklist for assessing the health impact of planning proposals

1. Use of this guide

Watch Out for Health is a tool to assess the impact on health and wellbeing of planning policies, proposals and projects. These include:

- ☐ Regional and sub-regional planning policies (regional spatial strategies)
- ☐ Development Plan Documents
- ☐ Supplementary Planning Documents
- ☐ Masterplans
- ☐ Projects
- ☐ Planning applications

This guide helps to ensure that health is properly considered when evaluating and determining proposals. It allows the opportunity to influence proposals to maximise the benefit to human health and assists policies, plans and developments to be justified on the basis of their positive effect on health.

Potential users of this guide may include the following:

- Local authorities, Primary Care Trusts, other Health Trusts, public bodies and agencies. It provides a checklist or screening tool to evaluate proposals, identify issues and areas for improvement as well as to inform reports.
- Developers and consultants involved in development proposals by helping to inform design choices and to demonstrate the benefit of proposals.
- Community, voluntary groups and organisations interested in well being of local residents; enabling them to evaluate the merits and health impacts of proposals.

In considering key health issues (obesity, diabetes, respiratory disease, road and traffic injuries, health inequalities etc.) and possible spatial planning interventions refer to HUDU's Delivering Healthier Communities and also Table 1 of Integrating Health into the Core Strategy: A Guide for Primary Care Trusts in London (2008). By making sure that health impacts directly related to a proposal as well as indirect influences on the wider community are assessed, both positive and negative outcomes can be considered to help shape and improve decisions so as to protect health and wellbeing as well as enhance development.

The checklist process should not just raise concerns or problems associated with proposals but also attempt to articulate how these problems might be solved. The process of evaluation should be transparent and open. This guide should help to weigh conflicting priorities and goals. It is not designed to be used to advocate for or discourage any specific policies or proposal but rather to highlight issues and to facilitate discussion.

Note

Watch Out for Health is partly based on the WHO publication 'Healthy Urban Planning' by Hugh Barton and Catherine Tsourou (2000). This guide does not review all issues related to health, the focus is on that related to the built environment. The checklist should be used with caution; the appraiser will need to consider the proposal on its merits. In some cases there may be a lack of information and/or data about certain aspects of the proposal, this should not hinder the evaluation process but rather facilitate a more comprehensive approach to be adopted.

2. When and how to use this guide

This guide is generic and should be localised for your specific use. The checklist should ideally be used at the early stage of the proposal being formulated. In context of development proposals this should be at the pre-application stage. Further, a timetable for response should be clarified or established. To get meaningful and comprehensive positive outcomes for health, in-depth consideration should be given to the proposal. Relevant people with specific knowledge or skills where required should be involved. Ideally the appraisal process should be done by a group to ensure a consistent approach.

This guide is divided into three distinctive sections or stages (Table 1 below). Appraisers should go through these sections to help them adequately consider the proposal.

Table 1: Sections or stages related to the appraisal process.

Stage	Contents
1: Scoping health issues	The purpose of this section is to give you an overview of health considerations with regard to various topic components, in particular potential negative and positive effects of planning. It also provides prompts in terms of thinking about issues related to the proposal as well as relevant planning policies and information links. Check which elements might be relevant and focus on these.
2: Evaluating the proposal	This provides the format via which to assess the proposal. Questions are derived from the issues outlined in the first stage. Positive or negative impacts for health should be considered and possible action or mitigation put forward. Not all of the sections or questions may be relevant in terms of the particular proposal being analysed however you need to give them consideration.
3: Recommendations and monitoring of outcomes	The outputs from Stage 2 should provide a basis for writing a response brief on the proposal as feedback to the originators or planning authority. Table 2 enables a simple overview to be gained for quick reference and possible dissemination. The issues identified should be detailed and summarised within the brief including positive and negative health concerns as well as suggested actions or mitigations in context of the latter. This should also identify the particular entities responsible for the respective actions identified and timescales. Once actions and/or recommendations have been submitted, progress should be charted including whether suggested actions or mitigation to enable positive outcomes for health have been considered and/or implemented. Clarify any issues or provide further information where required. Without actual agreement and implementation, positive outcomes for health may not actually be realised. Such actions may include conditions imposed on the planning application and Section 106 agreements in terms of funding for mitigation for the impact of the proposal etc.

The length and detail of answers should be related to the scale and complexity of the proposals. They should also be supported by appropriate evidence. Where relevant, it may cross refer to other documents in which the issues are dealt with in more detail, such as the design and access statement, energy assessment or a planning statement. Many of the questions outlined in the checklist can be answered through information provided by other assessments such as the Code for Sustainable Homes, BREEAM, Sustainability Appraisals, Environmental Impact Assessments, Design and Access Statements. Table 2 below outlines some of the key frameworks. While completing the assessment will take some time and consideration, generally it will not involve undertaking additional assessments, other than those which are already required and commonly undertaken.

Table 2: List of relevant assessments

Assessment	Process
Code for Sustainable Homes/ BREEAM	Code of Sustainable Homes (CSH) is a national standard to guide the design and construction of sustainable homes. The Code gives a rating from 1 to 6. The higher the rating, the more sustainable the design of the home. Level 4 is roughly the equivalent of a BREEAM excellent score. The assessment includes efficiency in energy, water, waste, material, ecology and flooding. Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) is a tool which can be used to assess 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. Code for Sustainable Homes or BREEAM assessment should be undertaken for all major development proposals. Further information is available at Communities and Local Government (CLG) entitled The Code for Sustainable Homes: Setting the standard in sustainability for new homes while information on BREEAM is available on the organisation's website.
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 Regional Spatial Strategies, 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. An SA 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); modifying policies in the light of the appraisal; and identifying sustainable development indicators (SDI) so the plan's long term delivery of sustainability can be monitored. Information on Sustainability Appraisal can be found on the Communities and Local Government website.

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)	An EIA may be required to identify the environmental effects of a proposed development and ensure that these are thoroughly understood. Under the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations (Amendment) 2008. EIAs are compulsory for certain types of development which 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. Further information is set out in Environmental Impact Assessment: A Guide to procedures published by CLG.
Health Impact Assessments (HIA)	Large schemes should provide a HIA. The purpose of an HIA is to identify the impacts of development on health and ensure that these are taken into account in preparing a proposal. There is no legally defined process on how to carry out a HIA. The need for a HIA should be assessed through the submission of an EIA screening opinion. The Public Health section of the local Primary Health Trust should be informed. Further information on HIA is set out in Health Impact Assessment: questions and guidance for impact assessment published by the Department of Health (2007).
Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA)	EqIA is a tool which can be used to assess the impact of policies, plans or projects on particular groups of the community. EqIA is intended to examine the aims, implementation and effects of policies, practices and plans to ensure that no groups of the community are receiving or are likely to receive less favourable treatment or outcomes that are unfair or discriminatory (whether directly or indirectly) and regard is had to the need to promote equality among such groups. Further information on EqIAs is contained in the Mayor's Planning for Equality and Diversity in London SPG and the GLA's guidance on How to do Equality Impact Assessments.
Design and Access Statements	A design and access statement 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 places built. Further information on design and access statements is available from the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE), Design and Access Statements: How to write, read and use them (2007).

Issues overview: **Direct Influences**

1. Introduction: Direct Influences

This scoping process provides an overview of various issues to be considered in context of the proposal, in particular potential negative and positive effects. It also provides prompts in terms of thinking about key issues as well as relevant planning policies and information links. Issues under consideration here relate to **key direct impacts (or influences)** related to a proposal or development, including: housing; access to public services; opportunities for physical activity; air quality; noise and neighbourhood amenity as well as accessibility and transport. There are wider, indirect impacts (or influences) which are considered in Section 2.

1.1 Housing

Criteria for assessing policy

- Do proposals encourage and promote housing quality?

Health benefits

Access to decent and adequate housing is critically important, especially for the very young and very old in terms of health and wellbeing. 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.

Potential negative effects of planning

A lack of affordable housing within communities may compromise the health of low-income residents as they are likely to spend more on housing costs and less on other health needs. Poor choice of location, design and orientation of housing developments can be detrimental to physical and mental health, housing that is overcrowded can also cause mental disorders, physical illness and accidents. Inappropriate buildings can also in some instances affect health and combined with social isolation can lead to depression. The quality of build including type of materials used also have the potential to contribute towards a number of health problems.

Positive effects of planning

Making provision for affordable housing has the potential to improve wellbeing, while housing quality can be improved by use of appropriate construction methods. This includes use of good materials for noise insulation and energy-efficiency as well as detailed design considerations in making sure that homes are accessible, adaptable and well oriented. Such issues are emphasised in Building for Life (2008), an assessment process devised by the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE). Providing a sufficient range of housing tenures with good basic services is also essential. Adaptable buildings for community uses such as health, education and leisure can contribute towards a sustainable community, while the provision of Lifetime Homes (as outlined in Code for Sustainable Homes) allows residents to remain in their home despite changing accommodation requirements. In this context, adaptable housing more easily permits care to be provided in the community.

Thinking about the headline issues
for Stage 2 Checklist process

- Code for Sustainable Homes
- Wheelchair access enabled homes
- Adaptable homes
- Good design and orientation including internal layout
- Housing mix
- Energy efficient homes
- Affordable homes

London Plan policies
(consolidated since 2004) published in 2008

Policy 3A.4 Efficient use of stock
Policy 3A.5 Housing choice
Policy 3A.6 Quality of new housing
Policy 3A.7 Large residential developments
Policy 3A.8 Definition of affordable housing
Policy 3A.9 Affordable housing targets
Policy 3A.10 Negotiating affordable housing in individual private residential and mixed-use schemes
Policy 3A.12 Partnership approach and sub-regional frameworks
Policy 3A.13 Special needs and specialist housing
Policy 3A.14 London's travellers and gypsies
Policy 3A.15 Loss of housing and affordable housing
Policy 3A.16 Loss of hostels, staff accommodation and shared accommodation
Policy 3A.17 Addressing the needs of London's diverse population
Policy 4B.1 Design principles for a compact city
Policy 4B.8 Respect local context and communities
Policy 4B.10 Large scale buildings – design and impact

Planning Policy Statement (PPS)

PPS 1 Delivering Sustainable Development
PPS 3 Housing
PPS 6 Planning for Town Centres

Planning Policy Guidance (PPG)

PPG 13 Transport

Links and References

Key Determinents of Health: Housing
www.lho.org.uk/HIL/Determinants_Of_Health/Housing.htm

Building for Life Standard
www.buildingforlife.org

Lifetime Homes Standards
www.jrf.org.uk/housingandcare/lifetimehomes/default.asp

Lifetime Homes, Lifetime Neighbourhoods: A National Strategy for Housing in an Ageing Society
www.communities.gov.uk/publicatons/housing/lifetimehomesneighbourhoods

Supplementary Planning Guidance: Accessible London
www.london.gov.uk/mayor/stratefgies/sds/accessible_london.jsp

Supplementary Planning Guidance: Sustainable Design and Construction
www.london.gov.uk/mayor/strategies/sds/sustainable_design.jsp

1.2 Access to Public Services

Criteria for assessing policy

- Do proposals encourage and promote access to good public services?

Health benefits

In developing strong, vibrant, sustainable communities and promoting community cohesion, public services and infrastructure is required. The use of primary care and preventative health care services is dependent on a number of factors including physical access to health facilities and transportation. Provision and access to good quality public services not only in context of healthcare but also education and community facilities has a direct positive effect on human health. Opportunities for the community to participate in the planning of such services has the potential not only for positive effects on mental health and wellbeing but also can lead to greater community cohesion.

Potential negative effects of planning

Failing to plan for different public service needs of an area leads to an unsustainable community. Under provision can contribute towards excessive travel, particularly for health, education, social and other local authority and central government services (damaging social cohesion and social capital). For those with mobility problems including the elderly localised access to public services is vitally important, public services located far away can cause significant problems not only in terms of accessing vital services but also preventing opportunities for daily social interaction which could contribute to isolation and depression.

Positive effects of planning

By planning and providing for good local public services including configuration as well as establishment of multi-functional building that can accommodate a number of integrated public services, it is possible to provide better outcomes for health and wellbeing, reduce the need to travel as well as enhance social relationships within the community.

Thinking about the headline issues
for Stage 2 Checklist process

- Public services needs, location and accessibility
- HUDU Model assessment
- Reconfiguration of health and social care services
- Multiuse of buildings
- Access to community facilities

London Plan policies
(consolidated since 2004) published in 2008

Policy 3A.20 Locations for health care
Policy 3A.21 Health objectives
Policy 3A.22 Medical excellence
Policy 3A.24 Education facilities
Policy 3A.25 Higher and further education
Policy 3A.26 Community Strategies
Policy 3A.29 Supporting neighbourhood plans

Planning Policy Statement (PPS)

PPS 1 Delivering Sustainable Development
PPS 3 Housing
PPS 12 Local Spatial Planning
PPS 6 Planning for Town Centres

Planning Policy Guidance (PPG)

PPG 17 Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation

Links and References

Sustainable Communities Plan
www.communities.gov.uk/communities/sustainablecommunities/sustainablecommunities

Sustainable Communities – Global to Local
www.sustainable-development.gov.uk/key/local-global.htm

Key determinants of health: Education
www.lho.org.uk/HIL/Determinants_Of_Health/Education.aspx

Key determinants of health: Transport
www.lho.org.uk/HIL/Determinants_Of_Health/Transport.aspx

1.3 Opportunities for Physical Activity

Criteria for assessing proposals

- Do proposals encourage and promote healthy living?

Health benefits

Reducing dependence on vehicles and providing secure, convenient and attractive open/green space can lead to more physical exercise and reduce levels of heart disease, strokes and other ill health problems that are associated with both sedentary occupations and stressful lifestyles. Further, parks and open spaces provide 'escape facilities' for people in urban environments and help to reduce depression. The patterns of physical activity established in childhood are perceived to be a key determinant of adult behaviour; a growing number of children miss out on regular exercise, consequently access to play areas, community or sport centres can help overcome some of the problems associated. Generally access to good quality environments for physical activity is associated with increase in the frequency of its use.

Potential negative effects of planning

Failing to protect local green spaces and playing fields near to communities can limit the opportunities for exercise. Isolated developments which do not facilitate wider community interaction can lead people to have sedentary lifestyles as well as contribute towards mental ill health. Location of housing and employment sites far away from sports, leisure or shopping facilities can contribute towards longer trip patterns and encourage excessive use of cars leading to unhealthy lifestyles.

Positive effects of planning

Planning can create attractive, safe and convenient environments that encourage people to walk and cycle to school, their place of work or shops as well as interact and thereby improve social and mental wellbeing. Development plans can ensure adequate recreational opportunities with equality of distribution among the community and in suitably accessible locations. Green space should be protected, created and enhanced by for example incorporating activity equipment. This requires partnership working between a variety of service providers such as healthcare, social services, education professionals, employment and environmental experts. Shared knowledge and best practice examples can help inform the planning process.

Thinking about the headline issues
for Stage 2 Checklist process

- Walking
- Cycling
- Physical activity in buildings
- Opportunities for exercise
- Access to open and natural space

London Plan policies
(consolidated since 2004) published in 2008

Policy 3C.21 Improving conditions for walking
Policy 3C.22 Improving conditions for cycling
Policy 3C.23 Parking strategy
Policy 3C.24 Parking in town centres
Policy 3D.2 Town centre development
Policy 3D.6 Sports facilities
Policy 3D.8 Realising the value of open space
Policy 3D.10 Open space provision in DPDs
Policy 4B.3 Maximising the potential of sites

Planning Policy Statement (PPS)

PPS 1 Delivering Sustainable Development
PPS 3 Housing
PPS 6 Planning for Town Centres

Planning Policy Guidance (PPG)

PPG 13 Transport
PPG 17 Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation

Links and References

Lifestyle & behaviour - Physical activity
www.lho.org.uk/HIL/Lifestyle_And_Behaviour/PhysicalActivity.aspx#Exercise

Key Determinants of Health: Transport
www.lho.org.uk/HIL/Determinants_Of_Health/Transport.htm

Guide to Preparing Open Space Strategies
www.london.gov.uk/mayor/strategies/sds/open_space.jsp

Guide to Preparing Play Strategies
www.london.gov.uk/mayor/strategies/play/index.jsp

Active Design
www.sportengland.org/index/get_resources/planning_for_sport_front_page/planning_active_design.htm

Sustainable Community Sports Hubs Toolkit
www.sportengland.org/Sustainable_Community_Sports_hubs

Tackling Obesities: The Foresight Report
www.foresight.gov.uk

1.4 Air Quality, Noise and Neighbourhood Amenity

Criteria for assessing policy

- Do proposals manage and promote good air quality, protect from excessive noise and provide an attractive environment for living and working?

Health benefits

The health benefits of improved air quality include a reduced incidence of chronic lung disease (chronic bronchitis or emphysema) and heart conditions and, probably, reduced levels of asthma among children. Noise pollution can have detrimental impact on health via hearing impairment, sleep disturbance, cardiovascular and psycho-physiological effects. Appropriate insulation can contribute towards lessening of the impact of noise. The availability of amenity space can facilitate physical activity by encourage people to go outside and walk thereby increasing people's physical activity rate and sense of general wellbeing.

Potential negative effects of planning

Poor air quality results in part from ineffective land use and transport strategies, this can lead to high levels of road traffic and factories for instance polluting residential areas. Extensive research demonstrates that living in proximity to busy roads is linked to negative health outcomes resulting from vehicle emissions. The absence of good-neighbour policy can mean that residents and workers are subject to excessive noise and unpleasant fumes. Further visually arid environments with regards to amenity space can undermine wellbeing by not being welcoming or pleasant causing people to stay at home and not go out and be physically active thereby contributing towards illness in the long run.

Positive effects of planning

Planning can significantly influence land use by ensuring detailed assessment of air pollution and noise, as well as help to segregate polluting and noisy uses from residential areas. It can safeguard or enhance green space to act as 'green lungs' for the community as well as implement tree planting in context of developments to buffer areas from noise. It can ensure good quality neighbourhood amenity space is incorporated into developments, deter car use and restrict lorries to specific routes to avoid contributing towards air pollution for example near schools or town centres.

Thinking about the headline issues
for Stage 2 Checklist process

- Construction impact
- Air pollution
- Noise pollution
- Air quality
- Green space
- Amenity space

London Plan policies
(consolidated since 2004) published in 2008

Policy 4A.19 Improving air quality
Policy 4A.20 Reducing noise
Policy 4B.1 Design principles for a compact city
Policy 4B.2 Promoting world-class architecture and design
Policy 4B.3 Enhancing the quality of the public realm
Policy 4B.5 Creating an inclusive environment
Policy 4B.8 Respect local context and communities
Policy 4B.11 London's built heritage
Policy 4B.12 Heritage conservation

Planning Policy Statement (PPS)

PPS 1 Delivering Sustainable Development
PPS 6 Planning for Town Centres
PPS 9 Biodiversity and Geological Conservation
PPS 10 Planning for Sustainable Waste Management
PPS 23 Planning and Pollution Control

Planning Policy Guidance (PPG)

PPG 24 Planning and Noise

Links and References

Key Determinants of Health: Air Quality
www.lho.org.uk/HIL/Determinants_Of_Health/Environment/AirQuality.aspx

The Mayor of London's Air Quality Strategy
www.london.gov.uk/mayor/strategies/air_quality/air_quality_strategy.jsp

The Mayor of London's Ambient Noise Strategy
www.london.gov.uk/mayor/strategies/noise/index.jsp

Control of Dust and Emissions from Construction and Demolition: Best Practice Guidance
www.london.gov.uk/mayor/environment/air_quality/docs/construction-dust-bpg.pdf

Air Quality Management (Environment Act 1995)
www.defra.gov.uk/environment/airquality/local/guidance/pdf/laqm-pg03.pdf

Environmental Impact Assessment: A guide to procedures
www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/environmentalimpactassessment

1.5 Accessibility and Transport

Criteria for assessing policy

- Do proposals encourage and promote accessibility?

Health benefits

Easy, well orientated and walkable 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 to use them including the elderly and people with disability. This helps with general and mental wellbeing. Reducing dependence on cars and motorised forms of travel can lead to more physical exercise and reduce levels of heart disease and other chronic illnesses.

Potential negative effects of planning

Poor planning can restrict or hinder access in terms of orientation and layout of places and buildings, further it can restrict access to a range of services and facilities leading to disadvantage for certain groups in the community, such as the elderly, women, children and people with impairments. Additionally shopping facilities located outside of walkable town centre areas not only increase car dependency but can also reduce retail options and economic vitality of town centres.

Positive effects of planning

Planning can improve places with regard to inclusive design, access, orientation and streetscape. Manual for Streets provides useful guidance for those involved in planning and design. Planning can improve the choice of different transport modes available, in particular by making local facilities more accessible to people walking, cycling and using public transport. Cycling and walking networks can be promoted and traffic calmed to help reduce vehicle speeds in residential as well as town centre areas and lessen rates of severe accidents. Additionally, establishment of HomeZones and community involvement in the creation of the built environment can create a sense of ownership and community empowerment which help s to enhance community safety.

Thinking about the headline issues
for Stage 2 Checklist process

- Streetscape
- Accessible buildings
- Access to public transport
- Minimising the need to travel
- People who are car dependent
- Road traffic injuries

London Plan policies
(consolidated since 2004) published in 2008

Policy 3C.1 Integrating transport and development
Policy 3C.2 Matching development to transport capacity
Policy 3C.3 Sustainable transport in London
Policy 3C.4 Land for transport
Policy 3C.16 Road scheme proposals
Policy 3C.17 Tackling congestion and reducing traffic
Policy 3C.18 Allocation of street space
Policy 3C.19 Local area transport treatments
Policy 3C.21 Improving conditions for walking
Policy 3C.22 Improving conditions for cycling
Policy 3C.23 Parking strategy
Policy 3C.24 Parking in town centres
Policy 3D.2 Town centre development
Policy 3D.3 Maintaining and improving retail facilities
Policy 4B.5 Creating an inclusive environment

Planning Policy Statement (PPS)

PPS 1 Delivering Sustainable Development
PPS 6 Planning for Town Centres

Planning Policy Guidance (PPG)

PPG 13 Transport
PPG 17 Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation

Links and References

Disability Discrimination Act 1995
www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts1995/ukpga_19950050_en_1

Supplementary Planning Guidance - Accessible London
www.london.gov.uk/gla/publications/equalities.jsp

Working with Disabled People for Inclusive Access
www.london.gov.uk/gla/publications/equalities.jsp

Key Determinants of Health: Transport
www.lho.org.uk/HIL/Determinants_Of_Health/Transport.aspx

Manual for Streets Guidance
www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/sustainable/manforstreets

Planning and Access for Disabled People: A Good Practice Guide
www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/planningaccess

Places, Streets and Movement: a companion guide to Design Bulletin 32 Residential Roads and Footpaths
www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/placesstreetsamp

Accessibilty Planning
www.dft.gov.uk/

Issues overview: **Indirect Influences**

2. Introduction: Indirect Influences

Issues considered here relate to aspects of a proposal which are likely to have **wider impacts (or influences)** on health. This includes crime reduction and community safety, food access, access to work, social cohesion and social capital, resource minimisation and climate change. Thinking about the issues encompassed within this section should help with the assessment and evaluation process outlined in the checklist.

2.1 Crime Reduction and Community Safety

Criteria for assessing policy

- Do proposals encourage and promote safety and the feeling of safety in the community?

Health benefits

Crime reduction can be enhanced by thoughtful planning and urban design, while mental wellbeing of residents can be enhanced by helping to reduce the psychological 'fear of crime'. In relation to community safety aspects such as road traffic accidents for example could be addressed by traffic calming measures in particular for vulnerable groups including the young, elderly and disabled who are at particular risk.

Potential negative effects of planning

Crime can include damage to property as well as violence, injury and other offences against the person, indirect long-term influences can include the psychological and physical consequences of injury, victimisation and isolation because of fear. Urban planning can do much to worsen or alienate the problem of safety on the streets via poor design, unfriendly environments or non-consideration of community safety. Where the local pedestrian environment is intimidating and inconvenient, people use cars, and social interaction is reduced and potential for crime enhanced.

Positive effects of planning

The detailed design and layout of residential and commercial areas can ensure natural surveillance over public space that can reduce both the fear of and the actual incidence of crime. This can be assisted by creating places where people mix, enabling possibilities for community interaction and avoiding social exclusion. Further, via active use of streets, public spaces and utilisation of effective lighting there is likely to be decreased opportunities for anti-social behaviour or criminal activity. The design process can be assisted by proposals going through the Secure by Design process, a police initiative focusing on crime prevention measures in the design of developments.

Thinking about the headline issues
for Stage 2 Checklist process

- Designing out crime
- Security and street surveillance
- Mix of uses
- Community engagement

London Plan policies
(consolidated since 2004) published in 2008

Policy 4B.3 Enhancing the quality of the public realm
Policy 4B.5 Creating an inclusive environment
Policy 4B.6 Safety, security and fire prevention

Planning Policy Statement (PPS)

PPS 1 Delivering Sustainable Development
PPS 3 Housing
PPS 6 Planning for Town Centres

Links and References

Key Determinants of Health: Crime
www.lho.org.uk/HIL/Determinants_Of_Health/Crime.aspx

Designing Out Crime – Think Thief: A Designer's Guide To Designing Out Crime
www.designagainstcrime.org

Secured by Design
www.securedbydesign.com

Designing Streets for People
www.udal.org.uk/projects.html

Safer Places The Planning System and Crime Prevention
www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningand building/saferplaces

Crime Reduction
www.crimereduction.homeoffice.gov.uk/cpindex.htm

Metropolitan Police
www.met.police.uk

2.2 Access to Healthy Food

Criteria for assessing policy

- Do proposals encourage and promote easy access to healthy and affordable food?

Health benefits

Social gradients in the quality of diet and sources of nutrients contribute to inequality in health through the excessive consumption of for example salt, oil, energy-dense fat and sugar. Dietary goals to prevent chronic disease consistently emphasise the need to eat more fresh fruit and vegetables. People on low incomes, including young families, elderly and unemployed people, are the least able to eat well. Access to healthy and nutritious can improve general health. Further small scale neighbourhood schemes which facilitate production of local foods can promote mental health by increasing levels of physical activity, reducing social isolation and improving self-esteem and confidence.

Potential negative effects of planning

Planning can overlook the importance of food especially in terms of affordability and accessibility. 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, this can exacerbate social inequity. Redevelopment of local allotment gardens or agricultural land can also lessen the potential availability of locally produced foods for residents.

Positive effects of planning

By ensuring that food access and location options are considered in the planning process, including the facilitation of social enterprise, poor health conditions (including obesity and malnutrition) can be lessened by residents being able to buy food that is nutritional and affordable. Planning can assist by preserving and protecting areas for small-scale community projects, opportunities for local food production, diversity of shopping facilities in local centres, and help to alleviate individual reliance on large supermarkets. Retention of local allotment gardens, small holdings and development of farmers markets can also provide a convenient venue for the distribution of local and/or affordable produce.

Thinking about the headline issues
for Stage 2 Checklist process

- Healthy food supply
- Food supply monopolisation
- Fast food outlets
- Social enterprise
- Localised food supply
- Healthy living centres
- Allotments

London Plan policies
(consolidated since 2004) published in 2008

Policy 3D.1 Supporting town centres
Policy 3D.2 Town centre development
Policy 3D.3 Maintaining and improving retail facilities
Policy 3D.8 Realising the value of open space
Policy 3D.10 Metropolitan open land
Policy 3D.11 Open space provision in DPDs
Policy 3D.18 Agricultural in London

Planning Policy Statement (PPS)

PPS 6 Planning for Town Centres
PPS 9 Biodiversity and Geological Conservation

Planning Policy Guidance (PPG)

PPG 17 Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation

Links and References

Key Determinants of Health: Diet and Nutrition
www.lho.org.uk/HIL/Lifestyle_and_Behaviour/DietNutrition.aspx

Healthy Start: a new Welfare Food Scheme
www.dh.gov.uk/en/Healthcare/Maternity/Maternalandinfantnutrition/DH_4112476

Healthy Weight, Healthy Lives A Cross Government Strategy for England
www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_082378

Food: an analysis of the issues
www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/strategy/work_areas/food_policy.aspx

Mayor of London: Healthy and Sustainable Food for London
www.london.gov.uk/mayor/health/food/docs/food-strategy.pdf

Local Food
www.soilassociation.org/web/sa/psweb.nsf/home/index.html

5 A Day
www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publichealth/Healthimprovement/FiveADay/index.htm

Food and Health Action Plan
www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publichealth/Healthimprovement/Healthyliving/index.htm

2.3 Access to Work

Criteria for assessing policy

- Do proposals encourage and promote access to employment opportunities?

Health benefits

Job security and simply having a job can increase health and wellbeing, as well as making it easier to pursue a healthy lifestyle. Income is one of the strongest and consistent indicators of health and disease in public health research. Further job satisfaction, a sense of making a valuable contribution and wider social networks through work are all positive health contributor factors. Conversely, unemployed people and those on low income suffer an increased risk of ill health, mental health problems and even premature death.

Potential negative effects of planning

Planning can hamper the provision of job opportunities. Employment opportunities created in inaccessible locations or a lack of job variety in a community can negatively affect health and mental wellbeing both directly and indirectly. Further, a general lack of infrastructure can make places less competitive or attractive to business location.

Positive effects of planning

Urban planning linked to clear strategies for economic regeneration, allocation of appropriate sites and coordination of infrastructure provision can assist by facilitating attractive opportunities for businesses, encourage diversity in employment and ensure that local jobs are retained. Equitable transport strategies can also play an important part in providing access to job opportunities. The provision of local work can encourage shorter trip lengths and thus reduce emissions from transport and enable healthy walking or cycling options to be pursued. Access to other support services, notably childcare, can make employment opportunities easier to access for a significant segment of the population.

Thinking about the headline issues
for Stage 2 Checklist process

- Access to employment and training
- Job diversity
- Childcare
- Localised business supply

London Plan policies
(consolidated since 2004) published in 2008

Policy 3B.1 Developing London's economy
Policy 3B.2 Office demand and supply
Policy 3B.3 Mixed use development
Policy 3B.4 Industrial locations
Policy 3B.5 Supporting innovation
Policy 3B.6 Improving London's ICT infrastructure
Policy 3B.7 Promotion of e-London
Policy 3B.8 Creative industries
Policy 3B.9 Tourism industry
Policy 3B.10 Environmental industries
Policy 3B.11 Improving the skills and employment opportunities for Londoners

Planning Policy Statement (PPS)

PPS 1 Delivering Sustainable Development
PPS 6 Planning for Town Centres

Planning Policy Guidance (PPG)

PPG 4 Industrial, Commercial Development and Small Firms

Links and References

Key Determinants of Health: Employment
www.lho.org.uk/HIL/Determinants_Of_Health/Employment.aspx

Key Determinants of Health: Income
www.lho.org.uk/HIL/Determinants_Of_Health/Income.aspx

London's Economic Development Strategy
www.london.gov.uk/mayor/strategies/economic_development/index.jsp

Health, Work and Wellbeing
www.workingforhealth.gov.uk

2.4 Social Cohesion and Social Capital

Criteria for assessing policy

- Do proposals encourage and promote social cohesion and social capital?

Health benefits

Friendship and supportive networks throughout the community can help the individual at home and at work by reducing depression and chronic illness as well as speed recovery after illness. This can lead to greater fulfilment. Fragmentation of social structure can lead to ghettos according to socio-economic status, age and race and this can contribute to isolation and insecurity. Poor health and premature death can be reduced by cutting levels of poverty. The harm to health comes not only from material deprivation but also from the social and psychological problems of living in poverty especially for those who are elderly. Voluntary groups for instance can support those that are isolated and disconnected, and provide meaningful interaction which builds social capital.

Potential negative effects of planning

Social cohesion can be undermined by insensitive housing redevelopment and dispersal of resident communities. It is also undermined by roads severing community links and constructing barriers to pedestrian connectivity and by larger, intimidating commercial schemes. Planning may result in the loss of community facilities. Planning does not directly affect income but 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.

Positive effects of planning

Urban planning cannot create local community or cohesive social networks. However, social cohesion can be facilitated by creating safe and permeable environments with natural social foci where people can meet informally. Mixed-use developments in town centres and commercial environments as well as residential neighbourhoods can help widen social options. The provision of a range of diverse local employment opportunities (paid and unpaid) can also improve both social cohesion and social capital.

Thinking about the headline issues
for Stage 2 Checklist process

- Social interaction
- Local inequalities
- Mixed communities
- Access to community facilities
- Voluntary sector involvement
- Community severance

London Plan policies
(consolidated since 2004) published in 2008

Policy 3A.18 Protection and enhancement of social infrastructure and community facilities
Policy 3A.19 The voluntary and community sector
Policy 3A.26 Community Strategies
Policy 3A.29 Supporting neighbourhood plans
Policy 4B.1 Design principles for a compact city
Policy 4B.5 Creating an inclusive environment
Policy 4B.8 Respect local context and communities
Policy 4B.10 Large scale buildings – impact and design

Planning Policy Statement (PPS)

PPS 1 Delivering Sustainable Development
PPS 6 Planning for Town Centres

Planning Policy Guidance (PPG)

PPG 13 Transport
PPG 15 Planning and Historic Environment

Links and References

National Statistics social capital theme
www.statistics.gov.uk/socialcapital

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence: Social Capital
www.nice.org.uk/aboutnice/whoweare/aboutthehda/hdapublications/social_capital_and_health.jsp

Neighbourhood Renewal
www.neighbourhood.gov.uk

2.5 Resource Minimisation

Criteria for assessing policy

- Do proposals encourage and promote resource minimisation and recycling?

Health benefits

Reducing or minimising waste including disposal, processes for construction as well as encouraging recycling at all levels potentially not only improves the quality of the environment but can also improve human health directly and indirectly.

Potential negative effects of planning

If left unchecked, disposal of significant hazardous waste can have serious impact on health on those communities living near to collection or disposal sites. In context of redevelopment sending out waste to be sorted or disposed from a site can increase vehicle movements, emissions and cause significant disruption including noise and dust which can contribute towards health problems for residents. There are also ecological impacts (striping of materials, mining for minerals etc) through excessive use of resources from a scarce global environment.

Positive effects of planning

Planning can impose standards and criteria on hazardous waste disposal, recycling and domestic waste and that linked to development. It can ensure that hazardous waste is disposed of correctly, as well as ensure that local recycled and renewable materials are used whenever possible in the building construction process. Redevelopment on brownfield sites or derelict urban land also ensures that land is effectively used, recycled and enhanced. Through encouraging reduction, reuse and recycling, resource minimisation can be better realised and contribute towards a better environment. Examples of various 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.

Thinking about the headline issues
for Stage 2 Checklist process

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

London Plan policies
(consolidated since 2004) published in 2008

Policy 4A.3 Sustainable design and construction
Policy 4A.7 Renewable energy
Policy 4A.16 Water supplies and resources
Policy 4A.17 Water quality
Policy 4A.18 Water and sewerage infrastructure
Policy 4A.21 Waste strategic policy and targets
Policy 4A.22 Spatial policies for waste management
Policy 4A.23 Criteria for the selection of sites for waste management and disposal
Policy 4A.26 Numbers and types of recycling and waste treatment facilities
Policy 4A.28 Construction and demolition waste
Policy 4A.30 Better use of aggregates
Policy 4A.31 Spatial policies to support the better use of aggregates
Policy 4A.33 Bringing contaminated land into beneficial use
Policy 4A.34 Dealing with hazardous substances

Planning Policy Statement (PPS)

PPS 1 Delivering Sustainable Development (Supplementary)
PPS10 Planning for Sustainable Waste Management
PPS 22 Planning for Renewable Energy
PPS 23 Planning and Pollution Control

Links and References

Sustainable Design and Construction
www.london.gov.uk/mayor/strategies/sds/sustainable_design.jsp

The Mayor of London's Energy Strategy: Green Light to Clean Power
www.london.gov.uk/mayor/environment/energy/index.jsp

The Mayor of London's Municipal Waste Management Strategy – Rethinking Rubbish in London
www.london.gov.uk/mayor/strategies/waste/index.jsp

Recycle for London
www. Recycleforlondon.com/index.cfm

Environment Agency: Dealing with Waste
www.environment-agency.gov.uk/subjects/waste/

A Sustainable Construction Strategy
www.berr.gov.uk/sectors/construction/sustainability/page13691.html

Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method
www.breeam.org

Civil Engineering Environmental Quality assessment
www.ceequal.com

Health Protection Agency
www.hpa.org.uk

2.6 Climate Change

Criteria for assessing policy

- Do proposals encourage and promote climate stability?

Health benefits

Addressing climate change including mitigation measures and carbon stewardship can potentially help to reduce vulnerability to flooding, health impacts including fewer people (such as the elderly) becoming ill through extreme cold winters or hot summers. Developments that take advantage of sunlight, tree planting and accessible green/brown roofs also have the potential to contribute towards mental wellbeing of residents.

Potential negative effects of planning

Planning can contribute to climatic problems by failing to consider policies related to location, materials, designs or technologies which help to reduce energy consumption (using sunlight, energy conservation in construction, thermal insulation of buildings etc) or reduce the environmental impact of energy generation. Further, building on flood plain areas may also lead to potential flooding, while non-consideration of micro-climate could contribute to development which is neither suitable nor adaptable for its environment.

Positive effects of planning

Urban planning can affect the rates of human activity including for example emission of greenhouse gases by influencing energy use in buildings, transport and by developing renewable energy sources. Building sustainability and environmental considerations in at the early planning stage of a project and use of standards such as the Code for Sustainable Homes will help achieve economic, social and environmental goals simultaneously. Using sustainability as a key principle will create smarter and more successful plans and projects.

Thinking about the headline issues
for Stage 2 Checklist process

- Renewable energy
- Sustainable transport
- Biodiversity
- Flood risk
- Drainage

London Plan policies
(consolidated since 2004) published in 2008

Policy 4A.1 Tackling climate change
Policy 4A.2 Mitigating climate change
Policy 4A.3 Sustainable design and construction
Policy 4A.4 Energy assessment
Policy 4A.7 Renewable energy
Policy 4A.9 Adaptation to climate change
Policy 4A.11 Living roofs and walls
Policy 4A.13 Flood risk management
Policy 4A.14 Sustainable drainage

Planning Policy Statement (PPS)

PPS 1 Delivering Sustainable Development (Supplementary)
PPS 22 Renewable Energy
PPS 25 Development and Flood Risk

Links and References

Climate Change and Human Health
www.who.int/globalchange/climate/en

Adapting to Climate Change:
A Checklist for Development
www.london.gov.uk/lccp/publications/docs/adapting_to_climate_change.pdf

A Sustainable Construction Strategy
www.berr.gov.uk/sectors/construction/sustainability/page13691.html

Code for Sustainable Homes
www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/buildingregulations/legislation/englandwales/codesustainable

Environment
www.london.gov.uk/gla/publications/environment.jsp

Key determinants of health: Energy
www.lho.org.uk/HIL/Determinants_Of_Health/Environment/Energy.aspx

London Sustainability Exchange
www.lsx.org.uk

Sustainable Development
www.defra.gov.uk/sustainable/government

Watch out for health checklist

Project, policy or application details
Name:
Location:
Project/Planning Reference No:
If relevant, no of housing units (population):
Date received:
Deadline date for response:

Name of evaluating organisation, group or individual:

Address:

Tel:
Email:

Note

This Checklist has been devised to aid comparative analysis to be derived within a simple framework. The purpose of the Checklist is to help identify positive and negative health aspects related to the proposal submitted.

By using the Checklist it is hoped that the appraiser or appraisers should assess each proposal in a consistent manner. This will ensure that a robust record of assessment has taken place as well as to facilitate cross proposal comparisons in terms of identifying cumulative health outcomes. The findings from the assessment process is important in understanding the key issues involved as well as providing recommendations to ensure better outcomes for health and wellbeing.

Key

n/a	Not applicable
No diff	No difference
–ve	Negative
+ve	Positive

Abbreviation
LDF (Local Development Framework), Borough Spatial Plan
UDP (Unitary Development Plan), Borough Land Use Plan now being replaced by the LDF
PPS (Planning Policy Statement), produced by the Department of Communities and Local Government
PPG (Planning Policy Guidance), now being replaced by PPS
SEA (Strategic Environmental Assessment)
EA (Environmental Assessment)
HIA (Health Impact Assessment)
EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment)
SAP (Standard Assessment Procedure for energy efficiency)

1. Direct Influences

Issue	Included in proposal	Details and evidence	Potential health impact	Action or mitigation required	Relevant LDF/UDP Policies	London Plan 2008	DCLG PPS/PPG
1.1 Housing							
Does the proposal contain homes that have a high Code for Sustainable Homes rating (e.g. 4 and above)	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve			3A.4 3A.5 3A.6 3A.7 3A.8 3A.9 3A.10 3A.12 3A.13 3A.14 3A.15 3A.16 3A.17 4B.1 4B.8 4B.10	PPS1 PPS3 PPS6 PPG13
Are all homes wheelchair accessible?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Are homes adaptable in supporting independent living for older and disabled people?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Does the proposal promote good design in terms of layout and orientation (internal space, access to sunlight etc)?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Are there a range of home tenures and sizes?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Does the proposal contain homes that are highly energy efficient (e.g. have high SAP ratings)?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Are homes affordable (in line with local planning policy)?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Overall positive impacts for this category (Add up the total number of positive impacts and divide by the number of relevant issues above and multiple by 100, this gives a percentage outcome)			**%**	**Outcomes above 50 percent equal a positive outcome for this category, while that below equals a negative outcome for health. This informs the tick box Summary Table outlined in Stage 3 of the Checklist.**			

Issue	Included in proposal	Details and evidence	Potential health impact	Action or mitigation required	Relevant LDF/UDP Policies	London Plan 2008	DCLG PPS /PPG
1.2 Access to Public Services							
Have public services needs, location and accessibility been considered?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve			3A.20 3A.21 3A.22 3A.24 3A.25 3A.26 3A.29	PPS1 PPS12 PPS3 PPS6 PPG13 PPG17
Has assessment of healthcare demand via use of the HUDU Model been carried out?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Have Primary Care Trust requirements including model of care been assessed in context of the proposal?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Does the proposal facilitate multiple building uses for different public services?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Are community facilities provided within the proposal?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Overall positive impacts for this category (Add up the total number of positive impacts and divide by the number of relevant issues above and multiple by 100, this gives a percentage outcome)			**%**	**Outcomes above 50 percent equal a positive outcome for this category, while that below equals a negative outcome for health. This informs the tick box Summary Table outlined in Stage 3 of the Checklist.**			

Issue	Included in proposal	Details and evidence	Potential health impact	Action or mitigation required	Relevant LDF/UDP Policies	London Plan 2008	DCLG PPS /PPG
1.3 Opportunities for Physical Activity							
Does the proposal prioritise and encourage walking (e.g. HomeZones, walking plans, wide and safe streets etc.)?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve			3C.21 3C.22 3C.23 3C.24 3D.2 3D.6 3D.8 3D.10 4B.3	PPS1 PPS3 PPS6 PPG13 PPG17
Does the proposal prioritise and encourage cycling (e.g. cycle lanes, secure cycle stands, office shower facilities)?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Does the proposal ensure that buildings are designed to maximise physical activity (e.g. positioning of stairwells, shower rooms, secure cycle parking)?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Does the proposal enhance opportunities for play and exercise (e.g. follows Active Design by Sport England for instance)?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Does the proposal address open space and natural space deficiency?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Overall positive impacts for this category (Add up the total number of positive impacts and divide by the number of relevant issues above and multiple by 100, this gives a percentage outcome)			**%**	**Outcomes above 50 percent equal a positive outcome for this category, while that below equals a negative outcome for health. This informs the tick box Summary Table outlined in Stage 3 of the Checklist.**			

Issue	Included in proposal	Details and evidence	Potential health impact	Action or mitigation required	Relevant LDF/UDP Policies	London Plan 2008	DCLG PPS /PPG
1.4 Air Quality, Noise and Neighbourhood Amenity							
Does the proposal minimise construction impacts (including dust)?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Does the proposal minimise air pollution?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Does the proposal minimise noise pollution?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve			4A.19 4A.20 4B.1 4B.2 4B.3 4B.5 4B.8 4B.11 4B.12	PPS1 PPS6 PPS9 PPS10 PPS23 PPG24
Does the proposal promote good air quality (through for example planting of trees or provision of green/brown roofs etc)?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Does the proposal protect and enhance green space?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Does the proposal provide high quality amenity space?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Overall positive impacts for this category (Add up the total number of positive impacts and divide by the number of relevant issues above and multiple by 100, this gives a percentage outcome)			**%**	**Outcomes above 50 percent equal a positive outcome for this category, while that below equals a negative outcome for health. This informs the tick box Summary Table outlined in Stage 3 of the Checklist.**			

Issue	Included in proposal	Details and evidence	Potential health impact	Action or mitigation required	Relevant LDF/UDP Policies	London Plan 2008	DCLG PPS /PPG
1.5 Accessibility and Transport							
Does the proposal facilitate streetscape accessibility, legibility and permeability?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve			3C.1 3C.2 3C.3 3C.4 3C.16 3C.17 3C.18 3C.19 3C.21 3C.22 3C.23 3C.24 3D.2 3D.3 4B.5	PPS1 PPS6 PPG13 PPG17
Is the proposal including buildings, accessible for people with mobility problems or disability impairment?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Is the proposal easily accessible and well served by public transport?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Does the proposal minimise the need to travel especially by car (e.g. by cutting down trips as result of good access or incorporation of local facilities)?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Does the proposal incorporate measures to assist people who are car dependent (e.g. disabled Blue Badge holders etc)?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Does the proposal incorporate traffic calming measures aimed at reducing and minimising road traffic injuries (e.g. use of HomeZones and 30 mph limit)?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Overall positive impacts for this category (Add up the total number of positive impacts and divide by the number of relevant issues above and multiple by 100, this gives a percentage outcome)			**%**	**Outcomes above 50 percent equal a positive outcome for this category, while that below equals a negative outcome for health. This informs the tick box Summary Table outlined in Stage 3 of the Checklist.**			

2. Indirect Influences

Issue	Included in proposal	Details and evidence	Potential health impact	Action or mitigation required	Relevant LDF/UDP Policies	London Plan 2008	DCLG PPS /PPG
2.1 Crime Reduction and Community Safety							
Has the proposal 'designed out crime'?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Does the proposal incorporate effective security and street surveillance?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve			4B.3 4B.5 4B.6	PPS1 PP53 PPS6
Does the proposal incorporate a mix of uses to encourage activity in buildings and public spaces?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Has the local community been engaged and consulted with regards to the proposal?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Overall positive impacts for this category (Add up the total number of positive impacts and divide by the number of relevant issues above and multiple by 100, this gives a percentage outcome)			**%**	**Outcomes above 50 percent equal a positive outcome for this category, while that below equals a negative outcome for health. This informs the tick box Summary Table outlined in Stage 3 of the Checklist.**			

Issue	Included in proposal	Details and evidence	Potential health impact	Action or mitigation required	Relevant LDF/UDP Policies	London Plan 2008	DCLG PPS /PPG
2.2 Access to Healthy Food							
Does the proposal facilitate local access to healthy food supply?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Does the proposal avoid food being monopolised locally by a single provider?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Does the proposal avoid contributing towards over concentration of fast food outlets in the local area?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve			3D.1 3D.2 3D.3 3D.8 3D.10 3D.11 3D.18	
Does the proposal provide social enterprise support for local producers or retailers of nutritional and affordable food?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				PPS6 PPS9 PPG17
Does the proposal safeguard loss of allotments, good agricultural land, city farms or farmers markets from development?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Does the proposal incorporate or facilitate access to healthy living centres?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Overall positive impacts for this category (Add up the total number of positive impacts and divide by the number of relevant issues above and multiple by 100, this gives a percentage outcome)			**%**	**Outcomes above 50 percent equal a positive outcome for this category, while that below equals a negative outcome for health. This informs the tick box Summary Table outlined in Stage 3 of the Checklist.**			

Issue	Included in proposal	Details and evidence	Potential health impact	Action or mitigation required	Relevant LDF/UDP Policies	London Plan 2008	DCLG PPS /PPG
2.3 Access to Work							
Does the proposal provide access to employment and training opportunities?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve			3B.1 3B.2 3B.3 3B.4 3B.5 3B.6 3B.7 3B.8 3B.9 3B.10 3B.11	PPS1 PPS6 PPG4
Does the proposal provide diversity in jobs for local residents?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Does the proposal provide childcare facilities?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Does the proposal provide opportunities for local businesses?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Overall positive impacts for this category (Add up the total number of positive impacts and divide by the number of relevant issues above and multiple by 100, this gives a percentage outcome)			**%**	**Outcomes above 50 percent equal a positive outcome for this category, while that below equals a negative outcome for health. This informs the tick box Summary Table outlined in Stage 3 of the Checklist.**			

Issue	Included in proposal	Details and evidence	Potential health impact	Action or mitigation required	Relevant LDF/UDP Policies	London Plan 2008	DCLG PPS /PPG
2.4 Social Cohesion and Social Capital							
Does the proposal contribute towards opportunities for social interaction?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Has the proposal addressed local inequalities?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Does the proposal advance mixed communities by having a mix of tenures and uses?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve			3A.18 3A.19 3A.26 3A.29 4B.1 4B.5 4B.8 4B.10	PPS1 PPS6 PPG13 PPG15
Does the proposal incorporate community facilities?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Does the proposal provide voluntary sector opportunities?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Does the proposal avoid community severance (by major roads, large commercial schemes etc)?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Overall positive impacts for this category (Add up the total number of positive impacts and divide by the number of relevant issues above and multiple by 100, this gives a percentage outcome)			**%**	**Outcomes above 50 percent equal a positive outcome for this category, while that below equals a negative outcome for health. This informs the tick box Summary Table outlined in Stage 3 of the Checklist.**			

Issue	Included in proposal	Details and evidence	Potential health impact	Action or mitigation required	Relevant LDF/UDP Policies	London Plan 2008	DCLG PPS /PPG
2.5 Resource Minimisation							
Does the proposal make best use of existing land?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve			4A.3 4A.7 4A.16 4A.17 4A.18 4A.21 4A.22 4A.23 4A.26 4A.28 4A.30 4A.31 4A.33 4A.34	PPS1 PPS10 PPS22 PPS23
Does the proposal encourage recycling (including building materials)?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Does the proposal incorporate sustainable design and construction?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Is waste management facilities incorporated within the proposal?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Have Environmental Health, Environment Agency or Health Protection Agency been informed about potential hazards related to the proposal?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Overall positive impacts for this category (Add up the total number of positive impacts and divide by the number of relevant issues above and multiple by 100, this gives a percentage outcome)			**%**	**Outcomes above 50 percent equal a positive outcome for this category, while that below equals a negative outcome for health. This informs the tick box Summary Table outlined in Stage 3 of the Checklist.**			

Issue	Included in proposal	Details and evidence	Potential health impact	Action or mitigation required	Relevant LDF/UDP Policies	London Plan 2008	DCLG PPS /PPG
2.6 Climate Change							
Does the proposal incorporate renewable energy?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve			4A.1 4A.2 4A.3 4A.4 4A.7 4A.9 4A.11 4A.13 4A.14	PPS1 (Sup) PPS22 PPS25
Does the proposal provide a sustainable approach to transport?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Does the proposal maintain or enhance biodiversity?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Has the proposal been flood risk assessed?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Does the proposal incorporate sustainable drainage systems to safely deal with surface runoff?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/a		☐ n/a ☐ no diff ☐ -ve ☐ +ve				
Overall positive impacts for this category (Add up the total number of positive impacts and divide by the number of relevant issues above and multiple by 100, this gives a percentage outcome)			**%**	**Outcomes above 50 percent equal a positive outcome for this category, while that below equals a negative outcome for health. This informs the tick box Summary Table outlined in Stage 3 of the Checklist.**			

This checklist was developed jointly with Camden PCT

Feedback

A key purpose of Watch Out for Health is as a tool to improve policies, projects and planning applications so as to not only better consider health but also help realise actual positive outcomes from implementation. Going through the Checklist at Stage 2 should enable you to come up with an appreciation and assessment of the extent to which health has been covered in a plan, project or proposal. A simple overview can be gained by using Table 3 below in relation to the two main sections (i.e. direct and indirect influences) analysed.

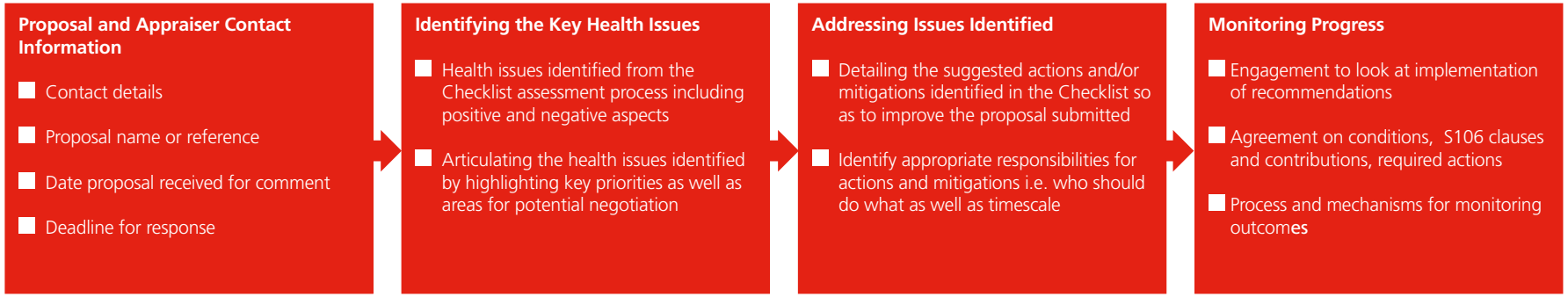
Table 3: Summary overview

1. Direct Influences			
Category	**Positive (✓)**	**Negative (✓)**	**Not applicable (✓)**
1.1 Housing			
1.2 Access to Public Services			
1.3 Opportunities for Physical Activity			
1.4 Air Quality, Noise and Neighbourhood Amenity			
1.5 Accessibility and Transport			
Overall Impact			

2. Indirect Influences			
Category	**Positive (✓)**	**Negative (✓)**	**Not applicable (✓)**
2.1 Crime Reduction and Community Safety			
2.2 Access to Healthy Food			
2.3 Access to Work			
2.4 Social Cohesion and Social Capital			
2.5 Resource Minimisation			
2.6 Climate Change			
Overall Impact			

The outputs from Stage 2 should provide a basis for response to the proposal outlining positive and negative health impacts and suggested actions or mitigations to alleviate negative impacts. The response should act as an action plan, and it is essential that key issues are clarified, that recommendations including actions and mitigations are appropriately articulated and that responsibilities are highlighted. For example, the action plan should identify who should do what and when, including appropriate timescales. Refer to Figure 1 below for structural outline of a possible response and action plan.

Figure 1: Response framework



Within the response framework you should outline potential negative consequences for health if the actions or mitigations outlined are not implemented, further you should- assess what the key priorities are i.e. critical issues of health concern and those for possible negotiations. Relevant actions may include conditions imposed on planning applications and Section 106 agreements in terms of funding for mitigation related to the impact etc. Once the actions and recommendations have been submitted, progress should be monitored. You should assess whether suggested actions or mitigations to enable positive outcomes for health have been considered and/or implemented. Clarify any issues or provide further information where required. Without actual agreement and implementation, positive outcomes for health may not be realised.

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