Health Impact Assessment

January 2020
To accompany the Draft Local Plan Update consultation

WOKINGHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL

1. Introduction

1.1. A Health Impact Assessment (HIA) assesses the potential effects a plan, programme or policy can have on the health of the population and the distribution of those effects within the population[1]. It is often defined using the [European Centre for Health Policy](#) as '*a combination of procedures, methods and tools by which a policy, programme or project may be judged as to its potential effects on the health of a population, and the distribution of those effects within the population*'.

1.2. There is no statutory requirement for a local plan to complete a HIA, but due to the strategic nature of the Wokingham Borough Local Plan Update, it has been decided that an HIA should be produced to ensure health and wellbeing is a consideration during the decision-making process and is supported by a suite of planning policies contained within the draft Local Plan.

1.3. This approach is also embedded within the council's vision, priorities and values, in particular a key principle for Wokingham Borough Council is to '*improve the health, well-being and quality of life for residents*'.

1.4. Each policy contained within the draft Local Plan is assessed in this HIA for its potential positive or negative health impacts. The impacts consider the effect each policy might have on key health determinants, which have been informed by the strategic objectives set out in the draft Local Plan Update and the key priorities contained in the [Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2018-2021](#), which was produced in collaboration with Wokingham Borough Council and the NHS Berkshire West Clinical Commissioning Group[2]. The HIA can be used in the plan-making process to identify the potential impacts of each policy and to identify ways in which potential negative impacts can be mitigated or to maximise any potential benefits.

2. National policy context

National Planning Policy Framework

2.1. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) places an emphasis on the role health, social and cultural wellbeing can contribute towards achieving sustainable development. Paragraph 8 of the NPPF sets out three overarching objectives, including a social objective which seeks to '*support strong, vibrant and healthy communities*' and '*fosters a well-designed and safe built environment, with accessible services and open spaces that reflect current and future needs and support communities' health, social and cultural well-being*'.[3]

2.2. Furthermore, the NPPF ensures that planning policies and decisions achieve '*healthy, inclusive and safe places*'[4] by supporting healthy lifestyles through the provision of safe and accessible green infrastructure, leisure and sports facilities, local shops, and layouts that encourage walking and cycling.

2.3. To ensure development promotes health, social and cultural well-being, local planning authorities should:

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[1] Department of Health, 2010

[2] Wokingham Borough Council and NHS Berkshire West Clinical Commissioning Group (2018) Wokingham's Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2018-2021

[3] National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), paragraph 8

[4] National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), paragraph 91

- create places that are safe, inclusive and accessible and which promote health and well-being, with a high standard of amenity for existing and future users[5]
- ensure new development is appropriate for its location, taking into account the likely effects of pollution on health, living conditions and the natural environment[6]
- enable and support healthy lifestyles, especially where this would address identified local health and well-being needs[7]
- take into account and support the delivery of local strategies to improve health, social and cultural well-being for all sections of the community[8]
- provide access to a network of high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and physical activity which are important for the health and well-being of communities[9], and
- promote an effective use of land in meeting the need for homes and other uses, while safeguarding and improving the environment and ensuring safe and healthy living conditions[10].

Planning Practice Guidance

2.4. The Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) provides additional guidance on promoting healthy and safe communities, in particular the role the design and use of the built and natural environment can play as major determinants of health and well-being, for example the use of green infrastructure.

2.5. The PPG suggests that planning and health should be considered in two ways. Firstly, creating environments that support and encourage healthy lifestyles, and secondly in terms of identifying and securing facilities necessary for primary, secondary and tertiary care, and the wider health and care system.

2.6. The PPG defines a healthy place as '*one which supports and promotes healthy behaviours and environments and a reduction in health inequalities for people of all ages*'[11]. A healthy place is recognised as providing the community with opportunities to improve their physical and mental health and support community engagement and well-being. It can also meet the needs of children and younger people to grow and develop, as well as to adapt to the needs of an increasingly ageing population, such as those with dementia and other sensory or mobility impairments and other vulnerable groups.

3. Overview of the Wokingham Borough Local Plan Update

3.1. The Wokingham Borough Local Plan Update (LPU) upon adoption will form part of the development plan for the borough. Development must accord with the development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

3.2. The purpose of the Local Plan Update is to provide policies which:
- allocate sites for development
- set boundaries for particular policy designations, and

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[5] National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), paragraph 127
[6] National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), paragraph 180
[7] National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), paragraph 91
[8] National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), paragraph 92
[9] National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), paragraph 96
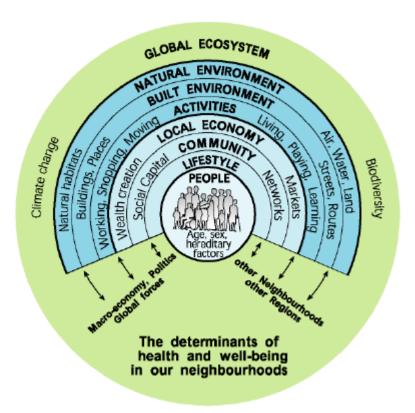[10] National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), paragraph 117
[11] Planning Practice Guidance (PPG), Paragraph: 003 Reference ID:53-003-20191101

- provide detailed policies to use when considering development proposals (including policies which will supersede those policies in the existing Wokingham Borough Core Strategy local plan and the Managing Development Delivery local plan).

3.3. The draft Local Plan proposes the following ten strategic objectives:

- make the fullest contribution possible to the mitigation of, and adaptation to climate change and the transition to a low-carbon economy.
- reduce the need to travel and widen travel choice, by providing local opportunities to access learning and employment, services and facilities, through ensuring that options for walking, cycling and public transport are attractive, accessible for all, convenient and safe, and by enabling digital connectivity.
- improve strategic transport connectivity by walking, cycling, public transport and road, both between places within and outside of the borough.
- maintain and strengthen the sense of place by securing quality designed development through protecting and enhancing the distinctive historic environment, landscape character, townscape character and biodiversity value, assisting vibrancy and by keeping settlements separate.
- champion thriving town and local centres to provide the focus of their communities both in social and economic activity, ensuring they can adapt to the challenges they face.
- enable conditions to allow the economy to creatively grow by being adaptable to structural and technological change, ensuring the economic benefits are felt by all.
- improve health and wellbeing by enabling independence, encouraging healthy lifestyles, facilitating social interaction and creating inclusive and safe communities .
- contribute our fair share towards meeting the needs for more housing, ensuring that a range of suitable housing options are available across both towns and villages, which cater for and adapt to a variety of needs, including affordable housing and the growing ageing and vulnerable groups in the population.
- promote quality and innovation the design of buildings and public spaces, ensuring they are attractive, accessible, welcoming and meet the needs of all groups in the community.
- facilitate timely provision of new and improved infrastructure by working with providers to achieve focused investment and by securing appropriate benefits from new development.[12]

4. Health Determinants

4.1. To assess the health impact of the draft Local Plan it is necessary to identify health determinants which each policy will be assessed against. Health determinants are social, economic, environmental and cultural factors that indirectly influence health and well-being. The diagram below illustrates the health determinants relating to people and places.

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[12] Wokingham Borough Local Plan Update: Draft Plan Consultation (2020), Section 3: Our Vision & Objectives

Source: The Health Map, Barton and Grant 2006 (published in 'Health Impact Assessment of Government Policy, 2010)

4.2. Not all health determinants can be influenced by policies in the draft Local Plan. To ensure the correct determinants are used in the assessment, it is essential to get a picture of the health-related issues that exist within the borough to make sure the draft Local Plan addresses them appropriately.

5. Wokingham Borough Population Profile

Demographic profile

5.1. Wokingham Borough is generally an affluent covering an area of 17,800 hectares. It is located within the west of Berkshire, approximately 50 km west of London. Wokingham Borough adjoins several neighbouring authorities with Wycombe District to the north, the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead and Bracknell Forest Borough to the east, Hart District to the south, Basingstoke & Deane Borough to the south west, and West Berkshire, Reading Borough and South Oxfordshire to the west.

5.2. Wokingham Borough is semi-rural in nature, with just 33% of the borough classified as urban, and approximately 67% classed as rural in nature[13]. The borough has a population of 154,380 people according to the 2011 census estimates published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS). The borough is identified as one of the least deprived in England, with 83% of the

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[13] Rae, Alasdair (2017): A Land Cover Atlas of the United Kingdom (Document). Figshare. Journal contribution.

borough's neighbourhoods being in the least deprived 20% of the country[14]. It has an increasingly ageing population with 18% of the population aged 65 years or older, this is expected to increase to 23% in 2037[15]. The age distribution within the borough's wards varies considerably, which could put further pressure on services and facilities within the borough, for example health care provision, and access needs of people living in different areas of the borough.

5.3. The borough also holds a relatively small proportion of those aged between 20-30 years, which is lower than the national average. This is likely to be either younger adults leaving the borough to pursue Higher Education and entry level jobs elsewhere, or moving out of the borough to less expensive areas.

5.4. The borough has been subject to high population turnover, for instance in 2017, 12,500 moved into the borough and just over 11,000 moved out. This figure is 25% higher than the national average, and could be due to several factors including impact on local services and facilities, significant housing development in the borough or lack of social cohesion between existing and new communities.[16]. By 2037, the expected population in the borough will be approximately 180,900, which could place a strain on existing infrastructure and services and affect the health and well-being of all communities in the borough, noticeably older people and groups that are more vulnerable such as those living in rural areas and other deprived urban communities.

Economic profile

5.5. The general economic picture of the district is relatively good with low levels of unemployment (2.5% in 2017/18) and higher than average salaries. Approximately 82% of the borough's population is economically active, with just over 80% of people between the ages of 16 to 64 being in active employment.

Health profile

5.6. The general health picture of the borough is better than the national average. This is reflected in the higher than national average life expectancy for both men (81.6 years) and women (85.1 years) from birth, although internal inequalities still exist across the borough. The council's latest Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2018-2021 details how the health and social care needs identified in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) will be addressed, and sets targets for health improvement and for the promotion of health and well-being. The strategy is informed by three key priorities established in the JSNA:

  i.   Creating physically active communities
  ii.   Reducing social isolation and loneliness
  iii. Narrowing the health inequalities gap
  i.   Creating physically active communities

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[14] Wokingham Borough Council (2018) Focused Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) – Creating Healthy and Resilient Communities, https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/health/health-statistics/joint-strategic-needs-assessment/
[15] Wokingham Borough Council (2018) Focused Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) – Creating Healthy and Resilient Communities, https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/health/health-statistics/joint-strategic-needs-assessment/
[16] Wokingham Borough Council (2018) Focused Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) – Creating Healthy and Resilient Communities, https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/health/health-statistics/joint-strategic-needs-assessment/

5.7. Physical inactivity is a global crisis, responsible for an estimated 5 million deaths worldwide. Physical activity contributes to a wide range of health benefits and can improve health outcomes across the life course from young to old, especially those who face barriers to being more active, including people with disabilities. Reducing inactivity in the population can deliver cost savings for health and social care services, as well as delivering further benefits such as improved productivity, reduced congestion and pollution through active travel, and healthy development of children and younger people.[17]

5.8. According to the latest Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, approximately 71% of adults aged 19 years or older achieved at least 150 minutes physical activity per week in accordance with national guidelines. The Wokingham Health and Well-being Strategy has prioritised increasing physically activity, through the use of green and blue spaces, promoting more active travel and facilitating physical activity to improve the overall health profile of the borough and reduce levels of obesity.

   ii.   *Reducing social isolation and loneliness*

5.9. Social isolation is defined as the separation from social or family contact, community involvement or access to service. The term loneliness can also relate to isolation, but people can either become isolated without feeling lonely, or can be lonely without being isolated. Social relationships and interactions are essential to our human health and wellbeing, and without this activity, it can have a significant impact on the physical and mental health of people in the borough.

5.10.   Although social isolation and loneliness is often associated with the older population, anyone of any age can suffer, including groups that are more vulnerable such as those living in rural communities and deprived urban communities, retired or unemployed people, people with poor physical and mental health or people with limited mobility, visual or hearing impairments.

5.11.   The Wokingham Health and Wellbeing Strategy prioritises the need to reduce social isolation and loneliness in older people, people with mental illnesses and carers to improve their physical and mental wellbeing.

   iii.   *Narrowing the health inequalities gap*

5.12.   Health inequalities are avoidable differences in health outcomes between different groups in the population, which arise due to the social and environmental conditions in which people are born, grow live, work and age. The Marmot Review 'Fair Society, Healthy Lives' commissioned by the Department of Health in 2010 identified key actions to reduce the likely impact on health inequalities facing England:

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[17] Wokingham Borough Council (2018) Focused Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) – Creating Healthy and Resilient Communities, https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/health/health-statistics/joint-strategic-needs-assessment/

- Give every child the best start in life
- Enable all children and young people to maximise their capabilities
- Create fair employment and good work for all
- Ensure healthy standard of living for all
- Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities
- Strengthen the role and impact of ill health prevention

5.13.   However, reducing health inequalities will not be achieved by focusing solely on the most disadvantaged in society. The Marmot Review highlighted the importance to also address the social and environmental determinants of health for the whole population.

5.14.   Deprivation relates to the amount of money an individual has, and their access to resources and services. A good indicator for assessing the deprivation of an area is the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD). The IMD measures relative deprivation for small areas across seven domains of deprivation including income, employment, education, skills and training, health deprivation and disability, crime, barriers to housing and services and living environment.

5.15.   Wokingham Borough is ranked the least deprived borough in Berkshire and the second least deprived in England with an overall ranking of 5.59, according to the IMD figure in 2015. Approximately 65 out of the 99 Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA) in Wokingham Borough were ranked in the 10% least deprived areas, with 82 LSOA being in the 20% least deprived areas. Three wards in the borough rank in the 40% most deprived areas in England, which are Wokingham Without, Norreys and Finchampstead South. Three neighbourhoods were also ranked in the 20% most deprived areas in terms of skills, education and training development, located in the wards of Bulmershe & Whitegate, Loddon and Norreys.

5.16.   Improving access to services for all and providing sustainable development and thriving and inclusive communities are important objectives of the Local Plan Update, which seek to address the inequalities and disparities across the borough. In addition, directing development to those settlements which have a good range and level of services and facilities will also maintain and support the vitality and viability of those services and reduce the potential for unsustainable locations of new development.

5.17. Home ownership within the district is high, with approximately 80% of the housing stock being owner occupied. 11% of households in the borough are privately rented and 7% socially rented. Despite high levels of home ownership, the borough is one of the least affordable areas to buy a home in the country, with average house prices of £428,491 compared to the national average of £232,797 in August 2018. This has affected who comes to live in the borough, for example key workers in the public sector.

5.18. 23% of the households occupied in the borough live on their own, with approximately 44% of these households being in the ages of 65 years or older. With an increasingly ageing population, this can cause issues such as social isolation and less ability to access essential community services and facilities in the borough, such as health care provision. The Wokingham Health and Well-being Strategy aims to close the gap between what a child who is born today in the most deprived areas and those in the least deprived areas of the borough will experience over their life time. The Strategy seeks to achieve this through implementing measures to improve the health and well-being in the most deprived communities and providing greater access to health promoting resources.

6. Health Impact Indicators

6.1. The health impact indicators identified in this HIA have been informed by the Strategic Objectives of the Local Plan Update and the key priorities set out in the council's Health and Wellbeing Strategy. This resulted in noting the positive, neutral or negative impact a policy has and briefly explaining the findings for each policy in the draft Local Plan. The health indicators used in this assessment were as follows:

- Reducing social isolation and loneliness
- Creating physically active communities
- Narrowing health inequalities gap

6.2. Each policy in the draft Local Plan was assessed against the health determinants, based on the categories below:

- Positive **(+)** – where the policy has a beneficial impact on health and well-being for the local plan
- Neutral **(0)** – the policy's impact on health and well-being has neither a beneficial nor an adverse impact on the local plan
- Negative **(-)** – where the policy has an adverse impact on health for the local plan.

6.3. The table in **Appendix 1** outlines whether the policies in the draft Local plan would have an impact on health in relation to the key priorities set out in the council's current Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the overall strategic objectives of the local plan. Additional commentary on the impacts of the policy have also been provided.

7. Conclusion

7.1. Overall it is clear that the draft Local Plan's overall strategy and accompanying planning policies have the potential to positively influence the health and well-being of the borough's population, along with the potential to reduce health inequalities. Overall, the HIA has not highlighted any major impacts on health and well-being. The local plan incorporates aspects which promote health and well-being and allows for an increased quality of life for the population.

7.2. During the assessment, all the health indicators performed well, receiving positive scores. The best performing indicator during the assessment was 'Reducing health inequalities' which received a score of +57, followed by 'Reducing social isolation' with a score of +49 and 'Creating physically active communities' with a score of +42.

7.3. Clear channels of communication have been maintained with the council's public health team to maintain the standard of planning policies relating to health and well-being, for example considering people with visual, physical or mobility impairments, vulnerable groups within communities and older people.

8. Next steps

8.1. The HIA will be published alongside the draft Local Plan as part of the public consultation and engagement process. Moving forwards, the council will review all representations received commenting on the HIA. If appropriate, and where necessary in response to the representations, the assessment may need to be revisited.

Appendix 1 – Health Impact Assessment Matrix

Policy	DOES THE POLICY HAVE AN IMPACT ON HEALTH AND WELL-BEING IN RELATION TO THE HEALTH IMPACT INDICATORS? Positive (+), Neutral (0), Negative (-)			Comments
	Health Impact indicators			
	Creating physically active communities	**Reducing social isolation and loneliness**	**Narrowing health inequalities gap**	
SPATIAL STRATEGY				
Policy SS1: Spatial Strategy	**+**	**+**	**+**	Supports sustainable and proportionate growth for all towns and villages within the borough, whilst ensuring adequate provision of new infrastructure and services to support development, and the safeguarding of existing facilities to maintain the vitality of towns and villages. The overall strategy of the Plan also seeks to protect and enhance the Borough's natural and built environment.
Policy SS2: Settlement Hierarchy and scale and location of development proposals	**+**	**+**	**+**	Ensures development is directed to the most sustainable locations in the borough whilst providing an appropriate level of facilities and services for communities. The policy seeks to promote sustainable communities by locating housing, jobs and services closer together.
Policy SS3: Grazeley garden town	**+**	**+**	**+**	The site allocation makes use of and maximises sustainable modes of travel, including the delivery of a new railway station and improving connectivity to

DOES THE POLICY HAVE AN IMPACT ON HEALTH AND WELL-BEING IN RELATION TO THE HEALTH IMPACT INDICATORS? Positive (+), Neutral (0), Negative (-)				
Policy	**Health Impact indicators**			**Comments**
	Creating physically active communities	**Reducing social isolation and loneliness**	**Narrowing health inequalities gap**	
				major employment site at Green Park and access to Reading town centre. The policy sets out the site specific requirements that are expected to be delivered on the site and benefits to the wider area. The SDL will be delivered as a new Garden City development incorporating garden city principles. A key concept of garden city principles is for development to be holistically planned as a new settlement that enhances the natural environment, offers high-quality affordable housing and local access to employment opportunities and creates health and social communities. Some key principles for a Garden City are to combine town and countryside, creating healthy communities with sustainable modes of travel, such as walking and cycling at the heart. Development should enhance features of the natural environment through comprehensive Green Infrastructure provision.
Policy SS4: Arborfield Garrison Strategic	**+**	**+**	**+**	This is an existing allocation in the Core Strategy to deliver around 3,500 homes. There is no change in the direction of

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Policy	**Health Impact indicators**			**Comments**
	Creating physically active communities	**Reducing social isolation and loneliness**	**Narrowing health inequalities gap**	
Development Location				policy for this SDL in the draft local plan, with the SDL's concept continuing to deliver a sustainable, mixed-use development with new employment, retail facilities and transport, social and physical infrastructure. The policy provides a factual update on the site's housing and infrastructure delivery. The policy is supported by the council's existing Arborfield Garrison SDL Supplementary Planning Document which provides additional detail and guidance when making decisions on proposals.
Policy SS5: South of the M4 Strategic Development Location	**+**	**+**	**+**	This is an existing allocation in the Core Strategy to deliver around 2,500 dwellings. There is no change in the direction of policy for this SDL in the draft local plan, with the SDL's concept continuing to deliver a sustainable, mixed-use development with new employment, retail facilities and transport, social and physical infrastructure. The policy provides a factual update on the site's housing and infrastructure delivery. The policy is supported by the council's existing

	Health Impact indicators			
Policy	**Creating physically active communities**	**Reducing social isolation and loneliness**	**Narrowing health inequalities gap**	**Comments**
				South of the M4 SDL Supplementary Planning Document which provides additional guidance and detail when making decisions on proposals.
Policy SS6: North Wokingham Strategic Development Location	**+**	**+**	**+**	This is an existing allocation in the Core Strategy to deliver around 1,500 dwellings. There is no change in the direction of policy in the draft local plan, with the SDL's concept continuing to deliver a sustainable, mixed-use development with retail facilities, employment and social and physical infrastructure. The policy provides a factual update on the site's housing and infrastructure delivery. The policy is supported by the council's existing North Wokingham SDL Supplementary Planning Document which provides additional guidance and detail when making decisions on proposals.
Policy SS7: South Wokingham Strategic Development Location	**+**	**+**	**+**	This is an existing allocation in the Core Strategy to deliver around 2,500 dwellings. There is no change in the direction of policy in the draft local plan, with the SDL's concept continuing to deliver a sustainable, mixed-use development with retail facilities,

Table header: DOES THE POLICY HAVE AN IMPACT ON HEALTH AND WELL-BEING IN RELATION TO THE HEALTH IMPACT INDICATORS? Positive (+), Neutral (0), Negative (-)

Policy	Health Impact indicators			Comments
	Creating physically active communities	Reducing social isolation and loneliness	Narrowing health inequalities gap	

DOES THE POLICY HAVE AN IMPACT ON HEALTH AND WELL-BEING IN RELATION TO THE HEALTH IMPACT INDICATORS?
Positive (+), Neutral (0), Negative (-)

Policy	Creating physically active communities	Reducing social isolation and loneliness	Narrowing health inequalities gap	Comments
				employment and social and physical infrastructure. The policy provides a factual update on the site's housing and infrastructure delivery. The policy is supported by the council's existing South Wokingham SDL Supplementary Planning Document, which provides additional detail and guidance when making decisions on proposals.
Policy SS8: Climate Change	**+**	**+**	**+**	Encourages sustainable and active travel through alternative modes of transport, reducing the reliance on private car and facilitating increased movements through walking and cycling. The policy also maximises carbon capture through the provision of Green Infrastructure. There is clear evidence that increased GI provision and access to formal/informal recreation can contribute to healthier and active lifestyles. The policy also ensures development is appropriately located to reduce risks of flooding for new and existing residents.
Policy SS9: Adaptation to Climate Change	**0**	**0**	**+**	Policy sets out measures to ensure future communities can live, work, rest and play in a comfortable and secure environment, in the face of a climate

	Health Impact indicators			
Policy	Creating physically active communities	Reducing social isolation and loneliness	Narrowing health inequalities gap	Comments
				emergency. The policy ensures development considers matters such as amenity space, shading, insulation and ventilation.
Policy SS10: Supporting Infrastructure	+	+	+	Ensures well balanced infrastructure is delivered on/off-site and mitigates impact of development resulting in social and health and well-being benefits, such as improvements to health care provision, education provision and other community services and facilities. Therefore it is considered that this policy will have a positive impact on health.
Policy SS11: Safeguarded Routes	+	+	+	This policy identifies several schemes across the borough to support the delivery of strategic transport infrastructure, either to reduce the need for travel and outward commuting through widening travel choice, improving the capacity of the existing highway network or improving the accessibility to towns/villages e.g. Wokingham Town Centre and Reading.
Policy SS12: Improvements to Transport Routes	+	+	+	This policy identifies several schemes across the borough to support the delivery of strategic transport

The table header above spans as:

DOES THE POLICY HAVE AN IMPACT ON HEALTH AND WELL-BEING IN RELATION TO THE HEALTH IMPACT INDICATORS?
Positive (+), Neutral (0), Negative (-)

Policy	Health Impact indicators			Comments
	Creating physically active communities	Reducing social isolation and loneliness	Narrowing health inequalities gap	

DOES THE POLICY HAVE AN IMPACT ON HEALTH AND WELL-BEING IN RELATION TO THE HEALTH IMPACT INDICATORS?
Positive (+), Neutral (0), Negative (-)

Policy	Creating physically active communities	Reducing social isolation and loneliness	Narrowing health inequalities gap	Comments
				infrastructure, either to reduce the need for travel and outward commuting through widening travel choice, improving the capacity of the existing highway network, mitigating air quality impacts, improving the accessibility to towns/villages e.g. Wokingham Town Centre and Reading through walking, cycling and public transport provision.
Policy SS13: Development in the countryside	+	+	+	The provision of some form of development in the countryside can help to positively contribute towards the vitality and sustainability of the borough's rural communities.
Policy SS14: Development in the Green Belt	+	+	+	The policy seeks to maintain the openness of the Green Belt and any potential development that may occur, and also sets out the exceptional circumstances for development in the Green Belt, which is recognise as an important resource for access the countryside for formal recreation. There is a potential benefit in maintaining the openness of the borough's distinctive landscape, some changes to the Green Belt have a positive impact as they can facilitate

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Policy	**Health Impact indicators**			**Comments**
	Creating physically active communities	**Reducing social isolation and loneliness**	**Narrowing health inequalities gap**	
				development in the borough. However, this will also reduce the availability of undeveloped land. The effects that this policy has on health objectives will be dependent on the scale and design of a development proposal. Therefore, the impacts of the policy on health will be determined through the planning application process.
CONNECTIONS				
Policy C1: Active and Sustainable Transport and Accessibility	**+**	**+**	**+**	This policy seeks to promote opportunities to encourage more sustainable modes of travel through walking and cycling. This will help to improve local air quality by reducing the number of journeys by private car and improve the connectivity between the borough's settlements through the provision of public transport.
Policy C2: Mitigation of Transport Impacts and Highways Safety and Design	**+**	**+**	**+**	This policy ensures development proposals are appropriately planned to provide a range of benefits to the health and well-being of communities through better access to public transport and improved connectivity to towns and villages in the borough. The requirement for Transport Assessments

DOES THE POLICY HAVE AN IMPACT ON HEALTH AND WELL-BEING IN RELATION TO THE HEALTH IMPACT INDICATORS? Positive (+), Neutral (0), Negative (-)				
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	Creating physically active communities	**Reducing social isolation and loneliness**	**Narrowing health inequalities gap**	
				and Transport Statements ensures development proposals can improve travel options, by ensuring all forms of travel are appropriately planned and designed into new development.
Policy C3: Cycling and Walking	+	+	+	Policy encourages more walking and cycling, improving air quality by reducing car journeys, connecting settlements better through sustainable forms of transport, and improving connectivity to towns/villages and the wider countryside.
Policy C4: Car and Cycle Parking	+	+	+	Policy ensures development proposals are supported with sufficient levels of car parking and cycle parking. Cycle parking helps to facilitate alternative travel choices to the private car, for accessing services and facilities and supports creating physically active communities consistent with the council's Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
Policy C5: Technology and innovation in transport	+	-	-	Technological innovations in transport can help to improve mobility, reduce traffic congestion and improve air quality. The policy ensures that schemes are supported where they do

Policy	Health Impact indicators			Comments
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Policy	Creating physically active communities	Reducing social isolation and loneliness	Narrowing health inequalities gap	Comments
				not compromise the safety of pedestrians, road users and amenity.
Policy C6: Digital infrastructure and communications technology	0	0	+	Policy seeks to improve access to high quality digital infrastructure and communications services, to support the needs of residents, visitors and workers, including businesses and organisations. It ensures this necessary infrastructure is coordinated, whilst protecting the borough's environment and heritage.
Policy C7: Utilities	0	+	+	This policy ensures that future development proposals are supported by appropriate and adequate water and wastewater infrastructure and ensures necessary infrastructure is in place to avoid unacceptable impacts on the environment, including pollution of land and watercourses. Utilities infrastructure should be appropriately designed into schemes taking into account impact on residents and visitors.
Policy C8: Green and Blue Infrastructure	+	+	+	This policy seeks to protect and enhance existing green and blue infrastructure provision in the borough, which are recognised as valuable assets for recreation, landscape quality and visual

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Policy	**Creating physically active communities**	**Reducing social isolation and loneliness**	**Narrowing health inequalities gap**	**Comments**

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Positive (+), Neutral (0), Negative (-)

Policy	Creating physically active communities	Reducing social isolation and loneliness	Narrowing health inequalities gap	Comments
				amenity that are essential for providing quality of life and healthy and active communities. The borough's Public Rights of Way Network a valued resource for residents, workers and visitors to provide and support physical and mental health and well-being. They also provide amenity value through facilitating access to the countryside for recreation, local employment opportunities and neighbouring towns and villages to access essential services and facilities. The policy ensures the protection of the existing Public Rights of Way, including green routes and Greenways and ensures new development proposals promote integration with countryside and public open space and improve connectivity, by walking and cycling, to local services and facilities.

	DOES THE POLICY HAVE AN IMPACT ON HEALTH AND WELL-BEING IN RELATION TO THE HEALTH IMPACT INDICATORS? Positive (+), Neutral (0), Negative (-)			
Policy	**Health Impact indicators**			**Comments**
	Creating physically active communities	**Reducing social isolation and loneliness**	**Narrowing health inequalities gap**	
ECONOMY: JOBS & RETAIL				
Policy ER1: Meeting employment needs	**0**	**+**	**+**	The policy continues to protect / safeguard the Core Employment Areas providing employment / learning opportunities for the borough's residents/workers. The policy also supports new employment uses within town centres, providing complimentary uses to support the wider role and to maintain the vitality and viability of centres.
Policy ER2: Core Employment Areas	**0**	**+**	**+**	Supports the borough's local communities by safeguarding employment and/or services on existing Core Employment Areas. This will ensure employment opportunities remain at a local level. The retention of local employment opportunities reduces the needs to travel and helps to minimise pollution. The policy also encourages a more diverse economy by supporting a range of employment types and sizes, resulting in greater employment opportunities. The policy ensures proposals for expansion and intensification of employment uses

	Health Impact indicators			
DOES THE POLICY HAVE AN IMPACT ON HEALTH AND WELL-BEING IN RELATION TO THE HEALTH IMPACT INDICATORS? Positive (+), Neutral (0), Negative (-)				
Policy	**Creating physically active communities**	**Reducing social isolation and loneliness**	**Narrowing health inequalities gap**	**Comments**
				consider impacts on nearby residential uses (e.g. noise and disturbance).
Policy ER3: Employment Uses Outside Core Employment Areas	**0**	**+**	**+**	The policy supports local communities in the borough by protecting employment land/uses outside of the Core Employment Areas. This will ensure employment opportunities remain at a local level and support a diverse local economy. The retention of local employment opportunities reduces the need to travel, will help to minimise pollution and may contribute to reducing health inequalities in the longer-term. The policy ensures proposals for the expansion and intensification of employment uses consider impacts on nearby uses.
Policy ER4: Supporting the rural economy	**+**	**+**	**+**	Supports the rural economy and communities by allowing proportionate growth to meet their needs, retaining services and promoting the diversification of businesses. This will reduce the need for travel and outward commuting and improve the range of employment opportunities available in the borough. Sustainable tourism and leisure will help to benefit the

Policy	Health Impact indicators			Comments
	Creating physically active communities	Reducing social isolation and loneliness	Narrowing health inequalities gap	

Policy	Creating physically active communities	Reducing social isolation and loneliness	Narrowing health inequalities gap	Comments
				environment and improve accessibility to rural communities and the countryside, encouraging active and healthier lifestyles. While there is a potential positive benefit, the effects that the policy may have on health objectives will depend on the scale and design of the development proposal. Therefore, the impacts of the policy on health will be determined through the planning application process.
Policy ER5: Employment and Skills Plan	**0**	**+**	**+**	Policy support for employment and skills plans will strengthen the local community by ensuring new development proposals support and benefit the local area and people through providing opportunities for training, apprenticeships or vocational initiatives to develop local employability skills and assist in reducing unemployment and deprivation in the borough.
Policy ER6: The hierarchy of centres	**+**	**0**	**0**	Town, district and local centres play an important role as the focal point of communities, providing day-to-day retail needs of local communities and promoting social interaction and

	Health Impact indicators			
Policy	**Creating physically active communities**	**Reducing social isolation and loneliness**	**Narrowing health inequalities gap**	**Comments**
				reducing social isolation through places to meet and socialise. Whilst the identification of town centre boundaries and primary shopping areas maintains the function, it will also provide a compact, walkable and easily accessible area. The policy ensures development proposals maximise opportunities to improve accessibility for all users (including those with mobility, physical and visual impairments) reducing health inequalities and social isolation, consistent with the council's Health and Wellbeing Strategy. The policy also ensures that for any loss of day-to-day shopping facilities (in local centres) an alternative is provided within reasonable walking distance, reducing the need to travel by car and encouraging healthier and active lifestyles.
Policy ER7: Town, district & local centres and shopping parades	**+**	**+**	**+**	Town, district and local centres play an important role as the focal point of communities, providing day-to-day retail needs of local communities and promoting social interaction through places to meet and socialise. Whilst the

DOES THE POLICY HAVE AN IMPACT ON HEALTH AND WELL-BEING IN RELATION TO THE HEALTH IMPACT INDICATORS?
Positive (+), Neutral (0), Negative (-)

DOES THE POLICY HAVE AN IMPACT ON HEALTH AND WELL-BEING IN RELATION TO THE HEALTH IMPACT INDICATORS? Positive (+), Neutral (0), Negative (-)				
Policy	**Health Impact indicators**			**Comments**
	Creating physically active communities	**Reducing social isolation and loneliness**	**Narrowing health inequalities gap**	
				identification of town centre boundaries and primary shopping areas maintains the function, it will also provide a compact, walkable and easily accessible area. The policy ensures development proposals maximise opportunities to improve accessibility for all users (including those with mobility, physical and visual impairments). The policy also ensures that for any loss of day-to-day shopping facilities (in local centres) an alternative is provided within reasonable walking distance, reducing the need to travel by car and encouraging healthier and active lifestyles.
Policy ER8: Strengthening the role of centres	**+**	**0**	**0**	Protects the vitality of settlements, helps maintain the distinctiveness of the area and improves service provision meaning less journeys by car and more cycling and walking.
Policy ER9: Wokingham Town Centre	**+**	**+**	**+**	This policy will continue to enhance the vitality and viability of Wokingham Town Centre as a retail and leisure destination in an environment that is safe, legible and accessible. The policy ensures any future development proposals consider

	Health Impact indicators			
DOES THE POLICY HAVE AN IMPACT ON HEALTH AND WELL-BEING IN RELATION TO THE HEALTH IMPACT INDICATORS? **Positive (+), Neutral (0), Negative (-)**				
Policy	**Creating physically active communities**	**Reducing social isolation and loneliness**	**Narrowing health inequalities gap**	**Comments**
				public realm improvements and encourage people to move around by walking and cycling. A Local Green Space is identified in the plan which is recognised as an important recreational, amenity and ecological resources which should continue to be maintained and enhanced.
Policy ER10: Whiteknights Campus	**0**	**0**	**0**	This policy ensures that any future development proposals located on the Whiteknights Campus consider issues such as amenity, character of the area and the safety of highway users and pedestrians, to reduce and design out crime in the area.
HOUSING				
Policy H1: Housing provision	**0**	**+**	**+**	Policy seeks to provide an appropriate mix of housing to meet different needs in the borough.
Policy H2: Sites allocated for residential / mixed use	**+**	**+**	**+**	Encourages development in the most sustainable locations at an appropriate scale, making use of existing infrastructure and services, reducing the need to travel and encouraging sustainable modes of travel choice and allowing settlements to grow to support their own needs. Well-designed

	Health Impact indicators			
DOES THE POLICY HAVE AN IMPACT ON HEALTH AND WELL-BEING IN RELATION TO THE HEALTH IMPACT INDICATORS? **Positive (+), Neutral (0), Negative (-)**				
Policy	**Creating physically active communities**	**Reducing social isolation and loneliness**	**Narrowing health inequalities gap**	**Comments**
				development on these sites can have a positive impact on people's health and well-being for existing and new communities. This will be achieved through national and local planning policies, as well as other local evidence provided when making decisions on planning applications.
Policy H3: Housing mix, density and standards	**0**	**+**	**+**	Ensures an adequate mix of housing types and size are provided in new development to create inclusive and mixed communities which meet the identified needs of existing and new residents. New residential development is required to meet the nationally described space standards, reducing the risk of overcrowding, improving living conditions and reducing social isolation. A proportion of homes are also expected to be constructed to meet optional technical standards for accessibility and adaptability. The policy ensures the density and mix of development proposal consider place-making aspects such as character, walking, cycling and public transport accessibility, high quality design and

DOES THE POLICY HAVE AN IMPACT ON HEALTH AND WELL-BEING IN RELATION TO THE HEALTH IMPACT INDICATORS? Positive (+), Neutral (0), Negative (-)				
Policy	**Health Impact indicators**			**Comments**
	Creating physically active communities	**Reducing social isolation and loneliness**	**Narrowing health inequalities gap**	
				amenity of neighbouring developments. While there is likely to be a potential positive benefit, the effects that the policy has on health objectives will depend on the scale and design of the development proposal. Therefore, the impacts of the policy on health will be determined through the planning application process.
Policy H4: Presumption against the loss of residential	**+**	**0**	**+**	This policy ensures existing housing and land permitted for housing is protected from other uses.
Policy H5: Affordable Housing	**0**	**+**	**+**	This policy will ensure an adequate supply of affordable housing which is appropriately located in new developments to create a mixed and balanced community and meet particular needs of people working and living in the borough. The provision of affordable housing in the borough will meet the nationally described space standards, reducing risk of overcrowding.
Policy H6: Rural Exception Sites	**0**	**+**	**+**	Permitted in exceptional circumstances, rural exception sites provide a benefit to the local area in terms of meeting local

DOES THE POLICY HAVE AN IMPACT ON HEALTH AND WELL-BEING IN RELATION TO THE HEALTH IMPACT INDICATORS? Positive (+), Neutral (0), Negative (-)				
Policy	**Health Impact indicators**			**Comments**
	Creating physically active communities	**Reducing social isolation and loneliness**	**Narrowing health inequalities gap**	
				need, creating sustainable and mixed communities and providing opportunities for social cohesion. Providing affordable housing for those with a local connection to the town/parish will help to retain residents in their communities and reduce social isolation.
Policy H7: Rural Worker's Dwellings	**0**	**+**	**+**	Supports access to local employment opportunities in rural locations in the borough and allows these communities to grow, providing development is of an appropriate scale and is supported by sustainable modes of transport.
Policy H8: Self-Build and Custom-Build housing	**0**	**+**	**0**	Policy supports the provision of self-build and custom-build housing to meet the needs of individuals seeking to access housing provision.

	Health Impact indicators			
Policy	**Creating physically active communities**	**Reducing social isolation and loneliness**	**Narrowing health inequalities gap**	**Comments**
Policy H9: Accommodation for Older People and Vulnerable Communities	**+**	**+**	**+**	The policy provides a positive impact on health as it supports better social cohesion, through a varied housing mix within developments, including older people and vulnerable. This policy supports the provision of residential care homes to meet housing needs for different groups in the borough to accommodate an ageing population. Supports the provision of specialist accommodation and housing that is more accessible to meet the needs of an ageing population, allowing them to remain within the borough and their community.
Policy H10: Conversion of buildings, including Houses in Multiple Occupation	**0**	**+**	**+**	Supports meeting the different needs for housing in the borough, for example the student population, people on low incomes and single young professionals. The policy ensures development proposals for HMOs consider impacts on amenity, character and the existing communities of the surrounding area, in particular loss of external amenity space and privacy which are recognised as some of the contributing factors to the

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Positive (+), Neutral (0), Negative (-)

DOES THE POLICY HAVE AN IMPACT ON HEALTH AND WELL-BEING IN RELATION TO THE HEALTH IMPACT INDICATORS? Positive (+), Neutral (0), Negative (-)				
Policy	**Health Impact indicators**			**Comments**
	Creating physically active communities	**Reducing social isolation and loneliness**	**Narrowing health inequalities gap**	
				health and well-being of our communities.
Policy H11: Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople Provision	**0**	**+**	**+**	Makes suitable provision for housing to meet the needs of the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities. Development proposals at a strategic scale are required to make a contribution of pitches to created mixed and sustainable communities. By providing pitches for this specific community in the local plan, it reduces the number of unauthorised pitches and temporary permissions in the borough.
Policy H12: Traveller sites	**+**	**+**	**+**	Makes suitable provision for housing to meet the needs of the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller community. The policy supports new pitches or extension to existing sites for Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople enabling existing communities to grow. The policy also ensure new pitch provision is in suitable locations, taking into account matters such as accessibility to services and public transport, flood risk, water supply and utilities infrastructure. The policy also ensures development proposals do not have an unacceptable impact on the

DOES THE POLICY HAVE AN IMPACT ON HEALTH AND WELL-BEING IN RELATION TO THE HEALTH IMPACT INDICATORS? Positive (+), Neutral (0), Negative (-)				
Policy	Health Impact indicators			Comments
	Creating physically active communities	Reducing social isolation and loneliness	Narrowing health inequalities gap	
				amenity of neighbouring uses or the character of the area.
Policy H13: Houseboat Moorings	+	+	+	Supports the provision of new residential moorings to meet the needs of boat dwellers in the borough. The policy supports the provision of houseboats and ensures development proposals consider access to sustainable modes of transport and the provision of safe water supply, electricity and water/wastewater infrastructure.
Policy H14: Development of Private Residential Gardens	+	0	0	This policy seeks to protect existing residential gardens in the borough's towns and villages. Private residential gardens provide a valuable amenity space for residents and will therefore be resisted, taking into account potential impact on local character, residential amenity and safety and security.
DESIGN, HERITAGE & THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT				
Policy DH1: Place Making and Quality Design	+	+	+	The place-making and design policy ensures the design of buildings and places are fully accessible and inclusive for all users, including people with mobility impairments or other health issues, younger children and older people. The policy will help to protect

DOES THE POLICY HAVE AN IMPACT ON HEALTH AND WELL-BEING IN RELATION TO THE HEALTH IMPACT INDICATORS? Positive (+), Neutral (0), Negative (-)				
Policy	**Health Impact indicators**			**Comments**
	Creating physically active communities	**Reducing social isolation and loneliness**	**Narrowing health inequalities gap**	
				and build/enhance local character and distinctiveness, foster a sense of community and place and improve the accessibility between new and existing settlements for all, ensuring high amenity value for development. Key features of the policy that may generate specific health benefits include: • Resilience to climate change, minimising energy demand and maximising energy efficiency • Innovation in design to improve the area's quality and function • Safe easy and access and movement for cars and service vehicles • Maximising opportunities for walking, cycling and sustainable modes of transport – contributing to active and healthy lifestyles • Ensure streets and spaces are attractive, functional and inclusive • Acceptable standards of amenity, privacy and daylight and not

DOES THE POLICY HAVE AN IMPACT ON HEALTH AND WELL-BEING IN RELATION TO THE HEALTH IMPACT INDICATORS? Positive (+), Neutral (0), Negative (-)				
Policy	Health Impact indicators			Comments
	Creating physically active communities	Reducing social isolation and loneliness	Narrowing health inequalities gap	
				affecting the amenity of the area or neighbouring uses • Integrating existing green infrastructure assets • Create safe environments to discourage crime and disorder (e.g. through natural surveillance and positive social interaction. • Accessible to all ages, disabilities and other vulnerable groups
Policy DH2: Safeguarding amenity	**0**	**0**	**0**	The policy ensures development does not reduce the quality of the environment for others, or creates a quality environment for those who will occupy and use new buildings and spaces. The policy takes into factor such as daylight and sunlight levels which are recognised as important considerations for general health and well-being. The amenity policy also ensures that development achieve appropriate amenity levels, for instance sensitive activities should be located away or buffered from those aspects of development likely to cause issues (e.g. car parks, bin stores and noisy equipment).

Policy	Health Impact indicators			Comments
	Creating physically active communities	**Reducing social isolation and loneliness**	**Narrowing health inequalities gap**	

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Positive (+), Neutral (0), Negative (-)

Policy	Creating physically active communities	Reducing social isolation and loneliness	Narrowing health inequalities gap	Comments
Policy DH3: Shopfronts	**+**	**0**	**0**	The policy ensures development proposals create or maintain an active frontage, to create an environment to facilitate user/social interaction either inside a building or between spaces at a street level, enhance public security and surveillance and to improve the amenity of public realm by encouraging pedestrian activity. This policy also ensures that new or existing shopfronts include security measures that consider the safety of pedestrians interacting with the street at all times of the day.
Policy DH4: Advertisements and signage	**0**	**0**	**0**	The management of advertisements and signs can have affect amenity and public safety for highway user and pedestrians. This policy ensures development proposals appropriately designed and located, taking into account the amenity of adjoining uses, public safety and movement and visibility of users.
Policy DH5: The Historic Environment	**0**	**0**	**0**	The policy improves employment opportunities across the borough, encouraging more economic growth in the most sustainable locations with existing transport infrastructure and proportionate housing growth. The

DOES THE POLICY HAVE AN IMPACT ON HEALTH AND WELL-BEING IN RELATION TO THE HEALTH IMPACT INDICATORS? Positive (+), Neutral (0), Negative (-)				
Policy	**Health Impact indicators**			**Comments**
	Creating physically active communities	**Reducing social isolation and loneliness**	**Narrowing health inequalities gap**	
				policy supports the potential for improved access to local employment opportunities, reducing the need to travel.
Policy DH6: Archaeology	**0**	**0**	**0**	The policy encourages a diverse economy by supporting a range of employment types and sizes, resulting in greater employment opportunities.
Policy DH7: Energy	**0**	**0**	**+**	This policy will help to reduce harmful pollutants, for instance new development can play a positive role in supporting new and existing renewable energy technologies. Existing domestic buildings contribute around 34% and non-domestic buildings contribute around 20% of the borough's carbon dioxide emission. Ultimately, the effects that the policy has on health objectives will depend on the scale and design of developments that are permitted. The impacts of this policy on health will therefore be determined through the planning application process.
Policy DH8: Environmental standards for non-	**0**	**0**	**+**	This policy supports development proposals for non-residential development provided they meet certain environmental standards,

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Policy	**Health Impact indicators**			**Comments**
	Creating physically active communities	**Reducing social isolation and loneliness**	**Narrowing health inequalities gap**	
residential development				including water conservation, improving energy efficiency and waste management to reduce carbon impacts. Ultimately, the effects that the policy has on health objectives will depend on the scale and design of developments that are permitted. The impacts of this policy on health will therefore be determined through the planning application process.
Policy DH9: Environmental standards for residential development	**0**	**0**	**+**	This policy supports development proposals for residential development provided they meet certain environmental standards, including water conservation, improving energy efficiency and waste management to reduce carbon impacts. Whilst there is not direct impacts on health, there could be an indirect impact to the Local Plan health objective. Ultimately, the effects that the policy has on health objectives will depend on the scale and design of developments that are permitted. The impacts of this policy on health will therefore be determined through the planning application process.

DOES THE POLICY HAVE AN IMPACT ON HEALTH AND WELL-BEING IN RELATION TO THE HEALTH IMPACT INDICATORS? Positive (+), Neutral (0), Negative (-)				
Policy	**Health Impact indicators**			**Comments**
	Creating physically active communities	**Reducing social isolation and loneliness**	**Narrowing health inequalities gap**	
Policy DH10: Low carbon and renewable energy generation	**0**	**0**	**+**	Policy will help reduce harmful pollutants.
HEALTHY & SAFE COMMUNITIES				
Policy HC1: Promoting Healthy Communities	**+**	**+**	**+**	This policy seeks to ensure development contributes towards healthier communities and reduces health inequalities. The policy includes a requirement for major development schemes to be supported by a Health Impact Assessment to assess the proposal's impacts on the health and well-being of the population and the distribution of the effects on the population.
Policy HC2: Community Infrastructure	**+**	**+**	**+**	Protects important services and facilities for the continued benefit of the community. Safeguarding existing facilities helps to encourage healthier lifestyles by reducing the need to travel and maintaining the vitality and viability of the area. The policy also supports the provision of new services and facilities

Policy	Health Impact indicators			Comments
	Creating physically active communities	Reducing social isolation and loneliness	Narrowing health inequalities gap	

DOES THE POLICY HAVE AN IMPACT ON HEALTH AND WELL-BEING IN RELATION TO THE HEALTH IMPACT INDICATORS?
Positive (+), Neutral (0), Negative (-)

Policy	Creating physically active communities	Reducing social isolation and loneliness	Narrowing health inequalities gap	Comments
				to support new development and the existing population.
Policy HC3: Open Space, Sports, Recreation and Play Facilities	+	+	+	This policy encourages healthy and active lifestyles through the sufficient provision of open space, sports, recreation and play facilities for different groups within the borough. The policy encourages the co-location of this provision with other community services and facilities, reducing the need for travel and out commuting and encouraging active lifestyles through walking, cycling and public transport. Such provision should also be well related to the community it serves. Access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation are contributing factors to the health and well-being of communities. This policy ensures that these facilities are also sufficiently protected. Any loss of provision is required to provide an alternative facility of equal quality in a suitable and accessible location.

DOES THE POLICY HAVE AN IMPACT ON HEALTH AND WELL-BEING IN RELATION TO THE HEALTH IMPACT INDICATORS? Positive (+), Neutral (0), Negative (-)				
Policy	Health Impact indicators			Comments
	Creating physically active communities	Reducing social isolation and loneliness	Narrowing health inequalities gap	
Policy HC4: Local Green Space	+	+	+	Local Green Spaces in the borough are designated for their special importance or local significance, for example their ecological, historical, recreational or landscape value. Access to Local Green Spaces can contribute towards active and healthy lifestyles, as they can provide a valuable resource for formal/informal recreation for residents, visitors and workers in the borough.
Policy HC5: Environmental Protection	0	0	+	Prohibits development where there is a potentially harmful impact from pollution leading to a risk of ill health or damage to the environment which cannot be successfully mitigated. Policy helps to ensure the sustainability of new development and no undue negative impacts on surrounding area.
Policy HC6: Air Pollution and Air Quality	0	+	+	The policy seeks to reduce risk of ill health and damage to the environment by ensuring minimum standards of air quality and any potential impacts are mitigated.
Policy HC7: Light Pollution	0	0	0	Poorly designed and artificial lighting can affect the safety and security of communities and the health and well-

DOES THE POLICY HAVE AN IMPACT ON HEALTH AND WELL-BEING IN RELATION TO THE HEALTH IMPACT INDICATORS? Positive (+), Neutral (0), Negative (-)				
Policy	Health Impact indicators			Comments
	Creating physically active communities	Reducing social isolation and loneliness	Narrowing health inequalities gap	
				being of residents, through sleep deprivation and health problems. The policy ensures development proposals involving artificial lighting are appropriately designed taking into account the impact on existing neighbouring properties and amenity areas and pedestrian safety.
Policy HC8: Noise Pollution	0	0	+	Prohibits development where there is a potentially harmful impact from pollution leading to a risk of ill health or damage to the environment which cannot be successfully mitigated. Policy helps to ensure the sustainability of new development and no undue negative impacts on surrounding area.
Policy HC9: Contaminated Land and Water	0	0	+	The presence of contaminated land can present risks to human health. The 'contaminated land and water' policy ensures development remediate or mitigate pollution impacts arising from previous land uses. The policy also ensures development proposals consider the impact on residential amenity.

DOES THE POLICY HAVE AN IMPACT ON HEALTH AND WELL-BEING IN RELATION TO THE HEALTH IMPACT INDICATORS? Positive (+), Neutral (0), Negative (-)				
Policy	**Health Impact indicators**			**Comments**
	Creating physically active communities	**Reducing social isolation and loneliness**	**Narrowing health inequalities gap**	
Policy HC10: Development in the vicinity of Atomic Weapons Establishment (AWE) Burghfield	**-**	**0**	**0**	Regulation of the Atomic Weapons Establishment (AWE) at Burghfield requires emergency planning zones to reduce the potential impact on the public of any accidents arising from site operations. The policy promotes public safety taking into account wider security and defence requirements and ensure development does not have an adverse impact on the function and operation of the site, considering cumulative effects of any population increase surrounding the installation.
ENVIRONMENT				
Policy NE1: Biodiversity and Nature Conservation	**+**	**0**	**0**	This policy restricts development in sensitive areas that are recognised as environmentally sensitive and ensures new development proposals achieve a net gain in biodiversity helping to protect and enhance the natural environment.
Policy NE2: Thames Basin Heaths	**+**	**0**	**0**	The Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area (SPA) is a European designated site which is home to a

	DOES THE POLICY HAVE AN IMPACT ON HEALTH AND WELL-BEING IN RELATION TO THE HEALTH IMPACT INDICATORS? Positive (+), Neutral (0), Negative (-)			
Policy	**Health Impact indicators**			**Comments**
	Creating physically active communities	**Reducing social isolation and loneliness**	**Narrowing health inequalities gap**	
Special Protection Area				network of important species of ground nesting birds and is a key destination for formal and informal recreation. The policy seeks to ensure the integrity of the SPA is maintained and any potential impacts associated with development are effectively mitigated.
Policy NE3: Trees, Woodlands and Hedgerows	**0**	**0**	**0**	Policy seeks to protect and enhance the natural environment, ensuring the attractiveness of the local environment and character is preserved encouraging greater use of it.
Policy NE4: Development and existing trees, woodland and hedgerows	**0**	**0**	**0**	Whilst the presence of existing trees, woodland and hedgerows do not have a direct impact on health and well-being, they have an indirect impact on health and well-being of the borough's communities by making a significant contribution to mitigating the impact of climate change, either through shading, carbon storage and reduced pollutants.
Policy NE5: Landscape and Design	**+**	**+**	**+**	The borough's landscapes are highly valued by those who live, work or visit the area. The borough's varied landscapes provide a valuable resource for recreation, biodiversity and heritage. This policy ensures the distinctive

DOES THE POLICY HAVE AN IMPACT ON HEALTH AND WELL-BEING IN RELATION TO THE HEALTH IMPACT INDICATORS? Positive (+), Neutral (0), Negative (-)				
Policy	**Health Impact indicators**			**Comments**
	Creating physically active communities	**Reducing social isolation and loneliness**	**Narrowing health inequalities gap**	
				landscape character across the borough continues to be conserved and enhanced.
Policy NE6: Landscape Character, Value and Green Routes	**+**	**+**	**+**	The borough's landscape provides a valuable resource for recreation that can help to improve the health and well-being of communities. Ensuring the attractiveness of the local environment and character is preserved encourages greater use of it due to improved access to the open countryside for formal/informal recreation and social interaction.
Policy NE7: Sites of Urban Landscape Value	**+**	**+**	**+**	Sites of Urban Landscape Value (SULV) are recognised in the borough as forming the setting and identity of settlements, and perform a recreational and ecological function for residents of the borough. This policy ensures the key features and function of SULVs are not compromised by new development, taking into account potential impacts on landscape, ecology and recreational amenity.
Policy NE8: Development and	**0**	**+**	**0**	Reduces flood risk for new developments and mitigates any potential impacts on existing sites. The

Policy	Health Impact indicators			Comments
	Creating physically active communities	**Reducing social isolation and loneliness**	**Narrowing health inequalities gap**	

DOES THE POLICY HAVE AN IMPACT ON HEALTH AND WELL-BEING IN RELATION TO THE HEALTH IMPACT INDICATORS?
Positive (+), Neutral (0), Negative (-)

Policy	Creating physically active communities	Reducing social isolation and loneliness	Narrowing health inequalities gap	Comments
Flood Risk (from all sources)				policy also seeks to improve biodiversity and water quality in line with the requirements of the Water Framework Directive.
Policy NE9: Sustainable Drainage	+	+	+	The policy ensures that development can managed surface water flooding and climate change impacts in a sustainable manner. The policy the multifunctional use of incorporating SuDS appropriately in new development to achieve wider social, ecological and environmental benefits. Well-designed and located SuDS can improve the health and well-being of communities by protecting drinking water resources, supporting recreational opportunities and enhancing local amenity. The policy ensures development proposals incorporate and design SuDS in accordance with the council's latest SuDS Strategy.
Policy NE10: River Corridors	+	+	+	The policy seeks to protect or enhance the ecological function of watercourses in the borough, including the River Thames. Development proposals should consider maintaining and enhancing

Policy	Health Impact indicators			Comments
	Creating physically active communities	**Reducing social isolation and loneliness**	**Narrowing health inequalities gap**	
				public access to support opportunities for formal/informal recreation.
MINERALS AND WASTE				
Policy MW1: Sustainable Waste Management	**0**	**0**	**0**	This policy is unlikely to contribute towards any health and wellbeing impacts, however the provision of on-site recycling and composting waste management facilities may give rise to noise, vibrations and dust. The policy ensures alternative development proposals include mitigation measures to ensure any sensitive receptors are sufficiently protected from any adverse effects.
Policy MW2: Minerals Resources and Infrastructure	**0**	**0**	**0**	This policy is unlikely to contribute towards any health and wellbeing impacts, however the safeguarding of mineral resources and infrastructure may give rise to noise, vibrations and dust during operation and construction.

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Positive (+), Neutral (0), Negative (-)