
Priority 1: Building strong foundations
Health in All Policies
Healthy Placemaking

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Health and equity in all policies: We will prioritise a health & equity in all policies approach to all we do.

Health in All Policies approach:

- Systematically embedding health and equity considerations upstream in decisions, policies, and strategies
- Strengthening the use of Health Impact Assessments (HIA) as a practical tool across decision-making
- Enabling earlier intervention and helping to prevent avoidable impacts on health and services
- Supporting better consideration of the wider determinants of health, including how decisions influence inequalities
- Enabling a more joined-up and consistent approach across services and organisations, helping to align activity and reduce the risk of unintended consequences



Leicestershire Programme implementation and progress:

A structured programme combining training, learning and practical application has been delivered across Leicestershire County Council. Health considerations are now routinely reflected within decision-making processes, including reports to Scrutiny and Cabinet, embedding a more consistent approach to considering health and inequalities within policy development.

Over 260 staff have been trained, resulting in improved understanding of health inequalities and the wider determinants of health, alongside increased confidence in applying a health lens within day-to-day roles.

Evidence of change:

There is stronger integration of health and equity considerations across policy areas, alongside increasing use of Health Impact Assessments within Local Plans and strategic policy development, including transport. This is supporting earlier and more informed decision-making.



Impact – why this matters:

Health is increasingly shaping decision-making across the system, supporting a shift towards prevention and reducing the risk of avoidable future demand on services. There is a stronger focus on the wider determinants of health and inequalities, enabling more aligned and informed decision-making across organisations. The approach is expanding beyond LCC into district councils, recognising their key role in shaping these determinants, and is gaining national recognition, with learning influencing guidance and supporting wider adoption.

Next steps:


The next phase will focus on building capacity through the development of HiAP champions, strengthening case studies and shared learning, and continuing to support district rollout and evaluation to inform wider system adoption.

'I thought the training was really interesting and it definitely made me think about things I hadn't before. I didn't realise how many opportunities within our team there were to consider health inequalities'

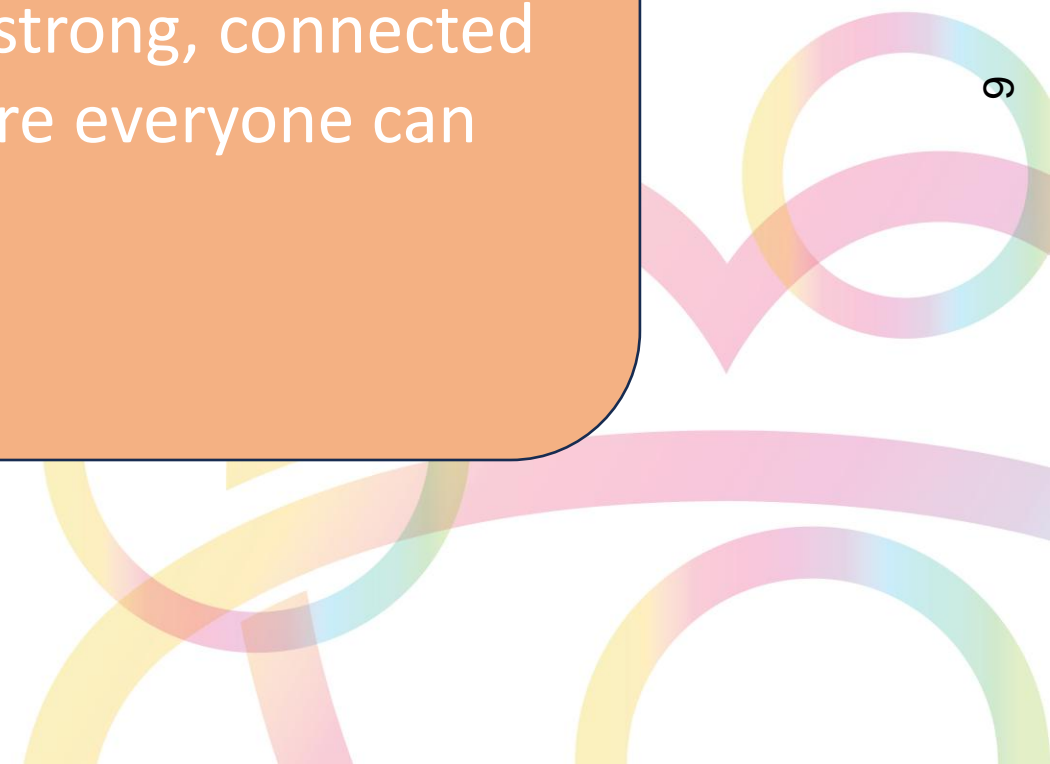
Chief Executive's colleague
Leicestershire County Council

"I feel able to apply the health lens to policies and programmes I have responsibility for delivering"

Growth colleague
Leicestershire County Council



Healthy placemaking: We will work together to shape healthy places and create strong, connected and resilient communities where everyone can thrive.



Healthy Placemaking- Progress

Healthy Placemaking aims to transform the way that the built environment is designed and created to ensure that our places support and promote the health and wellbeing of our residents.

Strategic engagement and forum development:

A Healthy Placemaking event (February 2026) brought together around 50 partners from across planning, public health, transport, housing, the NHS, district councils and the voluntary sector. Discussions focused on how placemaking and the built environment can improve health and reduce inequalities, alongside identifying shared priorities for action- what does good look like for Leicestershire? The Healthy Placemaking Forum has been re-established to support shared learning and promote more consistent and aligned policy approaches across the county.



Feedback was overwhelmingly positive: 97% reported the event met or exceeded expectations and 94% agreed it would inform future work and decisions.

Healthy Placemaking - Progress

Embedding Health Impact Assessment in planning and policy:

Pilot work has been undertaken with planners in a number of district councils to embed Health Impact Assessment requirements within Local Plan policy .

| Health Impact Assessment Appraisal Tool: LCC Public Health | | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|--------------------------|--|
| | Nature | Likelihood | Scale / distribution? | Timing | Severity |
| | How will the proposal affect health? Positive or Negative? <i>Please take in to account the health profile of the local population using links given on this site.</i> | Possible/ Probable/ Definite <i>Are there any external factors that could affect this out of the control of the plan?</i> | Will different groups of people be impacted in different ways? <i>Impact on inequalities – how severe/beneficial? What can be done to negate this?</i> | Short/ medium/ long term | Minor/ moderate/ major <i>Are there any external factors that could affect this out of the control of the plan?</i> |
| Direct influences on health and behaviour <i>Factors to consider: Diet</i> | | | | | |

These policies set out expectations for developments, where appropriate, to assess and address potential health impacts.

Strategic Health Impact Assessments have also been undertaken on emerging Local Plans within the county, supported by locally informed data packs and multi-agency workshops to ensure consideration of specific health challenges and priorities within each area.

This has been supported by close working with planners to shape locally relevant, health-specific policies that reflect place-based needs and priorities.



Healthy Placemaking- Early Indicators of Impact and next steps

Early impact and application:

Health considerations are increasingly embedded in planning processes, including Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects, supporting more proportionate and robust assessment in applications and examinations.

Proactive engagement:

Developers are engaging earlier with Public Health to support health impact assessment and healthy place design, enabling a more collaborative, multi-agency approach.

System-wide alignment:

This is building a shared understanding of effective healthy placemaking across Leicestershire, reflecting evidence on improving health, reducing inequalities, and delivering wider social and economic benefits.

Next steps:

Support Local Plan examinations to secure robust policies, develop guidance for proportionate and consistent use of health impact assessment, and strengthen partnership working through the Healthy Placemaking Forum.



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