

## Shropshire Council: Health Impact Assessment Screening Template

Planning Application Reference  
(where known):

Description of Proposed  
Development:

Application Site Location:

*For each of the following matters, please indicate your **conclusion on the likely effect** and whether a **full Health Impact Assessment is required** (where the likely effect is negative). This should be informed by the identified questions and having regard to Policies SP1-SP17 (particularly SP6. Health and Wellbeing) of the Shropshire Local Plan.*

*Please also provide a **brief explanation** of the reasoning for your conclusions.*

*Guidance on how to undertake this assessment is available on the Shropshire Council website.*

**The completed Health Impact Assessment Screening should be submitted as part of the material supporting your planning application.**

Category	Likely Effect				Health Impact Assessment Required? Yes or No
	Positive	Negative	Neutral	N/A	
<b>1. Housing quality, design and affordability</b>					
<p>Access to decent and adequate housing is critically important for health and wellbeing, especially for the very young and very old. Environmental factors, overcrowding and sanitation in buildings as well as unhealthy urban spaces have been widely recognised as causing illness. Inadequately insulated, ventilated and energy inefficient homes increase the risk of cold homes, fuel poverty and overheating which increase the risk of death and cardiovascular, respiratory and musculoskeletal conditions, particularly in the very young and very old. Homes which are not designed to reduce the risk of mould can increase the risk of mould-related allergy and respiratory disease and death, post-construction management also has an impact on community welfare, cohesion and mental wellbeing.</p> <p><i>Relevant issues:</i></p>					

Category	Likely Effect				Health Impact Assessment Required? Yes or No
	Positive	Negative	Neutral	N/A	
<b>2. Access to healthcare services and other social infrastructure</b>					
<p>Social infrastructure includes education (primary, secondary, higher and special needs); health facilities (hospitals and primary care providers); social services; emergency services (police, fire and ambulance); and other community facilities, such as cultural facilities, libraries, cemeteries and community halls.</p> <p>Strong, vibrant, sustainable and cohesive communities require good quality, accessible public services and infrastructure. Access to social infrastructure and other services is a key component of Lifetime Neighbourhoods. Social isolation is associated with poor physical and mental health, particularly in the elderly as well as other vulnerable groups.</p> <p>Encouraging the use of local services is influenced by accessibility, in terms of transport and access to and into a building, and the range and quality of services offered. Access to good quality health and social care, education (primary, secondary and post-19) and community facilities has a direct positive effect on human health. Opportunities for the community to participate in the planning of these services has the potential to impact positively on mental health and wellbeing and can lead to greater community cohesion.</p> <p><i>Relevant Issues:</i></p>					

Category	Likely Effect				Health Impact Assessment Required? Yes or No
	Positive	Negative	Neutral	N/A	
<b>3. Access to open space and nature</b>					
<p>Providing secure, convenient and attractive open/green space can lead to more physical activity and reduce levels of heart disease, strokes and other ill-health problems that are associated with both sedentary occupations and stressful lifestyles. There is growing evidence that access to parks and open spaces and nature can help to maintain or improve mental health.</p> <p>The patterns of physical activity established in childhood are perceived to be a key determinant of adult behaviour; a growing number of children are missing out on regular exercise, and an increasing number of children are being diagnosed as overweight and obese. Access to play spaces, community or sport facilities such as sport pitches can encourage physical activity. There is a strong correlation between the quality of open space and the frequency of use for physical activity, social interaction or relaxation.</p> <p><i>Relevant issues:</i></p>					
Category	Likely Effect				Health Impact Assessment Required? Yes or No
	Positive	Negative	Neutral	N/A	
<b>4. Air quality, noise and neighbourhood amenity</b>					
<p>The quality of the local environment can have a significant impact on physical and mental health. Pollution caused by construction, traffic and commercial activity can result in poor air quality, noise nuisance and vibration. Poor air quality is linked to incidence of chronic lung disease (chronic bronchitis or emphysema) and heart conditions and asthma levels among children. Noise pollution can have a detrimental impact on health resulting in sleep disturbance, cardiovascular and psycho-physiological effects. Good design and planning, and the separation of land uses can lessen noise impacts.</p> <p><i>Relevant issues:</i></p>					
Category	Likely Effect				Health Impact Assessment Required? Yes or No
	Positive	Negative	Neutral	N/A	
<b>5. Accessibility and active travel</b>					
<p>Convenient 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 can also encourage all groups, including older people and people with a disability, to use them. Discouraging car use and providing opportunities for walking and cycling can increase physical activity and help prevent chronic diseases, reduce risk of premature death and improve mental health.</p> <p><i>Relevant issues:</i></p>					
Category	Likely Effect				Health Impact Assessment Required? Yes or No
	Positive	Negative	Neutral	N/A	
<b>6. Crime reduction and community safety</b>					

Thoughtful planning and urban design that promotes natural surveillance and social interaction can help to reduce crime and the perception and 'fear' of crime, all of which impact on the mental wellbeing of residents. As well as the immediate physical and psychological impact of being a victim of crime, people can also suffer indirect long-term health consequences, including disability, victimisation and isolation because of fear. Community engagement in development proposals can lessen fears and concerns.

*Relevant issues:*

Category	Likely Effect				Health Impact Assessment Required? Yes or No
	Positive	Negative	Neutral	N/A	
<b>7. Access to healthy food</b>					

Access to healthy and nutritious food can improve diet and prevent chronic diseases related to obesity. People on low incomes, including young families and older people, are the least able to eat well because of a lack of access to nutritious food. They are more likely to have access to food that is high in salt, oil, energy-dense fat and sugar.

Opportunities to purchase and grow local healthy food and limiting concentrations of hot food takeaways can change eating behaviour and improve physical and mental health.

*Relevant issues:*

Category	Likely Effect				Health Impact Assessment Required? Yes or No
	Positive	Negative	Neutral	N/A	
<b>8. Access to work and training</b>					

Employment and income are a key determinant of health and wellbeing. Unemployment generally leads to poverty, illness and a reduction in personal and social esteem. Work can aid recovery from physical and mental illnesses.

*Relevant Issues:*

Category	Likely Effect				Health Impact Assessment Required? Yes or No
	Positive	Negative	Neutral	N/A	
<b>9. Social cohesion and lifetime neighbourhood</b>					

Friendship and supportive networks in a community can help to reduce depression and levels of chronic illness as well as speed recovery after illness and improve wellbeing. Fragmentation of social structures can lead to communities demarcated by socioeconomic status, age and/or ethnicity, which can lead to isolation, insecurity and a lack of cohesion.

Voluntary and community groups, properly supported, can help to build up networks for people who are isolated and disconnected, and to provide meaningful interaction to improve mental wellbeing.

Lifetime Neighbourhoods places the design criteria of Lifetime Homes into a wider context. It encourages planners to help create environments that people of all ages and abilities can access and enjoy

*Relevant issues:*