

Policy HW1

Health and Wellbeing

1. Proposals which support healthy living opportunities, promote social inclusion and improve community cohesion will be supported where they are in accordance with other relevant policies.
2. To support healthy and safe communities, and reduce health inequalities, new development should:
 - a. Be located within safe, well-lit, and accessible walking distance (1.2km) to services and facilities, where possible;
 - b. Create opportunities for better active travel to including provision for safe cycle and pedestrian routes, as set out in Policy T1 and T2;
 - c. Be designed to minimise threats and improve public safety; and
 - d. Be designed to improve mental health and reduce loneliness and isolation. It is encouraged that schemes incorporate green and community spaces for social prescribing and interaction.
3. A Health Impact Assessment (HIA), setting out the expected impact on health, wellbeing and safety, will be required for the following new developments:
 - a. All major housing developments of 10 units or more; or
 - b. For non-residential developments containing any of the following uses:
 - i. Education facilities;
 - ii. Health facilities;
 - iii. Leisure or community facilities;
 - iv. Publicly accessible open space;
 - v. Betting shops;
 - vi. Hot food takeaways and fast-food outlets;
 - vii. Restaurants; and
 - viii. For any other uses that the Council considers could have a detrimental impact on physical or mental health (e.g. payday loan shops/vapour parlours/nightclubs).
4. Where unavoidable negative impacts on health, wellbeing and safety are identified, mitigation measures must be incorporated into the proposal.
5. The above aspirations should be read together with other relevant policies and the Sport England Active Design guidance, which provides advice for making places for the wellbeing of people and communities.