

Sevenoaks District Local Plan:

Regulation 18 Consultation

October 2025

Health Impact Assessment (HIA)

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1 Introduction

- 1.1 District Councils are in a unique position to help the County Council's Public Health team to deliver the health agenda. We are close enough to our communities to understand how they work and how best to reach and support them. We are also close enough to community groups, other commissioned services and a whole range of agencies to provide a co-ordinated community network to deliver health holistically.
- 1.2 District Councils have a range of statutory duties that are essential to health and wellbeing. Because of their work in areas such as Housing, Planning, Environmental Health, Leisure and Recreation, Community Safety, Licensing and Economic Development, District Councils are able to bring to the table vital components of a local population health offer with measurable return on investment that demonstrates benefits to health.
- 1.3 This Health Impact Assessment (HIA) considers the health impacts of Sevenoaks District's proposed Local Plan. As this is a statutory planning document, the Council's Planning Policy team have been looking at how the new Local Plan can influence public health through successful plan-making, accounting for housing, open spaces and sustainable transport. The Local Plan has been produced in consultation with public health bodies and providers, to ensure that planning and health are integrated into the local planning policies which will shape development across the Sevenoaks District over the new plan period.
- 1.4 The aim of this report is to critically review the policies for the Local Plan. This HIA will be treated as a live document and will be subsequently updated as the Local Plan progresses through to submission, examination and, ultimately adoption.
- 1.5 A Local Plan is a statutory document that all Local Authorities must produce. It is a document that sets out the strategic planning policies for Sevenoaks District and contains further policies and guidance that will help guide development across the District. All other documents within the Local Development Scheme must be consistent with it. Subsequently, the Local Plan must be prepared in line with the latest national planning policy and guidance, while also being considered when considering proposals for development.
- 1.6 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states that Planning policies and decisions should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places which: promote social interaction, are safe and accessible and enable and support healthy lifestyles.

- 1.7** In Sevenoaks, the Strategic Planning team, in conjunction with internal stakeholders (i.e. the SDC Communities & Business team), as well as external health partners and providers work together to achieve this. Continued consultation has taken place during the development of the Local Plan.
- 1.8** Health and wellbeing considerations have been embedded in the process, and this is demonstrated by this Health Impact Assessment, which should be considered as a technical document throughout the plan-making process. The purpose of this HIA is to ensure that the policies in the Local Plan reduce health inequalities and do not actively damage health.
- 1.9** It is anticipated that the HIA will develop as the Local Plan develops. The timetable for the development of the Local Plan is shown below.

Autumn 2025	Regulation 18 Consultation
Summer 2026	Pre-submission Publication Regulation 19
December 2026	Submission
2027	Examination
2027	Adoption of the Local Plan

2 Health in Sevenoaks District

- 2.1** In order to carry out a Health Impact Assessment, a review of the key health issues for Sevenoaks District is required, so it is in line with the requirements of the NPPF and national planning policy guidance (PPG). These issues are taken into account when assessing the Local Plan as it continues to develop. The Health Profile of Sevenoaks in 2019 shows that residents' health in Sevenoaks District is generally better than the average in England¹.
- 2.2** While Sevenoaks District is one of the 20% least deprived local authority areas in England, there are pockets of deprivation and health inequality. To illustrate this, there are two wards within the District that are in the 20% most deprived in England. These wards are Swanley St. Marys and Swanley White Oak.
- 2.3** Population data for the District shows that one in five people are 65 years old or more. This means that greater pressure will be exerted on health, medical and social care services over the course of the Plan period, as the demographics change.
- 2.4** When looking at life expectancy across the District for both males and females, the average life expectancy is above the average for England. Approximately, the average life expectancy for men is 82.2 years and for women it is 84.8 years. Yet there is disparity in life expectancy between those in the most deprived areas and those in the least deprived areas:
- For **men**, the life expectancy is **3.3 years** lower between the most deprived areas and the least deprived areas.
 - For **women**, the life expectancy is **2.6 years** lower between the most deprived areas and the least deprived areas.
- 2.5** When looking at the causes of early deaths (under 75 years old) in Sevenoaks District, they are broadly below the average for England. Causes of early death include (but not limited to) heart disease, stroke and cancer.
- 2.6** The District is not significantly different from England average when looking at the number of adults who are considered to have excess weight. This is defined as the percentage of adults (aged 16 and over) classified as overweight or obese, this is slightly better than the England average but needs improvement. In terms of childhood obesity, this is measured by the percentage of school children in Year 6 (10-11 years old), and the District is better than average, but still needs improvement.

¹ Public Health England Sevenoaks Health Profile 2019 (<https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/static-reports/health-profiles/2019/E07000111.html?area-name=Sevenoaks>)

2.7 However, while residents are in general good health, there are a number of local health priorities that have been highlighted by health partners, including Public Health England, the NHS Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), the NHS West Kent CCG, the Kent Public Health Observatory and SDC's Health & Communities team. These local health priorities include:

- Addressing childhood obesity;
- Smoking during pregnancy;
- Road injuries and fatalities.

3 Health in Planning – Policy Context

- 3.1 There are a number of factors that can influence health inequalities. These issues are known as the wider determinants of health².

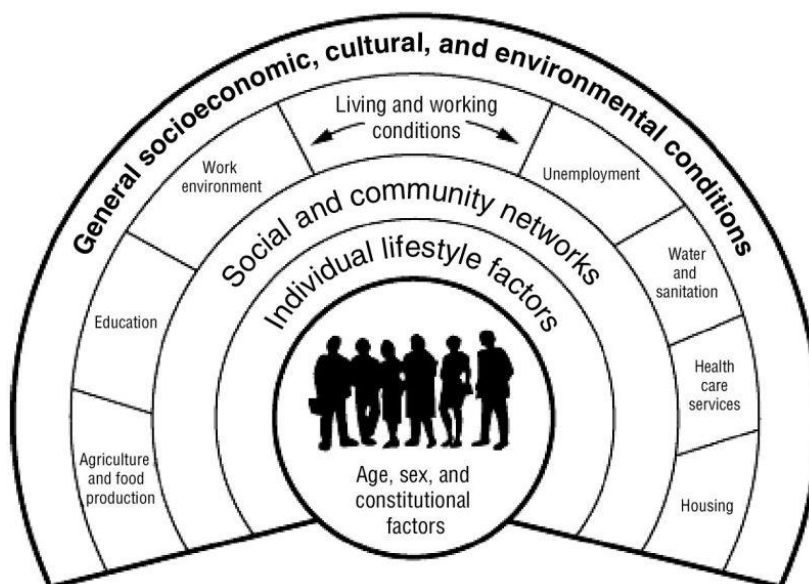


Figure 1 *Determinants of Health (Dahlgren & Whitehead (1991))*³

- 3.3 To address the health inequalities of Sevenoaks District, it will require an all-inclusive approach to find solutions. This will include working collaboratively with a number of organisations and ensuring that there is constructive and meaningful discussions around how planning can improve public health and reduce inequalities through collaborative plan-making and formation of local planning policies. Equally it is important to recognise that the design of buildings and the quality of the public realm are recognised as factors which can have a significant influence on health.
- 3.4 At the national level, the NPPF is clear that plan- and decision-making should take health as a serious consideration when looking at development proposals, as outlined in paragraph 1.6 of this document. The National Planning Policy Guidance (NPPG) is equally clear on the role of health within plan-making.
- 3.5 Additionally, the NPPF has policies which account for creating sustainable and healthy communities to include high quality open spaces, safe and accessible

² World Health Organisation (WHO) Determinants of Health (<http://www.who.int/hia/evidence/doh/en/>)

³ Determinants of Health by Dahlgren & Whitehead (1991)
(<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK221240/>)

communities and ensuring that facilities are within easy reach, as well as high quality homes and encouraging sustainable transport modes.

3.6 The current Local Plan comprises the Core Strategy (2011) and Allocations and Development Management Plan (ADMP) (2015). Both documents cover the plan period, up to 2026. While there is no specific policy to assess health impacts from developments, the Core Strategy and ADMP have a series of strategic and detailed policies surrounding various aspects of health including:

- Mitigating noise and air pollution (Core Strategy Policy SP2 and ADMP Policy EN6)
- Mitigating travel impacts (Core Strategy SP2 and ADMP Policy T1)
- High quality design principles (ADMP Policy EN1)
- Maintaining and enhancing public open space and green infrastructure (Core Strategy Policy SP10 and ADMP Policy GI1 & GI2)

3.7 The Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Local Plan considers the impact of health and wellbeing as a key theme. Commentary is extensive and focused on how the options presented for the Local Plan will have an impact on health⁴.

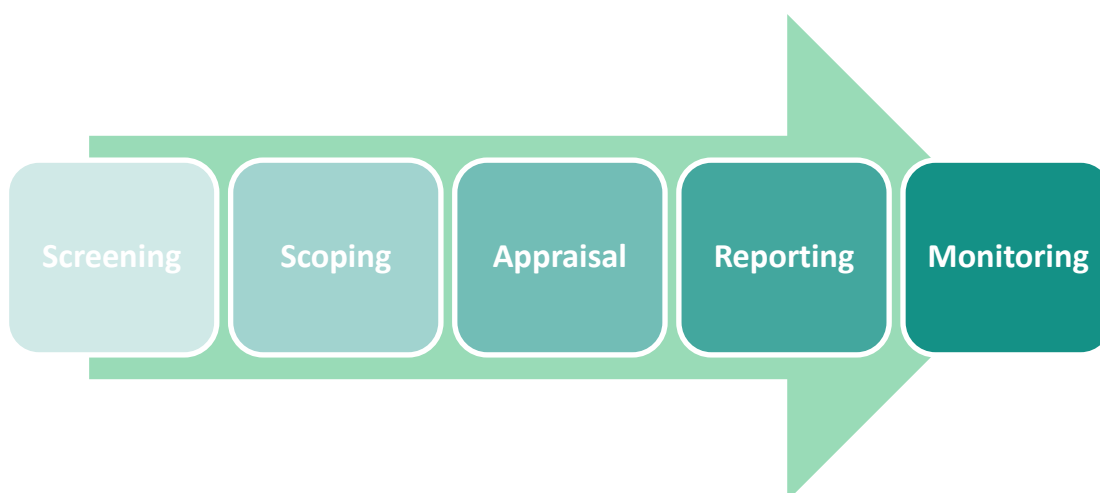
3.8 The Council has also produced a number of documents (both solely and with partners) to identify the health challenges across the District and outlining strategies to deal with these issues. These documents will be considered as part of the Local Plan and how their objectives can be met or facilitated through the local plan-making process. Documents include:

- Sevenoaks District Community Plan 2022-2032
- Sevenoaks District Housing Strategy 2022-2027
- Air Quality Action Plan
- Sevenoaks Health and Wellbeing Partnership Plan 2024-25

⁴https://www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/downloads/file/4337/sustainability_appraisal_of_the_sevenoaks_district_local_plan_%E2%80%93_interim_report_october_2025

4 Health Impact Assessment Process

- 4.1** A HIA can be defined as “a practical approach used to judge the potential health effects of a policy, programme or project on a population, particularly on vulnerable or disadvantaged groups” with the view that any recommendations made should aim to maximise the proposal’s health benefits while minimising any negative health effects.
- 4.2** A HIA is an important tool used to assess how developments contribute to the health and wellbeing of the local population. Local authorities and developers need to consider how developments will impact on health and health inequalities. This HIA will help to identify the potential positive and negative health impacts of the proposed Local Plan.
- 4.3** There is no fixed way to conduct an HIA. However, there are five sequential steps that should be accounted for:



4.4 Step 1: Screening

The Council considers that the Local Plan has important strategies that can influence health and wellbeing. Therefore it is deemed essential that an HIA is carried out to maximise the benefit to health that planning can offer.

4.5 Step 2: Scoping

Sevenoaks District Council has an in-house Health and Communities team, and also liaises with health and medical service partners and providers. At the current stage of plan making it has not been considered necessary to appraise every aspect of the document and a generalised approach has been taken. However, as the Local Plan progresses, it is anticipated that the HIA will become more comprehensive as detailed policies emerge.

4.6 Step 3: Appraisal

This stage of the HIA gathers information about the potential nature of the health impacts for an Issues and Options perspective. It also provides an opportunity to suggest possible ways to maximise the health benefits and minimise the risks. The strategic nature of the document and the number of people affected means that we must consult on the document widely, and ensure that all views are taken into account.

4.7 Step 4: Reporting

This report seeks to be suitable to a wide audience, and will be based on the potential health impacts of each policy theme. Recommendations are made in the conclusion of the document.

4.8 Step 5: Monitoring

The aim of this HIA is to inform decision making and policy formation as the Local Plan progresses. An evaluation will be carried out to assess potential health impacts and effects on the emerging Local Plan, and passing recommendations for the Local Plan to consider moving forward. As the Local Plan progresses indicators for policies will be developed, and in due course be monitored in the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR). Further information will be available as the Local Plan progresses.

5 Health in the emerging Sevenoaks District Local Plan and Findings

5.1 The Proposed Submission of the Local Plan sets out the strategic vision for meeting the various needs of the District, as well as setting out allocations for development and policies which will help determine planning applications. Ten topics of the Local Plan have been identified which include Development Strategy, Housing Choice for All, Employment and Economy, Climate Change, Design, Health and Wellbeing, Historic Environment, The Natural Environment, Infrastructure and Community, and Transport. These topics are coupled with seven Local Plan visions and objectives which are described as:

- 1) Promoting healthy Communities
- 2) Tackling the challenge of climate change
- 3) Delivering design excellence – in our built environment that responds to our distinctive local character and creates the heritage of the future
- 4) Supporting the delivery of strategic Infrastructure
- 5) Homes to meet local needs
- 6) Agile and competitive economy and resilient town centres
- 7) Protecting the natural and historic environment

The following section sets out an overview of the themes, which have been considered for the HIA against the seven Local Plan visions and objectives. Further analysis of the potential health impacts of the policies has also been provided in Appendix A of this paper.

5.2 Physical Activity

Improving physical activity across Sevenoaks District will have a significant impact on the general health of the population. People need to be able to incorporate physical activity within their daily routine. The Local Plan recognises the importance of physical activity within place-making and how this can be incorporated into local plan-making.

The Local Plan has identified sustainable transport and active travel (i.e. walking and cycling) as opportunities to improve physical activity, while noting that physical activity can also be encouraged through the provision of high quality open space, a greater provision of sport facilities (indoor and outdoor) and better linkages to facilities which could reduce a person's dependency on the private vehicle to travel.

The enhancement of green infrastructure is also encouraged, by potentially allocating open space and enhancing natural and semi-natural green spaces, as this can have positive impacts on both physical and mental health. It is also recognised that through these potential options, air quality could be improved as greater physical activity is encouraged.

5.3 Housing

Following extensive consultation and development of the Local Plan, a number of policies have been put forward which address housing needs and issues that the District faces and identifying potential strategies and policies that should be used to address the District's requirements. The District's housing supply will have to increase to meet the projected demands and housing targets over the course of the new plan period. The proposals will lead to an increase in the population across the District and it is important that the impact on health facilities is considered fully.

The adopted Local Plan will seek to allocate the most appropriate sites in sustainable locations, while providing better guidance and policy to encourage high quality design. An important focus for future health and social care provision is for older people to be able to live independently. In order to support people as they age, new housing should incorporate lifetime homes standards, including consideration for wheelchair assessable homes.

Further consideration should be given to energy efficiency when designing housing. This will improve heat retention and consequently reduce the risk of chest and heart complaints etc., and likelihood of accidents in the home such as trips and falls, and reduce the impact of extreme temperature changes.

5.4 Employment

The employment and economic growth strategy set out in the Local Plan will help to provide accessibility to employment and training opportunities within Sevenoaks District. Employment and education have an important influence on health and wellbeing as they provide both social and psychological benefits and can have a positive impact on the long term health of the population. The Local Plan has the potential to contribute to improving health and wellbeing through education, job creation and retention, and reducing health inequalities over the long term.

5.5 Accessibility

The Local Plan has the potential to provide opportunities for social interaction through promoting housing development close to existing transport links, local centres and employment. The ability to walk or cycle to local services is addressed through references to county-level strategies and initiatives, such as the Kent County Council Local Transport Plan 5 and the Kent County Council Active Travel Strategy. In addition, the District Council will look to produce a new Transport Strategy to support growth in the District, as well as accommodating public transport and active travel in the Local Plan. Further considerations should be given to car parking associated with new

developments as well as emerging technologies (i.e. electrical vehicle charging points).

It is important that there is accessibility to green infrastructure, open space and sports facilities to contribute towards good mental and physical health. The Local Plan through policies for design, open space and natural environment ensures these spaces are provided and incorporated into developments in the District.

5.6 Environmental Impact

The Local Plan comments on environmental factors such as air quality, flooding and the risk of climate change upon development. An increased population may lead to an increase in air pollution and noise, and lead to associated health impacts, but technological enhancements may support longer term improvements. Once adopted, the Local Plan will account for these factors by ensuring that suitable mitigation measures are taken into consideration when determining planning applications.

5.7 Social Cohesion and Communities

The Local Plan has undergone several extensive periods of public engagement, which have allowed residents to find out more on the future requirements and development of Sevenoaks District. Improved social cohesion and well-functioning communities can benefit health and wellbeing through the provision of community facilities, areas for play, and increased opportunities for walking and cycling.

This is incorporated into several policy themes of the Local Plan including health and wellbeing; transport; historic and natural environment; design; communities; retail; housing and leisure. Providing suitable shops and centres for people to meet will help to build social capital and combat isolation, as well as supporting accessible community facilities such as schools, healthcare and places of worship. The District's towns and local centres will continue to be the focus for major community and social facilities which will allow accessibility by public transport, as well as rural communities. The Local Plan will also consider the Council's corporate objectives to health and wellbeing through communities by accounting the strategies in the Council's Community Plan.

Public transport improvements will help those without a car, particularly the young, elderly and mobility impaired, to socialise and interact. This includes those residents in rural communities. This may help to reduce social isolation and improve an individual's wellbeing and mental health. It may also contribute to reducing pollutants from excessive car trips which impact on air quality.

Social cohesion and better mental health is supported by opportunities within green infrastructure which also includes play areas, school grounds, allotment sites and the public realm. These areas will need to be well designed to encourage their use and for increased social capital. Loneliness and isolation can be reduced by ensuring that new housing is built near existing towns and villages. For older people it is recognised that in many cases family support networks are essential in providing informal care and preventing loneliness and isolation. This is covered in the Local Plan by ensuring that housing options can be provided in all settlements, including rural villages, to ensure that older people can engage with their existing communities.

6 Conclusion

- 6.1 The Local Plan has the potential to positively influence the general health of the District, while potentially reducing health inequalities and negative impacts. This HIA represents an initial appraisal of health themes that the Local Plan may be able to address.
- 6.2 The Local Plan Regulation 18 document represents an early stage of the new local plan-making process. As the Local Plan develops and local planning policy is brought forward, there will be a need to continually assess the health impacts that might arise (both positive and negative).
- 6.3 The formation of local planning policy will be widely consulted upon during the course of the Local Plan preparation, including dialogue with health and medical partners.
- 6.4 This HIA has been published alongside the Regulation 18 consultation of the Local Plan. The Council will be inviting comments from a wide range of stakeholders, including residents and technical specialists.

Appendix A – Assessment of Local Plan Policies

The following table outlines whether the policies in the Proposed Submission document would have an impact on health in relation to development objectives in the Local Plan. The assessment of the policies in the Local Plan are categorised as:

- **Positive** – where the policy has a beneficial impact on health for the Local Plan.
- **Neutral** – the policy’s impact on health has neither a beneficial or adverse impact on the Local Plan.
- **Negative** – where the policy has an adverse impact on health for the Local Plan.

Additional commentary on the impacts of the policy has also been provided. The HIA will be published alongside the Proposed Submission of the Local Plan (Regulation 22) for submission.

Reference	Local Plan Policy	Does the policy have an impact on health in relation to the Local Plan objectives?	Additional Commentary
ST1	A Balanced Strategy for Growth in a Constrained District	Positive	The policy is the main strategic policy of the Local Plan by promoting the use of sustainable land and creating safe, healthy, and well-connected places across the District. The policy embodies all seven Local Plan visions and objectives.
ST2	Housing and Mixed Use Site Allocations	Neutral	The policy describes the housing and mixed use site allocations for the Local Plan to address its housing needs. While each allocation has associated design guidance, the Development Management process will determine how the development meets the objectives of the Local Plan. This will be achieved through national and local planning policies, as well as other local evidence provided when determining a planning application on the site.

H1	Housing Mix	Positive	The policy seeks to support the development of a mix of housing types in Sevenoaks District through a variety of housing types. It also sets the expected thresholds for house sizes, as well as requirements for accessible and adaptive homes and homes for wheelchair users. The policy provides a positive impact on health, as it supports better social cohesion by supporting more opportunities for more varied housing mixes within developments.
H2	Provision of Affordable Housing	Neutral	The policy supports the development of affordable housing where there is a locally identified need. While there is a potential positive benefit, the effects that the policy has on health objectives will depend on the scale and design of the scheme. Therefore, the impacts of the policy on health will be determined through the Development Management process by an individual planning application.
H3	Housing in Rural Areas	Neutral	The policy supports the development of affordable housing where there is a locally identified need in rural area. While there is a potential positive benefit especially for social cohesion, the effects that the policy has on health objectives will depend on the scale and design of the scheme. Therefore, the impacts of the policy on health will be determined through the Development Management process by an individual planning application.
H4	Housing for Older People	Positive	This policy seeks to support the development of housing for older people. This sets out the expectation of provisions within developments and the sets out the

			accessibility and sustainability expectations. This therefore will have a positive impact on health as it supports social cohesion and accessibility
H5	Build to Rent	Neutral	This policy sets out the criteria for build to rent development schemes. This supports sustainable building and housing mix. While there is a potential positive benefit, the effects that the policy has on health objectives will depend on the scale and design of the scheme. Therefore, the impacts of the policy on health will be determined through the Development Management process by an individual planning application.
H6	Smaller Sites	Neutral	While there is a potential positive benefit, the effects that the policy has on health objectives will depend on the scale and design of the scheme. Therefore, the impacts of the policy on health will be determined through the Development Management process by an individual planning application.
H7	Housing Density and Intensification	Neutral	While there is a potential positive benefit, the effects that the policy has on health objectives will depend on the scale and design of the scheme. Therefore, the impacts of the policy on health will be determined through the Development Management process by an individual planning application.
H8	Self-build and Custom Housebuilding	Neutral	While there is a potential positive benefit, the effects that the policy has on health objectives will depend on the scale and design of the scheme. Therefore, the impacts of the policy on health will be determined through the

			Development Management process by an individual planning application.
GT1	Provision for the Gypsy and Traveller Community	Neutral	By providing pitches for the Gypsy and Travellers community in the Local Plan, it reduces the number of unauthorised pitches and temporary permissions. While there is a potential positive benefit, the effects that the policy has on health objectives will depend on the scale and design of the scheme. Therefore, the impacts of the policy on health will be determined through the Development Management process by an individual planning application.
GT2	Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showperson Accommodation	Neutral	This policy seeks to set out the development standards for Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showperson accommodation. While there is a potential positive benefit, the effects that the policy has on health objectives will depend on the scale and design of the scheme. Therefore, the impacts of the policy on health will be determined through the Development Management process by an individual planning application.
EMP1	Delivering Economic Success	Neutral	The policy seeks to contribute to the delivery of economic success in the District and sets out how the Council plans to achieve this.
EMP2	New Employment Land	Neutral	The policy seeks to contribute to the delivery of economic success in the district by allocating sites for employment uses. The Development Management process will determine how the development meets the objectives of the Local Plan. This will be achieved through national and

			local planning policies, as well as other local evidence provided when determining a planning application on the site.
EMP3	Retaining and Optimising Existing Employment Land	Neutral	This seeks to support the retention, intensification and regeneration of existing sites. The policy also addresses the loss of employment land to residential use, providing that other uses are considered beforehand.
EMP4	Rural Diversification	Neutral	This policy seeks to support the economic growth in rural communities. This includes the retention of agricultural and land-based business or mitigations where redevelopment is not suitable. The impacts of the policy on health will be determined through the Development Management process by an individual planning application.
EMP5	Tourism and Visitor Economy	Neutral	The policy seeks to support a vibrant tourist economy by providing new tourist accommodation across the District. While there is a potential positive benefit, the effects that the policy has on health objectives will depend on the scale and design of the scheme. Therefore, the impacts of the policy on health will be determined through the Development Management process by an individual planning application.
TLC1	Resilient Town and Local Centres	Neutral	The Local Plan is clear that it will support a vibrant and well balanced economy through the allocation of employment sites and ensuring that town centres are viable. The policy will ensure that town centre uses are considered to meet the needs of the local community. The determination of appropriate town centre uses will be

			considered through the Development Management process. The Local Plan has other policies to deal with any adverse impacts that town centre uses may have on health.
SEV1	Sevenoaks Town Centre	Positive	This policy focuses on how to support and the goals for the Sevenoaks Town centre. This supports the goals of employment and social cohesions and communities so is likely to have a positive impact.
SWN1	Swanley Town Centre	Positive	This policy focuses on how to support and the goals for the Swanley town centre. This supports the goals of employment and social cohesions and communities so is likely to have a positive impact.
EDN1	Edenbridge Town Centre	Positive	This policy focuses on how to support and the goals for the Edenbridge town centre. This supports the goals of employment and social cohesions and communities so is likely to have a positive impact.
WST1	Westerham Town Centre	Positive	This policy focuses on how to support and the goals for the Westerham Town centre. This supports the goals of employment and social cohesions and communities so is likely to have a positive impact.
NAG1	New Ash Green Town Centre	Positive	This policy focuses on how to support and the goals for the New Ash Green Town centre. This supports the goals of employment and social cohesions and communities so is likely to have a positive impact.
CC1	Mitigating and Adapting to the	Positive	This policy sets out how the council seeks to ensure developments contributes to the mitigation of and

	Impacts of Climate Change		adaption to climate change. There is potential positive impact on health due to environmental impact.
CC2	Sustainable Design and Construction	Positive	This policy seeks to support the sustainable design and construction methods of new buildings and proposals. By ensuring this, the policy has potential positive impact due to its environmental impacts
CC3	Low Carbon and Renewable Energy	Positive	This seeks to support developments of low carbon and renewable generation where appropriate. As this would have a positive environmental impact this is likely to have a potential positive health impact.
CC4	Tree Planting	Positive	This policy sets out the expectations for new tree planting and landscaping on developments. As this has a positive environmental impact this has the potential for a positive impact on health.
W1	Flood Risk	Positive	The policy seeks to protect the District from the impacts of flooding. As this has a positive environmental impact this has the potential for a positive impact on health.
W2	Surface Water Management	Neutral	This policy seeks to support the provision of adequate drainage for developments in the District. While there is a potential positive benefit, the effects that the policy has on health objectives will depend on the scale and design of the scheme. Therefore, the impacts of the policy on health will be determined through the Development Management process by an individual planning application.
W3	Water Supply and Quality	Positive	Policy W3 seeks to support the development and protection of water supply and its quality. As this has a

			positive environmental impact this has the potential for a positive impact on health.
DE1	Community Review Panel	Neutral	This policy seeks to require some proposal's designs to be reviewed by a Community Review Panel. While good quality design may have some positive impacts on health, the effects that the policy has on health objectives will depend on the scale and design of the scheme. Therefore, the impacts of the policy on health will be determined through the Development Management process by an individual planning application.
DE2	Design Advisory Panel	Neutral	This policy seeks to require some proposal's designs to be reviewed by a Design Advisory Panel. While good quality design may have some positive impacts on health, the effects that the policy has on health objectives will depend on the scale and design of the scheme. Therefore, the impacts of the policy on health will be determined through the Development Management process by an individual planning application.
DE3	Ensuring Design Quality	Neutral	This policy seeks to require proposals to demonstrate with a Design and Access statement how they adhere to the 10 characteristics of place. While good quality design may have some positive impacts on health, the effects that the policy has on health objectives will depend on the scale and design of the scheme. Therefore, the impacts of the policy on health will be determined through the Development Management process by an individual planning application.

DE4	Delivering Design Quality	Neutral	This policy seeks to require proposals to demonstrate with a Design and Access statement how they adhere to the standards in the Design in Sevenoaks document. While good quality design may have some positive impacts on health, the effects that the policy has on health objectives will depend on the scale and design of the scheme. Therefore, the impacts of the policy on health will be determined through the Development Management process by an individual planning application.
DE5	Outline Planning Applications	Neutral	This policy seeks to require proposals of over 100 dwellings demonstrate with a Design Principles Document how they adhere to design quality. While good quality design may have some positive impacts on health, the effects that the policy has on health objectives will depend on the scale and design of the scheme. Therefore, the impacts of the policy on health will be determined through the Development Management process by an individual planning application.
DE6	Design Codes	Neutral	This policy seeks to require proposals of over 100 dwellings demonstrate with a Design Code how they will deliver a well-designed place. While good quality design may have some positive impacts on health, the effects that the policy has on health objectives will depend on the scale and design of the scheme. Therefore, the impacts of the policy on health will be determined through the Development Management process by an individual planning application.

DE7	Design for Rural Development	Neutral	This policy seeks to require proposals in rural areas demonstrate they are designed in accordance with the emerging design guidance. While good quality design may have some positive impacts on health, the effects that the policy has on health objectives will depend on the scale and design of the scheme. Therefore, the impacts of the policy on health will be determined through the Development Management process by an individual planning application.
HW1	Health and Wellbeing	Positive	This policy seeks to ensure proposals support health and wellbeing of the District. This is through creating healthy and safe communities, reducing health inequalities, and mitigating unavoidable negative health impacts. This also requires some developments to submit HIA documents, and encourages the policies to be read alongside Sport England Active Design guidance. As this is the main health and wellbeing policy this meets the health objectives and would have a positive impact.
HW2	Hot Food Takeaway and Fast Food, and Evening Economy	Positive	This aims to support the healthy eating of young people and the inclusion of a litter strategy for hot food takeaway and fast food outlets. This also aims to support the evening economy and mitigate any adverse effects of such businesses. The policy is aligned to national policy as well as the District Council's own health objectives. This would have a positive impact as it meets the health objectives.
AQ1	Air Quality	Positive	The policy seeks to improve air quality through mitigation measures. The policy is aligned to national policy as well as

			the District Council's own health objectives. Therefore, it is considered that the policy will have a positive impact on health.
HW3	Environmental Nuisance and Pollution	Positive	This seeks to protect the District from unacceptable levels of environmental nuisance and pollution. As this contributes to environmental impacts and social cohesion this has positive health impacts.
HEN1	Protecting and Enhancing the Historic Environment	Neutral	While there is a potential positive benefit with using the historic environment to benefit health, the effects that the policy has on health objectives will depend on the scale and design of the scheme. Therefore, the impacts of the policy on health will be determined through the Development Management process by an individual planning application.
HEN2	Sensitively Managing Change in the Historic Environment	Neutral	While there is a potential positive benefit with using the historic environment to benefit health, the effects that the policy has on health objectives will depend on the scale and design of the scheme. Therefore, the impacts of the policy on health will be determined through the Development Management process by an individual planning application.
HEN3	Archaeology	Neutral	While there is a potential positive benefit with using the historic environment to benefit health, the effects that the policy has on health objectives will depend on the scale and design of the scheme. Therefore, the impacts of the policy on health will be determined through the

			Development Management process by an individual planning application.
HEN4	Locally Listed Buildings and Assets	Neutral	While there is a potential positive benefit with using the historic environment to benefit health, the effects that the policy has on health objectives will depend on the scale and design of the scheme. Therefore, the impacts of the policy on health will be determined through the Development Management process by an individual planning application.
HEN5	Responding to Climate Change in the Historic Environment	Neutral	While there is a potential positive benefit with using the historic environment to benefit health, the effects that the policy has on health objectives will depend on the scale and design of the scheme. Therefore, the impacts of the policy on health will be determined through the Development Management process by an individual planning application.
HEN6	Shopfronts	Neutral	While there is a potential positive benefit with using the historic environment to benefit health, the effects that the policy has on health objectives will depend on the scale and design of the scheme. Therefore, the impacts of the policy on health will be determined through the Development Management process by an individual planning application.
HEN7	Historic Parks and Gardens	Neutral	While there is a potential positive benefit with using the historic environment to benefit health, the effects that the policy has on health objectives will depend on the scale and design of the scheme. Therefore, the impacts of the

			policy on health will be determined through the Development Management process by an individual planning application.
NE1	Landscape and National Landscapes	Neutral	While there is a potential positive benefit in maintaining the openness of the District's distinctive landscape and characteristics, the effects that the policy has on health objectives will depend on the scale and design of developments, which are permitted to be built in the National Landscapes. Therefore, the impacts of the policy on health will be determined through the Development Management process by an individual planning application.
BW1	Safeguarding Places for Wildlife and Nature	Positive	There is a potential positive benefit on health associated with this policy as it accounts for the protection of the blue green infrastructure network in the District, in relation to development. The effects that the policy has on health objectives will depend on the scale and design of the scheme. Therefore, the impacts of the policy on health will be determined through the Development Management process by an individual planning application. Therefore, it is considered that the policy will have a positive impact on health.
AF1	Ashdown Forest	Neutral	While there is a potential positive benefit in maintaining the openness of the District's distinctive landscape and characteristics, the effects that the policy has on health objectives will depend on the scale and design of developments, which are permitted to be built in the National Landscapes. Therefore, the impacts of the policy

			on health will be determined through the Development Management process by an individual planning application.
BW2	Biodiversity in Development	Positive	There is a potential positive benefit on health associated with this policy as it accounts for the protection of the blue green infrastructure network in the District, in relation to development. The effects that the policy has on health objectives will depend on the scale and design of the scheme. Therefore, the impacts of the policy on health will be determined through the Development Management process by an individual planning application. Therefore, it is considered that the policy will have a positive impact on health.
IN1	Infrastructure Delivery	Positive	This policy has potential benefits for health as supporting the network of infrastructure in the district supports communities and can positively impact health. Therefore, it is considered that the policy will have a positive impact on health.
OS1	Open Space and Recreation	Positive	The designation of open space and recreations supports the health benefits in regard to physical activity and social cohesion.
OS2	Children and Young People's Play Space	Positive	The requirement of Children and Young Peoples supports the health benefits in regard to physical activity and social cohesion.
ED1	Education	Positive	Supporting adequate provision for school access has positive health impacts for social cohesion and communities.

SL1	Sports and Leisure Facilities	Positive	Supporting access to sports and leisure facilities in the District means supporting physical health activity. Therefore, it is considered that the policy will have a positive impact on health.
COM1	Retention of Community Uses	Positive	Retaining community uses in development supports community cohesion. Therefore, it is considered that the policy will have a positive impact on health.
COM2	Allocations for Community Use	Positive	Retaining community uses in development supports community cohesion. Therefore, it is considered that the policy will have a positive impact on health.
UD1	Utilities and Digital Infrastructure	Positive	This policy seeks to require adequate access to facilities and digital infrastructure. Adequate facilities are important to the healthy living and working conditions of those in the District and access to digital infrastructure is important to social cohesion and community, and employment. Therefore, it is considered that the policy will have a positive impact on health.
T1	Sustainable Movement Network	Positive	The policy commits the Local Plan to providing more opportunities for active travel (walking and cycling) within and around new developments. It also states that the Local Plan should enhance and improve existing active travel infrastructure including public rights of ways. The policy encourages development to be located near good public transport links to reduce reliance on private vehicles for short journeys. Therefore, it is considered that the policy will have a positive impact on health.

T2	Sustainable Movement	Positive	The policy commits the Local Plan to providing more opportunities for active travel (walking and cycling) within and around new developments. It also states that the Local Plan should enhance and improve existing active travel infrastructure including public rights of ways. The policy encourages development to be located near good public transport links to reduce reliance on private vehicles for short journeys. Provision for electric vehicle charging points is also included in the policy, which will have a positive impact on reducing carbon emissions. Therefore, it is considered that the policy will have a positive impact on health.
T3	Vehicle Parking	Neutral	This policy seeks to set out the vehicle parking standards for the District. The effects that the policy has on health objectives will depend on the scale and design of the scheme. Therefore, the impacts of the policy on health will be determined through the Development Management process by an individual planning application.
T4	Transport Statements, Assessments and plans	Neutral	This policy seeks to set out the requirement for some applications to submit Transport Assessment, Statement, and Plan as required. The effects that the policy has on health objectives will depend on the scale and design of the scheme. Therefore, the impacts of the policy on health will be determined through the Development Management process by an individual planning application.