

	<u>Agenda Item: 10</u>
Report to:	Birmingham Health & Wellbeing Board
Date:	18th June 2019
TITLE:	DEVELOPERS TOOLKIT UPDATE REPORT
Organisation	Birmingham City Council
Presenting Officer	Kyle Stott, Service Manager , Public Health Division

Report Type:	Discussion
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1. Purpose:
1.1 To inform the Board of the Birmingham Developers Toolkit and identify opportunities to embed its use in practice.

2. Implications:		
BHWB Strategy Priorities	Health Inequalities	Yes
	Childhood Obesity	Yes
Joint Strategic Needs Assessment		
Joint Commissioning and Service Integration		
Maximising transfer of Public Health functions		
Financial		
Patient and Public Involvement		
Early Intervention		Yes
Prevention		Yes
Homelessness		Yes

3. Recommendations

3.1 The Board is asked to:

- Note the indicators which make up the tool and the linkages to other teams both within the council and externally
- Consider partner organisations that may feed into any Health Impact Assessments relating to major planning proposals
- Note the opportunities for assisting the development of a healthy food city and a physically active city

4. Background

4.1 The Birmingham Developers Toolkit is in a working draft form and has been created by Public Health for use by developers to:

- assess the health impact of planning proposals across twelve indicators
- support the creation of healthy environments and communities in the city

4.2 How and where we live can have a huge impact on our health. The relationship between our lifestyle choices and our health (such as smoking and drinking) are widely recognised, however the connections between our health and where we live are less visible and often overlooked.

4.3 It is important to identify and understand these connections and consider their impact on the health of Birmingham citizens. Some examples of these links are

- **Poor quality or inappropriate housing.** In Birmingham, 9.1% of households are overcrowded, compared with the England average of 4.8%. Similarly 16.8% of households are at risk of poverty due to fuel and heating costs compared with 11.1% across England.
- **Neighbourhoods.** 9.5% of households in Birmingham are exposed to levels of night time transport noise that are considered above a threshold level critical for human health (55dB). There is a greater use of outdoor space for exercise and health reasons in Birmingham than across England however.
- **Transport.** As well as issues around air quality and active travel, 40.4 people in every 100,000 of Birmingham residents are killed or seriously injured on the roads each year. Whilst this is around the national average, Birmingham has higher rates of child deaths and serious injuries.

4.4 The toolkit is based on the London Healthy Urban Development Unit assessment tool and related documents, and includes a Health Impact Assessment (HIA) template, and a guide to cross-reference local, regional and national policy for each indicator.

4.5 The tool is broken down into twelve indicators as follows:

- Housing quality and design
- Access to healthcare services and other social infrastructure
- Access to open space and nature
- Air quality, noise and neighbourhood amenity
- Accessibility and active travel
- Crime reduction and community safety
- Access to healthy food
- Access to work and training
- Social cohesion and lifetime neighbourhoods
- Minimising the use of resources
- Climate change
- Digital and technology

4.6 Whilst the tool may not pick up on all health issues, it focuses on the built environment and issues directly or indirectly influenced by planning decisions.

Example uses

4.7 The most recent example of this was the HIA of the draft Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) for the new Langley development in Sutton Coldfield.

4.8 A working group was formed and experts were identified for each indicator and were asked to assess the SPD against their indicator using the template and the guide within the toolkit. Experts were also asked to comment on the draft toolkit to suggest changes

4.9 The HIA report highlighted wider health considerations for the writing of the final Langley SPD.

5. Discussion

5.1 Health Impact Assessments are part of the planning pre-application validation checklist for all major applications.

5.2 Using the toolkit can be used to carry out comprehensive Health Impact Assessments on both redevelopment and regeneration projects. The toolkit also allows HIAs of major planning documents, strategies and plans.

5.3 Developers are encouraged to liaise with Public Health at the earliest opportunity to ensure that health is considered as early on in the process as possible.

5.4 This also provides an opportunity for Public Health to introduce the developers to local experts and organisations that should be able to assist developers in term of

local knowledge.

5.5 The draft toolkit is attached for the Boards information along with the Health Impact Assessment report for the Langley development in Sutton Coldfield.

6. Future development

6.1 The toolkit has recently undergone a thorough refresh by the respective experts for each indicator. The feedback gathered is currently being considered and reflected in a revised version that will be available for circulation by the end of July.

6.2 Short term: The Developers Toolkit will soon be in its final draft and the intention is that it will sit on the Planning Portal as part of the pre-validation checklist.

6.3 Long term: The toolkit will require regular updates to ensure that the guide refers to the most up to date policies and guidance. As well as a panel of technical experts, it is hoped that people with lived experience of protected characteristics, such as disabilities, can be recruited to give early views on new developments.

7. Compliance Issues

7.1 Strategy Implications

It is anticipated that the toolkit will assist in shaping future (and refreshed) policies and strategies with reference to planning and development in the city.

7.2 Homelessness Implications: - Report authors must note in this policy section, any positive or negative implications of the recommendations for homelessness in the City, in relation to meeting the requirements of the Homelessness Prevention Strategy.

The toolkit addresses the supply of appropriate housing.

7.3 Governance & Delivery

It is anticipated that the toolkit will be formally acknowledged and adopted within planning policy in Birmingham as an integral tool within the pre-application process.

7.4 Management Responsibility

The toolkit is produced and administered by Public Health.

7.5 Diversity & Inclusion

The toolkit directly references opportunities for creating inclusion and promoting diversity. It is designed to reduce inequalities and exclusion.

Signatures

**Chair of Health & Wellbeing Board
(Councillor Paulette Hamilton)**

Date: