

Health-integrated Planning: Issues, Impediments and Opportunities

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bettertogether

Background to research

- WHO Collaborating Centre in Healthy Urban Environments
- NICE Reviews 1-6
- Scope: Consider how health should be integrated into:
 - planning appraisal processes
 - more broadly in the planning process
 - the development process
- Limit: no focus on development systems, on how land is developed

Research questions

1. How far is health integrated into plan and project appraisal and what are the main barriers and facilitators to that integration?
2. How far is it integrated into planning policy more broadly and What are the main barriers and facilitators to that integration?
3. How *should* we integrate health into the planning process?
4. What are the limitations and gaps in the evidence?
5. What are the implications for practice and education?

Methodology

- Multidisciplinary team
- Systematic review of evidence following NICE guidance
- Selection of good practice case studies in UK and abroad: document analysis only
- Supplementary evidence from other sources

1a. How far is health integrated into plan and project appraisal?

- Some evidence of integration through EIA, SEA and HIA of a variety of health outcomes
- Evidence of HIA influence on plans and project but no evidence on effectiveness of HIA to deliver healthy planning at post development stage
- Some good practice examples:

Victoria, Australia	Good practice HIA
San Francisco	HIA: developing tools for assisting integration of health in planning decisions
Manchester	Airport HIA: use of HIA to secure health benefits through the project decision process
New Zealand	Christchurch: strong focus on HIA, and evidence that the integration of health in planning goes beyond appraisal

1b. What are the main barriers and opportunities to that integration?

Barriers/Facilitators:

- knowledge of professionals
- Partnerships
- Resources
- Appraisal process itself
- HIA can be trigger for mutual learning
- Mainstream health in appraisal vs HIA
- Monitor outcomes & impacts

2a. How far is it integrated into planning policy more broadly?

Bristol	City Council: joint appointments
London	GLA : statutory duties to promote health; HUDU
Plymouth	City Council: explicit integration of health and well-being in plans
Victoria, Australia	broad involvement of multiple stakeholders in the development of policy and techniques to integrate health
Netherlands	integration of policy areas and development of coherent spatial planning
Freiburg, Germany	focus on sustainability, quality of life, and effective community management has resulted in a healthy city

2b. What are the main barriers and opportunities to that integration?

- Explicit guidance that links health with planning
- Inter-sectoral working at national level
- Local/regional support mechanisms
- Co-ordination of community strategies at local level
- Duty on health professionals to input to planning decisions
- Duty on health professionals to consider impact of own investments

3a. How *should* we integrate health into the planning process?

National Policy:

- Planning Policy Statement
- Health/planning support agency
- Sustainable Community Strategy and LDFs
- Role of health agencies
- Regulations, guidance and flexibility
- National intersectoral working

3b. How *should* we integrate health into the planning process?

Development process:

- Developing a more accountable HIA process
- City influence on the development process
- Leadership and expertise
- Community engagement
- Diversity of investors

4. What are the limitations and gaps in the evidence?

- Research agenda to develop
- The degree to which healthy policies are implemented at development management stage
- The longer term health impacts of SA, SIA, EqlA or IA of projects or plans
- Barriers & facilitators (primary research)
- Impact of different approaches to the development process on health outcomes
- Issue of “self reporting” (eg HIA)

5. What are the implications for practice and education?

- Education for planners
- Engagement of health agencies
- Building in collaboration
- Applying policy to development decisions consistently
- Joint appointments
- Effective monitoring & better indicators

5. WHO Collaborating Centre's response to needs

- Health map
- Spectrum
- Health audits
- CPD on-line courses