

ESSENTIAL REFERENCE PAPER 'B'

Proposed section on Health and Wellbeing from the District Plan, including Policy CFLR9

19.9 Health and Wellbeing

- 19.9.1 The NPPF requires planners to consider health in a range of different ways. The framework's presumption in favour of sustainable development highlights the importance of achieving social, economic and environmental objectives (health and wellbeing encompasses all three). The Health and Social Care Act, which came into force in April 2013, introduced a new public health landscape. Within Hertfordshire, the previous NHS Primary Care Trust configuration has been reshaped into the Herts County Council Public Health Directorate working with District and Borough Councils in a two-tier formation, along with other vital health partners, statutory and voluntary, addressing local health need.
- 19.9.2 The Hertfordshire Health and Wellbeing Strategy (2013-2016) was developed at this time with nine priorities and is to be refreshed in 2016. Hertfordshire County Council also has its own Public Health Strategy (2013-2017). In addition, the East Herts Health and Wellbeing Strategy (2013) supports the life course approach to health which looks at the people, places and communities they live in, seeking to provide the best potential for improved health outcomes from birth to grave.
- 19.9.3 The following priority elements are foundation principles of the East Herts Health and Wellbeing Strategy:
1. Healthy children starting off well;
 2. Empowering children, young people and adults to achieve their life potential;
 3. Creating health and work together;

4. Promoting positive health and wellbeing life quality for all;
5. Healthy places and sustainable communities;
6. Pro-active health prevention.

- 19.9.4 Priorities 2, 5 and 6 have particular links with planning. Priority 2 refers to enabling the best possible life opportunities for all ages of population. Examples of this which relate to planning opportunities could involve the design of communities and towns that enable good community cohesion.
- 19.9.5 Priority 5 connects with the contribution planning can have in shaping infrastructure from residential dwellings and office developments to the ways in which these are sustainably connected and enable a richer environment for encouraging behaviour change and healthy lifestyle living.
- 19.9.6 Priority 6 is an active contributor in balancing economic burdens that are associated in treating individuals affected by illness and poor health. Examples of life-long homes that can be adapted easily as an individual passes through different life stages can help maintain independence. A community setting where these homes are located with opportunities to walk and exercise could impact a person's health potential positively both in terms of physical health and their social wellbeing because of a supportive neighbourly environment, enabling social connections.

The Health Summary for the East and North Hertfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group area can be viewed and downloaded from the NHS East and North Hertfordshire CCG Website at:

www.enhertsccg.nhs.uk/

Local Health Profiles can be viewed on the Public Health England Website at: www.apho.org.uk/

The East Herts Health and Wellbeing Strategy (2013-2018) can be viewed and downloaded from the Council's Website at:

www.eastherts.gov.uk/wellbeing

- 19.9.7 The planning system can play an important role in creating healthy, inclusive communities. This could include, for example, measures aimed at reducing health inequalities, encouraging physical activity, improving mental health and wellbeing, and improving air quality to reduce the incidence of respiratory disease.
- 19.9.8 The County Council's Public Health Department is preparing a Health and Wellbeing Planning Guidance document defining its expectations to developers in the delivery of healthy development and communities, with signposts to further advice. This will be available at <http://www.hertsdirect.org/services/healthsoc/healthherts/healthyplaces/>.
- 19.9.9 Sport England and Public Health England have produced 'Active Design', a set of guidelines and principles on creating developments that encourage physical activity and to promote opportunities for sport and physical activity in the design and layout of development:

Sport England's Active Design guidance can be viewed and downloaded from the Sport England Website at: www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/planning-for-sport/planning-tools-and-guidance/active-design/

- 19.9.10 Major applications will be expected to demonstrate how they will make provision for additional healthcare facilities. Strategic allocations will be expected to make full provision on-site, or in agreement with NHS England and East & North Herts Clinical Commissioning Group, improvements to existing facilities may be appropriate where this provides the most effective provision for patients.

Policy CFLR9 Health and Wellbeing

I. All development shall be designed to maximise the impact it can make to promoting healthy communities and reducing health inequalities. In particular, regard shall be had to providing the necessary infrastructure to encourage physical exercise and health, including accessible open space, vegetation and landscaping, sport and recreation facilities, cultural facilities and safe, well promoted, walking and cycling routes.

II. Where new health facilities are planned, these should be located where there is a choice of sustainable travel options and should be accessible to all members of the community.

III. Contributions towards new or enhanced health care facilities will be sought to ensure the health care requirements arising from new developments are met and to prevent a shortfall or worsening of provision.

IV. Where new facilities for community use, including for the practice of faith, are planned, these should be of a flexible design to enable multiple uses throughout the day and should be located where there is a choice of sustainable travel options.