



Public Health
England



Local wellbeing, local growth

Overview

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About Public Health England

Public Health England exists to protect and improve the nation's health and wellbeing, and reduce health inequalities. We do this through world-class science, knowledge and intelligence, advocacy, partnerships and the delivery of specialist public health services. We are an executive agency of the Department of Health, and are a distinct delivery organisation with operational autonomy to advise and support government, local authorities and the NHS in a professionally independent manner.

Public Health England
Wellington House
133-155 Waterloo Road
London SE1 8UG
Tel: 020 7654 8000

www.gov.uk/phe

Twitter: [@PHE_uk](https://twitter.com/PHE_uk)

Facebook: www.facebook.com/PublicHealthEngland

Prepared by Lina Toleikyte, Health Equity Unit, Health and Wellbeing Directorate, Public Health England

For queries relating to this document, please contact: Lina.Toleikyte@phe.gov.uk

The Local Government Association (LGA) is a politically led, cross-party organisation that works on behalf of councils to ensure local government has a strong, credible voice with national government.

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About Health in All Policies

A resource to support local authorities in adopting a Health in all policies approach

In England today, we are facing some wicked health challenges. Challenges like poor mental health, diabetes and obesity are problems with numerous, interlinking causes and no easy solutions, and they affect certain sectors of the population more than others. Evidence shows that these inequalities are largely determined by living conditions and wider social, economic, environmental, cultural and political factors (collectively referred to as 'wider determinants of health'). The determinants of health are controlled by influences and actions outside the health sector.

From experience around the world, policymakers know that re-shaping people's economic, physical, social and service environments can support wellbeing, healthy behaviours and boost local growth. Health in All Policies (HiAP) is a collaborative approach to improving the health of all people by incorporating health considerations into decisionmaking across sectors, policy and service areas, and addressing the wider determinants of health.

Benefits

HiAP is built on the idea that all parties involved benefit from the partnership and that collaboration drives achievement of their own goals. Health in All Policies approach is a collaborative approach which:

- is built on engagement of key-players and stakeholders
- improves wellbeing and health for the local population
- simultaneously and positively impacts on other important priorities, such as promoting the creation of good-quality jobs, local economic stability, educational attainment and many others
- provides an opportunity to identify issues which are addressed by multiple key players which is critical with the transfer of responsibility of public health to local authorities
- fosters conversations about how resources can be shared – and duplication reduced, whilst retaining a focus on outcomes

There is growing evidence on the impacts that working collaboratively with diverse partners can have on improved health and effectiveness of services. 'The 'Local wellbeing, local growth' resource provides a valuable set of

practical examples illustrating how a HiAP approach has been put into practice in the UK and around the world.

Programme of work

Public Health England (PHE) has led a work programme on Health and Health Equity in All Policies, which seeks to harness the potential of local authority policies and services to address the wider determinants of health.

PHE worked with the Association of Directors of Public Health and the Local Government Association (LGA) to develop masterclasses to understand how to support directors of Public Health and local government to adopt health and health equity in all policies at a local level.

Building on learning and feedback from these masterclasses, PHE held further regional events, bringing senior-level colleagues from local authorities together to inform the development of a resource to support local authorities in adopting a Health in All Policies approach.

About this resource

This resource brings together the arguments for a Health in All Policies approach with a set of practical examples of implementation from the UK and around the world.

It is designed to enable local government to understand how, in practice, to improve health through its multiple functions, programmes, service areas and partnership working. We have consulted with a wide range of potential users to ensure the resource fulfils this need.

The resource comprises five components:

Component 1

Overview paper: offering an introduction to the concept and implementation of the Health in All Policies approach.

Component 2

Slide set: briefly introducing the concept and case for action. It describes the rationale for the HiAP approach and highlights potential benefits of adopting it locally with a set of high impact infographics applied to an array of priority areas.

Component 3

Implementing Health in All Policies at a local level: practical examples: demonstrating how the HiAP approach has been implemented across the UK, Europe and the USA, together with the benefits and co-benefits that it delivered.

Component 4

Background information about Health and Health equity in All Policies – providing an overview of the background and history of HiAP as well as a short review of the academic literature.

Component 5

Glossary of terms

Audience

The primary audience for the resource is local government staff, particularly senior staff such as chief executive officers, non-executive directors, councillors, scrutiny members and heads of services/directorates. It is also relevant to other staff from multiple departments, services and policy areas across local government.

A secondary audience for the resource is partners to local government in taking action on the wider determinants of health (eg voluntary sector, CCGs, LEPs, business community) as well as Health and Wellbeing Boards in their role as leaders of a place-based approach to health and wellbeing.