

South Lakeland District Council

Health, Social, Economic & Environmental Impact Guidance & Proforma



Aims of the Health, Social, Economic & Environmental Impact Assessment

The aims of conducting the Impact Assessment are:

- To improve population health
- To reduce health inequalities
- To maximise any health benefits
- To minimise any health risks
- To inform decision making of any health impacts and to ensure that they are given consideration

When should an Impact Assessment be completed?

The Impact Assessment should be carried out at the beginning of a new project or programme, when conducting a service review and when developing a new policy. This enables consideration to be given to any potential health impacts at the very beginning of the process.

It is recommended that officers complete the Impact Assessment form even if initially they do not anticipate any health impacts to ensure that the proposal has been thoroughly considered.

How do I complete the Impact Assessment?

You will need to consider your proposal against four different categories, these include:

- Environmental conditions
- Social and economic factors
- Factors that impact a person's ability to improve their own health and wellbeing
- Access to services, spaces or social opportunities that improve health and wellbeing

When undertaking this piece of work it is likely that you will need to carry out some desk based research as a minimum to help you assess the impacts. There are some examples overleaf which demonstrate how different proposals can impact health and wellbeing.

For further information please contact:

Rachel Earnshaw, Public Protection Officer: r.earnshaw@southlakeland.gov.uk



Examples of how proposals can affect health

<p>Will the policy have an impact on environmental conditions that would affect health?</p>	<p>A policy on active travel would positively affect health through reducing motorised forms of transport and increasing more sustainable forms of transport.</p> <p>Building a new housing development without footpaths would discourage people from walking to local shops and services.</p>
<p>Will the policy have an impact on social and economic factors that would affect health?</p>	<p>Increasing access to advice on benefits in a deprived area could reduce poverty, and increase access to goods, services and activities.</p> <p>Assisting businesses who wish to expand who offer good employment will improve the health of the local population.</p>
<p>Will the proposal affect an individual's ability to improve their own health and wellbeing?</p>	<p>Upgrading the equipment in a playground would encourage usage and active lifestyles for children.</p> <p>Installing benches on walking routes will encourage older adults to take walks.</p>
<p>Will the proposal have an impact on access to information or access to services, spaces or social opportunities that can impact on health?</p>	<p>A proposal to build a take-away food outlet in an area where there are no healthy food stores and numerous existing take-away venues would increase access to unhealthy food types. This will have a further negative impact on diet, obesity and physical health in South Lakeland.</p>

Assistance

For assistance in completing the Health, Social, Economic & Environmental Impact Assessment Proforma please contact Rachel Earnshaw, Public Protection Officer: r.earnshaw@southlakeland.gov.uk



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Please complete this form and attach it to your report.

Project, policy or programme: COUNCIL PLAN						
Health Impacts	Potential Impacts				Comments	Recommendations
	Positive	No impact	Negative	Not sure		
Please tick the appropriate box						
Environmental Conditions						
Air quality	✓				Creating the environment for people to thrive	Health & Environment
Water quality and pollution	✓				Creating the environment for people to thrive	Health & Environment
Built environment	✓				Creating the environment for people to thrive	Housing & Communities
Natural environment and biodiversity	✓				Creating the environment for people to thrive	Health & Environment
Energy consumption/ efficiency	✓				Playing a leading role and influencing others	Health & Environment
Noise	✓				Creating the environment for people to thrive	Health & Environment
Transport		✓			Playing a leading role and influencing others	Health & Environment
Recycling	✓				Delivering excellent value-for-money services	Health & Environment
Food production		✓			Delivering excellent value-for-money services	Health & Environment
Social and Economic Factors						
Employment	✓				Playing a leading role and influencing others	Economy & Culture
Income	✓				Creating the environment for people to thrive	Economy & Culture
Poverty	✓				Creating the environment for people to thrive	Economy & Culture
Education, skills and training	✓				Playing a leading role and influencing others	Economy & Culture
Housing	✓				Creating the environment for people to thrive	Housing & Communities
Crime	✓				Playing a leading role and influencing others	Housing & Communities
Work environment	✓				Forward thinking innovative council	Housing & Communities

(continued overleaf)

Project, policy or programme: COUNCIL PLAN						
	Positive	No impact	Negative	Not sure	Comments	Recommendations
	Please tick the appropriate box					
Factors that impact a person's ability to improve their own health and wellbeing						
Nutrition and diet		✓			Playing a leading role and influencing others	Health & Environment
Physical activity	✓				Playing a leading role and influencing others	Health & Environment
Alcohol	✓				Playing a leading role and influencing others	Housing & Communities
Drugs	✓				Playing a leading role and influencing others	Housing & Communities
Risk taking behaviour	✓				Playing a leading role and influencing others	Health & Environment
Smoking	✓				Playing a leading role and influencing others	Health & Environment
Loneliness and isolation	✓				Playing a leading role and influencing others	Housing & Communities
Access to services, spaces or social opportunities that impact health						
Communication methods	✓				Forward thinking innovative council	Housing & Communities
Active travel	✓				Playing a leading role and influencing others	Health & Environment
Access to leisure	✓				Delivering excellent value-for-money services	Housing & Communities
Access to culture	✓				Playing a leading role and influencing others	Economy & Culture
Access to green spaces	✓				Delivering excellent value-for-money services	Housing & Communities