



City centre Brighton



South Downs National Park

## Equally Well Glasgow workshop

Glasgow 23 September 2010

## Healthy Urban Planning Policy to Practice in Brighton and Hove

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Image: VisitBrighton

Brighton seafront

**Context**

**Joint working**

**HIA**

**Lessons learnt**

**Planning**

**Sustainability checklist**

**New health and wellbeing section**

## Thought for the day

“if the first person you associate with good health is a doctor, then think again...

Urban planners might come across as unlikely health practitioners but the quality of the environment they create and manage significantly influences people’s health”

(Ross, A. 2007)



## Local Context

- WHO Healthy City since 2004
- Core themes of Healthy Urban Planning (HUP) and HIA (WHO 9 HUP principles)
- Healthy City Chapter in Local Development Framework Core Strategy
- And a requirement for conducting HIA on new major urban developments and policies

# core strategy proposed submission

February 2010

Brighton & Hove City Council's Local Development Framework



## CP4 Healthy City

Planning will support programmes and strategies which aim to reduce health inequalities and promote healthier lifestyles through the following:

1. Carry out health impact assessments (HIA or incorporated into a sustainability appraisal) on all planning policy documents.
2. Require HIA on all strategic developments in the city.
3. Require larger developments to demonstrate how they maximise positive impacts on health within the development or in adjoining areas (where the benefits of new development can be maximised).
4. Encourage development that works towards Lifetime Neighbourhood principles; promotes health, safety and active living for all age groups, including healthy living options for older people (see also CP2 and CP3).
5. Recognise, safeguard and encourage the role of allotments; garden plots within developments; small scale agriculture and farmers markets in providing access to healthy, affordable locally produced food options.
6. Joint working with health providers to help deliver and protect a sub-regional network of critical care hospitals and a citywide integrated network of health facilities that is within reasonable walking distance of public transport.
7. Through the Development Policies and Site Allocations DPD Appropriate sites for health use with good access will be identified and Safeguarded taking into account future growth and demand for health services in the city.



## Joint Working Health, City Council

- Healthy Urban Planning Masterclasses
- Training in HIA
- HUP Steering Group





## Joint Working: PCT/Planning Sharing the same agenda

- Public health is where planning started
- Planning is concerned with addressing inequalities
- Economic and environmental inequality has health implications....
- Making 'Explicit' health considerations

**Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital, Brighton:** NHS NEAT Excellent.  
Winner 2008 Prime Minister's Award. Approved 2003; completed 2007.

## Joint Working: The HUP steering group

- Membership: Public Health, Urban Planning, Economic development, Transport Planning, Sustainability, Housing
- Conduit for liaison PCT and Council
- Steer and monitor the development of initiatives e.g. map fast food outlets near secondary schools
- Report on progress of HIA on policies/developments
- Identifies opportunities for health considerations in plan making
- Early warning of major developments that should consider health and HIA



Brighton Marina



Open Market Brighton



3Ts RSCH Brighton

## HIAs conducted in Brighton and Hove

### Policies:

- Big Smoke Debate
- Staff travel Plan
- Transport Plan II
- Housing strategy
- Flexible alcohol licensing hours
- LDF Core Strategy

### Projects:

- Brighton Marina
- Open Market
- Royal Sussex County Hospital



**Jubilee Library, Brighton:** Winner 2005 Prime Minister's Better Public Building. Approved in 2001, completed in 2005.



## Lessons learnt

### Evaluation of HIAs:

- Capacity issues: financial and staff
- Local guidance needed for developers and planners
- Integrate in Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA)? 3Ts Hospital pilot
- Need for national standard for developers

## Some lessons learned for PCT:

- Learning the language of planning
- Planners can do 'public health'/ planning is public health
- Demystifying public health – explaining the language of public health
- Visible consideration of health issues in current strategies and planning documents
- Capacity to do HIA (much lengthier than anticipated)

## Some lessons learned for Planning:

- PCT evidence is relevant, persuasive and more obviously 'real' to communities - it highlights a number of equalities issues
- HIA can be incorporated into SA and EIA requiring some enhancement over assessments that are required anyway
- Joint working with PCT and LSP keeps Community Strategy and Core Strategy bound together
- Health authorities are significant developers themselves
- Health authorities have different and relevant consultation contacts

## Some Joint lessons

- Continually refresh understanding to allow for staff turnover and changes in political leadership
- Embed health considerations in process: don't just rely on individuals
- National standard for HIA?: consistency in what is expected of developers in HIA



**City and planning profile**  
**Policy framework**  
**Sustainability checklist**  
**Monitoring outcomes**  
**Challenges**  
**Timetable**



Hanover Brighton



Brunswick Square Hove

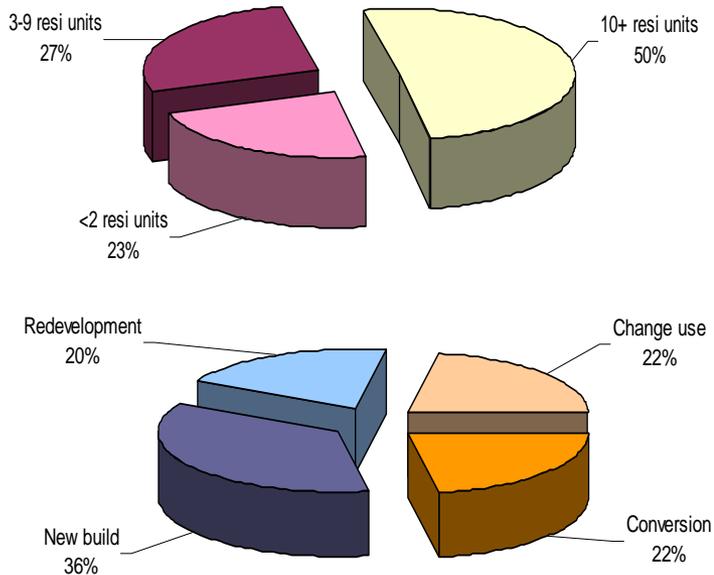


View from South Downs

## City profile

- 253,000 inhabitants
- Unique, compact, historic, seaside city
- Sea and South Downs Park: assets and limits
- Limited opportunities for expansion

## 2000-2008 residential completions



## Planning profile

- 3,000-4,000 planning applications per year
- Small portion 'major' (10+ resi units / 1,000sqm+)

## Residential completions

- 50% - 9 or less residential units
- 64% - redevelopment of existing buildings

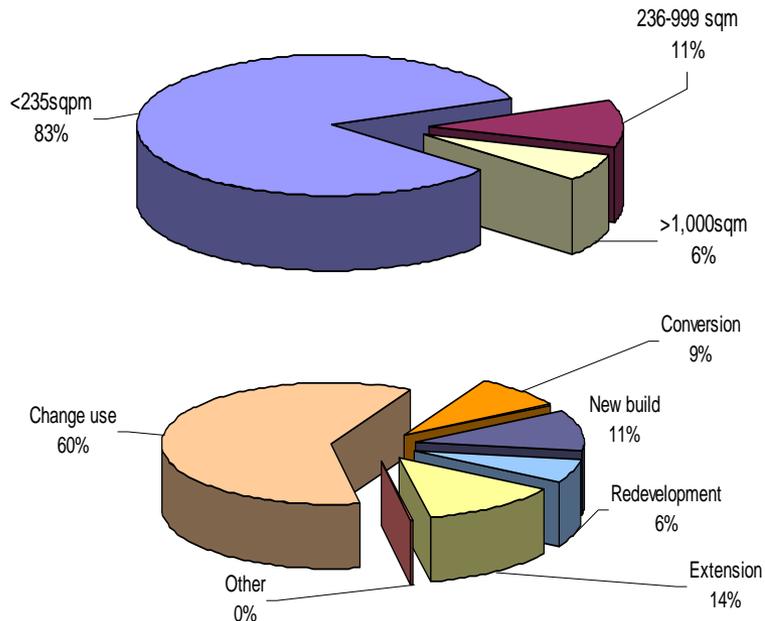
## Non-residential completions

- 83% - less than 235sqm
- 11% - new build

National policy on sustainability and health tend to focus on major, new build development.

**In B&H, that would exclude a considerable majority of development in the city.**

## 2000-2008 non-residential completions





**Gladstone Row, Brighton:** 31 town houses and commercial offices. EcoHomes and BREEAM 'Excellent'. Approved 2006, completed 2008.  
**Northern Greenway:** linear ecological park. Opening 2010.



## Policy framework

- Robust and flexible
- In place since 2001
- Consolidated in 2005 (Local Plan adoption)
- Local Plan + supporting guidance
- No dedicated health policy
- Relevant policies in all 8 chapters
- Sustainability checklist is one of a set of policy monitoring and awareness raising tools used
- Contains various questions relevant to health issue
- Some areas remain not covered

Part Three Score sheet

Sustainability Checklist – Natural environment questions		
Criteria	Criteria met?	Comments
Does the development protect / maintain and enhance / the biodiversity of the site as per Local Plan Policy QD17?		
Has a nature conservation report been submitted as part of the application?		
Sustainability Checklist – Pollution questions		
Criteria	Criteria met?	Comments
Does the development give rise to an increase in land and water contamination and atmospheric pollution.		
Sustainability Checklist – Community Safety questions		
Criteria	Criteria met?	Comments
Will the design of the development be of a high standard contributing to public safety and crime prevention?		
Sustainability Checklist – Economy and work questions		
Criteria	Criteria met?	Comments
Does the development provide a mix of uses suitable to the area and the development itself? (If major development)		
Does the development add a diverse range of employment opportunities for local people, encouraging both start-ups and expanding businesses?		
Does the development provide training opportunities for local people?		
Does the development provide for expansion in growth areas, as		

# SPGBH 21 Sustainability Checklist 2004

- 1<sup>st</sup> PDF format
- Awareness raising
- Policy review + implementation
- Difficult to monitor
- Instigated 2006 review



# brighton-hove. sustainabilitychecklist.co.uk

2008

- Adopted alongside SPD08 (standards)
- Tailored version of online SEEDA checklist
- Content: council + BRE (BREEAM/Code)
- Validation + monitoring + conversions
- 8 sections
- Questions according to development type/size
- Hosted outside council's ICT services

## Climate Change and Energy » Questions

To ensure that new developments are appropriately adapted to the impacts of present and future climate change and to minimise their own impact on greenhouse gases, flooding, heat gain, water resources and water quality. [Read background...](#)

## Community » Questions

To ensure that the development supports a vibrant, diverse and inclusive community which integrates with surrounding communities. [Read background...](#)

## Place Making » Questions

To ensure that the most sustainable sites are used for development and that the design process, layout structure and form provide a development that is appropriate to the local context and supports a sustainable community. [Read background...](#)

## Transport and Movement » Questions

To ensure people can reach facilities they need by appropriate transport modes, encouraging walking and public transport use and reducing the use of private cars for shorter journeys. [Read background...](#)

## Ecology » Questions

To ensure that the ecological value of the site is conserved and enhanced maintaining biodiversity and protecting existing natural habitats which can contribute to and enhance the amenity of the area. [Read background...](#)

## Resources » Questions

To promote the sustainable use of resources, including the reduction and re-use of wastes, related to both the construction and operation of new developments. [Read background...](#)

## Business » Questions

To ensure that the development contributes to the sustainable economic vitality of the local area and region. [Read background...](#)

## Buildings » Questions

To ensure that the design of individual buildings does not undermine the sustainability of the overall development. [Read background...](#)

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A-Z of services

city focus

17 September 2010

Democracy day

Get involved

Thursday 23 September 2010

- > **Democracy Day** House of Commons Speaker John Bercow to kick off the day
- > **Join the city's biggest ever walk for health...** Sunday 26 September
- > **Free badminton club at the King Alfred Leisure Centre** places still available for Monday 20 September
- > **Benfield Junior School proposal to extend age range** have your say
- > **NHS diabetes survey** if you are diabetic, have your say on local healthcare and services
- > **Positive Image photography competition** challenging the stigma of mental health
- > **Dementia awareness** free event for city residents on Wednesday 15 September
- > **Love food hate waste - tips to help save money and the environment** look out for us at a community event near you!
- > **Win a month's gym membership or cream tea for two at the Royal Pavilion!** tell us what you think of this website
- > **Business Waste Action Plan** calling local businesses - take the five minute survey
- > **City Sport and Physical Activity Awards 2010** nominations now open!
- > **Public Service Awards 2010** nominate now!
- > **The ideal time to compost** get your discounted composters, wormies and food digesters for autumn
- > **Be local buy local** support Brighton & Hove businesses
- > **School admissions** you can now apply online
- > **Brighton & Hove's Big Nature Conference 2010** Wednesday 10 November at Dorothy Springier High School

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2010

- Search for cost-effective option
- Go ahead to develop in-house version
- Opportunity to address health in detail
- Possible dedicated section



**Amex House, Brighton:** First development to adopt carbon compensation measures in the city. Approved 2009, commenced 2010.

**Sackville Estate, Hove:** Mixed use, 72 zero carbon residential unit development. Approved 2009.



## Monitoring outcomes

Sep 2008 - Jul 2010

Approved applications new build residential

How far will the local community have to travel to reach high quality public green space? (83)

Provision on-site 17%

500m from green space or seafront 52%

1000m from green space or seafront 17%

Minimum not met or not applicable 16%

## Relevance to Health & Wellbeing section?

### Healthy lifestyles

Opportunities for play/exercise within 15 min.

Effects of built environment on physical act:

- accessibility of facilities
- opportunities for activity and
- aesthetic and natural qualities of the area



### One Brighton:

Zero carbon, zero waste. 172 residential units. Approved 2006, completed 2010. 2009 RTPI award sustainable communities category. 6<sup>th</sup> floor allotments



## Monitoring outcomes

Sep 2008 - Jul 2010

Approved applications new build residential

Will a shop selling food and fresh groceries be available within 500m of all dwellings? (14)

Yes	86%
No or not applicable	14%

## Relevance to Health & Wellbeing section?

### Access to locally produced food

- allotments, city farms, healthy living centres)
- avoids centralisation of shopping
  
- Healthy diet reduces risk of obesity and associated diseases
- Consumption across socio-economic groups more difficult



**New Road, Brighton:**  
Before (above) and after (below) change to shared space.



## Challenges

### Social cohesion and social capital

- Social interaction
- leisure activities
- local empowerment
- avoids community severance

### Health inequalities

- No existing questions
- What are the key issues?
- What does the evidence say?
- Dedicated question?
- Range of questions?



**Stanmer Earthship, Brighton:** Off-grid zero carbon, zero waste, water neutral community centre. Approved 2001, completed 2007.



## Challenges

- Integrating various existing and emerging checklists (health, biodiversity)
- How to address issue of health inequality?
- More concise, meaningful and user-friendly
- Include non-residential development

## Timetable

### 2010

- Aug-Sep: content review + software prep
- Oct: content goes into software
- Late Oct/early Nov: pre-launch + public trials
- Dec: post-trial review

### 2011

- Jan-Feb: final adjustments
- Mar: users and monitoring training
- Apr: checklist goes online



Image: VisitBrighton

# Thanks for listening!

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