

Draft Canterbury District Local Plan to 2045

# HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENT (HIA)

(OCTOBER 2022)



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#### 1. Introduction

- 1.1. A Health Impact Assessment (HIA) has been used as a further mechanism to help test the health consequences of the draft Canterbury District Local Plan.
- 1.2. The factors that influence our health are multiple and complex. The Department of Health and Social Care have estimated that socio-economic and physical environments determine 60% of health outcomes<sup>1</sup>. Focusing on these determinants of health is essential for improving population health and wellbeing and reducing inequalities.
- 1.3. The HIA process looks at the positive and negative impacts of the options as well as assessing the indirect implications for the wider community. The aim is to identify the main impacts and prompt discussion about the best ways of dealing with them to maximise the benefits, avoid any potential adverse impacts and reduce health inequalities.
- 1.4. Undertaking the Health Impact Assessment positively contributes to The Department of Health and Social Care's vision in respect of local authorities embedding public health into all their activities to improve health and reduce inequalities.
- 1.5. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states that planning policies and decisions should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places which: promote social interaction, are safe & accessible, and enable & support healthy lifestyles.
- 1.6. The purpose of this HIA is to ensure that the draft Local Plan reduces health inequalities and does not actively damage health.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Department of Health and Social Care, (2019), Advancing our health: prevention in the 2020s

### 2. Canterbury District Health Profile

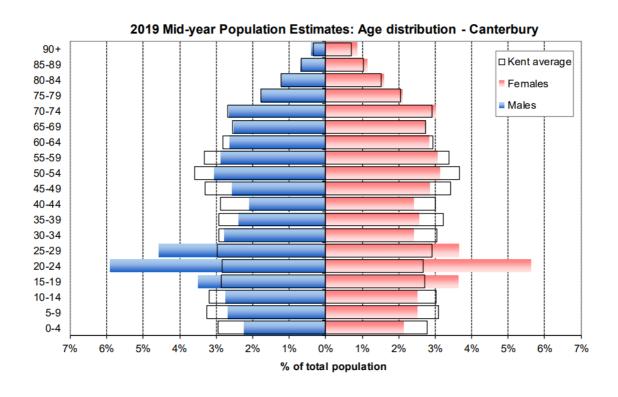
- 2.1. This profile has been produced to support the Health Impact Assessment of the Canterbury District Local Plan Options. It aims to provide an overview of the statistical information referring to health indicators in the District using the most relevant data that is readily available.
- 2.2. The data has been collated from a range of sources, including Public Health England and the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government's English Indices of Deprivation 2019.

#### **Health Summary**

2.3. Public Health England produces a health profile for each local authority which is intended to provide a snapshot overview of health indicators. Their overall summary is that health in Canterbury is varied compared to England as a whole. The data highlights about 16.5% (3,820) children live in low income families. Notifiable indicators which are worse than the average for England are the suicide rate, estimated diabetes diagnosis rate and percentage of people aged 16 - 64 in employment. Appendix 3 shows all the indicators assessed by Public Health England.

#### **Population and demographics**

2.4. In 2019, it is estimated Canterbury had a population of 165,400 (ONS 2019). It has the second highest population in Kent. The table below shows the age distribution of the 2019 Mid-year population estimates for the Canterbury District.

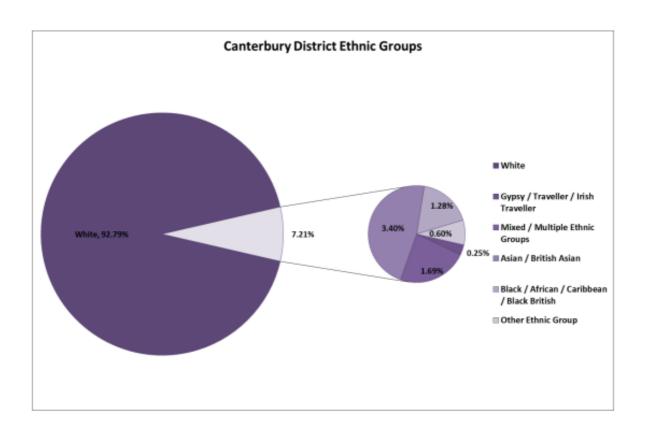


#### Life expectancy

2.5. Public Health England data from 2019 highlighted life expectancy for both men and women is similar to the England average. The life expectancy of an adult male in Canterbury is 79.3 years and for a female it is 83.6. However, in the most deprived areas of Canterbury life expectancy is 6.5 years lower for men and 5.1 years lower for women than in the least deprived areas.

#### **Ethnicity**

2.6. The largest ethnic group in the district is White-British (92.8%) a further 4.4% are non-UK born residents of white origin and 3.4% class themselves as Asian or British Asian. The pie chart below shows the ethnic groups which make up the Canterbury District.



#### Deprivation

2.7. The Indices of Deprivation 2019 (IoD2019) Is produced by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) and provides a set of relative measures of deprivation for neighbourhoods or small areas called Lower-layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs) across England.

2.8.	Deprivation at a small area level in Canterbury has increased since 2015. Canterbury which
	now has 2 (LSOAs) within the 10% most deprived LSOAs within Kent for IMD2019 when
	there were none in the IMD2015. They include Heron and Barton. Canterbury was one of
	two local authorities within Kent to have LSOAs within the 10% most deprived decile of the
	IMD2019 when they had none in the IMD2015.

## 3. Methodology

- 3.1. A HIA is designed to assess the likely health impacts of planning decisions in plan making or in development management (planning applications). This HIA will help to identify the potential positive and negative health impacts of the draft Local Plan.
- 3.2. There is no fixed way to conduct a HIA. However, there are five key steps which should be accounted for. They are:

#### Step 1: Screening

This involved determining whether an HIA is needed and justified subject to anticipation of health impacts on population groups. It is considered that the Local Plan is an important framework that can influence health and wellbeing in the district. Therefore, it is useful that an HIA is carried out throughout the plan preparation to maximise the delivery of health benefits.

#### Step 2: Scoping

This involved identifying the potential health impacts to assess. Policies considered to have a meaningful effect on health are to be assessed. The policies which are not considered to have a meaningful effect on health will not be assessed in detail at this stage of plan making. Appendix 1 details the policies which have been assessed.

#### Step 3: Assessing

This involved assessing the significance of health impacts of the policies. This can be found in Appendix 2.

#### **Step 4: Reporting**

This involved formatting this report and setting out recommendations.

#### Step 5: Monitoring and evaluating

This HIA will inform decision making and future policy formation as the new Local Plan is developed.

## 4. Findings and Conclusion

- 4.1. This HIA provides an appraisal of the key health issues that the Local Plan will need to address. The HIA identifies how the Local Plan has the potential to positively influence the general health of the District, while reducing health inequalities. The assessment establishes six common themes;
  - Improving air quality;
  - Reducing carbon emissions;
  - Encouraging physical activity;
  - Providing high quality housing;
  - Supporting employment and economic growth; and
  - Creating sustainable communities.

#### Improving air quality

- 4.2. Vehicles emit a range of pollutants that contribute to air pollution and can have harmful effects on human health. Promoting active travel and supporting public transport can reduce the number of vehicles on the road and lower air pollution which would benefit health. In addition, by encouraging a rapid transition to low emission vehicles this would also reduce air pollution caused by vehicles, creating cleaner air and supporting good health.
- 4.3. The Air Quality Assessment of the draft Local Plan strategy for development and transportation shows that air quality in Canterbury district will improve as a result of the movement and transport strategy. The strategy is designed to improve air quality in our designated Air Quality Monitoring Areas (AQMAs) by reducing trips by private vehicle and facilitating a significant shift in mode share to less polluting forms of travel.

#### **Reducing carbon emissions**

- 4.4. Reducing carbon emissions across the district is considered to have positive impacts on the health of the population. Directly, through limiting exposure to dangerous carbon dioxide gases, and indirectly through reducing the harmful effects of climate change on the environment which in turn affects our physical and mental wellbeing.
- 4.5. The Climate Change Topic Paper helped to shape and influence the policies in the draft Local Plan to promote the transition to low carbon and energy efficient homes and buildings, promotes the reduction of greenhouse gases which will lower exposure to pollution and support good health. The draft Local Plan also encourages renewable energy generation

both in community and utility scale. Renewable energy generation reduces the need for fossil fuel power generation, decreasing emissions of harmful gases to improve air quality and reduce the harmful effect on health.

#### **Encouraging physical activity**

- 4.6. Physical activity has a host of benefits which residents should incorporate into their daily lives to promote good health. Open spaces, green infrastructure and access to sports facilities are important to facilitate physical activity and promote good physical and mental health.
- 4.7. The draft Local Plan encourages physical activity as part of a number of strategies. The draft Open Space strategy requires generous open space provision alongside allocated housing developments so that residents have access to open space for exercise and recreation. The strategy also ensures that key recreation spaces in the district are protected from development. The Indoor Sports Facilities Strategy and Playing Pitch Strategy ensure existing sports facilities are protected and enhanced, and new indoor and outdoor sports facilities are provided where needed. Moreover, the draft Local Plan promotes and facilitates active travel (i.e. walking and cycling) which provides opportunities to increase levels of physical activity to support good health.

#### **Providing high quality housing**

- 4.8. The Housing Needs Assessment outlined the housing needs in the district, so that enough suitable homes are provided for the growing population. High quality housing is associated with better health and wellbeing. This includes ensuring the right housing mix and density, high quality design and supporting sustainable living.
- 4.9. The draft Local Plan ensures a suitable housing mix, ranges in the size of home and tenures as well as ensuring homes are built to high energy efficiency standards, keeping homes warmer and promoting a healthy living environment which supports health. Furthermore, the draft Local Plan delivers specialist homes to meet the needs of older people which could have significant benefits on their quality of life, and sets out that accessible and disability friendly designed homes can enable individuals to live independently for longer while reducing the risk of incidents.

#### Supporting employment and economic growth

4.10. Providing a range of employment opportunities across the district is important in reducing socio-economic inequalities that are linked to negative health outcomes and help to support physical and mental health.

- 4.11. The draft Local Plan recognises the importance of socio-economic factors in contributing to improved health and wellbeing through education, job creation and retention, and reducing health inequalities over the long term.
- 4.12. Following the Economic Development and Tourism Study, the draft Local Plan ensures that provision is made for adequate business space, general industrial and storage and distribution to meet future needs. The Retail and Leisure Study also informed the draft Local Plan's need for new retail and leisure facilities which is important for employment and economic growth opportunities.

#### **Creating sustainable communities**

- 4.13. Creating sustainable communities influences quality of life and the overall health of residents. Communities also rely on access to social and community infrastructure such as GP surgeries or community halls to meet day-to-day needs. The draft Local Plan highlights the need to protect and improve access to such services to support good quality of life. It may also contribute to reducing pollutants from excessive car trips, improving air quality, and in turn improving health.
- 4.14. The draft Local Plan ensures the provision of quality homes in sustainable locations, promoting a healthy living environment for residents with accessible services within walking or cycling distance to meet their day to day needs. The Transport Topic Paper encourages walking and cycling as a primary mode of transport and the draft Local Plan has ensured that walking and cycling routes are to be provided as part of all development allocations. Good connectivity between settlements will also ensure good mental wellbeing and reduce social isolation. The Infrastructure Delivery Plan also ensures that adequate infrastructure (i.e. schools, community facilities) is provided to meet the demands of the growing population.
- 4.15. Overall the draft Local Plan seeks to provide significant improvements to improve health. It is recommended as the Local Plan is developed there is continual assessment of the health impacts which may arise.

# **Appendix 1 - Scoping**

The table below demonstrates the draft Local Plan policies, which are considered to require assessment as part of the Health Impact Assessment.

Policy Ref	Policy Title	
	Spatial Strategy for the district to 2045	
SS1	Environmental Strategy for the district	Υ
SS2	Sustainable Design Strategy for the district	Υ
SS3	Development Strategy for the district	Υ
SS4	Movement and Transportation Strategy for the district	Υ
SS5	Infrastructure Strategy for the district	Υ
	Canterbury	
C1	Canterbury City Centre Strategy	Υ
C2-3	Canterbury City Centre allocations	Υ
C4	Canterbury Urban Area	Υ
C5-10	South West Canterbury	Υ
C11-16	East Canterbury	Υ
C17-24	Canterbury Urban Area Allocations	Υ
C25-26	Other Canterbury Opportunity Areas	Υ

	Whitstable	
W1	Whitstable Town Centre Strategy	Υ
W2	Whitstable Harbour	Υ
W3	Whitstable Urban Area	Υ
W4-7	South Whitstable - Strategic Development Area	Υ
W8-10	Whitstable Urban Area Allocations	Υ
	Herne Bay	
HB1	Herne Bay Town Centre Strategy	Υ
HB2	Herne Bay Town Centre Regeneration Opportunity Areas	Υ
НВ3	Herne Bay Urban Area	Υ
HB4-10	Herne Bay Urban Area Allocations	Υ
	Rural areas	
R1	Land at Cooting Farm	Υ
R2	Rural Service Centres	Υ
R3-4	Blean	Υ
R5-6	Bridge	Υ
R7-10	Chartham	Υ
R11-13	Hersden	Υ
R14-16	Littlebourne	Υ
R17-19	Sturry	Υ
R20	Aylesham	Υ

R21	Local Service Centres	Υ
R22	Adisham	Υ
R23	Barham	Υ
R24-26	Broad Oak	Υ
R27	Hoath	Υ
R28	Countryside	Υ
	Housing and new communities	
DS1	Affordable Housing	Υ
DS2	Housing Mix	Υ
DS3	Estate Regeneration	Υ
DS4	Rural Housing	Υ
DS5	Specialist Housing Provision	Υ
DS6	Sustainable Design	Υ
DS7	Infrastructure Delivery	Υ
	Employment and the local economy	
DS8	Business and Employment Areas	Υ
DS9	Education and associated development	Υ
DS10	Town centres and community facilities	Υ
DS11	Tourism development	N
DS12	Rural economy	Υ
	Movement, transportation and air quality	

DS13	Movement hierarchy	Υ
DS14	Active and sustainable travel	Υ
DS15	Highways and parking	N
DS16	Air Quality	Υ
	Open space, natural and historic environment	
DS17	Habitats of international importance	Υ
DS18	Habitats and landscapes of national importance	Υ
DS19	Habitats, landscapes and sites of local importance	Υ
DS20	Flood risk and sustainable drainage	Υ
DS21	Supporting biodiversity recovery	Υ
DS22	Landscape character	Υ
DS23	The Blean Woodland Complex	Υ
DS24	Publicly accessible open spaces and sports	Υ
DS25	Renewable energy and carbon sequestration	Υ
DS26	Historic environment and archaeology	N
	Development management	
DM1	Conversion of existing rural buildings	N
DM2	Residential garden land	Υ
DM3	Housing in multiple occupation (HMOs)	Υ
DM4	Reducing waste and supporting the circular economy	N
DM5	Parking design	N

DM6	Extensions and alterations to existing buildings	N
DM7	Health and Crime Impact Assessments	Υ
DM8	Shopfronts	N
DM9	Advertisements	N
DM10	Residential annexes and ancillary accommodation	N
DM11	Residential design	Υ
DM12	Non-residential design	Υ
DM13	Biomass technology	Υ
DM14	Flood risk	Υ
DM15	Sustainable drainage	Υ
DM16	Water pollution	Υ
DM17	Noise pollution and tranquillity	Υ
DM18	Light pollution and dark skies	Υ
DM19	Contamination and unstable land	Υ
C2, 5-26, W4-10, HB4-10,		
R1-R17	All development site allocations	Υ

## **Appendix 2 - Assessment of Local Plan Options**

The following table considers the potential impacts on health related to the Draft Local Plan policies. Policies which are not considered to have a meaningful effect on health have not been assessed in detail at this stage.

Policy ref	Policy title	Why is this important in terms of health and wellbeing?	Analysis
1. Spatial	strategy for the district to 2045		
SS1	Environmental Strategy for the district	The response to the climate emergency is important for health as the levels of carbon in the atmosphere can cause air pollution which can lead to significant health impacts such as respiratory, heart and lung diseases. Climate change also comes with its own health risks such as extreme weather conditions which can put human health at risk. It is therefore important to have effective carbon reduction and mitigation schemes in place to protect health and wellbeing.  Protecting natural landscapes and biodiversity is also important to maintain the ecosystems that are important for human health, as well as ensure access to nature which is beneficial	Policy SS1 supports opportunities for carbon sequestration and renewable and low-carbon sources of energy. This will help lower carbon emissions in the district and improve air quality, benefitting the health and wellbeing of residents.  The policy also seeks to ensure that habitats and landscapes are protected and enhanced, protecting the green and blue infrastructure network and biodiversity, including at the Stodmarsh European Site. This will help maintain healthy environments and ecosystems that are important for human health.

		for wellbeing. Furthermore, ensuring the availability of publicly accessible open spaces, green infrastructure and access to sports facilities is important to facilitate physical activity and access to nature which can promote good physical and mental health.	Furthermore, the policy seeks to ensure that provision is made for a range of new open spaces and sports and recreation facilities in the district which will benefit the health and wellbeing of residents.
SS2	Sustainable Design Strategy for the district	Sustainable design is important to promote sustainable living in communities. This encourages active and healthy lifestyles.  Sustainable design is also important to maximise efficiency which will reduce carbon emissions. Reducing carbon emissions across the district is considered to have positive impacts on the health of the population. Directly, through limiting exposure to dangerous carbon dioxide gases, and indirectly through reducing the harmful effects of climate change on the environment which in turn affects our physical and mental wellbeing.	Policy SS2 seeks to ensure that new development offers high-quality design and delivers a sense of place and promotes inclusive communities.  The policy emphasises that the design and layout of new communities must be carefully considered to maximise sustainability, such as by ensuring appropriate connectivity by walking and cycling to nearby community facilities and services. This encourages physical activity which benefits residents' health and wellbeing. A shift to active forms of travel also promotes better air quality which further benefits the health of the district.  The policy also seeks to ensure that the design of new developments responds to the climate emergency, ensuring new homes achieve net zero carbon emissions and provide residents with the highest standards

			of energy and water efficiency. This helps to reduce the district's contribution to climate change and its associated health risks.
SS3	Development Strategy for the district	A growing population requires adequate homes, jobs, services and infrastructure in order to have a good quality of life.  Adequate provision of good quality housing promotes better standards of living and a better quality of life for residents.  The availability of adequate business and employment opportunities can reduce the socio-economic inequalities that are linked to negative health outcomes. Good quality employment space can also help wellbeing and mental health.	Policy SS3 ensures that enough new dwellings are built to meet the needs of the growing population, including affordable housing, older persons housing and a range of sizes and types of housing to meet local needs.  The policy also ensures the creation of office, retail and other commercial spaces to meet local needs, supporting employment and the local economy.  For more detail about the development strategy for specific areas please refer to section 2: "Canterbury, Whitstable and Herne Bay".
SS4	Movement and Transportation Strategy for the district	Promoting active travel and supporting public transport can reduce the number of vehicles on the road and lower air pollution which would benefit health. In addition, by encouraging a rapid transition to low emission vehicles this would also reduce air pollution	Policy SS4 ensures the delivery of enhanced sustainable transport infrastructure to enable a significant shift to more low-carbon and active forms of travel. This will encourage healthy lifestyles, promote physical activity and also help to reduce carbon emissions and improve air quality

		caused by vehicles, creating cleaner air and supporting good health.	which benefits health and wellbeing.  The policy also ensures that new development provides sustainable transport measures, such as electric charging infrastructure, shared transport initiatives, improved active travel connectivity which will help to improve the air quality of the district as a whole and promote better health.
SS5	Infrastructure Strategy for the district	Infrastructure plays a significant role to sustain a community's quality of life. Access to day to day services is important for wellbeing, whether it is to access shops to buy healthy food or GP surgery to access medical care.  Access to schools is important for health as a good education can reduce the socio-economic inequalities that are linked to negative health outcomes.	Policy SS5 seeks to ensure that adequate infrastructure will be provided to meet the needs of the growing population.  The policy seeks to ensure delivery of infrastructure such as local shopping and community facilities and schools which will ensure a good quality of life for residents.  The policy ensures the delivery of utilities infrastructure such as water supply and wastewater treatment. This will ensure that residents will be able to access safe clean water and maintain good health.  The policy also seeks to ensure the delivery of a new or improved Kent and Canterbury Hospital which remains on the shortlist of options being considered by the NHS. This

			would significantly improve access to medical care and benefit the health of the district.
2. Car	nterbury, Whitstable and Herne Ba	ny	
C1	Canterbury City Centre Strategy	The majority of the district's population live within these areas and therefore the nature of City Centre and Town Centres as well as the	Policies C1 and C4 are focused on improving the environment within and around Canterbury; encouraging active and
W1	Whitstable Town Centre Strategy	larger urban area play an important contribution to the health and wellbeing of the district's residents.	sustainable forms of transport and facilitating the regeneration and improvement of key areas of the city
HB1	Herne Bay Town Centre Strategy	Sustainable and environmentally friendly town centres and urban areas benefit the	including facilitating improvements to green spaces within the city which will benefit health.
C4	Canterbury Urban Area	health and wellbeing of the district through	Policies W1 and W3 are focused on
W3	Whitstable Urban Area	positive impacts on climate change, air quality and biodiversity as well as positive social and	improving the environment within and around Whitstable; a new secondary school
НВ3	Herne Bay Urban Area	economic impacts which can raise quality of life in the area.	and improvements to roads to relieve congestion and a new Park and Bus facility as well as new business space which will help to improve health and wellbeing within the town including by supporting active and sustainable travel patterns. The policy also emphasises an appropriate mix of retail and leisure facilities and the protection of open space, and blue and green infrastructure which will benefit health.  Policies HB1 and HB3 are focused on

			improving the environment within and around Herne Bay; improved commercial areas to strengthen the local economy, revitalising the town centre through mixed-use regeneration, sustainable transport improvements, green infrastructure connections, and cultural and public realm enhancements, supported by improved connectivity which will benefit health.
3. Develop	oment site allocations		
C2, 5-26 W4-10 HB4-10 R1-R17	All development site allocations	The environment in which a person lives and/or works can have a significant impact on their health and wellbeing. High quality housing and employment space is associated with better health and wellbeing. Sustainable and environmentally friendly allocations also benefit the health and wellbeing of the wider district through impacts on climate change, air quality and biodiversity.	These policies ensure enough suitable homes are provided for the growing population in appropriate and sustainable locations. This includes ensuring the right housing mix and density, high quality design, supporting sustainable living as well as ensuring homes are built to high energy efficiency standards, promoting a healthy living environment which supports health. They also ensure that adequate infrastructure is delivered to support growth, including roads, walking and cycling routes, schools and open space which will improve health and wellbeing of residents. Furthermore, Policy DM11 ensures that

			homes are well designed to be safe and comfortable spaces which will benefit the health and wellbeing of residents.  Some of the allocations deliver sustainable employment space which will help create jobs and strengthen the local economy. In mixed-use developments, journey times and congestion can be reduced as people can live close to where they work. Furthermore, Policy DM12 ensures employment space is well designed to be a safe and comfortable environment which will benefit the health and wellbeing of employees.  Individual sites will need to be considered further at the application stage.
4. Housing	्र and new communities		та по объе организация в по объе объе объе объе объе объе объе объ
DS1	Affordable Housing	Adequate provision of affordable housing is important to ensure that people from all economic standings can buy or rent a property at an affordable price. This promotes better quality and standards of living and feelings of stability and security which promote health and wellbeing.	The policy ensures that new housing developments provide at least 30% affordable housing, including affordable or social rent, first homes and affordable home ownership to support those on lower incomes. This will contribute to better standards of living and a sense of stability and security that supports the wellbeing of

			residents.
DS2	Housing Mix	Ensuring the supply of a range of different housing types and sizes is important to respond to the housing needs of our communities and ensure people do not live in overcrowded conditions. The correct mix of housing can also improve the social cohesion of communities which contributes to an increased sense of wellbeing for residents.  Ensuring appropriate provision for older	The policy seeks to provide the appropriate mix of different sized properties, different number of bedrooms and different tenures for future developments which will ensure the right housing mix is achieved to minimise the possibility of overcrowding, promote social cohesion and support good health.  The policy also seems to ensure that new
		persons and disabled persons could have significant benefits on their quality of life by increasing their independence and reducing accidents such as falls.	residential development makes appropriate provision for older persons housing, including the provision of bungalows and appropriate disability friendly accessible housing types within housing developments to benefit their wellbeing and quality of life.
DS3	Estate regeneration	Ensuring that social housing stock provides a good quality, warm, dry and secure home is important in supporting good health and wellbeing for residents, lowering the risk of disease and promoting a better quality of life.	The policy seeks to regenerate existing urban social housing estates, with a particular focus on areas of poor quality housing and opportunities to improve energy efficiency which will lead to a better living environment and support better health.
DS4	Rural Housing	Housing in rural areas can help to sustain services and facilities in the rural villages or	The policy will encourage some development in rural areas which will help

		other nearby settlements. This promotes a healthy living environment for residents with accessible services to meet their day to day needs.	to sustain and potentially improve services for residents, supporting a good quality of life and wellbeing.
DS5 DM3	Specialist housing provision  Housing in Multiple Occupancy (HMOs)	Delivering specialist homes to meet the needs of older people could have significant benefits on their quality of life. The relationship between poor housing and ill health is most clearly seen in older people. Appropriate home conditions for older people can reduce accidents such as falls. It can also increase the independence of an older person which will increase their quality of life.  Delivering homes to meet the needs of students and Gypsy and Travellers could have significant benefits on their quality of life.  Too many HMOs in one area can have a	Policy DS5 seeks to ensure that appropriate and high quality housing is provided for older persons including care homes, nursing homes, age exclusive housing, retirement / sheltered housing. Access to appropriate accommodation will help ensure a better quality of life and wellbeing for older residents.  The policy also seeks to ensure appropriate housing is provided for students and Gypsy and Travellers which will ensure good wellbeing.  Policy DM3 ensures HMOs are appropriately regulated in order to maintain an
		negative impact on the physical environment, and a detrimental impact on the quality of life of neighbouring residents due to the potential of social and environmental problems such as anti-social behaviour, litter and overcrowding.	regulated in order to maintain an appropriate area demographic, housing mix and to safeguard the character of local communities which will improve the wellbeing of local residents.
DS6	Sustainable design	The quality of a home has a substantial impact on health - a warm, dry and secure home is associated with better health and quality of life.	The policy ensures high quality design of residential and commercial development which promotes a healthy environment and

		Sustainable design also helps to reduce the carbon footprint which can help reduce the health risks associated with climate change. Sustainable design also helps to reduce carbon emissions by encouraging active forms of transport which can improve air quality and encourage a healthy lifestyle.  Ensuring appropriate densities is important to prevent unhealthy overcrowding while also preserving countryside land as much as possible, helping to maintain residents' access to nature which improves health and wellbeing.	supports good health and wellbeing through sustainable living. Sustainable design includes maximising the efficiency of buildings to reduce carbon emissions. This will improve air quality and promote good health.  Healthy lifestyles are also supported through the provision of adequate open space for exercise and leisure. Walking and cycling routes are a key part of the policy and aim to reduce the need for private car journeys which will improve air quality and encourage active lifestyles which are beneficial for health.  The policy also ensures the appropriate housing density for future developments through different approaches to make best use of the land which can improve the health and wellbeing of residents.
DS7	Infrastructure delivery	Infrastructure plays a significant role to sustain a community's quality of life. Pressures on existing infrastructure can be exacerbated by new development.	The policy ensures that necessary infrastructure is provided, and is delivered at the right time to support growth and ensure residents can access day to day services which are important for their wellbeing.

		This can lead to infrastructure being stretched, which in turn can impact the health of people's lives. For example, if roads become congested this may increase air pollution or if access to GP surgeries becomes more difficult this can have significant impacts on a person's health.	The policy also encourages essential services to be accessible within 15 minute walking/cycling time of new developments. This will ensure development is in the most sustainable locations, accessible by active forms of travel, which will encourage healthy lifestyles and support good health.
5. Employ	ment and the local economy		
DS8	Business and employment areas	Ensuring there are enough business and employment opportunities can reduce the socio-economic inequalities that are linked to negative health outcomes.  Providing the right mix of jobs can also support mental health. The right job can provide individuals with a sense of purpose, improve their self-esteem and self-confidence.	The policy ensures adequate provision of high quality business space in sustainable locations. This will promote job creation and provide employment opportunities for local people, helping to support their wellbeing and quality of life.  Policy DS10 also seeks to ensure provision of low skilled jobs such as in shops, so that people of all education levels can access employment.
DS9	Education and associated development	Adequate education facilities can reduce the socio-economic inequalities that are linked to negative health outcomes.  Canterbury district's education sector also forms a significant part of the local economy, creating jobs and generating income for the	The policy promotes the district's 3 universities as education facilities and catalysts for the creation of high skilled jobs in the area. This fuels the local economy and generates income for the local area which can improve health and quality of life for residents.

		local area which can improve health and quality of life for residents.	
6. Town ce	entres and local facilities		
DS10	Town centres and community facilities	Town centres can contribute to the quality of life and the health of residents. They provide shops and services that play an important role in meeting local day-to-day needs of residents as well as contributing to the identity of our settlements and quality of life of residents - local and village centres which are often at the heart of local communities.  Town centres can provide a more accessible alternative to larger out-of-town shopping centres and supermarkets, accessible on foot or by cycling, and contribute to reducing congestion and pollution. Reducing pollution will have positive impacts on the health of residents.	The policy ensures that town centres are supported and encourages new local shopping facilities, including the redevelopment of commercial spaces. The policy also ensures that community facilities are protected, and that new and improved facilities are supported in appropriate locations.  The policy also seeks to ensure provision of low skilled jobs such as in shops, so that people of all education levels can access employment which will positively impact their wellbeing and quality of life.
DS12 R18	Rural economy  Countryside	Businesses based within the villages improve the sustainability of rural settlements. This contributes to the quality of life of residents and supports good health. It also provides employment opportunities for rural residents and reduces their need to travel longer distances for work. This in turn may contribute to fewer journeys into the urban	Policy DS12 supports the growth and development of the rural economy, while enabling existing rural businesses to grow and adapt, and where appropriate, to diversify through the period of the Local Plan which will improve the sustainability of rural settlements and in turn support good health and wellbeing of residents.

		areas, where congestion and air quality can be significant issues.  Restricting development in rural areas outside of settlement boundaries ensures the countryside remains available for leisure and wellbeing of residents. The countryside is an important asset for many people who enjoy using the countryside for exercise and recreation and is important to both physical and mental health.	Policy R18 ensures that the countryside is protected from unnecessary development, which will help residents maintain access to the countryside for better health and wellbeing.
DS24	Publicly accessible open spaces and sports	Open space enhances the quality of life of communities; they provide spaces to exercise, socialise or relax. Living in areas with green spaces has been linked to lower risk of various health conditions such as high blood pressure, as well as providing stress alleviation. Open spaces can also reduce exposure to air pollutants and excessive heat which all have impacts on health.  The provision of accessible outdoor sports and recreation facilities provide important spaces for people to exercise. Physical activity has a range of health benefits for both physical and mental health such as preventing obesity or reducing stress.	The policy ensures the protection and provision of open spaces which have a range of benefits to both physical and mental health.  The policy ensures new developments provide generous areas of open space, which includes parks and gardens and varied amenity space such as play facilities and allotments as well as sports facilities which will help the health and wellbeing of various age groups.  The policy also seeks to prevent the loss of any existing designated open spaces and sports facilities.

DS13 DS14	Movement Hierarchy Active and sustainable travel	Physical activity is important for maintaining good health and is known to reduce the chances of various health conditions.  Enabling a high quality network of walking and cycling routes is important in encouraging active travel choices while also reducing the emissions from private cars. Getting more people to use public transport can also reduce the number of private vehicles on the road. Traffic congestion is viewed as a constraint to growth by local businesses and contributes to high levels of carbon emissions and poor air quality which is harmful to health.	Policy DS13 sets out a hierarchy of movement which promotes active travel in the form of walking and cycling. The policy also promotes public transport, park and ride and car sharing, as well as low emission private vehicles which will promote cleaner air and better health.  Policy DS14 ensures the provision of walking and cycling routes and for residential developments to be located within easy access to bus services and other forms of public transport. This will reduce emissions from private car use and encourage exercise, improving air quality and promoting better health for residents.
DS16	Air Quality	Vehicles emit a range of pollutants that contribute to air pollution which can have harmful effects on human health, and can contribute to various diseases such as respiratory, heart and lung disease. Supporting a rapid transition to low emission vehicles will reduce air pollution caused by vehicles and improve air quality, reducing the impact of transport on health.	The policy ensures that development will be air quality neutral and will not lead to a net increase in carbon emissions. This will ensure development is sustainable and promotes the health of local residents.  The policy also supports the transition to low emission vehicles in the district, including through the installation of electric vehicle charging points. Low emission vehicles reduce the amount of carbon dioxide in the air, benefitting the health of local residents.

DS17 DS18	Habitats of international importance  Habitats and landscapes of national importance  Habitats, landscapes and	Internationally, nationally and locally designated sites and landscapes are vital for biodiversity which is important to maintain ecosystems and has direct implications on human health. These sites also make the character of our district and are important for	The policies ensure that development within these areas will be carefully managed to ensure these locally important landscapes are preserved and enhanced where possible. This will maintain access to nature which promotes good health and wellbeing.
D319	sites of local importance	mental wellbeing as spending time in nature has many proven health benefits.	
DS23	The Blean Woodland Complex		
DS20	Flood risk	Flooding events can cause physical harm to residents such as injuries, drowning and	Policy DS20 ensures that new development is appropriately located to avoid increasing
DM14 DM15	Flood Risk  Sustainable Drainage	hypothermia from flood water. Flooding events can also cause significant stress and anxiety, impacting the mental health of residents, as well as long term effects on the community and local area if residents need to be displaced or businesses need to close. Good drainage is important to reduce risks of flooding.	the risk of flooding, and where proposals come forward in areas of existing risk, specific assessments will be required and appropriate mitigation provided. The policy also ensures development will not be permitted within the Coastal Protection Zones, Overtopping Hazard Zone and the Coastal Change Area which are most vulnerable to coastal flooding. This will ensure that residents are safe from the health risks associated with flooding.
			Policy DM14 ensures that proposals for development which require a site-specific flood risk assessment in line with Policy DS20 demonstrate a number of factors

			which will ensure a low risk of flooding, thus reducing associated health risks.  Policy DM15 ensures all developments provide sustainable drainage systems which will lower the risk of flooding and associated health risks.
DS21	Supporting biodiversity recovery	Biodiversity underpins the health of the planet and has a direct impact on all our lives. Human health depends upon the natural environment and ecosystems such as for fresh water and food production which are essential for human health.	The policy seeks to protect and enhance biodiversity and ensures that all new development will deliver a 20% net gain in biodiversity against existing conditions across the site. This ensures that development promotes biodiversity and maintains ecosystems that are essential for human health.  The policy also seeks to provide new habitats and integrate nature into the design of new communities which will benefit the health and wellbeing of residents.
DS22	Landscape character	The character of the landscape contributes significantly to the identity and the sense of place of an area and contributes to the overall quality of life and mental wellbeing of residents.	The policy ensures that development proposals take every opportunity to protect and improve, as appropriate, the landscape character of the area in which development is proposed. This will ensure the identity of an area is conserved, helping to maintain the wellbeing of residents.

DM2	Residential garden land	Private amenity space in the form of a garden is an important asset to a healthy living environment. Residential gardens are a space where residents can relax and are important for mental wellbeing and quality of life.	The policy ensures that development on residential garden land will only be permitted if there would be no significant adverse effect on living conditions for adjoining properties and/or their curtilages, maintaining a good quality of life for neighbouring residents.  Also, where the development would involve the net loss of private amenity space serving an existing dwelling, that dwelling must be left with a sufficient area of private amenity space, maintaining a good quality of life for the residents.
DM6	Extensions and alterations to existing buildings	Poorly designed changes or extensions to existing buildings can have a harmful impact on the character of streets and neighbourhoods, and particularly on immediate neighbours who can be affected by loss of privacy and loss of daylight/sunlight to their windows or gardens which can harm health.	The policy ensures that development involving extensions or alterations to existing buildings should not result in an unacceptable loss of privacy, overlooking or overshadowing to neighbouring properties and not be detrimental to the amenity and character of the local streetscape. This will ensure that the neighbouring residents' wellbeing and quality of life is not compromised.
DM7	Health and Crime Impact Assessments	Development can have an impact on the health of new residents due to many factors	The policy encourages the undertaking of Health and Crime Impact Assessments for

		such as the location and quality of construction and local amenities. Crime can also have a significant impact on the quality of life of residents and particularly affect mental health due to stress and anxiety and increase hospital admissions due to violent crime.	certain proposals which should demonstrate how any adverse health impacts will be effectively mitigated and how the positive health impacts of the proposal will be maximised.  The policy also ensures that higher risk developments produce a Crime Impact Statement which will help make changes to the scheme to lower the risk of crime which will benefit the health and wellbeing of residents.
DM11	Residential design	The design of a home has a substantial impact on health - a warm, dry, light and secure home is associated with better health and quality of life.  Proportionate amounts of outdoor private amenity space, such as gardens or balconies are also important as they provide important places to relax and improve mental wellbeing.  Sustainable design also helps to reduce the carbon footprint which can help reduce the health risks associated with climate change.	The policy ensures that all new developments are well designed in accordance with various design and building regulation standards, such as minimum space standards, good daylighting, low noise levels, adequate provision of amenity space and biodiversity. This promotes a good quality of life and good health and wellbeing for residents.
DM12	Non-residential design	The design of an employment space is important as a safe and comfortable working	The policy ensures that employment space is designed with adequate natural light,

		environment has a positive impact on staff health and wellbeing.	limiting noise and overheating to provide a good working environment that benefits health and wellbeing.  The policy also ensures the delivery of accessible toilets and kitchens to employment spaces, which will mean that people who are disabled can benefit from more independence and better wellbeing at work.  The policy seeks to ensure that places of employment include changing and shower facilities to support staff cycling to work, as well as cycle parking to encourage active travel for staff which will benefit their health while also reducing carbon emissions which improves air quality and further benefits the health of the wider district.
DM13	Biomass technology	Biomass technology can have adverse impacts on air quality. Air quality is a significant determinant of human health and air pollution can contribute to various diseases such as respiratory, heart and lung disease. (see Policy DS16).  Biomass technology also releases carbon	The policy ensures that proposals for development involving biomass technology are only located off the gas grid and where no lower emission alternative is available, and will require a detailed air quality assessment before any consideration is given.

		dioxide gas into the atmosphere which contributes to climate change and its associated health risks.	The policy also seeks to ensure that the biomass technology should be a high quality low emission plant, and biomass should be locally sourced in order to reduce the impact on air quality. Reducing the impact on air quality is very important to protect the health and wellbeing of residents in the district.
DM17	Noise pollution and tranquillity	Noise pollution can have a harmful impact on health and wellbeing as it can raise stress levels, high blood pressure and cause sleep disturbances.	The policy ensures that where appropriate, new developments should integrate adequate noise insulation to limit noise pollution. Furthermore, developments which will increase noise pollution for existing communities will need to demonstrate how they will avoid, or minimise and mitigate their impacts.
DM18	Light pollution and dark skies	Light pollution can have a harmful impact on human wellbeing as it can reduce melatonin production which can result in sleep disturbances, fatigue, headaches and other health problems. Poorly designed lighting can also dazzle or distract drivers or pedestrians	The policy seeks to ensure that all proposals for development should be designed to minimise light pollution and light glare and not adversely impact living conditions which can affect health and wellbeing.  The policy also seeks to maintain the health of the natural environment by ensuring

		using nearby highways and increase their risk of injury or accident.  Light pollution also has a damaging effect on ecosystems and biodiversity, which has an indirect effect on human health (see Policy DS21).	external lighting schemes are designed to minimise disturbance to biodiversity and natural landscapes, which protects human health in the long-run.
DM19	Contamination and unstable land	Contamination of land can be highly hazardous; such as through an increased risk of fires or explosions and can have harmful health implications to those working or living on the site. Unstable land will limit the integrity of any structural development.	The policy ensures appropriate assessment of at-risk land including Land Contamination Reports, stability reports, and ensures that no development will pose unacceptable risk to public health or safety.

#### Appendix 3 - Canterbury District Health Profile Data

