



# Local Development Plan 2021 > 2036

Cardiff Council - January 2025

## Deposit Plan

## Health Impact Assessment



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## **Report on the Rapid Participatory Health Impact Assessment (HIA) of the Deposit Plan of the Replacement Local Development Plan**

**Cardiff Council**

**January 2025**

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## 1. Introduction

The report below outlines the findings from the Rapid Participatory HIA workshop held on 2 May 2024. The outcomes will inform the preparation of Cardiff's Council's Replacement LDP Deposit Plan. Further insight and context for the project is held by Cardiff Council, including; strategic context, detailed plans, evidence and community profile data. These will be referred to where appropriate.

### 1.1 Replacement Local Development Plan

National legislation and planning policy places a duty on Local Authorities to produce a Local Development Plan (LDP). The LDP is a land use plan for an area and sets out the planning requirements, policies and specific proposals for land use and development.

The current Cardiff LDP was adopted by the Council on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2016 and sets out the Council's planning framework for the development and use of the land in the city over the period 2006 to 2026.

Cardiff Council is preparing the Replacement LDP to cover the plan period 2021 to 2036. The current stage of preparation is the production of the Deposit Plan, which will be subject to formal public consultation during the autumn of 2024. The plan will then be subject to examination by an independent inspector appointed by Welsh Government in 2025, with final adoption by the Council anticipated in early 2026.

### 1.2 Deposit Plan

One of the key stages of the production of the Replacement LDP is the Deposit, which sets out the detailed policies, land allocations and development proposals for the LDP.

## 2. Evidence and HIA of the Deposit Plan

When preparing a LDP a wide range of evidence is gathered and considered by the local authority, in both local and national context. Evidence and data relating to Health and Well-being is set out in the Planning Healthy Places Background Technical Paper to the Deposit Plan.

Planning Policy Wales highlights the role of Health Impact Assessments (HIAs) in contributing towards local plan-making. HIA is a process which supports organisations to assess the potential consequences of their decisions on people's health and well-being. It provides a systematic yet flexible and practical framework that can be used to consider the wider effects of local and national policies or initiatives and how they, in turn, may affect people's health.

HIA can help to build in measures to maximise opportunities for health and to minimise any risks and it can identify any 'gaps' that can then be filled. HIA can also provide a way of

identifying and addressing the inequalities in health by identifying any groups within the population who may be particularly affected by a policy or plan.

Following the systematic methodology described in the '[HIA and LDPs: a Toolkit for Practice](#)' (WHIASU, 2021), it was decided that a Rapid HIA approach would be undertaken on the Deposit Plan for Cardiff Council's replacement LDP.

The main purpose of any HIA is to form a set of mitigations or recommendations which will help inform the further development of a plan, policy or initiative to reduce risks and maximise the positive health outcomes.

### **3. Rapid Participatory HIA Workshop**

#### **3.1 Purpose and process**

The purpose of the workshop was to:

- a) Identify particular population groups within Cardiff who may be affected differentially by the policies in the Deposit Plan for the LDP
- b) Consider the draft planning policies in relation to potential health impacts, both positive and negative, which could have an impact on the health and wellbeing of local people, and particularly the vulnerable groups identified
- c) Identify whether there are any potential ways to minimise any negative impacts and maximise positive impacts.

The HIA workshop was qualitative in nature, and enabled participants to give their thoughts during the session which were captured in brief notes. Prior to the session participants were provided with the key LDP policies which would be considered during the workshop, and the population groups and wider determinants checklist produced by WHIASU.

Invitations to the workshop were sent to a variety of stakeholders, including different departments in the Local Authority (Housing, Corporate, Transport, Community), Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, Natural Resources Wales, and the third sector.

#### **3.2 Workshop methodology**

The workshop was arranged and hosted by Cardiff Council, and facilitated by Cardiff & Vale UHB Public Health Team. The workshop was held on the morning of 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024. A list of attendees is in Appendix 1 and the agenda for the workshop is in Appendix 2.

The workshop began with some presentations from Cardiff Council and WHIASU to provide some oversight for the session. An introduction to HIA was provided to participants and then an overview of the replacement LDP and the Preferred Strategy. An overview of the local population health needs provided participants with insights into what and where the key health issues in the community are, and highlighted the areas of highest deprivation.

Following the presentations, discussions were held with the workshop participants in two sessions. Firstly to identify the key population groups to consider in Cardiff, and then to consider the wider determinants of health and how the policies within the Deposit Plan may impact on the health and well-being of the population.

#### **4. Identification of population groups particularly affected**

A HIA workshop was held in March 2023 for the LDP Preferred Strategy, and participants at this workshop identified vulnerable groups within the population of Cardiff who could potentially be most impacted within the context of the LDP Preferred Strategy.

The WHIASU 'Population Groups checklist' (Appendix 3) was used to provide guidance for this discussion. Workshop participants were able to contribute their specific knowledge and intelligence to understand the profile of the community, adding to published population data and demographic details. Whilst the participants recognised that the majority of the population groups listed on the checklist would be part of the Cardiff community, there were some specific groups it was felt were particularly of note in relation to the LDP.

##### **4.1 Vulnerable groups identified:**

Age related:

- Students – specific issues raised include poor student accommodation/ students spread across a wider geographical area/more foreign students not able to speak English. Some student groups are more vulnerable. Cardiff has approximately 50,000 students so is a significant population to consider
- Older people – Cardiff has a large and growing older population, particularly age 80+ over the next 20-30 years
- Children and young people – need a particular focus on prevention of abuse
- Young carers - looking after parents.

Groups at higher risk of discrimination or another social disadvantage:

- Homeless - needs to be broken down into more detail (focus on high need homeless); multiple exclusion homeless; often with complex social needs
- Sex workers
- People who misuse substances
- Transgender and transsexual group at higher risk of discrimination
- Gypsy and Travellers – Cardiff has a significant number of gypsy and traveller families
- Asylum seekers and refugees
- Ethnic minority communities

Geographical groups and settings:

- People living in temporary accommodation/air bnb.

- The southern arc of Cardiff with poor economic/health indicators and high levels of deprivation

The participants at the Deposit Plan HIA workshop agreed with the population groups identified in 2023, but added the following:

- People who are Neurodivergent
- Young people in care or who have care experience
- Paid and unpaid carers

## 5. Summary of appraisal findings

The groups which were identified above were considered by the workshop participants during this section of the session. This section provides a summary of the key determinant and issues raised as the group worked through the wider determinants' framework (see Appendix 3). All participants were enabled to contribute, and their discussions focused on key issues around how the Deposit Plan policies were likely to impact upon the determinants, and/or the key population groups identified.

### 5.1 Behaviours affecting health

Discussion related to the ability of people in Cardiff to be physically active, access active travel opportunities, and eat healthy food.

It was agreed that the plan included an emphasis on active travel, and prioritising cycling and walking above car use (Policy T1), however it was felt that the definition of active travel modes could be broadened to include others such as [skateboards](#) or scooters.

#### Comments on policy T1: prioritising walking and cycling

- Joint cycling and walking routes are not always compatible, so should be segregated whenever possible.
- Need to ensure safety of pedestrians, from speeding electric bicycles on shared walkways, and at floating bus stops where passengers get off buses straight into cycle lanes. A particular concern for older or disabled people.
- Cycle paths need to be well lit to enable use after dark
- Need to consider access needs of disabled users to cycle and pedestrian routes
- Need to consider use of pavement materials that differentiate where you are on the shared surfaces
- Cycling to school policy not specifically covered in this policy

#### Comments on policy HF1: Health, Wellbeing and development

- Need to reference 'secure' cycle storage
- Consider future capacity of cycle storage and whether large stand alone cycle storage areas could be provided by the Council

#### Comments on **R8: Food and drink uses**

- Concern over a potential lack of control of hot food takeaways near to schools
- Lack of access to healthy and affordable options for food , in deprived areas

#### **5.2 Social and community influences on health**

This section focused on the creation of neighbourhoods that enable cohesive and well connected communities.

#### **5.3 Mental Well-being**

There was a small amount of discussion around this determinant as most of the points were considered within the section above.

Potential positive impacts identified:

- Provision of dementia friendly developments (using [RTPI Guidance](#)), good lighting and ramps instead of steps would support people with dementia in negotiating their local environment, but would also benefit the community more broadly.

Potential negative/ unintended impacts:

- Social anxiety – not being able to use public transport so relying on taxis instead – this leads to more social isolation. Transport needs to be safe, easy and reliable

#### **5.4 Living and environmental conditions affecting health**

There were a number of positive impacts identified that the LDP policies will enable, including around community safety, air quality, housing quality, noise and road safety. Policy C3 specifically considers the need for development to create a safe and secure environment, and policy OS2 outlines the aim to secure provision or improvement of open space, play and sport facilities. Policies HF2 and HF3 focus on the provision of space for food growing which is a key element of enabling a positive environment for health.

#### Comments on policy **C3: Community safety / creating safe environments**

- Need to define what a 'good standard of lighting' means
- Proposals should consider whether the needs of all population groups who will access or use a development have been considered, e.g. Muslim women may have specific needs to enable them to feel safe in an environment
- Should addressing violence against women / domestic abuse be considered in this policy?
- Need to consider the implications of the [Anti-racist Wales Action Plan](#) for the LDP

#### Comments on policy **HF2: the provision of allotments**

- Preference should be for allotment provision on site to ensure provision is made

#### Comments on policy **HF3: provision of food growing space in new developments**

- Focus should be more on community food growing rather than on individual growing spaces as this will foster social cohesion

#### Comments on policy **OS2: provision for open space, outdoor recreation, children's play and sport**

- There is a need for open space to be designed with local needs in mind, for example women, children, disabled people,
- Could children's play be separated from sport as they are separate issues
- Need to acknowledge that children's opportunity to play in informal areas is just as important as in formally laid out play areas
- Maintenance of formal play areas is expensive
- Need to consider the implications of the council's [Play Strategy](#) and [Play Sufficiency Assessment](#)
- Recommend that a Play SPG is developed to provide detail around the expectations for providing opportunities to play

### 5.5 Access and quality of services

Policy C1 was reviewed as it is about encouraging new and improved community facilities within developments. C4 focused on planning for schools, which are an essential facility for a local community.

Policy HF1 includes the provision of local facilities that enable access to community, healthcare and social care services, which was considered positive. The policy also includes the consideration of existing healthcare facilities and a requirement to help provide additional facilities where needed. This was well supported by participants, although it was suggested that this could be applied to community facilities not just health.

#### Comments on policy **C1: Community facilities**

- There is a need for a detailed understanding of the area a community facility is to be provided in (this could be achieved through undertaking a HIA)
- Need to define what is meant by 'accessible' and who this applies to. Members of local communities may have very different needs
- Community facilities can be joined up with health facilities, as multipurpose facilities

#### Comments on policy **C4: Planning for schools**

- Consider possible community use of school playing fields/playgrounds outside of school hours
- Having good quality facilities will draw people to an area

- Need to consider the impact of using school facilities on surrounding residential amenity e.g. noise
- Need to ensure sites are accessible from across the surrounding residential area to ensure that inequalities are not widened

#### Comments on policy **HF1: Health, Wellbeing and development**

- A HIA undertaken for major developments where consideration is given to healthcare service requirements should also consider the impact on staffing need in local health facilities. A discussion with the local health board would be required at HIA stage
- Specify that healthcare facilities refers to primary, secondary and community
- Change wording of point vi to '*comprehensively considers the capacity of existing healthcare facilities...*'
- Consider if the HIA requirement should apply to school developments

#### **6. Conclusion**

It was felt that the detailed Policies in the Deposit Plan which were reviewed will overall have a positive impact on health. Participants felt that there were elements of some of the policies which could be strengthened to ensure they have a positive impact, and that development takes into account the different needs of community groups.

Those attending felt that the workshop had provided a good opportunity to consider the needs of the local population in more detail and highlight specific issues related to the wider determinants which could well be influenced through Planning Policies for the coming years.

## APPENDIX 1: Attendees

Stuart Williams	Cardiff Council LDP Team
Matthew Williams	Cardiff Council LDP Team
Cheryl Williams	Public Health, Cardiff & Vale University Health Board
Alison Draper	Cardiff Council
Alex Wood	Public Health, Cardiff & Vale University Health Board
Louise Powell	Housing Development & Enabling, Cardiff Council
Lee Patterson	Child Friendly City, Cardiff Council
Jayne Hitchins	Therapies, Cardiff & Vale University Health Board
Rob Kidd	Cardiff & Vale University Health Board
Eleri Crudgington	Primary, Community & Intermediate Care Board, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
Fiona Gibson	Cardiff Council
Rob Wilkinson	Strategic Planning, Cardiff & Vale University Health Board
Claire Hartrey	Shared Regulatory Services
Will Lane	Shared Regulatory Services
Liz Lambert	Cardiff Council
Mymuna Soleman	Cardiff University

## APPENDIX 2: Agenda

Time	Activity	Speaker
09:00	Registration (tea/ coffee available)	
09:15	<b>Welcome and Introduction to the Workshop</b>	<b>Cheryl Williams:</b> Principal Public Health Practitioner, CAV UHB
09:25	<b>Presentation:</b> Overview of the Deposit Plan	<b>Stuart Williams:</b> Group Leader (Policy), Planning, Transport and Environment, Cardiff Council
09:45	<b>Presentation:</b> Key health indicators and population demographics for Cardiff	<b>Cheryl Williams:</b> Principal Public Health Practitioner, CAV UHB
10:00	<b>Presentation:</b> Overview of HIA and review of previous HIA workshop	<b>Cheryl Williams:</b> Principal Public Health Practitioner, CAV UHB
10.15	BREAK	
10.30	<b>Workshop activity:</b> identification of Deposit Plan policies and potential health impacts	<b>Facilitated groups</b>
11.45	BREAK	
12:00	<b>Workshop activity 2:</b> recommendations on ways to maximise or mitigate impacts	<b>Facilitated groups</b>
12:55	Final comments and concluding remarks	<b>Cheryl Williams/ Stuart Williams</b>
13:00	Close	

### APPENDIX 3: WHIASU Population groups / wider determinants checklist



## Population Groups Checklist

**This checklist is for use during a HIA Screening and Appraisal in order to identify the population groups who could be more impacted than others by a policy/project/proposal.**

The groups listed below have been identified as more susceptible to poorer health and wellbeing outcomes (health inequalities) and therefore it is important to consider them in a HIA Screening and Appraisal. In a HIA, the groups identified as more sensitive to potential impacts will depend on the characteristics of the local population, the context, and the nature of the proposal itself.

This list is therefore just a guide and is not exhaustive. It may be appropriate to focus on groups that have multiple disadvantages. Please also note that terminology can change over time/publication.

<div style="background-color: #003366; color: white; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;"><b>Sex/Gender related groups</b></div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Female</li> <li>• Male</li> <li>• Transgender</li> <li>• Other (please specify)</li> </ul>	<div style="background-color: #003366; color: white; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;"><b>Groups at higher risk of discrimination or other social disadvantage</b></div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Black and minority ethnic groups (please specify)</li> <li>• Carers</li> <li>• Ex-offenders</li> <li>• Gypsies and Travellers</li> <li>• Homeless</li> <li>• Language/culture (please specify)</li> <li>• Lesbian, gay and bisexual people</li> <li>• Looked after children</li> <li>• People seeking asylum</li> <li>• People with long term health conditions</li> <li>• People with mental health conditions</li> <li>• People with physical, sensory or learning disabilities/difficulties</li> <li>• Refugee groups</li> <li>• Religious groups (please specify)</li> <li>• Lone parent families</li> <li>• Veterans</li> </ul>	<div style="background-color: #003366; color: white; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;"><b>Income related groups</b></div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Economically inactive</li> <li>• People on low income</li> <li>• People who are unable to work due to ill health</li> <li>• Unemployed/workless</li> </ul>
<div style="background-color: #003366; color: white; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;"><b>Age related groups (could specify age range for special consideration)</b></div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children and young people</li> <li>• Early years (including pregnancy and first year of life)</li> <li>• General adult population</li> <li>• Older people</li> </ul>	<div style="background-color: #003366; color: white; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;"><b>Geographical groups and/or settings (note – can be a combination of factors)</b></div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People in key settings: workplaces/schools/hospitals/ care homes/ prisons</li> <li>• People living in areas which exhibit poor economic and/or health indicators</li> <li>• People living in rural, isolated or over-populated areas</li> <li>• People unable to access services and facilities</li> </ul>	

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