

# **Health Impact Assessment**

## **Draft Test Valley Local Plan 2040 Regulation 18 Stage 2**

**January 2024**

## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1. This document sets out a Health Impact Assessment (HIA) of the Test Valley Borough Council draft Local Plan 2040 Regulation 18, Stage 2. There is no statutory requirement to undertake a HIA, but it is considered best practice and reflects the Council's commitment to improving health in the Borough.
- 1.2. The draft Local Plan 2040 Regulation 18, Stage 2 sets out the planning policy framework for future development across Test Valley Borough, following the draft Local Plan 2040 Regulation 18 Stage 1, 'Issues and Options' and 'Revised Issues and Options' consultations. The plan will be published for consultation in early 2024. As part of the public consultation this document will be made available and comments on its contents are welcomed.
- 1.3. In preparation for the draft Local Plan Regulation 18 Stage 1, a HIA was undertaken which assessed the vision, objectives and strategic policies identified in the document. No negative health implications were identified in assessing the objectives and policies of the plan at Regulation 18 Stage 1. As the draft Local Plan may change following the public consultation, in addition to the extra draft policies, it is important that the HIA continues to be undertaken alongside plan preparation to ensure that any impacts are identified and acted upon, as necessary, and incorporated within the draft Local Plan.
- 1.4. The Local Plan (2040) will play a key role in delivering the Council's priorities set out in the Corporate Plan 2023-27. The Corporate Plan sets a community focus to delivering our Borough wide and community priorities.
- 1.5. The Health Impact Assessment (HIA) is a tool used to evaluate the potential health effects of a policy or plan. This HIA aims to identify positive and negative health and wellbeing impacts that may arise from the policies and proposals set out in the draft Local Plan. A HIA is also useful in highlighting health inequalities amongst different population groups. A HIA can provide recommendations that seek to maximise the positive impacts and minimise the negative impacts of a plan or policy, while maintaining a focus on addressing health inequalities. By bringing health considerations to the fore and by identifying health issues, or recommendations, HIAs add value to the planning process.
- 1.6. The HIA is presented in 4 parts:
  - Sections 1-2 set out the purpose of the document and its relationship to the draft local plan;
  - Section 3 presents baseline health information;
  - Section 4 assesses the proposed draft vision, objectives and strategic policies, against health issues and considerations; and
  - Section 5 provides a summary of the assessment and conclusions. The Matrix containing the findings of the HIA is set out in the appendix.

## **2 Health and the draft Local Plan 2040**

- 2.1 The World Health Organisation (WHO) defines health as a 'state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity'. Health is therefore considered in this broad sense, with regard to mental and physical health and wellbeing, within this assessment.
- 2.2 There are several pre-existing factors that are very important to the health status of an individual. These include age, genetic make-up and gender. There are also other personal, social, economic, lifestyle and environmental factors, or health determinants that also influence our health. These may include the physical environment (e.g. air quality), income levels, employment (or unemployment), education, social support, access to healthcare services and healthy foods, access to green open spaces and our housing. These factors can be influenced by planning and by local plan policies.
- 2.3 There is an important link, therefore, between the planning process (both plan making and the implementation of plans) and health. This is recognised in both the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and National Planning Practice Guidance. The revised NPPF outlines the social role the planning system plays in supporting the health & well-being of communities through the promotion and retention of community services, the setting of strategic policy to deliver health facilities and services and providing access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport, healthy lifestyles and recreation. Another key message is to ensure that developments create safe and accessible environments where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine quality of life or community cohesion.<sup>1</sup>
- 2.4 In addition to the above, it is evident that social and economic circumstances such as poverty, unemployment and other forms of social exclusion strongly influence health. Improving these circumstances can help to significantly improve health. Accessibility to services such as the National Health Service (NHS), education, social services, transport, sports, community and leisure facilities influence the health of the population. There are also vulnerable population groups that have the potential to be disproportionately effected by the above factors, such as those with greater physical needs, children, older people, the chronically ill and the disabled.
- 2.5 A range of environmental issues can also impact the health and safety of the population and can be impacted by planning and plan policies. Risks and barriers to our health and quality of life include air pollution and noise, flood risk, traffic and road safety.
- 2.6 The draft Local Plan 2040 Regulation 18, Stage 2 includes a draft vision, objectives and policies including draft proposals on our draft site allocations and non-strategic matters including development management policies. These policies will be used to determine planning applications and will cover topics such as the provision of specific infrastructure and the conservation and enhancement of the natural environment. These address the strategic priorities for Test Valley firstly by setting out our draft vision and objectives which guide the Local Plan's policies and proposals. It then sets out our draft spatial strategy which is our overall strategy to guide the pattern and type of development. Following on from this, our draft policies are explained, including achieving high quality of design, a net zero carbon future, supporting regeneration of our town centres, ensuring sufficient

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<sup>1</sup> NPPF (2021) paras 92-93: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2>

provision to meet our needs for housing, employment, infrastructure alongside conserving and enhancing the natural, built and historic environment.

2.7 The HIA seeks to ensure that the policies in the draft Local Plan 2040 are embedded with health and wellbeing objectives, where possible, to actively promote all aspects of health gain for the local population, reduce health inequalities, and not actively damage health. The Local Plan is one of many tools that can assist with addressing the wider determinants of health and encourage the development of healthy places.

2.8 This HIA looks at health in its broadest sense, using the determinants identified by the London Healthy Urban Development Unit (HUDU) and the Rapid Health Impact Assessment tool<sup>2</sup> as a framework for the assessment.

2.9 The 11 determinants of health and wellbeing are set out below and are used within the HIA matrix:

- Housing quality and design
- Access to healthcare services and other social infrastructure
- Access to open space and nature
- Air quality, noise and neighbourhood amenity
- Accessibility and active travel
- Crime reduction and community safety
- Access to healthy food
- Access to work and training
- Social cohesion and lifetime neighbourhoods
- Minimising the use of resources
- Climate change

## **Borough Profile**

### *Population*

2.10 Test Valley has a total population of 134,915 and an overall population density of approximately 2.10 people per hectare (ONS). Although the geography of the Borough is mainly rural, approximately 66.5% of all residents live in the towns of Andover and Romsey. These figures are based on the Hampshire County Council's Small Area Population Forecast (SAPF) for 2022<sup>3</sup> and the Test Valley Borough Profile (2021)<sup>4</sup>.

2.11 According to the Census (2021)<sup>5</sup>, the age profile of the Borough is as follows: 21.99% young people (aged 0-19), 22.63% young adults (20-39), 39.44% middle aged (40-69) and 15.95% older adults (70+). This is forecast to increase to 21.49 % young people (aged 0-19), 18.66% young adults (20-39), 39.80% middle aged (40-69) and 20.05% older adults (70+) by 2029<sup>6</sup>. In comparison, Hampshire is forecast to have a population

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.healthyurbandevelopment.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/HUDU-Rapid-HIA-Tool-October-2019.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> Hampshire County Council's Small Area Population Forecast (SAPF) for 2022

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/facts-figures/population/estimates-forecasts>

<sup>5</sup> Available here: [Age by single year - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://www.ons.gov.uk/people-population/age-and-sex/age-by-single-year)

<sup>6</sup> Hampshire County Council's Small Area Population Forecast (SAPF) for 2022.

composed of 21.58% young people (aged 0-19), 21.09% young adults (20-39), 38.94% middle aged (40-69) and 18.39% older adults (70+) by 2029<sup>7</sup>.

- 2.12 According to these figures, from the Census (2021) and Small Area Population Forecast (2022), Test Valley has an ageing population. It has an above average number of older adults (70+) and slightly above average number of middle aged people. The number of young people (0-19) and young adults are lower than the Hampshire average.
- 2.13 There are 57,984 dwellings in the Borough, which is forecast to increase to 61,024 by 2029<sup>8</sup>.

### *General Health*

- 2.14 The health of people in Test Valley is generally good, although there are variations in the Public Health England data and in health indicators across the Borough. Average life expectancy for both men and women in Test Valley is higher than the England average<sup>9</sup>. Life expectancy for males is 81.0 across the Borough, and it is 83.8 for women (PHE data 2021). Life expectancy is marginally lower in some of the town wards in the Borough and is higher in the more rural wards.
- 2.15 At the 2021 Census, 84.7% of residents in Test Valley said they felt that they were in very good or good health. This is higher than the average for the South East (83.99%). 3.85% of the population rated their health as bad or very bad, which is lower than the average for the South East (4.23%).

### *Employment*

- 2.16 According to the 2021 Census, 70.43% of Test Valley residents aged 16-74 are economically active, higher than for the South East of England, where the figure is 50.67% of residents. This includes people in full time, part time and self-employment, those who are actively seeking a job, and full-time students. The remaining 29.57% of residents aged 16-74 are economically inactive, compared to 30.75% of people in England. This includes people who are retired, long-term sick or disabled, or who look after the home and family. A further 18.19% of responses for Test Valley said that the Economic activity status does not apply, compared to 18.58% of responses in the South East.
- 2.17 In terms of the nature of work and jobs in Test Valley, the sector of the economy employing most people in Test Valley is wholesale and retail trade, followed by manufacturing and real estate services<sup>10</sup>.

### *Education*

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<sup>7</sup> Hampshire County Council's Small Area Population Forecast (SAPF) for 2022.

<sup>8</sup> Dwelling Forecasts for all Districts in Hampshire, available here: [Population estimates and forecasts | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](https://www.hants.gov.uk/population-estimates-and-forecasts)

<sup>9</sup> Local Authority Health Profile 2019, Public Health England, published March 2020 [E07000093 \(phe.org.uk\)](https://www.phe.org.uk)

<sup>10</sup> Source: Test Valley Economic Assessment and Forecasts: ONS, Oxford Economics

2.18 Educational provision in Test Valley is good and the population is relatively well educated and skilled. 83.30% of people living in Test Valley have at least a Level 1 qualification or above (at least one GCSE or equivalent qualification), a figure which is higher than the English average of 79%. However, around 14.1% of Test Valley's residents between the ages of 16 and 74 have no academic, vocational or professional qualifications compared to the England average of 18.2%. In addition, 34.7% of Test Valley's residents have a level 4 qualification or above, which is equivalent to at least an undergraduate degree. This is higher than the average for England, which is 33.80%. These figures are based on the ONS Census data, 2021.

### *Race*

2.19 White ethnic people make up 96% of the population in Test Valley. This is higher than South East at 90%, and much higher than the national average of 86%. In Test Valley, 'other ethnic groups' account for 4% of the population. 88% of people were born in the UK, 6.4% in the EU and 5.6% from elsewhere. These figures are based on the ONS Census data, 2011.

### *Deprivation*

2.20 The English Indices of Deprivation 2019<sup>11</sup> provide a relative measure of deprivation at a localised level (Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs)) across England, based on information relating to income, employment, health and disability, education, crime, barriers to housing and services and living environment, which can be combined into an overall Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD). These highlight the links between deprivation and poorer health outcomes, driven by complex interacting environmental, social and behavioural factors. The Index indicates that Test Valley is one of the 20% least deprived local authorities in England. However, there are pockets of deprivation in the Borough. The IMD index (based on 2019 data) of multiple deprivation was highest in the Andover wards of Romans and St Marys. Impacts of deprivation may be associated with an increased risk of depression and poor general health.

2.21 Around 9.6% (2,040) children in Test Valley Borough live in low income families. The Indices of Child Poverty (or Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index 2019 (IDACI)) measures the proportion of children, aged 0 to 15 years, living in income deprived families. In Test Valley, while deprivation is low overall, there are raised levels of child poverty in the Andover wards of St Mary's and Romans. Growing up in poverty can damage children's health and well-being and may adversely affect future health and life chances as adults.

### *Obesity*

2.22 The prevalence of children classified as being overweight or obese is increasing nationally and childhood obesity is a particular concern, in that obesity at earlier ages tends to result in people staying obese for longer, with negative health implications. Overweight and obese children are more likely to become obese adults, and have a higher risk of morbidity, disability and premature mortality in adulthood.

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<sup>11</sup> Local Health Indicators, Public Health England <https://www.localhealth.org.uk>

2.23 According to a Hampshire County Council report from 2015 the average obesity prevalence was equivalent to 1 in 12 of all 4–5-year-olds in academic Year R (approximately 950 across Hampshire) with the prevalence in Test Valley being consistently higher than the Hampshire average. While in academic Year 6 obesity prevalence was 1 in 6 of all 10–11-year-olds (approximately 1850 across Hampshire) with the prevalence in Test Valley being consistently lower than the Hampshire average.

#### *Other Lifestyle Factors*

2.24 Lifestyle is a key component in determining the health of the population. For example, a lack of physical activity, unhealthy diet, high alcohol consumption or smoking can have a big impact on the health picture of an area.

2.25 The rate for adult hospital admissions due to alcohol-related harm in Test Valley (2019-2020) was 924 per 100,000 population, which is higher than the average for England (644) and also higher than in previous years. The rate for self-harm related hospital admissions was 224.1 per 100,000 population, which is higher than the average for England (192.1) and again, higher than in previous years. This represents 260 admissions per year. According to PHE data, around 9.2% of adults in Test Valley smoke, which is below the national average (13.9%).

2.26 The rate for adults that are killed or seriously injured on roads in Test Valley, at 65.3 per 100,000 population, is significantly higher than the England average (42.6), for the period 2015-2017. Rates of statutory homelessness are lower in Test Valley than the England average.

#### *Mental Health*

2.27 1 in 5 of the working-age population has a mental health condition in the UK. A range of social risk factors are linked to poor mental health, including poverty, migration, extreme stress, exposure to violence, emergency and conflict situations, trauma, and low social support which are all linked to an increased risk and specific disorders. PHE data reveals that the estimated prevalence of common mental health disorders in Test Valley is at 13.3% of the adult population, which is below the National (16.9%) and Regional (14.8%) average.

#### *Health Infrastructure*

2.28 Access to available health and social infrastructure and services, including primary and secondary healthcare, education and community facilities has been found through research to have a direct positive effect on human health. Leisure activities and facilities can have a positive effect on people's physical, social, emotional and cognitive health. Access to healthcare facilities in both physical and digital form is a central to improving social inclusion and reducing health inequalities. Local healthcare services are often best placed to deliver personalised care and can support social prescribing.

2.29 The Hampshire, Southampton and Isle of Wight Integrated Care Board covers Test Valley Borough and commissions GP practices and some services in hospitals. There are two hospitals within the Borough, located in Romsey and Andover, which have separate structures and which are run by different NHS Trusts. There are five GP

practices in Andover, three in Romsey and one each in Broughton, North Baddesley and Stockbridge. There is a broad provision of social and health infrastructure across Test Valley, including care services, social support and wellbeing provisions. Access to these health and social provisions is more challenging in our rural areas.

### *Open Space*

- 2.30 Access to public open space in the Borough is considered to be good, particularly within and around the settlements. Across Test Valley Borough, the Council owns and manages over 400 hectares of land which is categorised as green space. This includes formal parks, green corridors, informal open space, nature reserves and countryside sites, play areas, suitable alternative natural green space (SANG), cemeteries, trees and woodland. The Council maintains a Public Open Space Audit which periodically reviews the level and range of open space and sports pitch provisions that area available across the Borough, in relation to the ward and parish populations<sup>12</sup>.
- 2.31 There has been significant investment in the provision of new and improvement of existing leisure facilities in Test Valley in recent years. In Andover the new £16m Andover Leisure Centre opened in April 2019 and new playing fields with pavilions have been provided at Augusta Park/East Anton, Picket Twenty and Picket Piece. In Romsey, the Rapids swimming complex has undergone refurbishment, a new playing field for football and community building has been provided at Abbotswood. The Ganger Farm development has provided a new large-scale outdoor sports hub with a pavilion, two rugby pitches, one adult football, three junior football and two artificial grass pitches. At Knightswood Leisure Centre in Valley Park, the Council has invested in improved drainage to the sports pitches as well as upgrades to the tennis courts a new gym and refurbished changing rooms.
- 2.32 Artificial and floodlit pitches are available for evening and all weather use at locations across the Borough and there is wide spread provision of parks, recreational open space, play areas and informal open space across the Borough. Test Valley is also very well served with nine accessible nature reserves for walking (including two in Andover), The Test Way, Clarendon Way and other long distance paths and an extensive bridleway network providing many miles of off-road walking and mountain biking trails. The lanes around the villages provide excellent road cycling either recreationally or as part of a cycling club.<sup>13</sup>

### *Housing*

- 2.33 There are currently over 57,980 homes in the Borough of Test Valley (2022)<sup>14</sup>. Approximately 70.4% of people in Test Valley live in a property which they own (either outright or with a mortgage or loan). This is higher the English average, which is 63.3%. 14.4% of residents rent their property from a Housing Association, lower than the

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<sup>12</sup> Public Open Space Audit:

<https://www.testvalley.gov.uk/assets/attach/8836/Public%20Open%20Space%20Audit%2c%20TVBC%202019%20Annex%201.pdf>

<sup>13</sup> Test Valley Borough Sports Facilities Strategy and Playing Pitch Strategy 2020 – 2036

<sup>14</sup> Small Area Population Forecasts 2022 to 2029 available here:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/facts-figures/population/estimates-forecasts>



equivalent figure for England of 17.7%. 12.9% of residents privately rent their property; this figure is lower than the national average of 16.8%<sup>15</sup>.

### *Air Quality*

2.34 Poor air quality and airborne pollutants are linked to health and wellbeing, and can be associated with certain health conditions, including asthma. Local Authorities are required under the Environment Act 1995 to assess air quality periodically and where necessary declare AQMAs (Air Quality Management Areas) and produce Air Quality Action Plans. Road traffic has been identified as the most significant source of air pollution within Test Valley, and therefore the assessment of air quality focuses mostly on the road network, though industrial sources must also be considered. The most recent review of local air quality, completed in June 2022<sup>16</sup>, indicated no expected exceedances of current UK Air Quality Objective levels in the Borough of Test Valley. Consequently, there are no Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) in the Borough. The Council will continue to carefully monitor areas identified at risk from poor air quality, such as in the vicinity of the Southampton Urban Area.

## **3 Health Impact Assessment**

3.1 A variation of the NHS Healthy Urban Development Unit's Rapid Health Impact Assessment Matrix; it was designed to help ensure that health is properly considered within planning, and that where possible development plans and proposals have a positive rather than a negative influence on health. Test Valley has used this method to identify the possible health impacts of proposals and policies within the Local Plan, including recommend mitigation actions. The Matrix is set out at Appendix 1.

3.2 The evaluation is presented using the evaluation framework of positive impact (+), neutral impact (N), or negative impact (-), which is explained further in Appendix 1.

3.3 The assessment criteria are set out below:

1. Housing quality and design
2. Access to healthcare services and other social infrastructure
3. Access to open space and nature
4. Air quality, noise and neighbourhood amenity
5. Accessibility and active travel
6. Crime reduction and community safety
7. Access to healthy food
8. Access to work and training
9. Social cohesion and lifetime neighbourhoods
10. Minimising the use of resources
11. Climate change

3.4 The Health Impact Assessment will continue to evolve as the Local Plan progresses through consultation. Further policies will be identified and there may be modifications

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<sup>15</sup> Test Valley Borough Profile 2021, TVBC.

<https://www.testvalley.gov.uk/aboutyourcouncil/corporatedirection/about-test-valley-the-facts-and-figures/boroughprofile>

<sup>16</sup> Test Valley Borough Council 2022 Air Quality Annual Status Report, available here: [Air Quality | Test Valley Borough Council](#)

made to the strategic policies prepared for consultation at this stage. It is therefore important that the HIA continues to be undertaken alongside plan preparation to ensure that any impacts are identified and acted upon, as necessary, and incorporated within the draft Local Plan.

## **4 Summary and Conclusions**

- 4.1 The draft Local Plan 2040 Regulation 18 Stage 2 has the potential to make a positive impact on the health and well-being (physical and mental) of the population of the Borough, with some policies making a greater contribution than others. No negative health implications have been identified in assessing the draft policies at this stage.
- 4.2 The Local Plan will make a positive contribution towards meeting the specific and overall housing needs of the Borough. The Local Plan and its evidence base identified demand for a variety of housing types and tenures, including affordable housing and housing for older people. The plan proposes to deliver sufficient housing to meet the identified need. Good quality, well designed and accessible housing can help tackle health inequalities and enhance living conditions.
- 4.3 The Local Plan aims to protect and enhance access to social infrastructure and services, such as health, education and community facilities, to meet the needs associated with the additional housing development that is proposed within the plan. This development has the potential to increase demand on social infrastructure and services. The strategic approach to delivering development at the most sustainable locations in the Borough can support this approach. Delivery of infrastructure will require working closely with stakeholders and partners given the importance of their role in delivering this.
- 4.4 The Local Plan aims to ensure all residents reside in high quality and well-designed housing, in attractive, inclusive and accessible neighbourhoods with greater levels of community interaction and community provisions. This can support increased natural surveillance, leading to a reduction in the fear of crime, and potential reduction in actual crime.
- 4.5 The Town Centre policies in the plan will seek to enhance the public realm, green and public open spaces, accessible cycling and walking links, inclusive services, and cultural and community facilities, services and employment opportunities in the town centres, which will contribute towards the health and wellbeing of residents and visitors. Any improvement to our built environment can bring benefits especially if these also coincide with improvements and access to the nature environment and increasing the amount of physical activity and social interaction with others.
- 4.6 The Borough is largely rural. The Local Plan seeks to safeguard and enhance the environment, landscapes, heritage, biodiversity and green infrastructure of Test Valley, whilst maintaining access to open space, sports provisions, recreational opportunities and nature. Access to open space, parks and nature is proven to deliver significant physical and mental health benefits to all people.
- 4.7 Improving accessibility and encouraging residents to travel via sustainable modes is demonstrated throughout the Plan, with specific policies securing transport improvements on new development. Residents with access to open space along with

safe and attractive pedestrian and cycle routes linking to services, facilities and amenities are shown to encourage physical activity and facilitate sustainable movement, which has benefits for physical health and mental well-being. This will be challenging in some of the more rural areas of the Borough.

4.8 The Local Plan sets out requirements for securing infrastructure improvements from new development, such as towards education provision and employment and skills training, which will bring health benefits and help to reduce health inequalities.

4.9 The Local Plan sets out that the Council will seek to deliver new development while seeking to tackle climate change by reducing carbon emissions, mitigating the impacts of climate change and increasing resilience to climate change. This is a key thread within the plan in addition to specific policy requirements that will help to enhance the health and well-being of residents and reduce health inequalities. A report by the Academy of Medical Sciences and the Royal Society states that if health is made central to the climate agenda, then actions taken to reach UK net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 will have near-term benefits for human health in the UK, as well as helping to reduce the risks to health from global climate change. Some benefits come from, for example, the phasing out fossil fuels, supporting public transport and promoting better quality buildings.

Appendix 1: HIA Assessment Matrix – Draft Local Plan 2040 (Regulation 18, Stage 2) – Vision, Objectives and Strategic Policies.

Key to matrix codes:

<b>Code/Colour</b>	<b>Health Impacts identified</b>
<b>+</b>	Health Impact is likely to be positive (i.e. may improve health, prevent deaths/prolong lives, reduce/prevent the occurrence of acute or chronic diseases or enhance mental wellbeing)
<b>N</b>	Health Impact is likely to be neutral (i.e. no significant health effects or effects)
<b>-</b>	Health Impact is likely to be negative or present barriers to health (i.e. could lead directly to ill health, deaths, acute or chronic diseases or poor mental ill health)

The assessment criteria:

1. Housing quality and design
2. Access to healthcare services and other social infrastructure
3. Access to open space and nature
4. Air quality, noise and neighbourhood amenity
5. Accessibility and active travel
6. Crime reduction and community safety
7. Access to healthy food
8. Access to work and training
9. Social cohesion and lifetime neighbourhoods
10. Minimising the use of resources
11. Climate change

Objective, Vision or Chapter	HIA assessment (based on HUDU's Rapid Health Impact Assessment Matrix)											Explanation, evidence, comments
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
<b>Vision</b>	+	+	+	N	+	+	N	+	+	+	+	Generally, a positive, broad and inclusive overarching vision which reflects most of the health criteria identified.
<b>Objective – Climate Change</b>  Policy CL1: Countering Climate Change, Policy CL2: Flood Risk, Policy CL3 Sustainable Buildings and Energy Use, Policy CL4: Water Use and Management and Policy CL5: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy	+	N	+	+	+	N	N	N	N	+	+	<p>This objective supports the transition to a low carbon future and reflects the presumption in favour of sustainable development contained within the NPPF. The objective of sustainable development can be summarised as meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.</p> <p>These policies seek to support climate change mitigation and resilience. Measures such as encouraging renewable and low carbon energy, sustainable drainage, minimising energy use, flood prevention and reducing carbon emissions, while increasing our resilience to future climate change, should have positive health benefits through phasing out fossil fuels, supporting public transport and promoting better quality buildings. This includes seeking to reduce emissions and demand for energy (through the energy hierarchy).</p> <p>There is a policy which seeks to secure the energy hierarchy in the design of buildings as well as require development to reduce its carbon content through the careful choice, use and sourcing of materials. This policy will have positive impacts on the housing quality and design of new development. This will have several benefits to health and wellbeing, including minimising energy bills (related to reduced demand for heating, lighting and cooling) which can help to reduce economic stress on residents.</p>
<b>Objective - Our Communities</b>	N	+	+	N	+	N	N	N	+	N	N	This objective seeks to deliver cohesive, healthy and sustainable communities with improved access to

Objective, Vision or Chapter	HIA assessment (based on HUDU's Rapid Health Impact Assessment Matrix)											Explanation, evidence, comments
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
Policy COM1: Delivering Infrastructure; COM2: Community Services and Facilities												<p>infrastructure, facilities and services, including healthcare and open spaces.</p> <p>These policies seek to ensure development will meet on site and off-site infrastructure requirements to support it and to mitigate its impacts. This will include new or improved infrastructure, unless the existing infrastructure has capacity. New infrastructure will be required to meet the needs of the new development, rather than expecting it to rely on existing infrastructure. This includes access to a range of health provisions and education, childcare, early years provision, public open space, emergency and community provision, amongst others forms of social infrastructure. New infrastructure, although secured and delivered to mitigate the impact of the new development, may also be used by existing residents in the surrounding area who also may experience health and wellbeing benefits.</p> <p>The delivery of this infrastructure, where it is needed, to support the communities of the Borough and the wellbeing, mental and physical health of the population is a key health requirement for the plan. This is secured through a range of other policies, related to topics such as open space, sites of ecological importance, providing affordable housing, providing community facilities, and providing transport improvements. This policy secures these tangible improvements to infrastructure which provide the physical places where residents are able to go to undertake physical recreation or to socialise.</p>

Objective, Vision or Chapter	HIA assessment (based on HUDU's Rapid Health Impact Assessment Matrix)											Explanation, evidence, comments	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
													<p>These policies seek to ensure new infrastructure is delivered in a timely manner. However due to the numerous stakeholders involved in the delivery of infrastructure, this is often outside the Council's control.</p> <p>Where infrastructure is at risk, this can have a negative impact on the health and wellbeing of the local community who may feel concerned with the loss of existing social facilities (spaces for social gatherings). This policy seeks to ensure that existing facilities are protected and only lost in certain situations.</p>
<p><b>Objective – Town Centres</b></p> <p>Policy TC1: Main Town Centre Uses, NA1: Andover Town Centre, NA2 Delivering High Quality Development in Andover Town Centre, NA3: Andover Town Centre Uses, NA4: Stockbridge Local Centre; SA1: Romsey Town Centre; SA2: Delivering High Quality Development in Romsey Town Centre; SA3: Romsey Town Centre Uses;</p>	+	+	+	+	+	+	N	+	+	N	N	<p>This objective seeks to deliver vibrant and resilient town centres, including through regeneration and Masterplan work, with a mix of uses and businesses at the heart of our market towns. It supports enhancements to active travel infrastructure, to encourage walking and cycling, the use of public transport and the establishment of linked green infrastructure in and around the town centres.</p> <p>The policy seeks to ensure that the Borough's town centres remain viable and to ensure their vitality by offering the most appropriate mix of uses to meet the varied needs of our community. This encourages the community to come together, which has social and wellbeing benefits. This includes ensuring that town centres retain 'main town centre uses' which support a healthy economy and encourage footfall in the town centre. There are also associated health benefits through the provision of employment opportunities in the town centre and supporting the town centre community which can encourage people to walk into the town centres and spend time there (physical activity and social benefits).</p>	

Objective, Vision or Chapter	HIA assessment (based on HUDU's Rapid Health Impact Assessment Matrix)											Explanation, evidence, comments
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
<p><b>Objective – Built, Historical and Natural Environment</b></p> <p>Policy ENV1: Historic Environment; Policy ENV2: Development affecting Heritage Assets; Policy ENV3: Landscape Character; Policy ENV4: Local Gaps; Policy ENV5: Pollution; Policy ENV6: Lighting; Policy ENV7: Amenity</p>	+	N	+	+	N	N	N	N	N	+	N	<p>The enhancement of the environment is a priority for the plan and this can facilitate healthy lifestyles.</p> <p>These policies seek to ensure that the Borough's heritage assets, landscape and dark skies are protected. They seek to protect the neighbourhood amenity of residents and minimise pollution, including noise and vibration impacts and land contamination. These policies will support the provision of high-quality design that will have numerous health and wellbeing benefits, such as preserving air quality and protecting existing landscapes. These landscapes provide spaces of people to visit and experience through active travel modes. Experiencing time in green spaces has been found to have mental and physical health and wellbeing benefits. The amenity policy will provide benefits to the housing quality and design of new and existing dwellings, ensuring that new residents have a suitable level of amenity, such as daylight and sunlight levels, private amenity space and outlook.</p>
<p><b>Objective – Ecology and Biodiversity</b></p> <p>Policy BIO1: Conservation and Enhancement of Biodiversity and Geological Interest, Policy BIO2: International Nature Conservation Designations; Policy BIO3: Biodiversity Net Gain; Policy BIO4: Green Infrastructure; Policy BIO5: Trees and Hedgerows</p>	N	N	+	+	N	N	N	N	N	N	+	<p>Safeguarding, protecting and enhancing biodiversity networks and the environment will benefit all residents.</p> <p>These Policies seek to protect areas of biodiversity and nature conservation. This includes the protection of green infrastructure such as trees and hedgerows and requirements for a net gain in biodiversity to be provided on new developments. These policies provide health and wellbeing benefits through the protection of areas of open space and nature, with associated benefits towards air quality, climate change and physical or active health benefits.</p>



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<p><b>Objective – Health, Wellbeing, Culture, Leisure and Recreation</b></p> <p>Policy HE1: Open Space and Recreation; Policy HE2: Existing Open Space; Policy HE3: Access to the Countryside</p>	N	+	+	N	+	N	+	N	+	N	N	<p>This broad objective is concerned with delivering access to a range of social, health, cultural sports, recreational and wellbeing infrastructure and services across our communities. The provision of key facilities and services, with access to open space, tranquillity and nature, can help to promote health, education, social cohesion and physical activity and can help to reduce health inequalities within an area.</p> <p>These policies seek to secure open space on new developments, to protect existing areas of open space and to encourage greater access to the countryside. These policies have a range of health and wellbeing benefits and will provide spaces for residents to access nature and build social cohesion and neighbourhoods. They provide spaces for the Borough's residents to be active, which has associated physical benefits such as increased fitness, along with improved social cohesion. There will be associated benefits linked to air quality and climate change, through the provision of areas of open space. The policy also secures allotments on new development, which will contribute to access to healthy food as they provide spaces for plants including vegetables to be grown.</p>
<p><b>Objective – Design</b></p> <p>Policy DES1: Delivery of Sustainable and High-Quality Design; Policy DES2: Design Details and Considerations; Policy DES3: Residential</p>	+	N	+	+	+	+	N	N	+	N	N	<p>This objective is concerned with the design of all developments, spaces and buildings and how they function for all in the community. Encouraging safety and security in layout and design may also lead to a reduction in the fear of crime and a potential reduction in actual crime rates in an area, with associated benefits to physical and mental wellbeing.</p>

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Areas of Special Character; Policy DES4: Public Art													These policies set out the Council's expectation that places, buildings and spaces will be well designed, good quality and well-integrated, to be attractive, locally distinctive, connected, permeable, green and accessible, supporting healthy and more active lifestyles. The policy also includes a requirement for developments to take into account safety, security and surveillance, which can help to reduce opportunities for crime and antisocial behaviour and help to reduce fear of crime.
<b>Objective – Housing</b> Policy HOU1: Affordable Housing; Community Led Development Policy HOU2: Community Led Development; Policy HOU3: Rural Exception Affordable Housing; Policy HOU4: First Homes Exception Affordable Housing; Policy HOU5: Provision of Housing to Meet our Needs; Policy HOU6: Residential Space Standards; Policy HOU7: Self-build and Custom Build Housing; Policy HOU8: Meeting the Needs of Gypsies, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople; Policy HOU9: Gypsies, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople; Policy HOU10: Occupational	+	N	N	+	N	N	N	N	+	N	N	<p>This objective is concerned with providing sufficient housing land in the Borough to meet housing needs. The Plan recognises that the population of Test Valley is ageing. Specific reference is therefore made to seeking to meet the needs of the ageing population. The need to provide for affordable homes is also highlighted. The provision of a sufficient range and supply of housing to meet identified needs, including affordable and specialised housing options, is important to good health, security and wellbeing. This is because having a stable home can have positive mental health benefits.</p> <p>These policies seek to ensure that a sufficient supply of land is available to provide for housing needs in the Borough over the full plan period and to ensure that a choice of homes is available to meet local need. Health is firmly linked to housing, in that the provision of good quality housing, that is energy efficient, dry, safe and warm, and that meets local (and specific) needs is a pre-requisite to healthy living.</p>	

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Accommodation for Rural Workers in the Countryside; Policy HOU11: Existing Dwellings and Ancillary Residential Development in the Countryside; Policy HOU12: Replacement Dwellings in the Countryside													
<b>Objective – Economy, Employment and Skills</b>  Policy EC1: Retention of Employment Land and Strategic Employment Sites; Policy EC2: Re-use of Buildings in the Countryside; Policy EC3: Rural Diversification and Employment Sites in the Countryside; Policy EC4: Tourism; Policy EC5: Skills and Training	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	+	N	N	N		This objective seeks to support economic growth, a skilled workforce and training for all who live or work in the Borough. Employment promotes health by providing a livelihood and income. There is a policy which secures skills and training contributions on certain residential and employment developments. This will have a benefit towards the provision and access to work and training.
<b>Objective – Transport and Movement</b>  Policy TR1: Active and Sustainable Travel; Policy TR2: Assessing Transport Impacts; Policy TR3: Parking	N	+	+	+	+	+	N	+	N	+	+		This objective seeks to encourage and enhance safe and sustainable transport and associated accessible infrastructure enhancements, whilst also reducing the need to travel. Travel can enable access to services and social opportunities and can reduce social exclusion and isolation. Transport barriers can have most impact on individuals with limiting conditions and who may need access GPs, care or hospitals, and for those on low incomes or whom are carers. In this respect, improving active travel opportunities, community and public transport and the accessibility of the



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													<p>which has benefits for health. Access to open spaces can increase opportunities for outdoor exercise and social life.</p> <p>The settlement hierarchy identifies and groups the various settlements of the Borough into a hierarchy that reflects their sustainability, The hierarchy itself has neutral implications for health.</p>
<p><b>Residential Site Allocations</b></p> <p>Policy NA5: Land south of London Road; NA6: Land at Manor Farm; NA7: Land at BEre Hill, NA8: Land to the East of Ludgershall, NA9: Land to the South East of Ludgershall; SA4: Land South of Ganger Farm; SA5: Land South of the Bypass; SA6: Land at Velmore Farm; SA7: Land at King Edward Park;</p>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	N	N	<p>These policies allocate sites for residential development to meet the Borough's housing needs. This includes criteria related to the Local Plan objectives and policies which have been assessed above. Therefore these sites include additional benefits to health and wellbeing, which are set out in previous rows of this table.</p> <p>The residential site allocations provide opportunities for new neighbourhoods to be developed adjacent to existing settlements. As part of the new developments, there will be infrastructure improvements secured such as those towards improvements to healthcare facilities, transport improvements, Employment Skills Plans (encouraging greater access to training) and the provision of housing to meet an identified need. This will have numerous impact on the healthy and wellbeing of local populations (both the existing and new populations), through contributions to a range of infrastructure.</p> <p>These site allocations provide housing to meet a fundamental need for additional dwellings in the Borough. New dwellings will need to be provided in suitable locations which are easily accessible by modes of active travel to services and facilities.</p>	

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<p><b>Employment Site Allocations</b></p> <p>NA10: South of Thruxton Aerodrome; NA11: Thruxton Aerodrome; SA8: Land at Upton Lane; SA9: Land Adjacent to Abbey Park Industrial Estate; SA10: Land South of Botley Road; SA11: Land East of Test Valley Business Park; SA12: Kennels Farm; SA13: University of Southampton Science Park; SA14: Land at Adanac Park; SA15: Nursling Estate.</p>	N	N	N	N	+	+	N	+	+	N	N	<p>These policies allocate sites for employment land to meet the Borough's identified employment needs. This includes criteria related to the Local Plan objectives and policies which have been assessed above. Therefore these sites include additional benefits to health and wellbeing, which are set out in previous rows of this table.</p> <p>The employment site allocations will provide new employment land to meet an identified need. As part of any new development, contributions will be secured towards infrastructure such as transport improvements, which are likely to include improvements to active travel modes. New employment development will be designed to minimise opportunities for crime and secure contributions towards employment and skills improvements. The provision of additional employment land will provide new spaces for employment with associated opportunities to jobs.</p>	
<p><b>Green Infrastructure Site Allocations</b></p> <p>SA16: Forest Park</p>	N	N	+	+	+	N	N	N	+	N	+	<p>This site allocation policy seeks to support the enhancement of green infrastructure through the creation of a Forest Park of sub-regional significance in the south of the Borough. Delivery of this woodland park would promote increased access by the public, for walking, cycling, horse riding and other activities and would also help to protect and enhance biodiversity. The provision would serve the residents of the Borough and wider area and would be linked to the public rights of way network outside the site allocation.</p>	

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												<p>This policy will secure an area of woodland for public use which will contribute to the Green Infrastructure network in Hampshire. The expansion of the Forest Park will provide an area of green space for residents to use for recreation. The policy encourages access to nature and woodland, through the provision of a forest park with walking and cycling routes and other facilities. This would offer social, health, recreational and wellbeing benefits for all users and groups. The park may be more important to those groups that seek access to nature and woodland for recreational purposes, including families and young children.</p>