Your Place, Your Plan

'Living Well'

Summary of Comments and Issues Raised

Introduction

The Living Well topic of SIP focuses in on the role the Local Plan can play in delivering a built environment which protects and enhances the health and well-being of current and future populations. There are many areas in which the built environment can help, or hinder, our health and well-being.

The SIP asked two questions about 'Living Well':

Do you think current Local Plan and national policies around the provision of open space are adequate for protecting health and well-being and reducing inequality?

Do you have any suggestions for how we can plan positively to create multi-generational neighbourhoods and communities where social isolation is reduced and opportunities for independent mobility are promoted?

Do you think current Local Plan and national policies around the provision of open space are adequate for protecting health and well-being and reducing inequality?

There were 17 responses to this part of the question. 67% of these respondents felts current policies were inadequate. 19% felt current national and local policy is adequate and 14% were unsure/ answered neither yes or no/ supported review of standards but made no comment on adequacy of current standards.

No: *C352, E1232, E1237, E1228, E1230, E1221, E1218, C342, E1223, E1121, C439, C293, C365, C582,*

Yes: *E1114, E1082, E1092, E1233,*

Unsure/ Neither Yes Nor No: *L29, E1209, C343*

Of those saying no, the following points were made:

- There is inequality of access to open space, with large housing estates in Stanmore and Badge Farm in St Luke Ward being under-provisioned. (C352, C439)
- Covid pandemic has shown the importance of access to open space not just for physical health but also mental (C352, C293)
- Developments need to provide open space for adult exercise, eg running and walking trails, not just small areas for children's' play areas (C352)
- Walkways and open space need to be well maintained (E1237)
- Apply 15 minute city concepts to access to local play areas and parks (E1228, E1223)
- Adopt a strategic approach to contiguous and connected open spaces, which facilitate exercise routes etc, rather than small disconnected local play areas and parks (E1228)
- Open space approved as part of planning applications may not ever be delivered. Need tighter conditions to ensure it comes to fruition, and smaller developments also need to contribute to open space provision. Viability is a problem. (E1221, E1121)
- Adopt Natural England's Accessible Natural Green Space Standard which recommend that all people should have accessible natural green space (five minutes walk from home/ 300m – an area of at least 2ha; within 2km – an area of at least

20ha; within 5km of home, an area of at least 100ha; and within 10km of home, an area of at least 500ha. Should also provide a minimum of 1ha of statutory local nature reserves per 1000 people. Should also adopt the Woodland Trust 'Woodland Access Standards' which recommends that no person should live more than 500m from at least one accessible woodland of 2ha in size, and 20ha within 4km (C582)

A number of responses to question 2 (below) also referenced the importance of access to open space and green space for health and wellbeing. These are summarised as follows.

Green Belt:

42 respondents commented under this question that the open countryside areas provide an important recreational and visual resource, which is of benefit to physical health and mental well- being of the district's residents. It should be protected in the form of a green belt for South Hampshire:

C5, C497, E1244, C19, C81, C119, C331, C79, C226, C227, C231, C235, C255, C262, C347, C253, C241, C156, C155, C326, C286, C241, C198, C348, C588, C556, C364, C487, C471, C470, C461, C406, C489, C555, E282, C119, H108, E335, C409, C464, E1209, E1224

Two respondents commented on means of increasing access rights in the countryside, for recreation (C32, E1240) such as providing relief to landowners in exchange of access (C32). The South Downs national Park (E1240) welcomes the opportunity to work with WCC in achieving the objectives of the People and Nature Network (PANN), which has highlighted an under-provision in accessible natural greenspace in the western part of the South Downs National Park and wish to see this receiving attending in the Blue and Green Infrastructure strategy.

Protect and maintain existing Open Space

41 respondents want the Local Plan to protect and maintain existing open space. Some specific areas were mentioned in these responses, including DM5 Designated Open Space, local parks, golf courses used for leisure and fitness, recreation grounds, and informal green spaces.

C48, C601, C79, C119, C226, C227, C231, C235, C255, C262, C347, C253, C471, C331, C124, C155, C156, C285, C241, C588, M6 (and 2 'likes'), C363, H49, M8, H55, C75, H111, H108, E514, C343, C342, C365, C304, C409, C573, C355, C392, C382, C487, C497, E1224

Plan for and deliver more local open spaces

41 respondents wish to see more local open spaces delivered: *C569, C397, C399, C407, C568, C421, C567, C291, E1230, C513, E1238, E1244, C524, C15, C100, C113, C105, C117, C102, C118, C177, C164, C191, C190, E486, C248, C241, C352, E335, C294, C365, C554, C371, C586, C439, C424, C449, C462, C441, E1223, E1121*

In particular they commented as follows:

- Deliver new open and green spaces in the city of Winchester: *C569, C397, C399, C407, C568, C421, C567, C291, E1230, C513, E1244, C241, E335*
- The Local Plan needs to proactively identify new open spaces to designate as 'Local Green Space' as per the NPPF paragraphs. (E1244)
- Provide local open spaces/ pocket parks as neighbourhood spaces for social interaction, recreation and exercise (E1238, C15, C100, C113, C105, C117, C102, C177, E1121, C365, C586, C371,
- Provide wild play areas for children (National Trust website has good examples) (C294)
- Sport England (C524) consider the Councils Playing Pitch Strategy (2018) requires review and updating. It is important that being active in open space is promoted and supported by activity champions, community groups and other stakeholders.
- The Local Plan evidence base should include an assessment of access to convenient accessible open space by area, and allocate land in areas of deficiency (C462). The data at the Living Well consultation event showed there is under-provision of open space in St Luke Ward and this inequality should be addressed (C439, C352). The Open Space strategy highlights lack of space but fails to address how to improve this. (C190)
- Enhance access to the countryside for recreation, with more nature reserves, country parks, and accessible paths (C441, C449, C554,
- Enhance riverside access (C118)
- Deliver local open space on brownfield sites (C164)
- Acquire land via compulsory purchase to deliver open space where needed (C248)
- Designate Five Oaks 'quarry' site as Local Green Space under the NPPF (E486)
- Parish Councils should be tasked with negotiating for more amenity land which residents can access, eg 2 mile rings around villages which can be used for recreation (C424)
- HCC (E1223) wishes to ensure any designation of Local Green Space in the Local Plan accords with PPG and case-law and that consideration is given as to whether designation would inhibit projects that meet identified needs central to the Local Plans vision and objectives. Education facilities need sufficient flexibility in future and school playing fields could provide space for expansion of facilities in special circumstances.
- WCC should buy vacant amenity Davis Estates land at Badger Farm (C191)

New Housing Developments should provide open space:

23 respondents specifically wish to see new housing developments incorporate sufficient quantum of communal open space as part of their design: (*C25, C75, C47, C127, C176, C223, C292, C291, C259, C309, C232, C254, E1121, C408, C469, C588, C601, E1092, C342, C304, C584, C497, E1246).*

C47 and E1121 noted that there should be connectivity between open spaces and walking routes to ensure access to high quality open areas. C309 and C127 wish to see greater variety in open space types, eg wooded areas, trailways and ponds, trees and hedgerows, rather than simply formal parks/ play areas and open fields. C601 highlighted the need for open space to be delivered early in development phasing, before housing comes forward.

C584 echoes this sentiment, in suggesting funds for provision of open space be secured up front.

Mental Health Benefits of Access to nature and green space:

9 respondents specifically highlighted the mental health benefits of access to greenspace and of feeling connected to nature, which has been demonstrated during the pandemic.

C294, M38, E1240, C371, C573, C392, C487, C497, H34

Features of Open Space

14 respondents highlighted some of the features and facilities needed in well-designed open spaces as follows:

- Benches and seating C7, C47, C232, C301, C198, C586, C15
- Picnic tables C232
- More trees and wildflowers in parks C118, C586
- Parks with facilities for multiple generations (play equipment, fitness equipment, walking trails into countryside (C198) and areas for ball sports and cycling, and for peaceful contemplation or walking (separate from cycles) (C385)
- Parks to be more dynamic places of exploration – not simply mown lawn (C316)
- Areas for dog walking off the lead, separate from other activities as energetic dogs can be a hazard to those with limited mobility (C385, C542)

Accessibility

17 respondents commented on accessibility of open space, noting the need to ensure those in wheelchairs, mobility scooters, prams and buggies can access these places, even in winter when grass becomes muddy. Accessible pathways need to be provided (C7, C42).

As highlighted by C542, inclusivity is not just about mobility, and also involves provision of seating for those who struggle to stand due to chronic pain conditions/ limb issues, and provision of public toilets for those who might need to access these facilities at short notice (for example, the elderly, those with particular health conditions, families with young children).

Natural England (E1246) requests that the Local Plan reference the standards set out in The Sensory Trust's publication 'By All Reasonable Means' which sets good practice guidance on access to the natural environment for people of all abilities.

C7, M16, C385, C542, C42, C282, C192, C452, C164, C407, C113, H32, C6, E1246, C392, C554, C452

Allotments and Food growing

11 respondents support delivery of allotments and community growing areas, which provide an opportunity for health and fitness via gardening activity, social interaction and a chance for the community to share skills and knowledge, and also as they enable production of healthy food without the carbon emissions associated with transport of produce from further afield.

C118, C294, C594, E1121, C352, C254, C516, C535, E1245, C343, H49

Developments which could provide open space:

C583 notes that the SHELAA Site at Mill Mead in Bishops Waltham would facilitate the release of 8,900 square metres of open space for the use of the community. Its proximity to the village centre would aid in the reduction of social isolation as the heart of the village is only a short walk away.

Next Steps – Open Space:

Policy CP7 of the current Local Plan Core Strategy (LPP1) seeks to achieve improvements in the open space network across the district and recreational facilities. New development is required, by this policy, to make provision for public open space in accordance with the standards set out in that policy. The policy requires facilities preferable be on site 'where feasible' or by financial contributions towards off-site improvements.

The Council is reviewing its Open Space Strategy at present.

Moving forward further analysis of accessibility of open space will be undertaken, in terms of inclusivity of access as well as location of open space across the district, to identify particular areas of deficiency.

15 minute neighbourhood principles could be used to assess open space provision. At the Living Well consultation event, it was noted that some wards (eg St Lukes) have an under-provision of open space at present and in the current Local Plan this was to be addressed via development at Bushfield Camp. This should be reviewed as part of the new Local Plan to ensure this under-provision is addressed as far as possible.

Question 2: *"Do you have any suggestions for how we can plan positively to create multi-generational neighbourhoods and communities where social isolation is reduced and opportunities for independent mobility are promoted?"*

Design of new developments:

Many respondents commented on ways new housing developments could be designed, so as to enhance a sense of 'community' and health and well-being of residents. These are detailed below.

Mixed Housing Typologies and Tenures, to Create Balanced Communities:

48 respondents feel mixed development (for example, housing developments which provide a range of housing for young and old, small and large households) encourage social interaction and should be supported: *C2, C40, C46, C54, C47, C79, C95, C100, C342, C113, C103, C148, C139, C160, C168, C264, C543, C282, C550, C557, C511, C310, C545, C500, C363, C354, C598, C342, C293, C376, C395, C304, C355, C573, C360, C346, C304, C356, C385, C392, C408, C453, E1237, E1092, E1219, E1220, E1228, E1233.*

For example, housing developments should provide one bedroom flats in amongst larger family dwellings (C40) so occupants living alone have the opportunity to mix others in larger households.). Rural areas in particular need a range of housing to meet the needs of different generations (C293). Mixed housing provides not just mixed communities, but also the ability to move within one's local area as housing needs change (C310), retaining community support as one ages. Care homes could be located in amongst other households (C79) which would provide employment close to home for younger people living in the same area (C514). Co-living schemes pairing up students and the elderly could be considered

(C550) to reduce social isolation and assist with affordable housing. Pre-schools/ nurseries could be located near to/ paired up with elderly care homes (C344).

12 respondents also highlighted the importance of mixed housing tenures, to ensure a mixed and balanced community. C360 noted that the ever increasing cost of housing in Winchester has over the years reduced the economic mixture (and consequently not just the income level but also the age) of the community. Tenures should also be mixed to provide balanced communities, with affordable housing located amongst market housing (C223, E1092, E1219, C290). Provide more property available to rent affordably (C291, C282, C545) particularly in the inner city. Provide housing and associated facilities for those on low incomes (C598, C337), so that low paid workers are not excluded from many towns. Avoid simply delivering affordable housing on rural exception sites, which prompts an 'us and them' mentality (C385). Housing mix should encourage a variable community of people (C408).

Developments should also be mixed in terms of land uses provided, so that there is employment, residential and leisure uses on the same site, providing active places (C160, C168, C514, C596) – an approach which works particularly well on brownfield regeneration sites (C280, C596).

E1092 advises that development of the Sir John Moore Barracks site could deliver an appropriate mix of housing types and tenures to assist with these aims. E1121 advises that development of a single strategic growth arc at sufficient scale would assist with delivering these aims, as it could deliberately incorporate a mix of housing types and community facilities to blend households and generations.

Roads and Streets:

- Residential properties should have front gardens/ verandas/ patios (C47, C301, C501) or balconies facing on to the street so as to connect with the outside world (E1244)
- Tree lined streets (C598)
- Road layout to include cul-de-sacs rather than just through-roads (C301)
- Low traffic neighbourhoods, 20mph speed limit and facilitate playing in the street (C545) and safe cycling (C316)
- Design in safe routes from elderly accommodation to shops/ cafes so they can move about independently (eg pavements wide enough for scooter, and shops on same side of busy roads (C277)
- Housing developments to have communal parking areas rather than doorstep parking, freeing up spaces in front of houses for communal gardens and space for social interaction, play and exercise (C436)
- Communal recycling hubs, where residents will meet/ interact (C436)
- Avoid gated communities (C47)
- Design for safety (C243, C244, C95, C101), including street lighting (C95, C101) and cameras (C101), and pavements free from trip hazards (C95, C101, C573)
- Pavements wide enough for buggies, mobility scooters, wheelchairs those walking with children, and dropped curbs to facilitate ease of access for these groups (C573, C301)

- Parking spaces for visitors, to prevent pavements being blocked/rendered inaccessible by poorly parked cars (C573)

Interior of Dwellings:

- Apartments for the elderly should have lifts (E1244)
- Design flats which can accommodate young sharers (C344)
- Build more small flats of high quality, making them attractive enough to incentivize older residents to downsize, and free up larger dwellings for families needing more space. (C346).
- Multigenerational homes require sufficient space for some independence for the elderly family member (eg downstairs bedroom, en-suite, kitchenette, small sitting area and separate entrance) whilst also accommodating space for the other residents to work from home. Homes in the market at present are not suitable to adaptation to this way of living, or are unaffordable to all but a few (C533)
- Internal space standards: sufficient space for home working (C365, C343, E1244, and considering the implications of Covid for home size (E1238)

Density and Space around Dwellings:

- Increase density of developments so as to find space for 'living well' facilities (E1244)
- Communal areas are required on developments, such as communal gardens/ allotments (C254, C301, E1244, C408,), friendship benches (E1244) or community hubs (C457, E1244) operating as spaces where residents could socialize or older residents could teach younger residents life skills such as DIY, cooking, gardening (C500).

Smaller Developments:

12 respondents wish to see smaller housing developments approved, rather than larger ones, on the basis of the likelihood of developer providing communal facilities or open space (rather than maximizing profit), or because renewal within established areas re-invigorates existing communities rather than creating wholly new places from scratch. (*C197, C116, C194, C254, C285, C352, C498, C394, C555, C439, C439, C392.*)

By contrast, C340 is of the opposing view, stating that purposeful housing allocations rather than reliance on windfall will deliver better outcomes for Living Well.

Accessible, 'Lifetime' and Affordable Homes and Specialised Housing

5 respondents suggested housing needs to be designed to accommodate multiple generations, to keep the elderly in their own owns or with family as long as possible. (C39, E1233, C95, C197, C480).

C113 and C116 highlighted the need for wheelchair accessible *affordable* housing and the ability to extend/ adapt housing for this purpose more easily. C78 wishes to see assisted living complexes delivered in newer areas and C379 highlighted that there will be a need in future for retirement living with caring facilities linked. C57 opposes large 'hotel like blocks' of requirement flats where residents' freedom is limited and support and facilities are limited.

C574 suggested there may need to be incentives to encourage people to move on from homes when they no longer meet their needs – eg out of larger family homes when the household size has reduced, into low rise accommodation when elderly, into city centre locations when unable to drive. C285 suggested small developments which allow people to stay in their local area as they move through different life stages.

C254 wishes to see more flexible ownership models, such as rent/ ownership and C57 suggests that affordable housing models should not target one demographic, rather seeking to mix communities and provide space for social interaction (such as a pub) at ground level.

Five respondents are in favour of bungalows (C103, C358, C573, C560, E1228), noting that one storey accommodation is useful for the elderly and that they feel 'squeezed out' by people moving from London and converting bungalows into large family homes.

By contrast, two respondents highlighted that bungalows are an inefficient use of the urban landscape (C346, C392), and increased density could accommodate more families. By housing families in these areas, this reduces the need to build new housing on greenfield.

C491 opposes the negative impact on community of HMO student accommodation.

Miscellaneous comments relating to design:

Insist on high/ better quality design, in general (C243, C244, C167, C494, C356)

Work with developers to standardize their approaches to 'Living Well' and be clear on expectations and flush out any conflict with other policies eg on carbon neutrality (C533)

'Living Well' relies not just on well-designed housing but other complementary policies and procedures to encourage community integration, which could possibly be funded by s106 contributions (C533)

C542 notes that the needs and wants of different groups can vary (eg space for children to make noise versus quiet peaceful space for elderly or those with particular disabilities), and therefore the Council can simply encourage communities to develop their own ways of living and engaging together, rather than imposing any particular arrangement.

Next Steps: Design of New Developments:

Consider including a 'Design' topic in the new Local Plan, which contains design policies and could potentially include suggestions made in relation to 'Living Well' where justified and relevant. Policy CP2 of the current Local Plan Core Strategy (LPP1) seeks to provide a range and mix of housing types and this policy will be reviewed in light of representations on this topic.

Community Infrastructure

75 respondents commented on the important role that community facilities and infrastructure play, in enhancing quality of life and health and well-being.

C4, C76, C103, C342, C22, C37, C75, C76, C88, C90, C95, M2, C113, C117, C102, C118, C147, C127, C170, C187, C192, C198, C208, C305, C222, C234, C245, C249, C243, C244, C264, C254, C265, C259, C277, C290, C282, C286, C292, C356, C500, C584, C586, C376,

C252, C293, C301, C501, C601, C479, C549, C457, C535, C326, C316, C408, H17, C437, C488, C77, H35, H53, H107, H110, H60, H108, E1216, E1232, E1238, E1219, E1228, E848, E1244, E1121, M36.

In particular, the following facilities were mentioned as being valuable for providing space for social interaction and community mixing and should be included in new developments/ receive financial support:

- *Community centres/ village halls and social hubs (C76, C342, C22, C76, C95, C113, C117, C102, C147, C127, C170, C245, C243, C244, C254, C259, C282, C292, C500, C376, C293, C301, C501, C601, C479, C457, C535, C326, C437, C488, E1232, E1238,*
- Public toilets *(C118, C586,*
- *Pubs (C103, C75, C356, C408, E1228,*
- *Schools (H17,*
- *GP Surgeries and Pharmacies (C208, C305, C408, H107, H110,*
- *Religious Facilities C187*
- *Local Shops (C103, C75, C118, C127, C198, C192, C208, C305, C234, C282, C286, C292, C356, C376, C549, C408, E1216, E1219, (in particular Repair Shops/ Zero Waste Shops/ Whole Food Stores – C118)*
- *Post Office E1216*
- *Leisure and sports facilities (M2, C264, C282, C586, C376, C316, H35, H108, M36 (eg cinema, bowling alley), E1244, and spaces particularly for teenagers (C586, C601, H35) and for rural communities so as to reduce travel (C316)*
- *Coffee Shops and Restaurants (C103, C22, C127, C234, C282, C286, C292, C549, C408,*
- *Galleries/ Cultural Facilities C127, C601, E1238, E848, H60 (eg outdoor amphitheater H60)*
- *Libraries (C22, C37, C117*
- *Home Start Centres (C117*
- *Broadband connectivity C293, C77, H53*
- *Playgrounds and parks (C22, C549, E1232*
- *Joint working space (E1238)*
- *Clubs (C356*
- *Walkways (C22*
- *Swimming Pool/ Lido (C265), Water features/ paddling pool/ boating lake (C586)*

Some respondents also referred to the importance of allotment, affordable housing, and broadband infrastructure which are dealt with elsewhere in the analysis of representations.

C37 noted the important role of places which can be visited without charge, such as libraries. C286 wishes to see financial support for small local businesses to assist with opening shops and cafes in local community. C76 suggested the Council and its services should be brought out to the people, utilizing community spaces for this. C117, C479 and C601's responses highlighted that village halls/ community centres are a flexible resource for use by many different groups and generations. H108 noted that important role that South Winchester Golf Course provides as community resource and urged the Council not to allocate the site for

development. C88 and C90 highlight the need to support the setting up of community groups.

Next Steps: Community Infrastructure

Review Policy CP6 of the current LPP1 (Local Services and Facilities) which seeks to prevent loss of local facilities and services.

Movement/ Transport:

A number of respondents highlighted the role that transport infrastructure has on residents' ability to 'Live Well'. Access to transport can assist with relieving social isolation, and provide access to leisure/ culture/health and fitness/ social outings.

Cycling and Walking infrastructure:

44 respondents are of the view that good quality cycle and walking infrastructure boosts health and well-being by providing infrastructure to facilitate active travel, and also enabling residents to connect socially. Existing routes should be protected. New cycling and walking routes should be provided to accommodate all needs:

- pavements should be wide enough for mobility scooters and wheelchairs,
- pavements and walkways to be maintained in good repair to minimise trip hazards and remove rubbish.
- Cycleways and walkways should be traffic free and provide direct routes and dropped kerbs.
- They should be attractive, with greenery and way-marking/ sign posts.
- Cycle and walking routes need to link rural settlements to the city centre so that rural residents can access facilities and urban residents can safely cycle out of town to the countryside for recreation and fitness.
- 'Park and Bike' schemes could be considered.
- Paths already in use could be formally identified as cycleways and disused sites could be used for cycle training facilities.
- Any development along old railway lines (eg South Wonston to Kings Worthy) should enhance the development of a cycle/ walking route between these settlements (C586)
- Provide seating along walkways and pavements so that users can rest if needed
- More safety crossings required on roads such as Worthy Rd and Stockbridge Rd in Winchester

C12, C58, C42, C75, C277, M38, C100, C47, C101, C118, C127, C149, C164, C223, C274, C291, E1230, C189, C578, C517, E1121, C479, C301, C586, C587, C326, C601, C549, C316, C301, C501, H35, H39, H49, H53, H60, E335, E1242, E1236, E1238, E1121.

When planning development for vulnerable groups, thought should be given to pedestrian routes to nearest local facilities, eg not providing care homes on the opposite side of a busy road from the local shops (C277). Two respondents noted that walking and cycling, as a means of active travel, will not necessarily be achievable for some members of the community, particularly in hilly areas. (C291, E1230). E1242 noted that in some areas, play

areas are available but they are not accessible by walking/ cycling (eg Norton and Hunton have a potentially dangerous walk to their nearest space).

Shared Transport/ Other initiatives:

13 respondents suggested a role for shared/ community transport initiatives, such as a Dial-a-Ride facility/ community minibus, or a scheme where neighbours are rewarded for combining/ sharing private journeys.

C21, C291, C327, C568, C569, C513, C567, C397, C372, C399, C407, E1230, E1242

Public transport:

28 respondents highlighted that public transport plays an important role in enabling residents to get out and about and socialize, and is therefore important for reducing social isolation and boosting mental health of the population. It also facilitates access to health services, such as GP surgeries, pharmacies and hospitals. This is particularly important for those without access to private transport or unable to drive (eg children, teenagers, the elderly or those on lower incomes) who may also be more likely to need access to health facilities. Also, those living in rural areas may not have access to public transport to enable an evening out to participate in the cultural activities available in Winchester.

C75, C42, C223, C282, C274, C291, C408, C568, C327, C513, C567, C372, C569, C421, C399, C407, C293, C356, C361, C75, C457, C596, H17, C6, E1219, E1242, E1221, E1230.

Public transport routes need improving (H111) to better link suburbs (eg Olivers Battery to Winnall without travelling via the Station and having to change buses – *C407)* and ensuring suburbs have direct access to facilities such as GP surgeries *(C568, C399, C407, C372, C567, C569, E1230).*

Eight respondents highlighted that although promotion of sustainable transport is supported, there is a need to recognise the private car is still an important lifeline for some, such as the elderly and the less mobile who might not feel confident relying on public transport, or those in rural areas without frequent public transport services. These groups need parking in central locations still.

C245, C259, C407, C538, C187, C407, H75.

Make town centres less friendly to vehicles, to make them attractive pedestrian environments: *C545, E1245*

Air Quality:

Six respondents commented on the link between transport emissions and poor air quality and the health implications of this. (C365, C343, C75, E486, E1162, E1246). The Local Plan should contain a policy on Air Quality (rather than relying on the Proposed Air Quality SPD (C365, C343). E486 specifically highlighted concerns about the impact of poor air quality on children's health, (as children's developing lungs are more susceptible to air pollution).

Miscellaneous Transport related comments:

Public transport needs to support communities rather than running for profit of private companies (C568, C397, C567, C372, C513, C569, C399, C407).

Financial and policy support for technological advancements should be considered (eg driverless cars, drones, self piloted autonomous air taxis and robot workers (C313).

Next Steps: Movement and Transport:

These considerations are addressed in the 'Sustainable Transport' section of the SIP Analysis.

Location of New Development: Implications of 'Living Well' for the Local Plan Development Strategy

A number of respondents commented on the options (set out in Homes for All) for location of new housing development in the district, on the basis that particular approaches have pros of cons for the health and well-being of existing (and future) residents. These are summarised below.

17 respondents (including Highways England, HCC Adult Services, and Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust) expressed support for the concept of the 15 minute city as it enables residents to access their daily needs via active travel, which is good for their own health, reduces air pollution from private vehicles and enhances social interaction (*C75; C47; C90, C127, C239, C445, C304, E1212, E1238, C122, C316, C222, E1245, E1092, E1220, E1218, E1099*).

9 respondents expressed reservations about the appropriateness of the '15 minute city; concept for Winchester. C241 felt it could lead to urban sprawl. E1149 felt the '20 minute neighbourhood concept' emerging from Melbourne would be more appropriate than '15 minute city' concept which emerged in Paris. Others felt practice in the Transition Towns would be a more appropriate learning tool (*C568, C569, C291, C567, C407, C399, E1230*).

8 respondents object to any 'urban sprawl' or changes to existing settlement boundaries, on the basis that such an approach has negative health and well-being implications for current residents (*C241, C199, C253, C409, C382, C233, C201, C299*).

25 respondents feel that boosting numbers of inner city dwellings (with higher density dwellings in this location) will assist with health and well-being in future – providing homes near to facilities, which ensure residents are not socially isolated and can walk to meet their daily needs. (*C280, C291, C325, C363, C327, C352, C439, C360, C372, C409, C382, C361, C569, C397, C399, C407, C568, C421, C567, C497, C304, C394, E282, C75, E1230*).

19 respondents expressed their support for a 'brownfield first' approach to development (as opposed to development on green-fields. This approach would regenerate town centres, and preserve green spaces which are important for recreation and our mental and physical health. (*C45, C87, C155, C156, C223, C280, C498, C361, C392, C122, E195, E202, E217, E293, E233, E282, E295, H111, H108*).

26 respondents noted that strong communities already exist within our district, and there is not necessarily a need to build new places or settlements to achieve strong communities. Protect and enhance existing settlements and provide support to help them to flourish. (*C88, E1221, L29, C334, C569, C291, C372, C397, C399, C407, C568, C421, C567, E1230, C144, C361, C513, C421, C291, E1230, C382, C90*).

Two respondents (*E1234* and *E1224*) highlighted that rural settlements play an important role in health and wellbeing, not just for their own residents, but for the wider population of the district also. Tranquil settlements with scenic beauty, clean air and countryside walks are vital to mental health. Whilst these locations might not be able to copy with significant amounts of new development, this wider role that that play in the health of the district should be recognized.

E224 noted that rural communities need development in order for their residents to thrive and to ensure the benefits of rural living (including health and wellbeing benefits of access to clean air, open space etc) is accessible to all, not just the wealthy.

<u>Next Steps: Development Strategy and 'Living Well'</u>

Feedback on this section appears broadly consistent with feedback on the 'Homes for All' development strategy. Refer to the separate analysis of representations on that section of the Strategic Issues and Priorities document, for recommendations of the way forward in regard to the Development Strategy.

Miscellaneous/ General Comments on 'Living Well'

Five respondents expressed general support for the aims of 'Living Well' and seeking to address health and well-being issues in the Local Plan. (C181; C515; C394; C488; E1217).

C353 suggested looking at Look at the Petersfield neighbourhood plan as a good model of how to integrate transport and green space and built environment planning, and to look at economic, social and environmental aspects in a holistic way.

Two respondents suggested that new site allocations could play a role in delivering places which meet the aims of Living Well (C522; C559). The following promoters of SHELAA sites responded to demonstrate how their proposals deliver on 'Living Well':

- C482 and E1092 suggested that SHELAA site LH05 (St John Moore Barracks) is a good example of how the aims of Living Well can be achieved in new developments.
- E739 suggested SHELAA site at (Micheldever Station), by providing a new settlement, would allow design of walking and cycling routes and 15 minute city concepts and deliver open space for health and well being
- E1082 suggested SHELAA Site WO10 can deliver 15 minute city principles and deliver new open space and walking infrastructure
- E1114- SHELAA site HW03 can deliver creation of a new country park
- C515 – SHELAA Site HU01 supports Living Well principles
- E1128 – SHELAA Site at Fairthorne Grange Farm and Brindle Farm – guiding principles for the development include creation of a variety of public open spaces, over 9ha of on-site play space and play areas, and new community facilities.

- E1149 – SHELAA site at Pitt Vale – proposal includes community facilities, network of open space and play areas, linking to waling and cycling routes, open space. Demonstrates 15 minute neighbourhood principles.
- E1179 (Church Commissioners for England - Bushfield Camp and Land west of Littleton) These sites can continue to creating healthy communities
- C323 – SHELAA Site, Land at Paddock View, Littleton – Thakeham is one of only 12 organisations selected to become a member of the Healthy New Towns Network, and is committed to advocating the Healthy New Towns principles, prioritizing health and wellbeing in their developments.

Some respondent suggested that the aims of Living Well are not a 'building' issue (C448; C404) and instead are about the people in existing communities (C306; C600) and so the Local Plan can have limited impact on areas already built out. C23's response builds on this, suggesting that Living Well is an issue wider than the Local Plan, and relies upon funding for public services in order to meet need. C353 highlighted the need for the Council to actively leverage community funding and support for flagship projects, and to work in partnership with organisation which link people and landscapes (such as the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust). H61 responded that issues of 'Living Well' (and other topics in the SIP) need to fit under the overall Climate Change issue, which is one the nation must address.

C150 highlighted the need for the Council to better understand what young people in the district require.

C533 (Sovereign) suggests the Council work with developers and other Registered Providers to standardise approaches to 'Living Well' in developments. Homes, on their own, cannot achieve all of the aims of Living Well - there may need to be other policies and procedures to encourage community integration, and funding secured in s106 agreements to assist with this.

H33 highlighted impacts to mental and physical health as a result of industrial land uses operating in close proximity to residential dwellings, noting that calm and safe homes with gardens help people to wind down from the stresses of their day.

Next Steps:

Some local authorities are starting to include a strategic health and well-being policy in their Local Plans. An example from Tower Hamlets is as follows:

> *Tower Hamlets Policy S.SG1:*
>
> *7. Development will be required to support the delivery of significant new infrastructure to support growth … including: improvements to the transport network (including Crossrail 2); green grid projects (including the Lea River Park and Whitechapel Green Spine); and social infrastructure, such as schools, open space, health centres and leisure facilities.*
>
> *Tower Hamlets Policy S.SG2: Delivering sustainable growth in Tower Hamlets*
>
> *Development will be supported and is considered to contribute towards delivering the Local Plan vision and objectives and to be sustainable where it shares the benefits of growth, through:*

i. *contributing to creating healthy environments - encouraging physical activity, promoting good mental and physical wellbeing and reducing environmental factors which can contribute to poor health, including poor air quality;*
ii. *creating mixed and balanced communities;*
iii. *delivering tenure-blind developments;*
iv. *increasing opportunities for social interaction;*
v. *providing local training or employment opportunities in either, or both, the construction and end use; and*
vi. *delivering social and transport infrastructure and public realm improvements which are inclusive and accessible to all.*

Explanation:2.19 Improving health and wellbeing in the borough is a key priority in our Community Plan, reflecting the borough's significantly high levels of poor health outcomes. This policy seeks to address high levels of poor health in the borough, which environmental improvements can help to reduce.