**Blank Template**

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| **Nottinghamshire Rapid Health Impact Assessment Matrix** |
| Planning Application Reference  |  |
| Name of assessor and organisation |  |
| Date of assessment |  |

| **Assessment criteria** | **Relevant?**  | **Details/evidence** | **Potential health impact?** |  **Recommended amendments or enhancement actions to the proposal under consideration**  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. **Housing quality and design**

Having proper and sufficient housing is essential for health and wellness, notably for children and the elderly. Environmental conditions, excessive numbers of people living in one space, cleanliness within structures, as well as improperly designed urban locations, are known contributors to sickness, acknowledged since the inception of urban design. Additionally, the way a building is managed after it's built affects the welfare, unity, and psychological health of the community. |
| 1. Does the proposal seek to address the housing needs of the wider community by requiring provision of variation of house type that will meet multigenerational needs *i.e.* older or disabled people? [For example, does it meet all Lifetime Homes Standards, Building for Life etc?] | [ ]  Yes[ ]  Partial[ ]  No |  | [ ]  Positive[ ]  Negative[ ]  Neutral[ ]  Uncertain |  |
| 2. Does the proposal promote development that will reduce energy requirements and living costs and ensure that homes are warm and dry in winter and cool in summer | [ ]  Yes[ ]  Partial[ ]  No |  | [ ]  Positive[ ]  Negative[ ]  Neutral[ ]  Uncertain |  |
| 1. **Access to healthcare services and other social infrastructure**

Social infrastructure encompasses schools, healthcare facilities, social services, emergency responders, and community amenities like cultural centers and libraries. These are essential for creating strong, sustainable, and united communities with quality public services. Lifetime Neighbourhoods emphasize easy access to these facilities. The usage of local services depends on their proximity, transportation options, service quality, and building accessibility. Having access to high-quality education, healthcare, and community services significantly benefits physical health, while community involvement in service planning enhances mental wellbeing and promotes social unity. |
| 3. Does the proposal seek to retain, replace or provide health and social care related infrastructure? | [ ]  Yes[ ]  Partial[ ]  No |  | [ ]  Positive[ ]  Negative[ ]  Neutral[ ]  Uncertain |  |
| 4. Does the proposal address the proposed growth/ assess the impact on healthcare services? | [ ]  Yes[ ]  Partial[ ]  No |  | [ ]  Positive[ ]  Negative[ ]  Neutral[ ]  Uncertain |  |
| 5. Does the proposal explore/allow for opportunities for shared community use and co-location of services?  | [ ]  Yes[ ]  Partial[ ]  No |  | [ ]  Positive[ ]  Negative[ ]  Neutral[ ]  Uncertain |  |
| 1. **Access to open space and nature**

Ensuring secure and appealing open/green spaces can promote increased physical activity, which in turn may lower the occurrence of heart disease, stroke, and other health issues tied to sedentary work and high stress living. Evidence is accumulating that having parks, open spaces, and natural areas nearby can aid in preserving or enhancing mental well-being. The exercise habits formed during childhood often influence adult behavior; currently, more children are lacking daily exercise, with rising instances of overweight and obese diagnoses. Providing play areas and facilities for community use or sports, such as sports fields, can stimulate regular physical activity. There's a notable link between how much an open space is valued and how often it's used for exercise, socializing, or unwinding. |
| 6. Does the proposal seek to retain and enhance existing and provide new open and natural spaces to support healthy living and physical activity? | [ ]  Yes[ ]  Partial[ ]  No |  | [ ]  Positive[ ]  Negative[ ]  Neutral[ ]  Uncertain |  |
| 7. Does the proposal promote links between open and natural spaces and areas of residence, employment and commerce? | [ ]  Yes[ ]  Partial[ ]  No[ ]   |  | [ ]  Positive[ ]  Negative[ ]  Neutral[ ]  Uncertain |  |
| 8. Does the proposal seek to ensure that open and natural spaces are welcoming, safe and accessible to all? | [ ]  Yes[ ]  Partial[ ]  No |  | [ ]  Positive[ ]  Negative[ ]  Neutral[ ]  Uncertain |  |
| 9. Does the proposal seek to provide a range of play spaces for children and young people (e.g. play pitches, play areas etc.) including provision for those that are disabled? | [ ]  Yes[ ]  Partial[ ]  No |  | [ ]  Positive[ ]  Negative[ ]  Neutral[ ]  Uncertain |  |
| 1. **Air quality, noise and neighbourhood amenity**

The state of the surrounding environment plays a critical role in influencing both physical and mental well-being. The pollutants generated from building projects, vehicular movement, and business operations can lead to compromised air quality, disruptive noise, and structural vibrations. There's a known correlation between suboptimal air conditions and chronic respiratory illnesses (like chronic bronchitis or emphysema), cardiac issues, as well as increased asthma rates in children. Additionally, noise pollution can adversely affect health by causing sleep disruptions, cardiovascular stress, and psychophysiological problems. Through thoughtful urban design and proper zoning, the negative effects of noise can be mitigated |
| 10. Does the proposal seek to minimise construction impacts such as dust, noise, vibration and odours? | [ ]  Yes[ ]  Partial[ ]  No |  | [ ]  Positive[ ]  Negative[ ]  Neutral[ ]  Uncertain |  |
| 11. Does the proposal seek to minimise air pollution caused by traffic and employment/ commercial facilities? | [ ]  Yes[ ]  Partial[ ]  No |  | [ ]  Positive[ ]  Negative[ ]  Neutral[ ]  Uncertain |  |
| 12. Does the proposal seek to minimise noise pollution caused by traffic and employment/ commercial facilities? | [ ]  Yes[ ]  Partial[ ]  No |  | [ ]  Positive[ ]  Negative[ ]  Neutral[ ]  Uncertain |  |
| 1. **Accessibility and active transport**

Easy access to various services and amenities reduces the necessity for travel and enhances the chances for community engagement. Structures and areas designed for accessibility and security promote inclusion, allowing individuals such as the elderly and those with disabilities to make use of them. Limiting reliance on automobiles and promoting forms of active transportation like walking and biking can boost physical exercise, aiding in the prevention of chronic illnesses, decreasing early mortality risks, and bettering mental wellbeing. |
| 13. Does the proposal prioritise and encourage walking (such as through shared spaces) connecting to local walking networks? | [ ]  Yes[ ]  Partial[ ]  No |  | [ ]  Positive[ ]  Negative[ ]  Neutral[ ]  Uncertain |  |
| 14. Does the proposal prioritise and encourage cycling (for example by providing secure cycle parking, showers and cycle lanes) connecting to local and strategic cycle networks? | [ ]  Yes[ ]  Partial[ ]  No |  | [ ]  Positive[ ]  Negative[ ]  Neutral[ ]  Uncertain |  |
| 15. Does the proposal support traffic management and calming measures to help reduce and minimise road injuries?  | [ ]  Yes[ ]  Partial[ ]  No |  | [ ]  Positive[ ]  Negative[ ]  Neutral[ ]  Uncertain |  |
| 16. Does the proposal promote accessible buildings and places to enable access to people with mobility problems or a disability?  | [ ]  Yes[ ]  Partial[ ]  No |  | [ ]  Positive[ ]  Negative[ ]  Neutral[ ]  Uncertain |  |
| 1. **Crime reduction and community safety**

Careful urban planning and design that encourages visibility and community engagement can lower crime rates and the fear associated with crime, positively affecting residents' mental health. Beyond the direct physical and psychological effects of experiencing crime, individuals may also face lasting health issues, such as disability, repeated victimization, and social withdrawal due to fear. Involving the community in development plans can help alleviate these fears and concerns. |
| 17. Does the proposal create environments & buildings that make people feel safe, secure and free from crime? | [ ]  Yes[ ]  Partial[ ]  No |  | [ ]  Positive[ ]  Negative[ ]  Neutral[ ]  Uncertain |  |
| 1. **Access to healthy food**

Consuming healthy, nutritious food contributes to a better diet and reduces the risk of obesity-related chronic illnesses. Low-income individuals, including young families and the elderly, often struggle to find nutritious options and are more exposed to foods high in salt, oil, dense fats, and sugar. Increasing the availability of locally sourced, healthy foods and reducing the prevalence of fast-food outlets can positively influence dietary habits and enhance overall physical and mental well-being. |
| 18. Does the proposal support the retention and creation of food growing areas, allotments and community gardens in order to support a healthy diet and physical activity?  | [ ]  Yes[ ]  Partial[ ]  No |  | [ ]  Positive[ ]  Negative[ ]  Neutral[ ]  Uncertain |  |
| 19. Does the proposal seek to restrict the development of hot food takeaways in specific areas? | [ ]  Yes[ ]  Partial[ ]  No |  | [ ]  Positive[ ]  Negative[ ]  Neutral[ ]  Uncertain |  |
| 1. **Access to work and training**

Employment and income is a key determinant of health and wellbeing. Unemployment generally leads to poverty, illness and a reduction in personal and social esteem. Work can aid recovery from physical and mental illnesses. |
| 20. Does the proposal seek to provide new employment opportunities and encourage local employment and training? | [ ]  Yes[ ]  Partial[ ]  No |  | [ ]  Positive[ ]  Negative[ ]  Neutral[ ]  Uncertain |  |
| 1. **Social cohesion and lifetime neighbourhoods**

Having friends and a supportive community can lessen depression, reduce chronic disease, and quicken healing while also enhancing overall well-being. However, the breakdown of social bonds can create isolated communities divided by wealth, age, or ethnicity, leading to insecurity and reduced community unity. Supported voluntary and community organizations can combat this isolation by fostering connections for those estranged and engaging in interactions that benefit mental health. Lifetime Neighbourhoods extend the design principles of Lifetime Homes to promote spaces accessible and enjoyable for everyone, irrespective of age or ability. |
| 21. Does the proposal connect with existing communities where the layout and movement avoid physical barriers and severance and encourages social interaction? [For example, does it address the components of Lifetime Neighbourhoods?] | [ ]  Yes[ ]  Partial[ ]  No |  | [ ]  Positive[ ]  Negative[ ]  Neutral[ ]  Uncertain |  |
| 1. **Minimising the use of resources**

Reducing or minimising waste including disposal, processes for construction as well as encouraging recycling at all levels can improve human health directly and indirectly by minimising environment impact, such as air pollution. |
| 22. Does the proposal seek to incorporate sustainable design and construction techniques? | [ ]  Yes[ ]  Partial[ ]  No |  | [ ]  Positive[ ]  Negative[ ]  Neutral[ ]  Uncertain |  |
| 1. **Climate change**

The planning system is at the forefront of both trying to reduce carbon emissions and to adapt urban environments to cope with higher temperatures, more uncertain rainfall, and more extreme weather events and their impacts such as flooding. Poorly designed homes can lead to fuel poverty in winter and overheating in summer, contributing to excess winter and summer deaths. Developments that take advantage of sunlight, tree planting and accessible green/brown roofs have the potential to contribute towards the mental wellbeing of residents, as well as their physical wellbeing. |
| 23. Does the proposal incorporate renewable energy and ensure that buildings and public spaces are designed to respond to winter and summer temperatures, i.e. ventilation, shading and landscaping? | [ ]  Yes[ ]  Partial[ ]  No | *Net zero Framework development* | [ ]  Positive[ ]  Negative[ ]  Neutral[ ]  Uncertain |  |
| 24. Does the proposal maintain or enhance biodiversity and net gain | [ ]  Yes[ ]  Partial[ ]  No |  | [ ]  Positive[ ]  Negative[ ]  Neutral[ ]  Uncertain |  |
| 1. **Health inequalities- Building Blocks to help Communities Thrive**

The place our Nottinghamshire communities call home has a significant impact on their health and life expectancy. Yet disparities among neighbourhoods limit the chance to lead healthy lives, ranging from the quality of air they breathe to the goods available to buy locally………… |
| 25. Does the proposal consider health inequalities and encourage engagement by underserved communities? Protected Characteristics - SMD | [ ]  Yes[ ]  Partial[ ]  No | Building Blocks – Communities AssetsLocal Health Profile | [ ]  Positive[ ]  Negative[ ]  Neutral[ ]  Uncertain |  |
| **Any other comments** |
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