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Black Country Integrated Care System



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## **Publication Dudley Local Plan (Regulation 19) Consultation**

### **ATTACHMENT**

#### **Chapter 7: Health & Wellbeing**

##### ***Policy DLP8 Health and Wellbeing***

Planning Policies have a very important role to play in addressing these issues. The NPPF contains measures aimed at reducing health inequalities, improving access to healthy food and reducing obesity, encouraging physical activity, improving mental health and wellbeing, securing proposals that meet the needs of all sections of the community and improving air quality to reduce the incidence of respiratory diseases.

The design of the built environment can have a significant impact on both physical and mental wellbeing. Well-designed built environment can help to reduce health inequalities in Dudley; while poor environmental quality, housing conditions or pollution can exacerbate them.

Obesity is a major risk factor for several diseases such as Type 2 diabetes, cancer and heart disease. It can also affect people's mental health. The design of the built environment should encourage physical activity and healthier lifestyles which can help reduce obesity in both adults and children. New homes should be adaptable to the changing needs of their occupants and be designed with all community groups in mind, including, disabled and older people.

The ICB supports the use of Health Impact Assessments (HIAs) as a tool to ensure that impacts on health and wellbeing of the population are considered, and these should be properly encouraged at the planning and design stage. Early dialogue with the local planning authority (such as through pre-application advice) is therefore expected to help establish the extent and content of HIA. HIAs should be assessed by Dudley Council in consultation with the relevant Public Health Bodies and should be a material consideration in the planning application process.

***The ICB therefore supports the aims and objectives of Policy DLP 8 parts 1 - 4***