


Health and Urban Planning Toolkit Summary



Partnership working is becoming ever more important in the area of health and local government. Many PCTs and Boroughs already have joint appointments and partnership working under section 31. All PCTs and Boroughs contribute to the Local Strategic Partnership. The drive to partnership working will become even stronger as the statutory duty under the Local Government White Paper comes into force. Performance management of both PCTs and Boroughs will increasingly look for evidence of partnership working to improve health and reduce inequalities.

The links between the environment and health are well known but the level of partnership or collaborative working between planning and health is still underdeveloped in some places.

To improve joint working between PCTs and Local Planning Authorities, the NHS London Healthy Urban Development Unit (HUDU) has developed the Health and Urban Planning Toolkit. It sets out a systematic approach to building the relationship between PCTs and Local Planning Authorities. It acts as a handbook on how the Local Development Framework and planning application processes should address health.

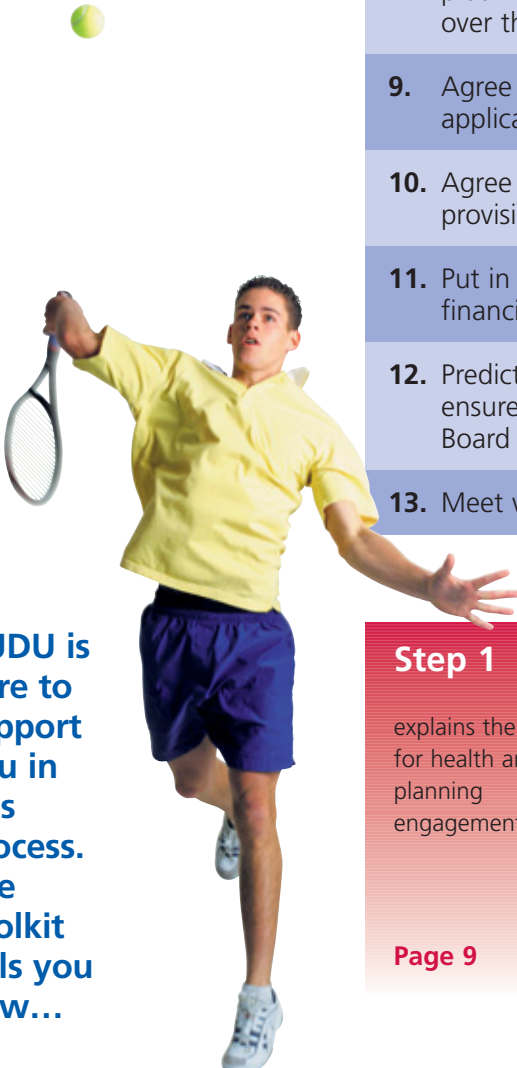
The steps that we recommend based on good practice and on action research are set out in the Toolkit – we set out the KEY steps here...

...can you say you are up to scratch?

Planning for health

Key steps for PCTs

1. Make contact with your Borough Planning department at the highest level
2. Identify staff whose job it will be to talk to the Borough planners
3. Audit current arrangements jointly and agree a simple protocol for managing communications on planning and health
4. Make sure that you are a consultee in the process for producing the Local Development Framework and get to know the timetable
5. Make sure your public health report assesses the impacts of the wider determinants of health and plots the patterns of ill health and inequalities
6. Make sure your LDP and estates Plan or SSDP contains an assessment of current health services and buildings and plots their location and catchments
7. Understand the future pattern of growth in the Borough and the likely population changes
8. Work with the Borough to agree key policies to promote health and to plot how the supply of health services matches the projected demand over the next 15 years
9. Agree arrangements and responsibilities for monitoring planning applications that have implications for health
10. Agree with the Borough how s106 agreements will contribute to the provision of new health facilities
11. Put in place sound financial procedures for making use of s106 financial contributions
12. Predict what amount to expect each year from s 106 contributions and ensure that it's reflected in the financial plan and reported on regularly at Board level.
13. Meet with the Borough now and again to check how things are going



HUDD is here to support you in this process. The Toolkit tells you how...

Step 1

explains the case for health and planning engagement

Page 9

Step 2

sets out how PCTs and Local Planning Authorities must be aligned to work together

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Step 3

describes how to initiate the engagement process

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Step 4

provides a checklist to assess PCT and Local Planning Authority alignment

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Key Steps for Borough Planners

1. Make contact with your PCT at the highest level
2. Identify staff whose job it will be to talk to the health sector
3. Audit current arrangements jointly and agree a simple protocol for managing communications on planning and health
4. Make sure that the PCT (as well as the SHA) is a consultee in the process for producing the Local Development Framework and make sure they know the timetable
5. Make sure your Core Strategy assesses the impacts of the wider determinants of health and plots the patterns of ill health and inequalities
6. Insist on an up to date assessment of current health services and buildings and plots their location and catchments
7. Explain the future pattern of growth in the Borough and the likely population changes to the PCT
8. Work with the PCT to agree key policies to promote health and prepare a spatial plan to show how the supply of health services matches the projected demand over the next 15 years
9. Agree arrangements and responsibilities for monitoring planning applications that have implications for health
10. Agree with the PCT how s106 agreements will contribute to the provision of new health facilities and insert them into relevant LDDs
11. Put in place sound financial procedures for making use of s106 financial contributions
12. Meet with the PCT now and again to check how things are going

The full Toolkit is available at www.healthyurbandevelopment.nhs.uk.

Step 5

helps you to define local health and planning issues

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Step 6

describes how to draft a simple engagement agreement

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Step 7

explains how to align health strategies and the Local Development Framework

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Step 8

provides detail on how to integrate health in the planning application process

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Step 9

suggests how to build staff capacity to engage with planning or health colleagues

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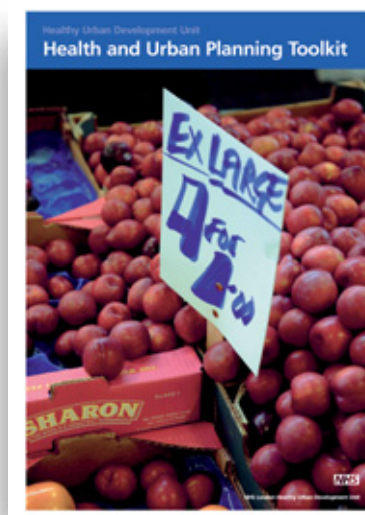
HUDU Expertise

HUDU is a specialist unit with a remit across London to promote better engagement at all levels between the health sector and the planning sector. It aims to improve health, reduce inequalities and secure the timely provision of modern health services in new communities in London. It is staffed by town planners and from its inception to March 2007 is funded by the NHS, the Regional Public Health Group for London and the London Development Agency. From April 2007 onwards the unit will be funded by London PCTs and the London Development Agency.

HUDU Advice and Support

The team is always ready to provide advice and support to PCTs and Local Planning Authorities. This could take the form of presentations to key decision makers or involve direct support to PCTs. This might include addressing the policy framework in the Local Development Framework or a major development proposal.

HUDU provides PCTs with alerts when new planning documents, policies or major developments are proposed in their area. The tools HUDU has developed including Watch out for Health, the HUDU s106 Model, the Social Infrastructure Framework and the Health and Urban Planning Toolkit enable PCTs to formulate an effective and focused response and help Borough planners to scope health matters. In appropriate cases HUDU can offer advice on the application of the HUDU s106 model and assist with negotiations to secure new health facilities.



Find out more

Our website – www.healthyurbandevlopment.nhs.uk – provides further background on HUDU, contains downloadable versions of the HUDU tools including the Toolkit and the team's contact phone numbers and email addresses. Our generic email address is hudu@lda.gov.uk.

Contact details:

E: hudu@lda.gov.uk

W: www.healthyurbandevlopment.nhs.uk