The Health Impact Assessment Landscape
or ...
Healthy Impact Assessment
... a critical tool for health improvement

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Learning aims

- What kinds of HIA are there?
- Where do they all fit in the planning process?
- How does HIA fit with other assessment tools *eg* SA, SEA, EIA?

We will
- examine recent developments in HIA;
- consider resources in HIA (*eg* the HIA gateway website; Barton’s health map of the human habitat);
- consider some cexamples at strategic and at (maybe at) operational level.
Keep in mind ...

What is your role?
• Doing ... or ... reviewing

Where are you?
• Policy, plan, programme or project?

Perspective and purpose ...
HIA is one way of advocating for/advising on healthy public policy, protecting and improving health and wellbeing and reducing health inequalities. It is not the only way ... formal and informal networks, guidance, legislation, education etc
Health impact assessment ...

... is a combination of procedures, methods and tools
... that systematically judges the potential, and sometimes unintended, effects of a policy, programme or project
... on both the health of a population and the distribution of those effects within the population.
... HIA identifies appropriate actions to manage those effects.

International Association for Impact Assessment, 2006
Stages of (H)IA

Screening
- Establish relevance to health

Scoping
- Identify key issues*

Assessment
- Identify potential effects*

Reporting/Feedback
- Present results

Monitoring/Management
- Ongoing action

*opportunities for wider involvement
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International Association for Impact Assessment, 2006
Combination of ... methods ...

- Qualitative and quantitative
- Pragmatic: not primary research
- Rigorous, systematic
- Evidence based
- Prioritises community input
  - involvement consultation, participation, engagement ...
- Jargon **beware**
  - Comprehensive vs rapid appraisal (desktop)
  - Maxi vs mini
  - Prospective (IA); Concurrent (monitoring); Retrospective (auditing/evaluation)

- Health champions have to be flexible ...
  - WEBTAG ... transport planning ... widening of M1
  - Integrated Impact Assessment ... London, North West
  - with Equality Impact Assessment
  - Cost-benefit analysis
    - of HIA ... Dept of Health and York Health Economics Consortium
    - in HIA ... European research projects
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Policy, plan, programme, project ...

UK context

- **Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform**
  Any proposal that imposes or reduces costs on businesses, third sector or public sector requires an Impact Assessment.

- **Strategic Environmental Assessment** derives from Directive 2001/42/EC
  - Requires consideration of effects on "human health".

- **Sustainability Appraisal** Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004

- **Environmental Impact Assessment** derives from Directive 85/337/EEC
  - Requires consideration of effects on "population".

- Replaces Regulatory Impact Assessment
  All costs/benefits to be taken into account ...
  ... soc/env/econ ...
  incl health

- DH issued draft guidance – update - soon
  400 SEAs a year in England alone - minimal
cost/benefit analysis (how many since 2004?)

- When Kiev Protocol is ratified *Health Authorities* will be statutory consultees

- Wider remit than SEA ... very good case for
  health input (England & Wales)
  SEA/SA conducted together

- Many of the Regional Spatial Strategies in
  England have a policy for HIA – these will
  often be carried out at same time as EIA
Commission on the Social Determinants of Health

1. Improve daily living conditions
2. Tackle the inequitable distribution of power, money and resources.
3. Measure and understand the problem and assess the impact of action.

The report recommends ...
Health Equity Impact Assessment
*the WHO see this as equal to HIA*

International Finance Corporation

- HIA can be one of the conditions of lending
- 12 Environmental Health Areas including social determinants of health

From
www.ifc.org/ifcext/sustainability.nsf/Content/PublicComment_HealthImpactAssessment
Key elements of the English planning system

**National**

**Regional**

**Sub-Regional**

**Local Authority**

**Local Sites**

From Cave et al. (2004) available on www.mksm.nhs.uk
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International Association for Impact Assessment, 2006
What is health?

From Hugh Barton and Marcus Grant, University of the West of England
Causal pathways ...


What are the main public health messages?

- Climate change: sustainability
- Mental health
- Physical activity

- Public health brings an enhanced understanding of inequalities and of demographic profile with potential to focus on ...
  - *eg*
  - young people
  - BAME groups
  - older people and healthy ageing
  - etc ...
Health and planning ...

Three perspectives

• Health services

⇒ For a tool to calculate developer contributions for health services see www.healthyurbandevelopment.nhs.uk

• Health protection

⇒ Close, and existing, links with Environmental Protection services

• Health improvement

⇒ Many overlaps and parallels with the social determinants of health approach

A brisk walk in the park keeps Maxie II in shape between dog shows. His owner, Columbus resident Cathy Stamba, gets up early to give her 5-year-old Doberman his regular workout. They typically log 10 miles in Berlanger Park.
What is health?

From Hugh Barton and Marcus Grant, University of the West of England
Environment and Child Development

- ↓ CO₂ emissions
- ↑ Physical activity
- ↓ Injuries
- ↓ Infrastructure costs
- ↓ Air pollution
- ↓ Osteoporosis
- ↑ Social capital
- ↓ Depression

And by the way...
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Public health management ...

- recommendations for controlling and managing the health impacts in the construction, operational and, where appropriate, decommissioning phases in both the medium and long term, listing the roles and responsibilities of stakeholders.
Quality ...

- Commissioners (developers, planning authorities, PCTs) need to know the HIA report is up to scratch ...

- Based on review packages for environmental assessment available at www.bcahealth.co.uk
Further information ...

- www.hiagateway.org.uk
- www.publichealth.ie
- www.whiasu.wales.nhs.uk
- www.euro.who.int/healthimpact
- www.who.int/hia/en
- www.iaia.org
- www.healthimpactassessment.info
- www.healthimpactassessment.blogspot.com