

Health Impact Assessment

Oadby & Wigston Borough Local Plan 2024

*Part of the Leicestershire Health
Considerations in Planning Project*

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Introduction

Welcome to the Health Impact Assessment (HIA) on Oadby and Wigston Borough's Local Plans. This document explores health and wellbeing considerations within the Local Plan process in Oadby and Wigston Borough. It will provide evidence and commentary on local population health, explore ways to use health and wellbeing evidence as a key component within future plan making and decision-taking and explore opportunities to embed specific health and wellbeing policies (including Health Impact Assessment requirement policy) into the Oadby and Wigston Borough Local Plan to provide recommendations to ensure health and wellbeing are central in planning and placemaking.

The World Health Organisation Constitution (1946) definition of health is:

“...Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social wellbeing and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity...”

The enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every human being without distinction of race, religion, political belief, economic or social condition...”

What is a Health Impact Assessment?

A Health Impact Assessment can be defined as:

“A practical approach used to judge the potential health effects of a policy, programme or project on a population, particularly on vulnerable or disadvantaged groups. Recommendations are produced for decision-makers and stakeholders, with the aim of maximising the proposal's positive health effects and minimising its negative health effects.” (WHO, 2021).

HIAs are systematic and objective and consider how impacts of a policy, programme or project may be distributed across the population, impacting on potential and existing health inequality. The evidence-based recommendations can be used as a decision support tool to create healthy environments and truly put people at the heart of decision making.

HIAs can also identify opportunities for co-benefits for numerous stakeholders. Examples are recommendations influencing location and quality of housing, active travel infrastructure, reductions in air pollution and improved access to services. Outcomes can span wider than just impacts on health and reductions in health inequality. This tool is a method of capturing this.

The Public Health Department in Leicestershire County Council is developing a programme of work to ensure health and health equity considerations are embedded within all policies, recognising the potential impact of many projects, policies and contracts on the wider determinants of health. This process will include embedding HIA and health considerations within policy and programme development across the wider system. The development of the Local Plan for Oadby and Wigston gives an ideal opportunity to explore how this can be done and to consider its impact on the local community and their health and wellbeing.

The wider determinants of health

The wider determinants of health include a wide range of interacting social, economic and environmental factors that impact on health and wellbeing. These factors impact on the extent to which individuals can meet their needs, identify and achieve goals and deal with changes to their circumstances (OHID, 2021), all of which contribute towards health inequality.

Health Inequalities are defined by The Office for Health Improvement and Disparities as “avoidable differences in health outcomes between groups or populations – such as differences in how long we live, or the age at which we get preventable diseases or health conditions”.

The Marmot Review (2010) clearly defined the role of wider determinants of health by “emphasising the strong and persistent link between social inequalities and disparities in health outcomes” (OHID, 2021). Marmot (2010) recommends a clear requirement for action across all social determinants of health, involving central and local government departments, third and private sectors. The issue of health equity in England was revisited by Marmot in 2020, concluding that 10 years on, health outcomes were getting worse for people living in more deprived districts and regions in England, with health inequalities increasing, and population health declining. These inequalities were deemed unfair and avoidable.

Figure 1: Dahlgren and Whitehead (1991)

Dahlgren and Whitehead produced a clear, useful infographic illustrating the wider determinants of health and the effects on the health and wellbeing of our populations, with the individual at the centre of the layers of determinants. These areas inform considerations made within the HIA.

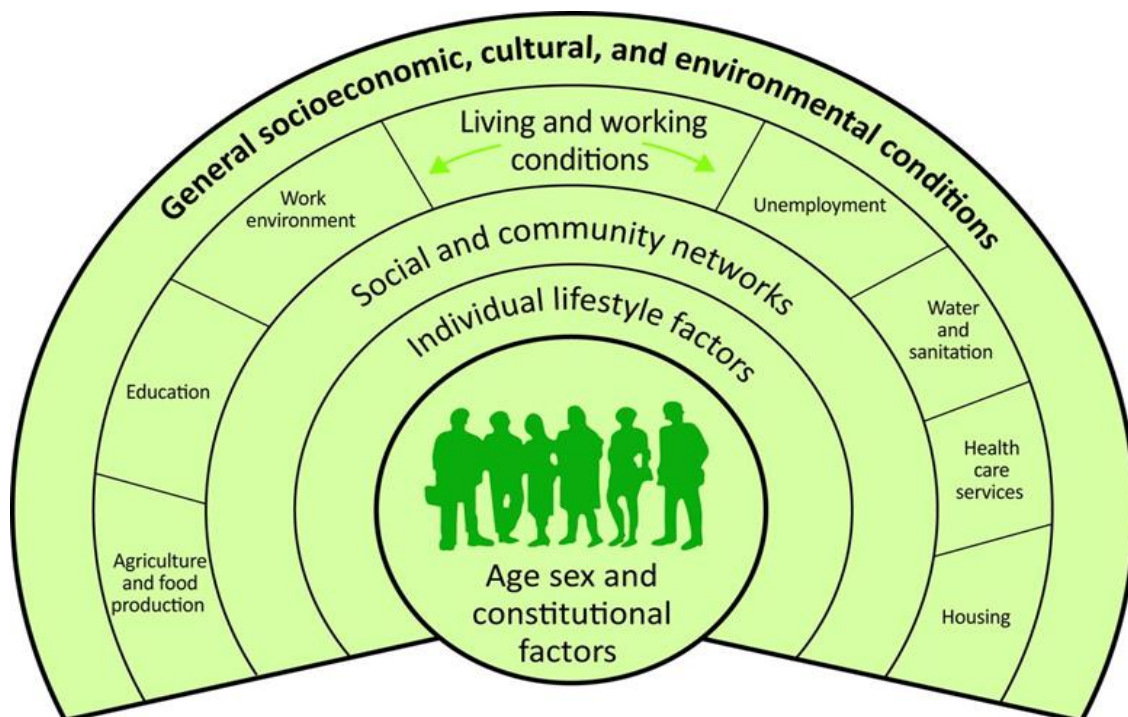
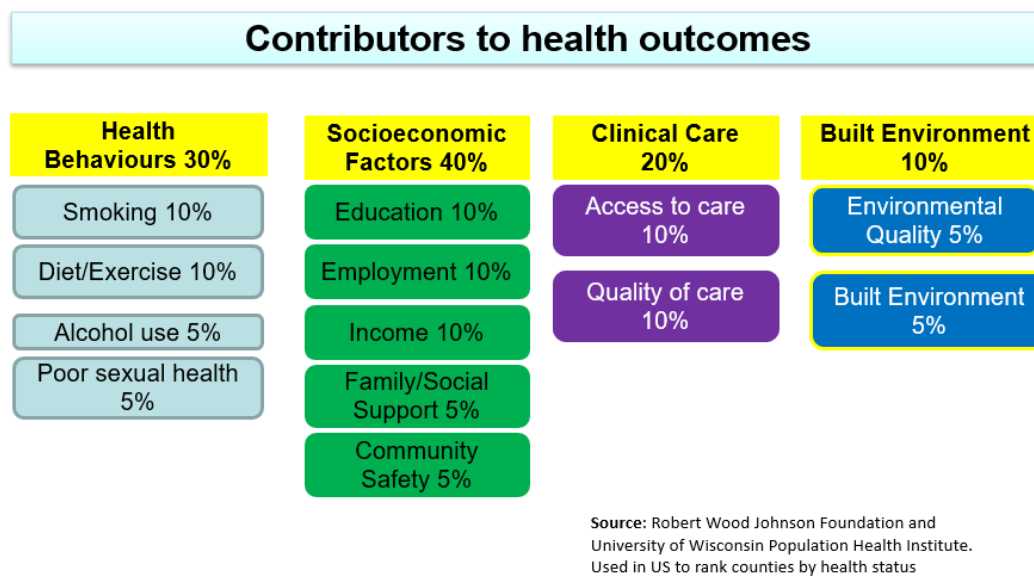


Figure 2: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (LGA, 2016)

The below figure summarises the outcomes of research by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, exploring the major contributors to health and wellbeing. This clearly shows the major impact of socioeconomic factors. These factors, combined with the built environment were estimated to impact on 50% of health outcomes, with behavioural or lifestyle factors contributing to 30%. Health Impact Assessment on the Local Plan has the potential to influence all these areas, alongside access to care through transport and infrastructure.



The Local Plan

The above exploration of the wider determinants of health demonstrates a strong case to consider these areas and their impacts on the local population when creating the Local Plan. The Local Plan has the potential to impact on most, if not all, of the contributors to health explored above by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the socio-economic, cultural and environmental conditions and access to social and community networks identified by Dahlgren and Whitehead in their diagram.

The National Planning Policy Framework (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), 2021), sets out the Government’s planning policies and a framework for their application. It identifies a requirement for planning policies and decisions to “enable and support healthy lifestyles, especially where this would address identified local health and wellbeing needs” and states that the level of detailed supporting information provided to local planning authorities should be relevant, necessary and material. The supporting National Planning Practice Guidance, ‘Healthy and Safe Communities’ (2019), suggests the use of HIA can be beneficial “where there are expected to be significant impacts”. The Local Plan, covering a 15-year minimum period, identifying how much development will be built (including the provision of schools, homes, places to shop, work and play) to meet the needs of both existing and future communities has the potential to make significant impact (although the quantity of housing that Oadby and Wigston will be expected to provide It is not yet known).

The Local Plan is a blueprint used to set the quantity and shape the form of growth within Oadby and Wigston Borough. It sets out the planning policies for Oadby and Wigston Borough Council and is in place to guide decisions on planning applications and development. A Health Impact Assessment on the proposed Local Plan would be informed and strengthened by feedback from several stakeholders obtained by Oadby and Wigston Borough Council within the development and adoption process.

The consultation at this stage is focusing on three key areas linked to the Local Plan:

- Options for the spatial strategy and location of future development, setting out the direction the Council expects to take.
- Reasonable site options, promoted to the Council for built development by landowners, developers and site promoters.
- Initial information about other strategic policies expected to be included in the Local Plan.

Key health challenges in Oadby and Wigston

In appendix one, public health intelligence and data is collated to provide an overview on current trends in health in Oadby and Wigston. This information highlights opportunities for improving health outcomes and reducing inequalities in the Borough.

Census data (2021) shows that Oadby and Wigston has a population 57,500, of which 59.8% is White British and 27.9% are Asian or Asian British (2021 census data). It covers an area of 9 square miles and includes the towns of Oadby, Wigston, South Wigston and the smaller village of Kilby Bridge. The 2021 census undertaken nationwide indicated that in Oadby and Wigston, the population size increased by 2.7%, from approximately 56,200 in 2011 to 57,700 in 2021. This is lower than the overall increase for England (6.6%), where the population grew by nearly 3.5 million to 56,489,800. The data also indicates an ageing population in Oadby and Wigston. There had been an increase of 13.0% in people aged 65 years and over compared to the 2011 census, a decrease of 1.7% in people aged 15 to 64 years and an increase of 9.3% in children aged under 15 years.

2018-based Subnational Population Projections from the Office of National Statistics predicts a population increase of 8.9% between 2018 and 2043, increasing from 57,056 residents 62,104.. This data set shows significant population change in the older age bands for Leicestershire between 2018 and 2043, with the largest increase in the 75-79 age band. The increase in the oldest age bands will pose significant challenges in terms of providing support for the oldest residents in the county.

Indicators significantly worse than the England Value – Local Authority Health Profile:

- Percentage of physically active adults (19+ years) in Oadby and Wigston 2022/2023 is 59.6%. This is significantly worse than the East Midlands value of 66.5% and England value of 67.1%
- The percentage of cancers diagnosed at stages 1 and 2 in Oadby and Wigston is 43.5%. This is significantly worse than the England value of 54.4% (2021).
- The estimated Dementia diagnosis rate (aged 65 and older) in Oadby and Wigston is 57.6. This is significantly worse than the East Midlands value of 65.2 and the England value of 63.0 (2023).

- The number of premises licensed to sell alcohol per square kilometre for Oadby and Wigston in 2021/2022 is 4.1. This is significantly worse than the England value of 1.3.

There are 22 indicators for Oadby and Wigston which are similar to the England average including:

- Under 75 mortality rate from all circulatory diseases is 80.0 per 100,000 in Oadby and Wigston vs the England value of 77.8 (2022).
- Hip fractures in people aged 65 and over is 619 per 100,000 in Oadby and Wigston vs the England value of 558 (2022/23).
- Overweight (including obesity) prevalence in adults (18+yrs) in Oadby and Wigston is 65.3% vs the England value of 64.0% (2022/23).
- Percentage of people in employment is 73.0% vs the England value of 75.7% (2022/23).

Although these indicators are currently similar, they are the close to falling into the ‘significantly worse’ category, therefore useful to consider as areas to focus efforts for improvement through Local Plans and policies.

Key health considerations for policy:

- Older people- due to health risks including dementia in particular, hip fractures and the overall ageing population.
- Those inactive, less active and experiencing barriers to becoming active.
- Adults classified as, or at risk of becoming overweight or obese and at risk of associated disease.
- Adults who work within the Borough on low income or with barriers to employment and ‘good work’.
- Those within life stages particularly vulnerable to impacts of air pollution i.e. pregnancy, children and young people, older people and those with long term health conditions within higher polluted areas.
- Groups experiencing inequality through deprivation and inequality of life expectancy throughout the population.
- Cancer prevention/cancer screening.
- Adults with or at risk of depression.

Local Plan Considerations:

A standalone health and wellbeing strategic policy could be supported by more detailed policies covering local priorities such as above, including:

- HIA requirement triggers or thresholds for HIA, to be conducted alongside planning applications and/or masterplans to consider the local picture as health inequalities are evident within the Borough.
- Considerations on air quality in the context of inequality groups most at risk of harm.
- Prioritisation of walking, cycling and active and sustainable modes of transport.

- Provision of access to green spaces, open spaces and natural environment for recreation, physical activity and sustainable growing spaces, to support physical activity, mental health and social wellbeing.
- Access to 'good' employment within the Borough.
- Access to services and facilities including health facilitating and considerations regarding food outlets and licensed premises.
- Good design to encourage community cohesion and social interaction.
- High quality, affordable, healthy homes that meet the identified needs of the local population, based on health-related data and population demographics.

Screening – is a HIA needed?

Leicestershire County Council Public Health team have been working with Oadby and Wigston Borough Council. This partnership seeks to explore public health considerations within this plan. Oadby and Wigston Borough Council must build approximately 5000 new homes between 2020 and 2041, which will likely attract over 12000 new residents to the area. Leicestershire County Council Public Health team working with the Oadby and Wigston team to ensure public health requirements are implemented into planning policy within the Local Plan.

A stakeholder meeting was organised which aimed to conduct the screening stage of the HIA, and the scoping stage, if required.

Attendees included:

- Oadby and Wigston Borough Council - Planning, Leisure & Regulatory, Environmental Health Departments.
- Leicestershire County Council Public Health Team.
- Leicestershire County Council Strategic Planning Team.

It was agreed by the group that a strategic HIA would be beneficial to guide and embed health considerations into the Local Plan and associated policies. The group agreed to initiate the HIA process by discussing the scoping stage of the HIA. This would include discussions on groups of people who are vulnerable to health risks associated with planning and development of new homes and ideas on how to mitigate this harm.

Scoping for Health Consideration

Purpose, focus, type of HIA

As above, the screening stage and stakeholder group recommended a HIA be conducted. This will allow the opportunity for the Oadby and Wigston Local Plan to create a healthy, sustainable and prosperous environment for the community, identifying potential impacts of development and making recommendations to mitigate or enhance these for the benefit of the health and wellbeing of the local community. This document also captures the initial scoping stage for the Local Plan HIA.

The steering group agreed it would be appropriate for a 'Rapid HIA' to be conducted:

A Rapid HIA can take days or weeks and usually includes the establishment of a small steering group and often uses the approach of a participatory stakeholder workshop – it typically involves a brief investigation of health impacts, including a short literature review of quantitative and qualitative evidence and the gathering of knowledge and further evidence from several local stakeholders.

(Wales Health Impact Assessment Support Unit).

It was agreed that the HIA would be undertaken and authored by the Wider Determinants of Health team at Leicestershire County Council, supported by the stakeholder group. The Strategic Lead will report to the stakeholder group on the progress of the HIA. This stakeholder group will be responsible for the approval of the final report. This HIA and its recommendations will be made publicly available as part of the formal final Local Plan consultation process.

Stakeholder meeting

As described above, a stakeholder meeting was held to discuss the need for a HIA and to initiate the scoping stage for health considerations.

Attendees included:

- Oadby and Wigston Borough Council- Planning, Leisure & Regulatory, Environmental Health Departments.
- Leicestershire County Council Public Health Team.
- Active Together.
- Leicestershire County Council Strategic Planning Team.
- Local Voluntary groups.

Themes and key considerations identified by stakeholders

Health and behaviour comments from stakeholders

- The difference between a community health and wellbeing plan and a Health Impact Assessment was discussed. It was explained that the 'community health and wellbeing plan' takes into consideration the collective arrangement of all current programmes and partnerships that are in operation throughout the Boroughs. However, the HIA observes and analyses the Local Plan and its trajectory for a certain period. A HIA has a greater focus on the wider determinants of health, such as the social determinants, lifestyle, surroundings, occupation, and environment.
- The current infrastructure of South Wigston must be taken into consideration, as previous mis-planning has had negative consequences, such as a lack of green space for local residents to use and the limited variation of retail outlets.

- We must consider issues within some communities with regards to employment. It was noted that a recent influx of higher-income earners into South Wigston has created some resentment amongst the existing population; this is also coinciding with rents increasing, despite South Wigston still being a typically low-income area.
- The group discussed a range of services and provisions offered in Wigston in relation to physical activity, ranging from targeted specialist programmes to universal offers. There was concern that the removal of green spaces would negatively impact these provisions, as many of them incorporate the use of the existing green spaces for activities such as walking, running, cycling and social prescribing.
- The group discussed the importance of design planning and continuity, as this has a further effect on the development of organically formed communities who partake in activities such as walking, running and cycling.
- Physical inactivity concerns raised by Active Together and Highways team
 - **High Levels of Physical Inactivity:** Oadby & Wigston exhibit significantly higher levels of physical inactivity compared to Leicestershire and national averages. Data from Fingertips and Sport England indicate that 27.9% of the population is inactive, which is higher than the regional and national averages.
 - **Barriers to Physical Activity:** Factors contributing to inactivity include limited access to appropriate spaces, places and facilities for exercise. This includes insufficient green spaces, poorly maintained facilities and lack of affordable options.
 - **Importance of Access:** Consistent access to affordable facilities, green and open spaces and opportunities for physical activity is crucial. This access can lead to improved health outcomes, social connectivity, educational attainment, reduced worklessness and decreased crime and antisocial behaviour.
 - **Promotion of Active Lifestyles:** There is a need to promote active transport (cycling and walking) to improve physical health and reduce chronic disease risk.
- Mental Wellbeing concerns raised by Active Together:
 - **Positive Impact of Local Facilities:** Access to local facilities such as schools and community centres can provide secure places for physical activity, especially for those who may not feel comfortable in traditional gyms.
 - **Risks of Isolation:** Poor access to local facilities and green spaces can contribute to feelings of isolation and poor mental health. Ensuring these are integrated into urban planning is crucial.
 - **Community Participation:** Promoting participation in community and economic life through accessible physical activity options can enhance emotional wellbeing, life satisfaction and a sense of purpose.

Community and Social Impacts comments from stakeholders

- The group discussed occurrences of antisocial behaviour in South Wigston. These have typically been closer to the high street and in other more densely populated areas much further away from the green spaces. It was also noted that a park on Blaby Road has been recognised for attracting various groups of youths to congregate and potentially engage in anti-social or illegal activities such as drug use. There are ongoing discussions with local teachers with regards to the planning and safety concerns of this park.
- There is an activity centre close to Blaby Road, named 'Step Out' which operates as a youth centre for children between the age of eight to sixteen. However, this may not be a suitable provision for individuals who are involved with anti-social behaviour.
- It was discussed that there have been several new developments in Oadby and many of them appear to have their own pockets of communities and shops that are isolated from the wider community and town centre. Therefore, it may be worthwhile exploring how to integrate new developments into existing infrastructure and amenities.
- The anticipated population growth in Oadby and Wigston was discussed and the importance of connecting the new and existing communities. It was determined to be particularly important to develop adequate social space, particularly since the proposal of the new developments are expected to be particularly sizeable.
- Community Infrastructure and Access issues raised by Active Together:
 - **Creating and Maintaining Infrastructure:** There is an emphasis on building and sustaining community infrastructure that encourages physical activity. This includes parks, playgrounds, and sports facilities.
 - **Enhancing Existing Facilities:** Existing parks and educational sites should be enhanced to accommodate new and existing residents. Ensuring these facilities are well-maintained and accessible is key to promoting community health.
 - **Safe and Easy Access:** Providing safe and easy access to facilities, including well-lit areas and connected pathways is essential. This includes developing active travel routes such as cycling and walking paths that link with public transport and school routes.
- Social and Community Influences raised by Active Together:
 - **Opportunities for Connection:** Encouraging community connection through informal and formal physical activities is important. Examples include buggy walks, gardening projects, school holiday clubs and walking groups.
 - **Community Cohesion and Identity:** Building a sense of ownership and pride in the area through community projects such as skatepark decoration, gardening and volunteer groups.
 - **Family-Oriented Recreational Facilities:** Developing recreational facilities that allow families to be active together can strengthen family relationships and community ties.

Environmental Considerations comments from stakeholders

- The Oadby and Wigston planning team are working on an Infrastructure Delivery Plan which will entail planning the delivery for developments, with a particular focus on mitigating the impacts of on-site and off-site infrastructure such as cycle paths and taking viability into consideration.
- The group discussed the importance of focusing on designing the built environment, particularly with intent of avoiding the development of enclosed pathways as this could lead to isolation for some communities and anti-social behaviour in others.
- It was suggested that natural surveillance in parks and on pathways may help bring the community together in terms of looking after their communal spaces.
- Living and Environmental Conditions issues raised by Active Together
 - **Securing Developer Contributions:** Securing Section 106 (S106) developer contributions can support the enhancement of community facilities, greenways and public open spaces. These contributions can be used to increase capacity and improve access to facilities.
 - **Integration of Green Spaces:** Mitigating the loss of green spaces by ensuring new developments include green areas and provide safe access to surrounding open spaces. This supports mental and physical wellbeing.
 - **Environmental Quality:** Addressing factors such as air quality, light pollution, noise and urban design to create healthy living environments.
- Climate Change Adaptation concerns raised by Highways:
 - **Extreme Weather Events:** Increasing frequency of extreme weather events such as storms and heatwaves, affecting transport network reliability and safety.
 - **Resilience:** Enhancing the resilience of the transport network to withstand and adapt to climate change impacts.

Economic Considerations comments from stakeholders

- The group noted the disparity in the performance of certain schools within the Borough. Many children are leaving school unskilled and underqualified. It was suggested by the group that some areas within the Borough may have a higher number of individuals with neurodiversity and other learning disabilities; This has further implication for parents and carers who have to balance employment alongside their caring responsibilities.
- The group was informed of the 'opening school facilities fund' that has been invested into two different schools in South Wigston. They have received funding to help foster and develop opportunities within the local community.
- The group discussed concerns over the projected increased variance of demography between Oadby and South Wigston. It was noted that the new developments in Oadby will

attract more middle and working-class professionals to move to the area which could result in further economic disparity between Oadby and South Wigston.

- Employment Demand and Economic Growth issues raised by Highways:
 - **Job Growth:** Employment is expected to increase, with a particular focus on the freight and logistics sectors due to excellent connectivity and infrastructure.
 - **Digital Economy:** Increased remote working and demand for high-speed internet highlight the need for digital infrastructure improvements.
- Public Transport and Accessibility issues raised by Highways:
 - **Public Transport Use:** Public transport usage is below pre-pandemic levels, with a need to improve access and connectivity, especially for those without private vehicles.
 - **Rail and Bus Services:** Enhancing rail and bus services to meet current and future demand, including better connections and support for passenger and freight services.
- Road-Based Travel and Freight issues raised by Highways:
 - **High Demand:** Significant road-based travel and freight movements, with future increases projected.
 - **Environmental Impact:** Road transport is a major contributor to carbon emissions, necessitating a shift towards sustainable transport solutions.
- Electric Vehicles and Alternative Fuels issues raised by Highways:
 - **Growing Demand:** Increasing adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) requires substantial investment in charging infrastructure.
 - **Alternative Fuels:** Development of alternative fuels for heavy goods vehicles to reduce environmental impact.
- Air Quality and Emissions issues raised by Highways:
 - **Transport Emissions:** Road transport is a key contributor to poor air quality and high carbon emissions, impacting community health.
 - **Emission Reduction:** Strategies are needed to reduce transport-related emissions through cleaner technologies and fuels.
- Economic Conditions concerns raised by Active together:
 - **Impact on Employment and Income:** Access to low-cost physical activity facilities can build confidence and self-esteem, supporting individuals in returning to the labour market.

- **Support for Economically Inactive:** Providing accessible physical activity options for economically inactive individuals and those on low incomes to improve their health and wellbeing.
- Access and Quality of Services- issued raised by Active together:
 - **Support for At-Risk Youth:** Implementing sport and physical activity interventions to reduce youth crime and antisocial behaviour, particularly for young people at risk of being drawn into the criminal justice system.
 - **Access to Essential Services:** Ensuring that new developments include access to essential services such as education, healthcare, public amenities and transport.

Assessment priorities

The above data regarding the Oadby and Wigston Borough, along with the stakeholder input obtained through the workshop indicates that the following should be prioritised when assessing the Local Plan and future developments within the area:

- **An ageing population:** Oadby and Wigston has increasing rates of over 65-year-olds and an increasing amount of dementia diagnoses. We need to consider suitable housing and outdoor spaces for people with mobility problems and design outdoor and indoor community spaces to help keep older people active and healthy.
- **Access to green/blue spaces and active travel:** Oadby and Wigston has significantly worse indicators for physical activity levels than the England average. Future developments need to be designed in a way that promotes healthy physical activity, active travel and is accessible to all.
- **Access to alcohol:** Oadby and Wigston has a higher number of alcohol licensed premises per square kilometre than the England average. An increase in these premises could increase the risk of alcohol related health problems, inequalities, and anti-social behaviour.
- **Community cohesion:** This data shows that the Oadby and Wigston has areas of very high levels of deprivation and areas of very low levels of deprivation. There are significant disparities in levels of education, wealth and life expectancy. New developments could introduce more working professionals to the area which could increase the existing economic disparity. There is also concern about crime and anti-social behaviour within existing green spaces. How do we address these issues and promote community cohesion between areas within the Borough and within different communities?

Appraisal of policies

The appraisal of the impacts of the Publication Draft Oadby and Wigston Local Plan assessed the following policies

- Policy 12: Housing Choices

- Policy 16: Hot Food Takeaways
- Policy 18: Active Design and Travel
- Policy 19: Improving Health and Wellbeing
- Policy 21: Community Facilities and Indoor Sports Facilities
- Policy 22: Open Space, Outdoor Sport and Recreational Facilities
- Policy 30: Green and Blue Infrastructure
- Policy 33: Green Wedges

The policies were assessed against the following six domains in the health impact assessment:

- **Direct influences on health and behaviour** - this domain considers factors such as diet, physical activity, mental wellbeing, use of alcohol, use of cigarettes and substance misuse, sexual activity and any risk-taking activity.
- **Community and Social Influences** - this domain considers factors such as family organisation and roles, citizen power and influence, social support and social networks, neighbourliness, sense of belonging, local pride, divisions in community, social isolation, peer pressure, community identity, cultural and spiritual ethos, racism, design for low crime and other social exclusion factors.
- **Living environmental conditions potentially affecting health** - this domain considers factors such as built environment, neighbourhood design, diverse retail offer / healthy food, housing (affordable; warm; ventilation; specific needs; diverse types) indoor environment, noise, air and water quality, flooding risk, attractiveness of area, street furniture, shade and rest, green space, blue space, outdoor physical activity, community safety, smell/odour, waste disposal, road hazards / safety, community severance, cycling and walking facilities and infrastructure, public transport, prioritising pedestrian and cyclists, traffic calming, walkability including connectivity, mixed land use, compact neighbourhoods, injury hazards and the quality and safety of play areas.
- **Economic conditions and links affecting health** - this domain considers factors such as unemployment, income, economic inactivity, type of employment and workplace condition
- **Access to and quality of services** - this domain considers factors such as medical services, other caring services, careers advice, shops and commercial services, food – access healthy food; limit fast food/space for allotments; growing projects, public amenities, transport including parking; public transport including stops, education and training and information technology.
- **Macro-economic, environmental and sustainability factors** - this domain considers factors such as Government policies, gross domestic product, economic development, biological diversity, climate.

The appraisal considered the nature of the impact, whether positive or negative, and accounted for the health profile of the local population. Assessing the likelihood of impact and whether the

likelihood is possible, probable or definite. The scale and distribution of the impact considered how different groups of people may be impacted in different ways, and whether this would deepen or alleviate inequalities. The appraisal also considered the timing of the impact, which could be either short, medium or long term as well as the severity of the impact could be minor, moderate or major. Finally, the HIA table considered how the Plan builds in mitigation of negative impacts and including opportunities for the enhancements of positive impacts.

Findings and Recommendations

Policy 12: Housing choices

The appraisal stage concluded that the overall impact upon all criteria relating to Housing was **positive**.

Objective of the Housing Choices Policy: The policy seeks to ensure that the Council provides a balanced, high quality and fit for purpose housing market that is available to all and delivers a choice of different types of new homes that meet the local community's needs.

Nature of the impact: The Plan recognises the importance for accommodation that is flexible for the whole life course and ensuring homes that are suitable for older people and people with conditions such as Dementia. This is particularly important given the demographics of the Borough and increase in the older population age group. Consideration of affordability is important due to the economic disparities within the Borough. Developing age-friendly neighbourhoods that integrate housing with mixed land use, green spaces, and walkable environments is essential for promoting independence and social cohesion among older adults. Overcrowding is considered in the context of impact to education attainment.

The following recommendations are made to improve Housing Choices Policy: Houses of Multiple Occupancy (HMO) can be associated with negative impacts to the health and wellbeing of residents, particularly impacting on mental health due to lack of own space, privacy and limited control of living situation. A study by Barratt et al. (2012) showed that living in HMOs led to large increases in stress, anxiety, and depression.

Opportunity for Public Health to be consulted on new HMOs and to be involved in any updates to policies on Amenity standards for HMOs such as 'advice and evidence will be sought from relevant key partners, including Public Health. The Policy adds that the Council will consider the impact upon the mix of dwellings locally and the impact on the local character and amenity spaces of adjoining properties in the area in which they are located. This is important to fostering community cohesion.

Policy 16: Hot Food Takeaways

The appraisal stage concluded that the overall impact upon all criteria relating to hot food takeaways was **positive**.

Objective: Seeks to minimise any over-concentration of hot food takeaways and manage their cumulative effect on the surrounding economy and environment.

Nature of impact: The policy aims to avoid adverse impacts from new hot food takeaway applications. Considerations on cumulative effect in relation to health and wellbeing are evident in the policy. The policy considers wider impacts that would also affect health and wellbeing such as anti-social behaviour, smells, litter and disturbance. Further considerations are being made to ensure avoiding a density of shuttered properties in the daytime and the cumulative impact of such proposed uses is being considered. Reducing the density of shuttered properties would benefit the vibrancy of the high street during the daytime offer if the high street was more operational in the evenings.

The following recommendations are made in relation to Hot Food Takeaways:

Inclusion of additional wording into the policy section 'In all cases, account will be taken of the impacts of the proposal on local residents and upon the amenity of the area, with particular regard to the proposed opening hours, the impact of noise, health and wellbeing, disturbance, design (including ventilation), smell and litter, traffic generation, parking problems and highway safety' could refer to proximity to other hot food takeaways/density of hot food takeaways in the area, proximity to schools, refusal for applications in areas of worsening health inequalities and areas with highest obesity rates in the Borough.

Wording to define 'where appropriate' as per 7.6.5 '*Where appropriate*, advice and evidence will be sought from relevant key partners, including other Council Departments, Public Health and the Police'. Definition could be Public Health consulted on all new hot food takeaway applications in areas of concern raised by Health Inequalities JSNA, applications near Schools and Colleges, areas of high deprivation, areas of obesity.

[Policy 18: Active Design and Travel](#)

The appraisal stage concluded that the overall impact upon all criteria relating to Active Design and Travel was **positive**.

Objective: Seeks to create safer roads and walking routes, including improving the Borough's public transport system. Also seeking to embed active design principles into new development.

Nature of impact: the policy key principle is to make healthy behaviours the easier option. Promoting active travel through accessible walking and cycle routes. This will positively contribute to health outcomes and reduced health inequalities. Actively travelling and reducing car dependency is beneficial to individual health outcomes and population level health outcomes.

The following recommendations are made to improve Active Design and Travel: further detail would be useful about links between green spaces- green corridors. However, this may be

considered via the support of the development of a network of high-quality walking and cycling routes throughout the Borough, including those identified in the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (or its successor).

Policy 19: Improving Health and Wellbeing

The appraisal stage concluded that the overall impact upon all criteria relating to Improving Health and Wellbeing was **positive**.

Objective: There are multiple factors that contribute to health and wellbeing, although not the sole determinant in health, the planning system has a role to play in promoting health and wellbeing. The policy sets out a range of health-related issues that new development needs to address or show why it cannot be addressed in particular case, which can contribute to better health.

Nature of impact: The policy sets out the importance of high-quality housing and adaptable housing for lifetime use. The policy recognises the importance of accommodation that is flexible for the whole life course. The policy clearly embeds a process for health impact assessments (HIA) on development proposals requiring HIA screening as part of the planning application and promotes healthy homes and healthy neighbourhood design. The importance of access to safe outdoor spaces for active travel. Increasing physical activity by providing accessible green spaces.

The following recommendations are made in relation to Health and Wellbeing Policy:

As per the Town and Country Planning Association (TCPA) guidance on Planning for Healthy Places, Local Plans are recommended to include a clear definition of health and health inequalities. Therefore, we would recommend the inclusion of the following definitions:

The World Health Organisation Constitution (1946) definition of health is:

“...Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social wellbeing and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity...”

The enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every human being without distinction of race, religion, political belief, economic or social condition...”

Health Inequalities are defined by The Office for Health Improvement and Disparities as:

‘Health inequalities are defined as avoidable differences in health outcomes between groups or populations – such as differences in how long we live, or the age at which we get preventable diseases or health conditions.’

Section 8.6.3 references ‘Leicestershire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment’ this needs to be replaced to reference the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy which sets out how partners will work together “to allow everyone across Leicestershire the best opportunity to live long, good quality and happy lives”. The Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy follows a life course approach on best start for life - pre-natal to 19 years, or to 25 years for special educational need, staying healthy, safe and well - 19

years or 25 years plus, living and supported well, older people and those with health needs and dying well -end of life.

Policy 21: Community Facilities and Indoor Sports Facilities

The appraisal stage concluded that the overall impact upon all criteria relating to Community Facilities and Indoor Sports Facilities was **positive**

Objective: Much needed facilities are integral to communities and are a key component to achieving sustainable and inclusive development. This policy seeks to manage the loss, refurbishment, replacement and establishment of new community facilities in the Borough.

Nature of impact: The policy emphasises the importance of protecting existing community spaces and how to ensure new spaces are easily accessible for the community. The Policy considers a range of indoor spaces for all members of the community. This will help to strengthen social networks and community ties by providing spaces where people can gather, interact, and participate in community activities, fostering a stronger sense of belonging and social support networks. Proposals for the development of new or extensions of existing facilities will be supported where: They are accessible to all the surrounding community by prioritising access by walking, wheeling, cycling and public transport and provision of new community assets that are easily accessible without car dependency.

The following recommendations are made in relation to the Community Facilities and Indoor Sports Facilities policy:

The policy could prioritise areas vulnerable to health inequalities in Oadby and Wigston as found in the in the Health Inequalities chapter of the Leicestershire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment. Further considerations could be made to retaining or increasing community assets in areas of concern vulnerable to increasing health inequalities in South Wigston and Wigston Town.

The policy may further consider helping vulnerable groups/people using facilities for access to showers and washing facilities e.g. Travellers and the Roma population. This population group is identified as a group of concern for being vulnerable to worsening health inequalities in the 2023 Health Inequalities Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.

Policy 22: Open Space, Outdoor Sport and Recreational Facilities

The appraisal stage concluded that the overall impact upon all criteria relating to Open Space, Outdoor Sport and Recreational Facilities was **positive**.

Objective: Outlines the protection of existing open space, outdoor sports and recreational facilities and sets forth the expectation of new facilities to be accessible and of high quality.

Nature of impact: The policy aims to protect access to open space, outdoor sports and recreational facilities. Opportunities and spaces that facilitate physical activity by providing accessible green spaces can reduce obesity, cardiovascular diseases, and improve overall fitness levels. It also

supports mental wellbeing by offering natural environments that reduce stress, anxiety, and depression. Parks and green spaces create spaces where people can gather, interact and participate in community activities, fostering a stronger sense of belonging and social support networks.

The following recommendations are made in relation to the Open Space, Outdoor Sport and Recreational Facilities policy: Open spaces can be difficult to navigate for people who are unsteady on their feet. Consideration could be given to places to rest at regular intervals and natural break points to pause. Research by Make Space for Girls provides examples of recreational facilities that are inclusive and feel safer for girls, teenage girls and women, ensuring Safer Parks for Women and Girls Guidance is considered within the policy.

Policy 30: Green and Blue Infrastructure

The appraisal stage concluded that the overall impact upon all criteria relating to Green and Blue Infrastructure was **positive**.

Objective of the Green and Blue Infrastructure Policy: Seeks to maintain, preserve and enhance the green and blue infrastructure assets of the Borough area as well as the Borough's green infrastructure network. Also seeks to maintain and enhance public access and appropriate use of such areas / spaces.

Nature of impact: The Policy aims to maintain and improve access to green and blue spaces across Oadby and Wigston. The policy promotes infrastructure including cycleways, walkways and bridleways which will support active lifestyles in these spaces, offering physical and mental wellbeing benefits to residents. The creation of green infrastructure can improve access to recreational facilities such as parks, sports areas and trails, which provide the community with opportunities for physical activity, mental relaxation and connection to nature. Green and blue infrastructure projects can lead to jobs related to the maintenance, management and expansion of spaces, creating employment opportunities to residents, which can improve their economic and health outcomes. Stakeholders raised the importance of access to open spaces, outdoor sports and facilities considerations within the Borough being a priority. The policy refers to use of HIAs on major development.

The following recommendations are made in relation to the Green and Blue Infrastructure Policy

Residents affected by disability and chronic illness would benefit from green spaces designed with them in mind, for example, by including resting and stopping places and access to water and enabling easy access to green and blue infrastructure for people with mobility challenges is particularly important for the Borough, due to the increasing older population. The policy should also consider planning guidance from the WHO age-friendly cities guide (Organization, 2007) and facilitate access for the older population.

The siting of green and blue projects should take populations of greatest need into account to promote health benefits in populations where it is most needed. The policy could prioritise areas vulnerable to health inequalities in Oadby and Wigston as found in the in Health Inequalities chapter of the Leicestershire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment(Leicestershire County Council, 2023) and/or consider income deprivation and social isolation to ensure that these spaces are accessible to all,

including the elderly, people with disabilities, and low-income families. Consideration of shaded/sheltered areas within green spaces due to climate change increasing hotter weather in the summer, and more extreme weather overall. The policy could utilise information from the Leicestershire County Council Value of Trees report to maximise their health impacts.

Policy 33: Green Wedges

The appraisal stage concluded that the overall impact upon all criteria relating to Green Wedges was **positive**.

Objective: Ensure the protection of areas of open land to provide a 'Green Lung' for the Borough and influence development while maintaining appropriate distance between settlements within the Borough boundary and outside within surrounding administrative boundaries.

Nature of impact: Green infrastructure provides access to nature, which can have a positive effect on mental health and stress reduction. The policy promotes green wedges will 'act as an open and undeveloped recreational resource' which will support active lifestyles in these spaces; physical activity improves cardiovascular health and reduces the risk of obesity and other diseases.

The following recommendations are made in relation to the Green Wedges policy:

The policy could utilise information from the Leicestershire County Council Value of Trees report to maximise their health impacts. We would recommend that access, especially for those living in areas of concern raised in the Health Inequalities JSNA is considered when considering road proposals and how populations of greatest need can still easily access green space.

General Recommendations

Leicestershire County Council's Public Health team has fully assessed the health evidence and data regarding the Oadby and Wigston local area, along with the views of stakeholders and assessed key policies in a health impact assessment. This HIA has assessed the Local Plan's impacts against direct influences on health and behaviour, community and social Influences, living environmental conditions, economic conditions, access to and quality of services as well as macro-economic, environmental and sustainability factors.

Based on all of this information this HIA concludes that the overall impact of the Local Plan will have a positive impact upon health and wellbeing considerations for the Borough. However, there are opportunities to improve the health and wellbeing outcomes through Oadby and Wigston Borough Council's Local Plan which have been included as recommendations for each policy accessed. Where these recommendations can be embedded into the Oadby and Wigston Local Plans policies healthy placemaking for the Borough through can be further enhanced.

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Appendix 1: Public Health Data for Oadby and Wigston

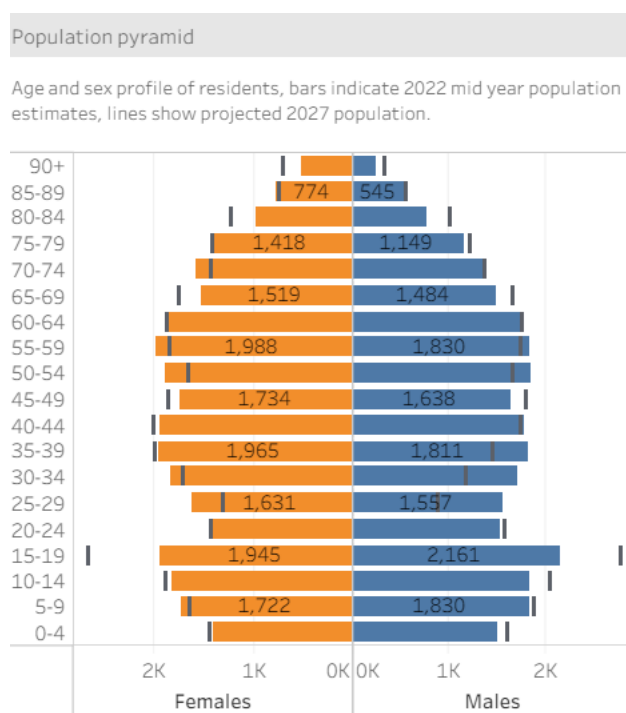
Oadby and Wigston Borough Profile

An Introduction to Oadby and Wigston- Geography and Demographics

Oadby and Wigston is a Borough in the south of Leicestershire with a population of 57,500, of which 59.8% is White British and 27.9% are Asian or Asian British (2021 census data). It covers an area of 9 square miles, and includes the towns of Oadby, Wigston and South Wigston, along with the smaller village of Kilby Bridge.

Geographically, the Borough sits south of the city of Leicester and shares borders with Harborough, Blaby and Leicester local authorities. Oadby and Wigston has 6 GP practices which are part of a single Primary Care Network. There is an Urgent Care Centre in Oadby and 10 pharmacies across the Borough.

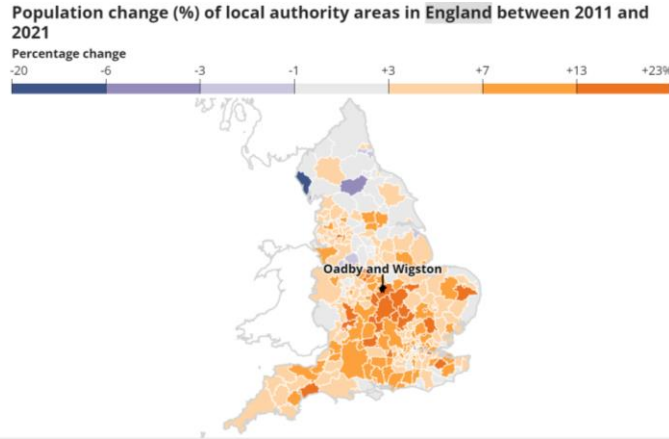
Figure 3: Oadby and Wigston Population Pyramid (ONS data 2022):



The 2021 census undertaken nationwide indicated that, in Oadby and Wigston, the population size has increased by 2.7%, from approximately 56,200 in 2011 to 57,700 in 2021. This is lower than the overall increase for England (6.6%), where the population grew by almost 3.5 million to 56,489,800. The data also indicates an ageing population in Oadby and Wigston. There had been an increase of 13.0% in people aged 65 years and over compared to the 2011 census, a decrease of 1.7% in people aged 15 to 64 years and an increase of 9.3% in children aged under 15 years.

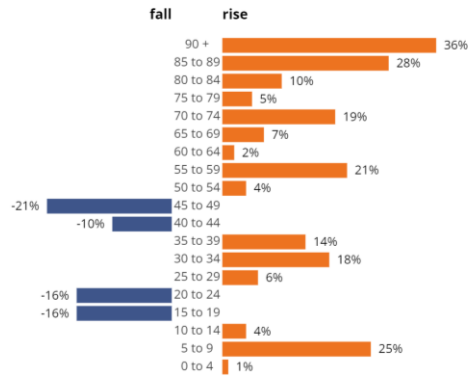
Figure 4: Population change between 2011 and 2021 (ONS data):

In Oadby and Wigston, the population size has increased by 2.7%, from around 56,200 in 2011 to 57,700 in 2021. This is lower than the overall increase for England (6.6%), where the population grew by nearly 3.5 million to 56,489,800.



Population change (%) by age group in Oadby and Wigston, 2011 to 2021

This is how Oadby and Wigston compares. There has been an increase of 13.0% in people aged 65 years and over, a decrease of 1.7% in people aged 15 to 64 years, and an increase of 9.3% in children aged under 15 years.



The data from the Office of National Statistics 2022 census show that there was an increase of 2.7% in the population in the Oadby and Wigston area between 2011 and 2021. There was an increase of 13% of people aged 65 years and over, a decrease of 1.7% in people aged 15-64 years and an increase of 9.3% in children aged under 15 years.

Key public health data

Life Expectancy

Figure 5: Life expectancy at birth (Male, 3 year range)

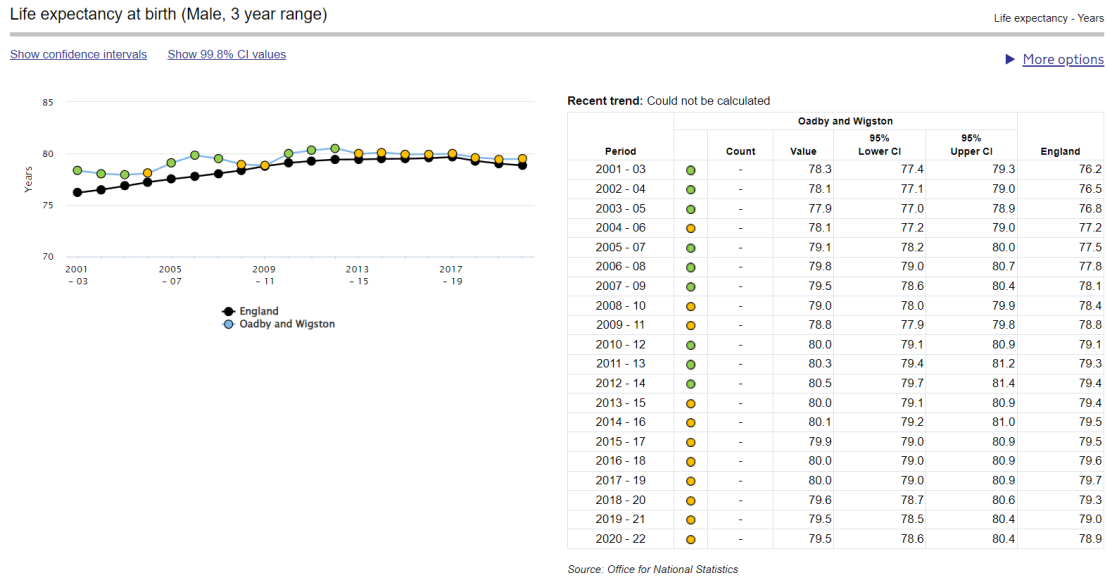
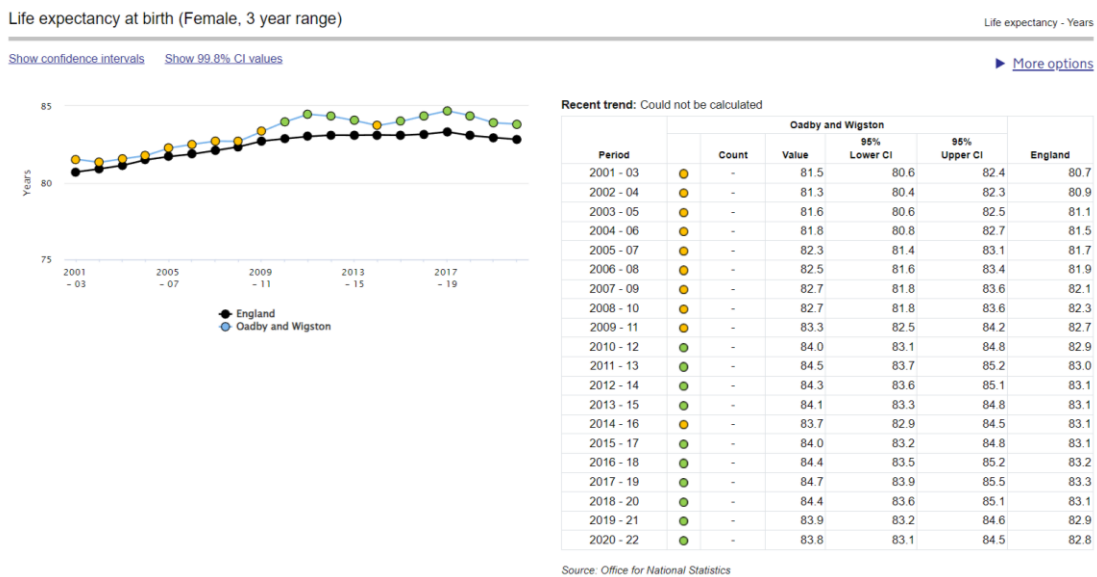


Figure 6: Life expectancy at birth (Female, 3 year range)

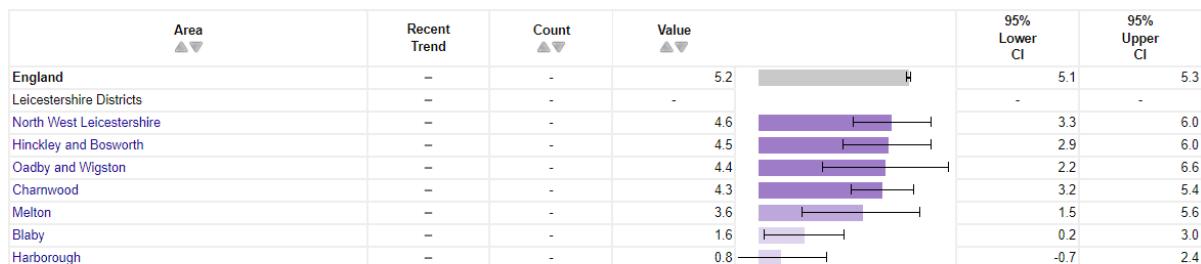


Data from Fingertips shows that life expectancy for men at birth in O&W is statistically similar to the England average. Life expectancy for women at birth in O&W is statistically better than the England average. However, it is important to note that within O&W there is a lot of disparity within wards.

Inequalities in life expectancy (based on deprivation):

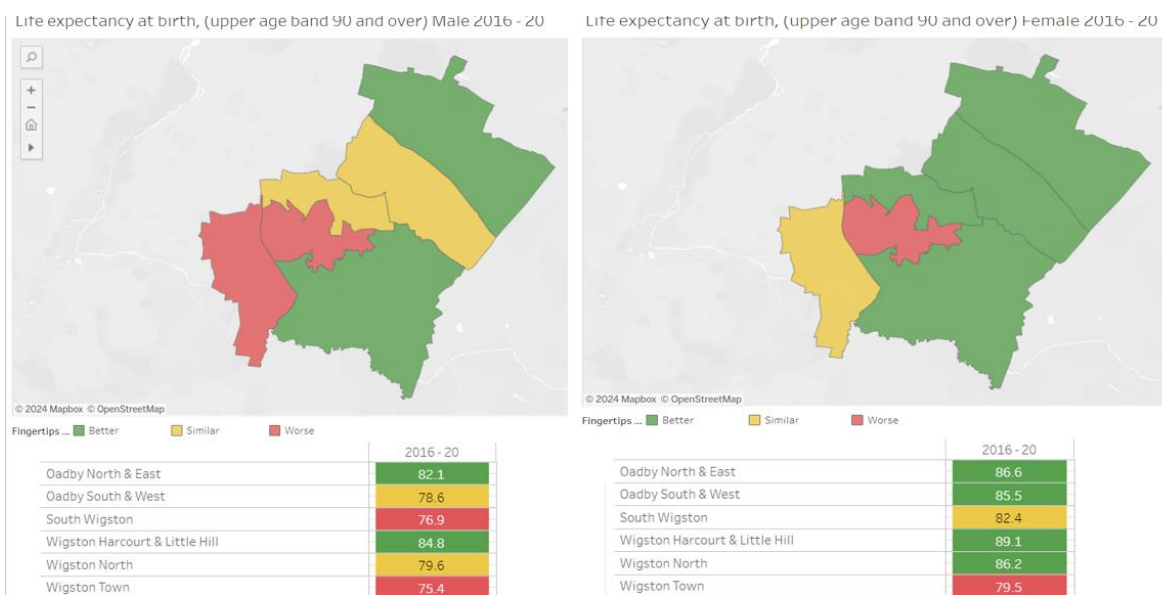
Within Oadby and Wigston; Wigston Town and South Wigston have been identified as having significant issues with socioeconomic needs, under 75 mortality or life expectancy performing significantly worse than England.

Figure 7: Inequalities in life expectancy based on deprivation:



Source: OHID, using Office for National Statistics and Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities data

Figure 8: Inequalities in life expectancy by area (Fingertips data from 2023):

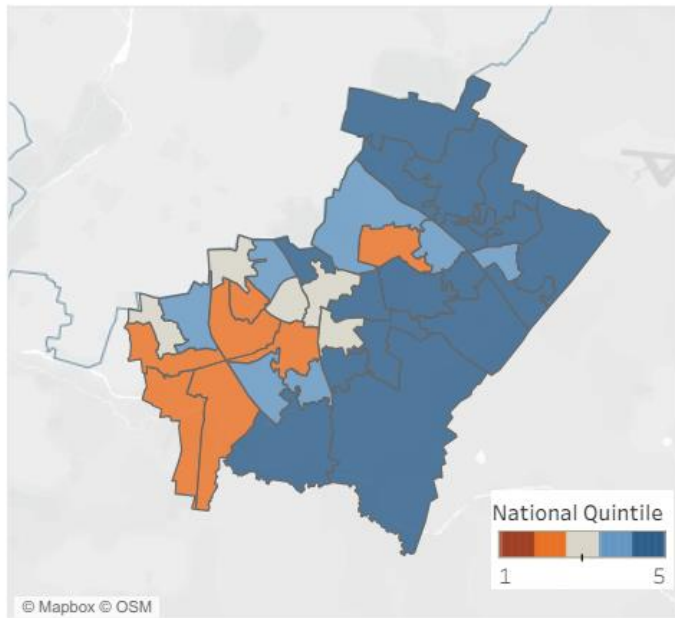


This chart shows us that there is a wide disparity between life expectancy in south and east Wigston when compared with the southern and eastern areas in Oadby.

Figure 9: Index of multiple deprivation map

Index of Multiple Deprivation map

LSOA map showing national quintile performance of index of multiple deprivation score.



The Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD, 2019) shows the Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA) of South Wigston Blaby Road & Saffron Road, South Wigston Canal Street & Countesthorpe Road, South Wigston Countesthorpe Road, Chartwell Drive Industrial Estate, Wigston Rolleston Road, Guthlaxton College & Wigston Police Station and Oadby Industrial Estate are amongst the 40% most deprived neighbourhoods in England. This is in stark contrast to the low levels of deprivation in the south and east of the region. This shows that there are significant levels of deprivation and inequality within Oadby and Wigston. We must consider this when looking at the public health profiles below, as there are likely to be significant differences in health profiles throughout the Borough.

Figure 10: Health inequalities throughout Oadby and Wigston (Fingertips data from 2023):

Fingertips Significance
■ Better ■ Not compared ■ Similar ■ Worse

	Child Poverty, Income deprivation affecting children index (IDACI)	Income deprivation, English Indices of Deprivation	Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) Score	Long-Term Unemployment-rate per 1,000 working age population	Modelled estimates of the proportion of households in fuel poverty (%)	Older people in poverty: Income deprivation affecting older people Index (IDAO)	Percentage of households in Poverty	Unemployment (Percentage of the working age population claiming out of work benefit)
	2019 (P)	2019 (P)	2019 (P)	2021/22 (P)	2020 (N/A)	2019 (P)	2013/14 (N/A)	2021/22 (P)
Oadby North & East	7.1	5.4	6.4	0.5	8.2	9.3	15.1	2.3
Oadby South & West	8.7	9.2	12.0	0.3	10.4	13.1	17.2	3.4
South Wigston	20.9	13.2	22.3	0.0	14.0	11.7	19.0	5.1
Wigston Harcourt & Little Hill	6.9	5.2	8.0	0.1	7.7	6.7	10.4	2.8
Wigston North	12.5	7.7	10.7	0.0	10.1	8.5	13.0	3.2
Wigston Town	18.8	14.7	25.8	0.5	13.9	16.4	22.3	5.0

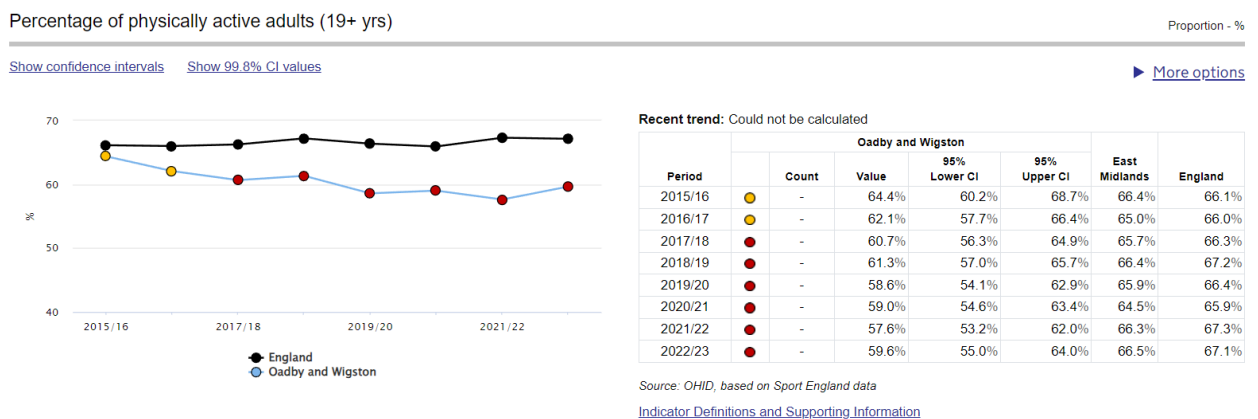
Fingertips Significance
■ Better ■ Similar ■ Worse

	Emergency hospital admissions for all causes, all ages, standardised admission ratio	Emergency hospital admissions for Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), standardised admission ratio	Emergency hospital admissions for coronary heart disease, standardised admission ratio	Emergency hospital admissions for hip fracture in persons 65 years and over, standardised admission ratio	Emergency hospital admissions for intentional self harm, standardised admission ratio	Emergency hospital admissions for Myocardial Infarction (heart attack), standardised admission ratio	Emergency hospital admissions for stroke, standardised admission ratio	Hospital admissions for alcohol attributable conditions, (Broad definition)	Hospital admissions for alcohol attributable conditions, (Narrow definition)
	2016/17 - 20/21	2016/17 - 20/21	2016/17 - 20/21	2016/17 - 20/21	2016/17 - 20/21	2016/17 - 20/21	2016/17 - 20/21	2016/17 - 20/21	2016/17 - 20/21
Oadby North & East	91.3	71.0	109.6	100.2	90.9	123.1	98.1	77.3	76.4
Oadby South & West	98.7	73.1	76.6	103.3	46.7	92.4	97.5	92.9	101.1
South Wigston	123.5	212.9	105.5	161.5	85.9	125.3	135.6	105.0	90.1
Wigston Harcourt & Little Hill	85.4	73.8	66.0	83.6	42.3	68.0	98.5	80.0	90.5
Wigston North	91.9	64.6	82.5	125.1	53.7	90.5	83.9	83.0	88.4
Wigston Town	131.6	200.9	70.7	154.0	131.8	92.6	158.6	131.5	129.4

This chart shows us that there are significant disparities within health outcomes throughout the Borough. Child poverty is significantly worse in South Wigston; income deprivation and older people in poverty are worse in Wigston Town. The Health Inequalities Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) recently showed that the areas of Wigston town and South Wigston are significant areas of concern for health inequalities within Leicestershire.

Public health profiles - OHID (phe.org.uk)

Figure 11: Physical activity levels in adults



The rate of physically active adults in Oadby and Wigston is significantly worse/lower than the England average. It is also significantly lower than the East Midlands average.

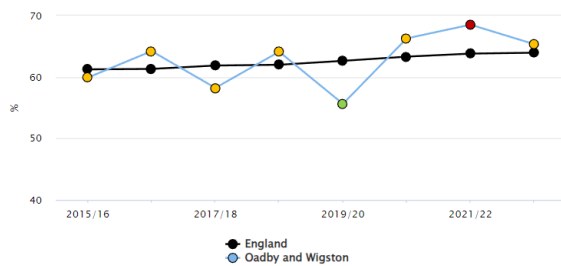
Figure 12: Overweight and obesity prevalence in adults:

Overweight (including obesity) prevalence in adults (18+ yrs)

Proportion - %

[Show confidence intervals](#) [Show 99.8% CI values](#)

[More options](#)



Recent trend: Could not be calculated

Period	Count	Value	Oadby and Wigston		East Midlands	England
			95% Lower CI	95% Upper CI		
2015/16	-	59.9%	55.3%	64.6%	64.0%	61.2%
2016/17	-	64.2%	59.7%	68.7%	63.6%	61.3%
2017/18	-	58.2%	53.5%	63.0%	64.4%	61.9%
2018/19	-	64.1%	59.3%	68.8%	64.1%	62.0%
2019/20	-	55.6%	50.6%	60.4%	65.2%	62.6%
2020/21	-	66.3%	61.9%	70.7%	66.4%	63.3%
2021/22	-	68.5%	64.0%	73.2%	67.0%	63.8%
2022/23	-	65.3%	60.5%	70.1%	66.1%	64.0%

Source: OHID, based on Sport England data

[Indicator Definitions and Supporting Information](#)

Rates of overweight and obesity in Oadby and Wigston are statistically similar to the England and East Midlands average.

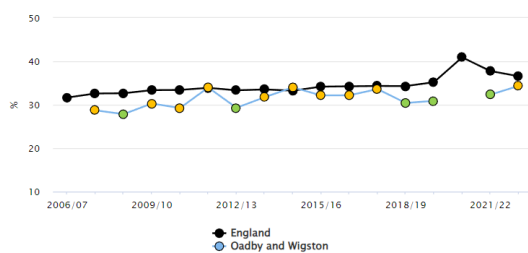
Figure 13: Prevalence of overweight and obesity in year 6 children (aged 10-11 years)

Year 6 prevalence of overweight (including obesity) (10-11 yrs)

Proportion - %

[Show confidence intervals](#) [Show 99.8% CI values](#)

[More options](#)



Recent trend: No significant change

Period	Count	Value	Oadby and Wigston		East Midlands	England
			95% Lower CI	95% Upper CI		
2006/07	-	*	-	-	*	31.7%
2007/08	155	28.7%	25.0%	32.6%	31.7%	32.6%
2008/09	135	27.8%	24.4%	32.4%	32.3%	32.6%
2009/10	165	30.3%	26.8%	34.6%	32.9%	33.4%
2010/11	155	29.2%	25.8%	33.6%	32.4%	33.4%
2011/12	180	34.0%	29.8%	37.8%	33.2%	33.9%
2012/13	145	29.3%	25.2%	33.2%	32.7%	33.3%
2013/14	165	31.7%	28.1%	36.1%	32.2%	33.5%
2014/15	170	34.0%	30.3%	38.6%	32.4%	33.2%
2015/16	180	32.1%	28.9%	36.6%	33.3%	34.2%
2016/17	185	32.2%	28.2%	35.7%	33.5%	34.2%
2017/18	210	33.6%	29.8%	37.2%	34.2%	34.3%
2018/19	190	30.4%	26.9%	34.1%	33.6%	34.3%
2019/20	190	30.9%	27.3%	34.5%	34.9%	35.2%
2020/21	-	*	-	-	40.3%	40.9%
2021/22	210	32.3%	28.9%	36.0%	37.8%	37.8%
2022/23	230	34.3%	30.8%	37.9%	36.4%	36.6%

Source: Office for Health Improvement and Disparities, using National Child Measurement Programme, NHS England

[Indicator Definitions and Supporting Information](#)

Year 6 prevalence of overweight and obesity in Oadby and Wigston is statistically similar to the England average, however, it is increasing.

Figure 14: Density of fast food outlets:

Fast Food Outlet Density – Public Health England 2016		
Guidance purposes only density may have increased/decreased since project		
LA name	Count of outlets	Rate per 100,000 population
Blaby	67	68.7
Charnwood	141	79.5
Harborough	59	65.4
Hinckley and Bosworth	106	96.5
Melton	40	78.5
North West Leicestershire	80	81.3
Oadby and Wigston	47	83.9

2016 Ward name	Total fast food outlets
Oadby Brocks Hill	2
Oadby Grange	2
Oadby St Peter's	12
Oadby Uplands	0
Oadby Woodlands	0
South Wigston	14
Wigston All Saints	2
Wigston Fields	3
Wigston Meadowcourt	2
Wigston St Wolstan's	9

This data demonstrates that Oadby and Wigston have a higher than average density of fast food outlets per 100 000 population than other areas of Leicestershire, with the exception of Hinckley and Bosworth. The density is highest in the wards of St Peter's and South Wigston. This may have a significant effect on overweight/obesity rates within the area.

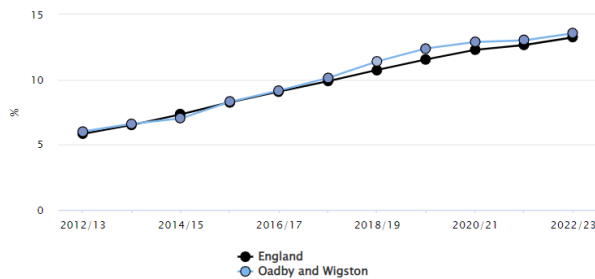
Figure 15: Rates of Depression:

Depression: QOF prevalence (18+ yrs)

Proportion - %

[Show confidence intervals](#) [Show 99.8% CI values](#)

[More options](#)



Recent trend: ↑ Increasing

Period	Count	Value	Oadby and Wigston		East Midlands	England
			95% Lower CI	95% Upper CI		
2012/13	2,809	6.0%	5.8%	6.2%	6.4%	5.8%*
2013/14	3,083	6.6%	6.4%	6.8%	7.3%	6.5%
2014/15	3,272	7.0%	6.8%	7.3%	8.3%	7.3%
2015/16	3,836	8.3%	8.1%	8.6%	9.1%	8.3%
2016/17	4,225	9.2%	8.9%	9.4%	10.0%	9.1%
2017/18	4,692	10.1%	9.9%	10.4%	10.8%	9.9%
2018/19	5,317	11.4%	11.1%	11.7%	11.6%	10.7%
2019/20	5,804	12.4%	12.1%	12.7%	12.4%	11.6%
2020/21	6,081	12.9%	12.6%	13.2%	13.0%	12.3%
2021/22	6,767	13.0%	12.7%	13.3%	13.4%	12.7%
2022/23	7,036	13.6%	13.3%	13.9%	13.9%	13.2%

Source: Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF), NHS England

[Indicator Definitions and Supporting Information](#)

Depression rates in Oadby & Wigston are higher than the England average, and rates are increasing.

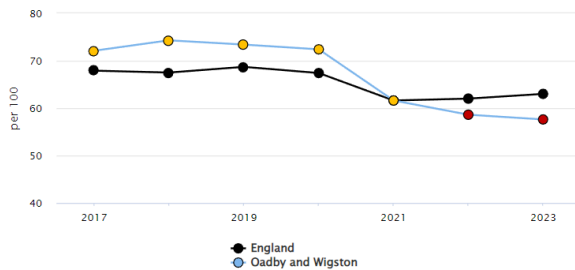
Figure 16: Rates of Dementia:

Estimated dementia diagnosis rate (aged 65 and older)

Crude rate - per 100

[Show confidence intervals](#) [Show 99.8% CI values](#)

[More options](#)



Recent trend: ↓ Decreasing & getting worse

Benchmarking against goal: > 66.7% (significantly) similar to 66.7% < 66.7% (significantly)

Period	Count	Value	Oadby and Wigston		East Midlands	England
			95% Lower CI	95% Upper CI		
2017	625	72.1	63.1	80.3	71.6	67.9
2018	656	74.3	65.2	82.7	71.1	67.5
2019	672	73.4	64.4	81.6	72.3	68.7
2020	672	72.4	63.6	80.5	71.1	67.4
2021	558	61.6	53.8	68.8	64.8	61.6
2022	547	58.6	51.1	65.5	64.0	62.0
2023	535	57.6	50.2	64.3	65.2	63.0*

Source: NHS Digital

[Indicator Definitions and Supporting Information](#)

This chart shows that rates of dementia in this area are worse than the average rate throughout England. With an ageing population, these rates are likely to increase over time.

Figure 17: Percentage of cancers diagnosed at stages 1 and 2 (Persons, All ages) 2021 Proportion - %

Area	Recent Trend	Count	Value	95% Lower CI	95% Upper CI
England	→	119,781	54.4	54.2	54.6
Leicestershire Districts	-	-	-	-	-
Melton	→	125	59.0	52.2	65.4
Harborough	→	238	57.3	52.5	62.0
Hinckley and Bosworth	→	261	55.2	50.7	59.6
Blaby	→	170	54.3	48.8	59.7
North West Leicestershire	→	188	52.5	47.3	57.6
Charnwood	→	266	46.7	42.6	50.8
Oadby and Wigston	→	83	43.5	36.6	50.5

Source: NHS England's National Disease Registration Service

The rates of cancers diagnosed at stages 1 and 2 are lower than the averages for England and Leicestershire. The earlier the cancer is diagnosed, the better a person's chance of recovery and survival.

Figure 18: Emergency Hospital Admissions for Intentional Self-Harm (Persons, All ages) 2022/23 Directly standardised rate - per 100,000

Area	Recent Trend	Count	Value	95% Lower CI	95% Upper CI
England	↓	73,239	126.3	125.4	127.2
Leicestershire Districts	-	-	-	-	-
Melton	↑	85	193.8	154.7	239.7
Charnwood	→	360	183.4	164.5	203.8
Hinckley and Bosworth	→	185	173.9	149.3	201.2
North West Leicestershire	→	175	169.3	145.1	196.4
Blaby	↑	165	167.2	142.4	195.0
Harborough	→	150	162.2	137.2	190.5
Oadby and Wigston	→	70	122.1	94.8	154.7

Source: Office for Health Improvement and Disparities using NHS England Hospital Episode Statistics (HES) and Office for National Statistics (ONS) mid year population estimates

The rates of emergency hospital admissions for self-harm are similar to the national average.

Figure 19: Percentage of 5 year olds with experience of visually obvious dental decay (Persons, 5 yrs) 2021/22 Proportion - %

Area	Recent Trend	Count	Value	95% Lower CI	95% Upper CI
England	-	-	23.7	23.3	24.0
Leicestershire Districts	-	-	-	-	-
Oadby and Wigston	-	-	23.8	18.9	29.5
Charnwood	-	-	20.8	17.0	25.3
Blaby	-	-	20.8	16.9	25.3
North West Leicestershire	-	-	19.8	16.0	24.3
Melton	-	-	18.7	14.6	23.6
Hinckley and Bosworth	-	-	17.7	14.0	22.3
Harborough	-	-	12.5	9.2	16.7

Source: Dental Public Health Epidemiology Programme for England: oral health survey of five year old children (Biennial publication - latest report 2022) (<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/oral-health-surveys-and-intelligence-children>)

The rate of dental decay in 5-year-olds in Oadby and Wigston is similar to the national average.

Figure 20: Hip fractures in people aged 65 and over (Persons, 65+ yrs)2022/23 Directly standardised rate - per 100,000

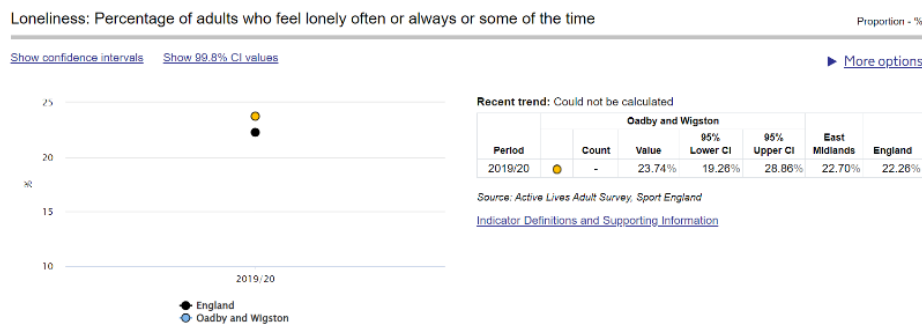
Area	Recent Trend	Count	Value	95% Lower CI	95% Upper CI
England	↓	60,796	558	554	562
Leicestershire Districts	-	-	-	-	-
Hinckley and Bosworth	→	165	643	548	750
Oadby and Wigston	→	90	619	495	764
Melton	↓	70	585	456	738
North West Leicestershire	↓	110	539	443	651
Charnwood	↓	195	536	463	618
Harborough	↓	120	531	440	636
Blaby	→	115	530	436	638

Source: Office for Health Improvement and Disparities using NHS England Hospital Episode Statistics (HES) and Office for National Statistics (ONS) mid year population estimates

The rates of hip fractures in people aged 65+ are similar to the national average.

Community and Social Data

Figure 21: Rates of Loneliness in Oadby and Wigston



Loneliness rates in Oadby and Wigston are statistically similar to the England average.

Community Insights (2024)

Figure 22: The Leicestershire Insight Survey for O&W gives the following data:

About your Local Area, Communities & Volunteering, Economy, council spending & cuts

Your Local Area	% agree people from different backgrounds get on well	88.2%
	% feel satisfied with their local area as a place to live?	88.8%
Communities & Volunteering	% given unpaid help in the last 12 months	46.1%
Council spending & cuts	% affected by service changes	22.7%
Economy	% that feel financially better off or the same as 12 months ago	42.0%

Data on economy and Council spending and cuts.

Economy, council spending & cuts

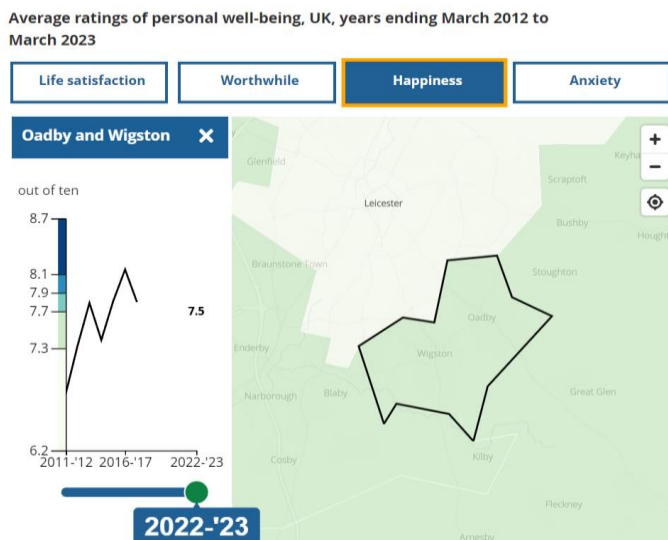
Council spending & cuts	% affected by service changes	22.7%
Economy	% that feel financially better off or the same as 12 months ago	42.0%

Below trends around cohesion

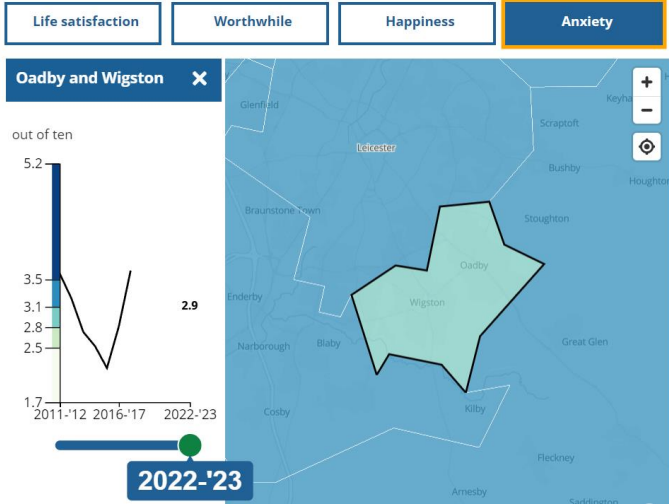
% agree people from different backgrounds get on well	88.2%
% feel satisfied with their local area as a place to live?	88.8%

This data shows high perceived levels of community cohesion, but a significant proportion of the population (22.7%) have been affected by service changes.

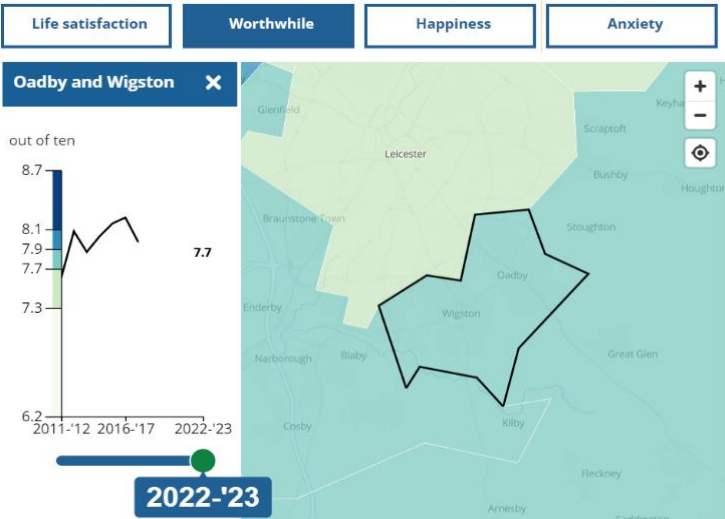
Figure 23: Personal wellbeing in the UK - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk)



Average ratings of personal well-being, UK, years ending March 2012 to March 2023



Average ratings of personal well-being, UK, years ending March 2012 to March 2023



These charts show similar ratings of personal wellbeing in Oadby and Wigston to the surrounding areas of Leicester and Leicestershire.

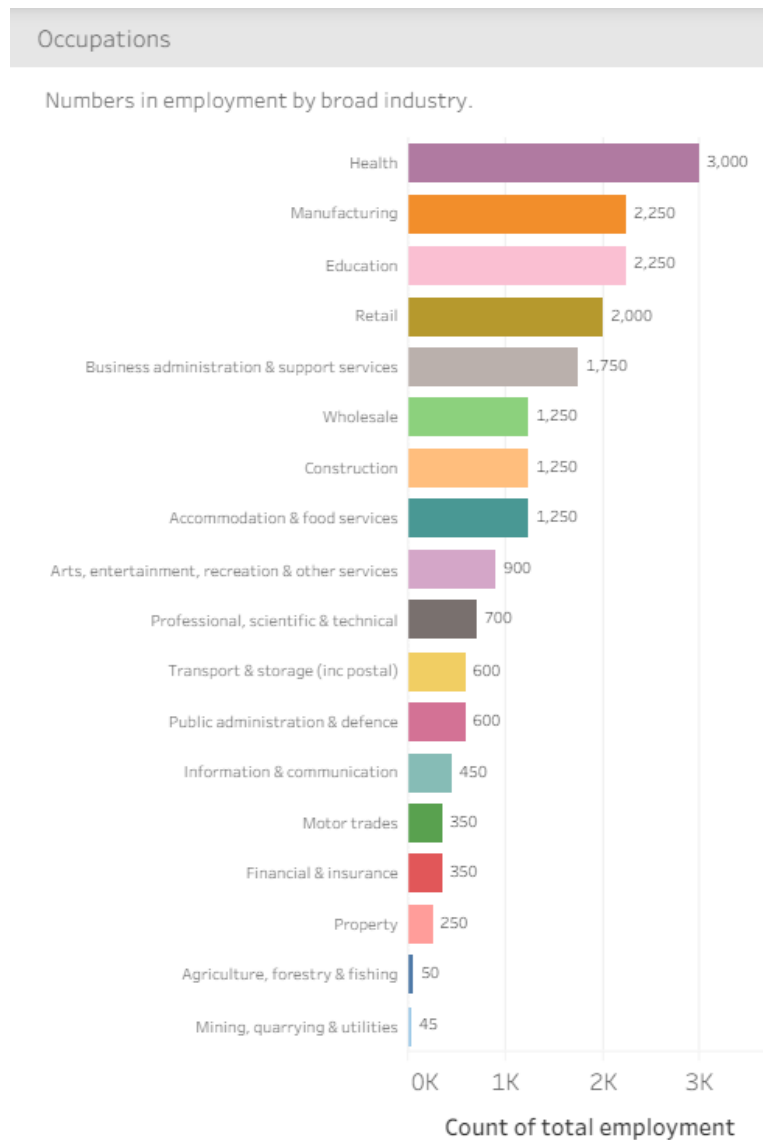
Figure 24: Oadby and Wigston Resident and Workplace Earnings

Earnings by place of residence (2023)			
	Oadby And Wigston (Pounds)	East Midlands (Pounds)	Great Britain (Pounds)
Gross Weekly Pay			
Full-Time Workers	574.9	640.2	682.6
Male Full-Time Workers	592.6	687.8	728.3
Female Full-Time Workers	547.6	571.1	628.8
Hourly Pay - Excluding Overtime			
Full-Time Workers	15.26	16.13	17.49
Male Full-Time Workers	15.12	16.98	18.15
Female Full-Time Workers	14.40	14.88	16.64

Source: ONS annual survey of hours and earnings - resident analysis
Notes: Median earnings in pounds for employees living in the area.

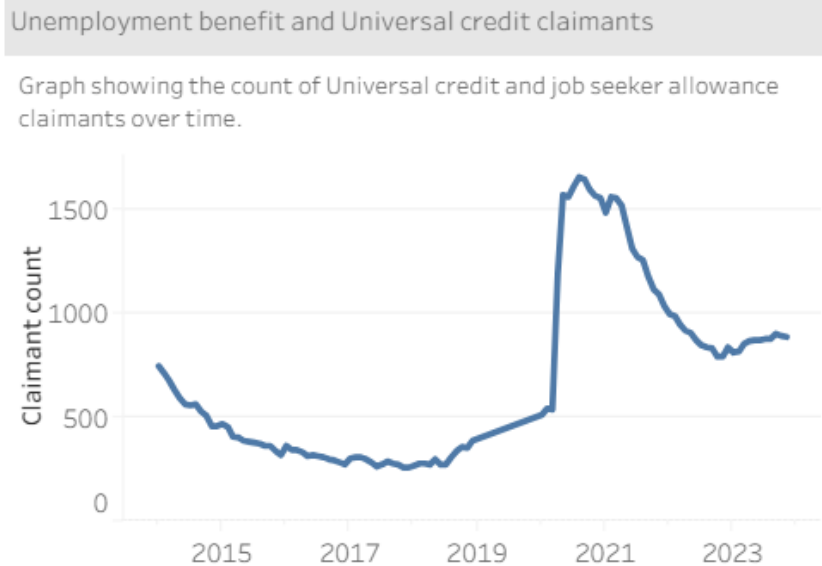
All earnings in the table are significantly lower than East Midlands average and England average.

Figure 25: Occupation by industry in Oadby and Wigston



Most of the residents of Oadby and Wigston are employed in healthcare, manufacturing or education.

Figure 26: Number of people in receipt of Universal Credit



This graph shows a peak in benefit claimants during the COVID 19 pandemic, however the numbers have not yet returned to their pre-pandemic levels.

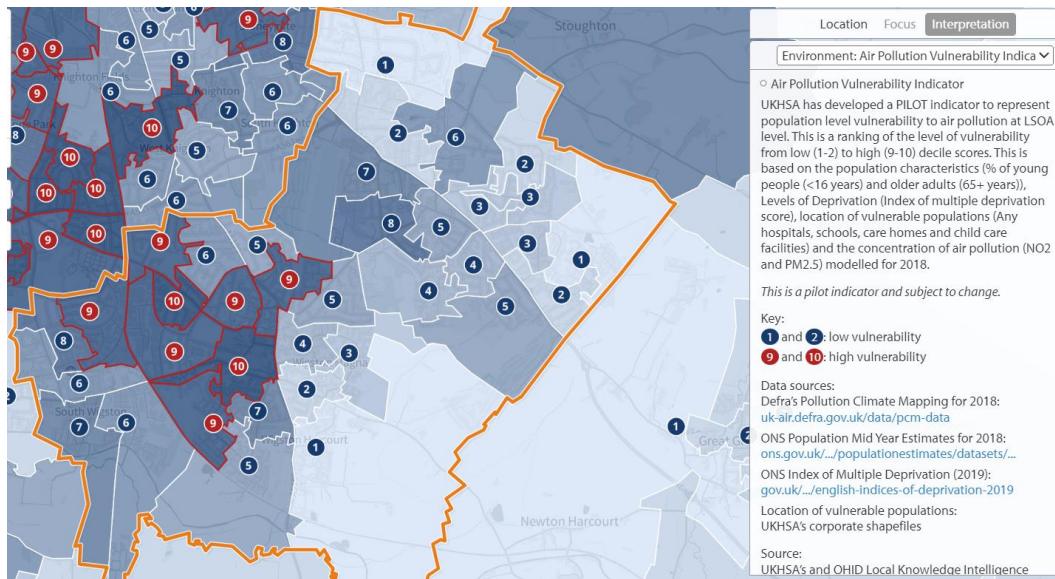
Wider determinants Data

Figure 27: Alcohol licensing:

Indicator	Period	Oad & Wig'n		East Midlands	England	England			
		Recent Trend	Count	Value	Value	Value	Worst	Range	Best
Number of premises licensed to sell alcohol per square kilometre	2021/22	-	-	4.1	0.9*	1.3*	91.9		0.3

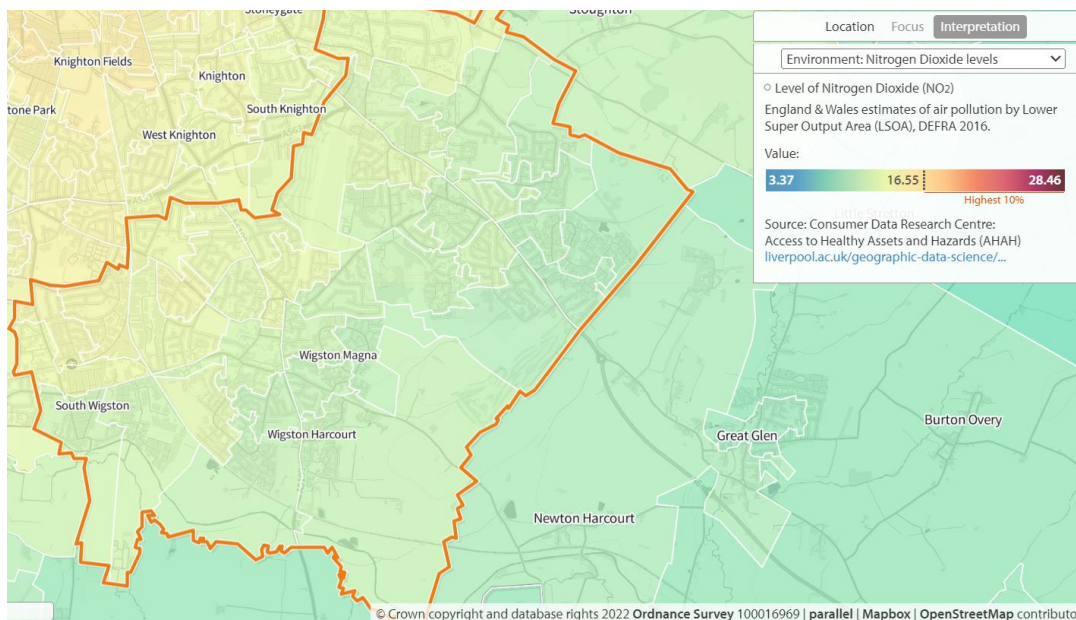
Oadby and Wigston has more alcohol licensed premises per square kilometre on average than the East Midlands region and England as a whole.

Figure 28: Air pollution vulnerability index



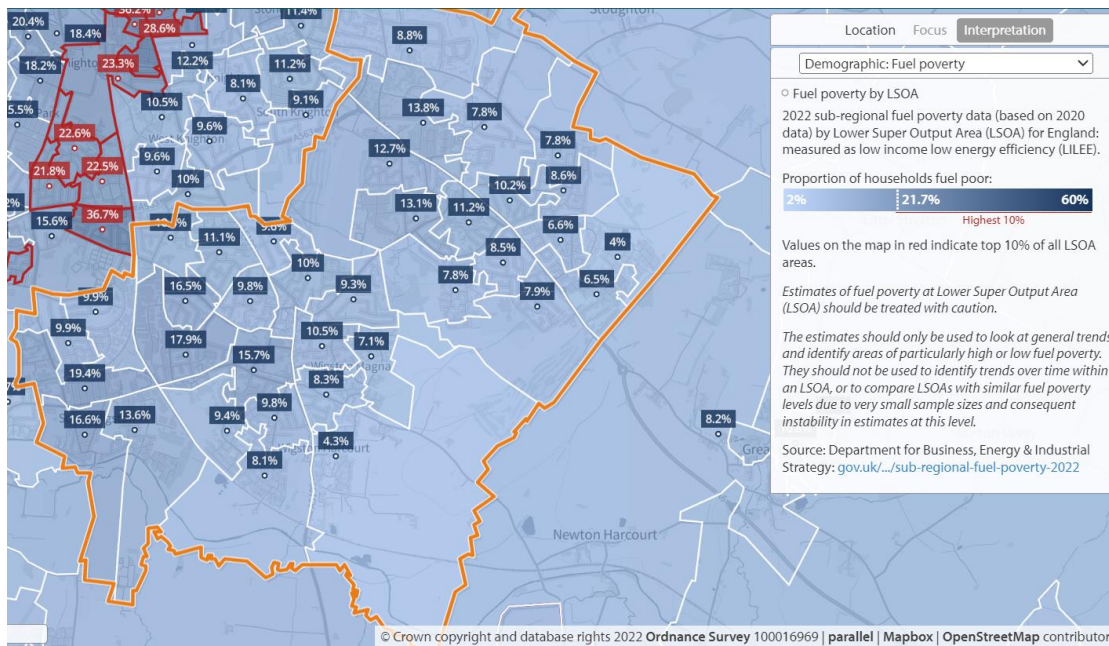
This chart shows there are several areas within the Borough that are highly vulnerable to air pollution.

Figure 29: Nitrogen Dioxide levels:



This map shows relatively low levels of nitrogen dioxide within the Borough.

Figure 30: Fuel poverty levels:



This map shows that Oadby and Wigston does not have any areas that are highly affected by fuel poverty.

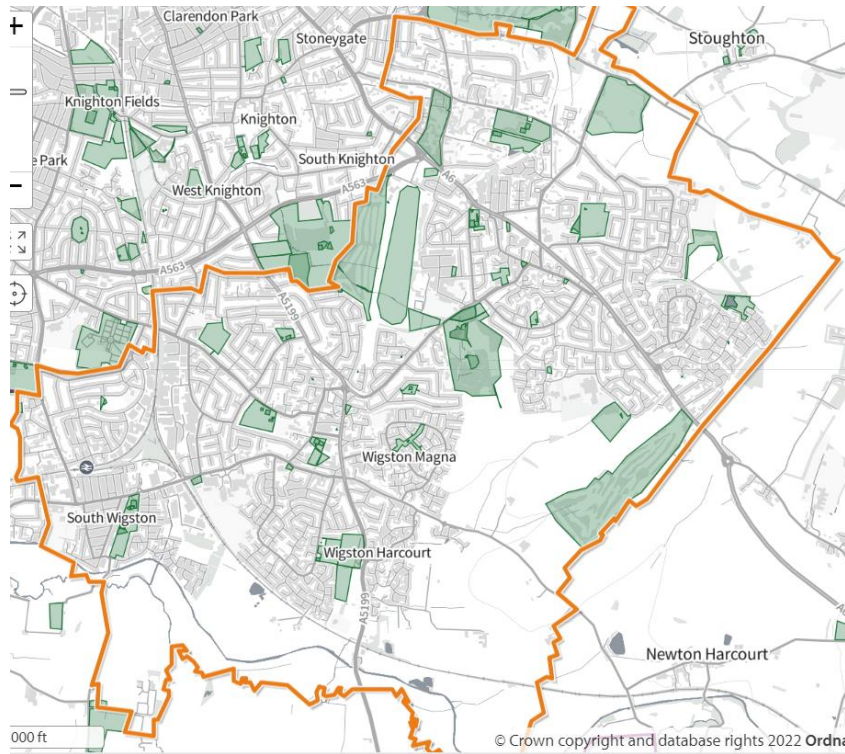
Figure 31: Absences- employment and education:

Indicator	Period	Oad & Wig'n		Regions England (statistical)			England		
		Recent Trend	Count	Value	Value	Value	Worst	Range	Best
Sickness absence: the percentage of employees who had at least one day off in the previous week	2019 - 21	-	-	*	1.8%	1.8%	6.7%		0.0%
Sickness absence: the percentage of working days lost due to sickness absence	2019 - 21	-	-	*	1.1%	1.0%	4.1%		0.1%

Cases of sickness absence in Oadby and Wigston cannot be calculated as number of cases is too low.

Access to green space

Figure 32: Shape Tool map-access to green space across the Borough:



Area	Average distance to nearest park or public garden or playing field (m) in 2020	Average size of nearest park or public garden or playing field (m ²) in 2020
Blaby District	1448.03	76303.31
Charnwood Borough	815.07	272870.66
Harborough District	2830.43	113098.10
Hinckley and Bosworth Borough	1165.31	428237.75
Melton District	2077.97	153039.54
North West Leicestershire District	1299.87	76783.95
Oadby and Wigston Borough	688.32	101175.68

Area	Median size of nearest park or public garden or playing field (m2) in 2020	Average number of parks or public gardens or playing fields within 1,000 m radius in 2020
Blaby District	10993.49	1.25
Charnwood Borough	26384.47	1.45
Harborough District	36447.53	1.15
Hinckley and Bosworth Borough	32855.53	1.52
Melton District	40951.62	1.60
North West Leicestershire District	36419.14	1.46
Oadby and Wigston Borough	16803.61	1.59

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/environmentalaccounts/datasets/accesstopublicgreenspaceingreatbritain>

This map and chart show that Oadby and Wigston residents have a relatively nearby park or playing field, however the median size of the green space was below most other areas in Leicestershire.

Appendix 2 - Health Impact Assessment Appraisal Tool: LCC Public Health

Policy 12- Housing choices	Health Impact Assessment Appraisal Tool: LCC Public Health				
	Nature How will the proposal affect health? Positive or Negative? <i>Please take in to account the health profile of the local population using links given on this site.</i>	Likelihood Possible/ Probable/ Definite <i>Are there any external factors that could affect this out of the control of the plan?</i>	Scale / distribution ? Will different groups of people be impacted in different ways? <i>Impact on inequalities – how severe/beneficial?</i> <i>What can be done to negate this?</i>	Timing Short/ medium/ long term	Severity Minor/ moderate/ major <i>Are there any external factors that could affect this out of the control of the plan?</i>
Direct influences on health and behaviour <i>Factors to consider:</i> <i>Diet</i> <i>Physical activity</i> <i>Mental Wellbeing</i> <i>Use of alcohol</i> <i>Use of cigarettes and substance misuse</i> <i>Sexual activity</i> <i>Other risk-taking activity</i>	Positive: the policy will likely improve conditions in which people with Dementia live as the needs of people with dementia are considered.	Probable	People with Dementia, Carers of people with Dementia, Older population, people with limited mobility	Long term	Moderate

<p>Community and Social Influences</p> <p><i>Factors to consider:</i> <i>Family organisation and roles</i> <i>Citizen power and influence</i> <i>Social support and social networks</i> <i>Neighbourliness</i> <i>Sense of belonging</i> <i>Local pride</i> <i>Divisions in community</i> <i>Social isolation</i> <i>Peer pressure</i> <i>Community identity</i> <i>Cultural and spiritual ethos</i> <i>Racism</i> <i>Design for low crime</i> <i>Other social exclusion</i></p>	<p>Positive: that the impact of overcrowding on educational attainment is recognised within the local plan. Educational attainment is linked to life changes and is a key driver of social mobility across the life course. Where educational attainment can be improved through measures to reduce overcrowding this is beneficial to health and wellbeing outcomes. Differences in educational attainment within the Borough was discussed at the stakeholder group as a concern.</p>	Probable	Children and younger people within education	Long term	Moderate
	<p>Negative: HMOs can be associated with negative impacts to health and wellbeing of residents in particular impacting on mental health due to lack of own space, privacy, limited control of living situation. A study by Barratt et al. (2012) showed that living in HMOs led to large increases in stress, anxiety, and depression. Opportunity for Public Health to be consulted on new HMOs to be involved in any updates to policies on Amenity standards for HMOs.</p>	Probable		Short-term to Medium term	Moderate

	<p>Neutral: HMOs can often be associated with resistance from the wider community and neighbours – however the policy adds that the Council will consider the impact upon the mix of dwellings locally and the impact on the local character and amenity spaces of adjoining properties in the area in which they are located.</p> <p>Positive: the policy recognises the importance for accommodation that is flexible for the whole life course. As per 6.8.4 , ‘inclusive homes accommodating the needs of a wide range of households, such as young professionals, families, older people and individuals with disabilities.’ this will help people to remain in their homes for longer if the home and space is accessible and adaptable to changing needs. The Quality of Life Framework 2024 suggests this contributes to ‘permanence’ which is the sense of rootedness we have to where we live. As homes that are designed to consider how residents will have</p>	Possible		Medium	moderate
		Possible	Older People, people with disabilities, mobility issues	Long term	Major

	<p>changing access and mobility needs, through adaptable and considerate design and layout options, can give residents a better sense of security as they get older. The longer someone is able to reside in an area is linked to a sense of 'belonging' which is associated with positive health and wellbeing outcomes. Sense of belonging to a neighbourhood is suggested to more important for older people due to worsening health and mobility and lack of access to transport</p> <p>Neutral: Balancing a mix of tenures/tenure diversification –6.8.3 positive – There is evidence to indicate that a mix of housing tenures is beneficial for community cohesion as it fosters social interactions and prevents segregation. However, the evidence base is mixed and further research on effects on social capital is needed. Due to the mixed picture evidence based it highlights the importance of providing a mix of housing tenures and ensuring that the social and community</p>				
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	<p>infrastructure supports meaningful interaction among different groups. This might involve creating shared community spaces, fostering local events, and encouraging resident participation in decision-making processes.</p>				
<p>Living environmental conditions potentially affecting health</p> <p><i>Factors to consider:</i> <i>Built environment</i> <i>Neighbourhood design</i> <i>Diverse retail offer / healthy food</i> <i>Housing – affordable; warm; ventilation; specific needs; diverse types;</i> <i>Indoor environment</i> <i>Noise</i> <i>Air and water quality</i> <i>Flooding risk</i> <i>Attractiveness of area</i> <i>Street furniture</i> <i>Shade and rest</i> <i>Natural env:</i> <i>Green space</i> <i>Blue space</i> <i>Outdoor PA opps</i> <i>Community safety</i></p>	<p>Positive: a wide scope of housing considered. Consideration of needs of the growing older population. Consideration of affordability. Access to green spaces and green corridors. Developing age-friendly neighbourhoods that integrate housing with mixed land use, green spaces, and walkable environments is essential for promoting independence and social cohesion among older adults. The physical environment can profoundly impact the health, independence, and quality of life of older adults. The research underscores the importance of designing homes that are not only accessible but</p>	Probable	Older people and people with limited mobility	Long term	Major

<p><i>Smell/odour</i> <i>Waste disposal</i> <i>Road hazards / safety</i> <i>Community severance</i> <i>Cycling and walking facilities and infrastructure</i> <i>Public transport</i> <i>Prioritise pedestrian and cyclists</i> <i>Traffic calming</i> <i>Walkability incl. connectivity, mixed land use, compact neighbourhoods,</i> <i>Injury hazards</i> <i>Quality and safety of play areas</i></p>	<p>also adaptable to the changing needs of residents as they age. Features such as level access, wide doorways, and bathrooms that accommodate mobility aids are essential for enabling older adults to live independently and safely. The concept of "design for all" or universal design has gained prominence, emphasizing creating barrier-free environments that support ageing in place. Applying these principles in housing design ensures that homes are functional and enhance the comfort and security of older adults.</p>				
<p>Economic conditions and links affecting health</p> <p><i>Factors to consider:</i> <i>Unemployment</i> <i>Income</i> <i>Economic inactivity</i> <i>Type of employment</i> <i>Workplace conditions</i></p>	<p>Positive: Consideration of affordability and economic disparities within the borough. The relationship between housing affordability and health is well-documented, with unaffordable housing linked to a range of physical and mental health issues including poor mental health, including higher rates of anxiety and depression.</p>	<p>Probable</p>	<p>Areas of the borough with high levels of deprivation</p>	<p>Long term</p>	<p>Major</p>
<p>Access to and quality of services</p>	<p>Positive: Consideration of needs of those with dementia and</p>	<p>Probable</p>	<p>Older people</p>	<p>Long term</p>	<p>Major</p>

<p><i>Factors to consider:</i> <i>Medical services</i> <i>Other caring services</i> <i>Careers advice</i> <i>Shops and commercial services</i> <i>Food – access healthy food; limit fast food.</i> <i>Allotments; growing projects.</i> <i>Public amenities</i> <i>Transport including parking; public transport incl stops.</i> <i>Education and training</i> <i>Information technology</i></p>	<p>encouragement of 'RTPI: Dementia and Town Planning' recommendations within design</p>				
<p>Macro-economic, environmental and sustainability factors</p> <p><i>Factors to consider:</i> <i>Government policies</i> <i>Gross Domestic Product Economic development</i> <i>Biological diversity</i> <i>Climate</i></p>					

Policy 16- Hot food takeaways	Health Impact Assessment Appraisal Tool: LCC Public Health				
	<p>Nature</p> <p>How will the proposal affect health? Positive or Negative?</p> <p><i>Please take in to account the health profile of the</i></p>	<p>Likelihood</p> <p>Possible/ Probable/ Definite</p> <p><i>Are there any external factors that</i></p>	<p>Scale / distribution?</p> <p>Will different groups of people be impacted</p>	<p>Timing</p> <p>Short/medium/long term</p>	<p>Severity</p> <p>Minor/moderate/major</p> <p><i>Are there</i></p>

	<i>local population using links given on this site.</i>	<i>could affect this out of the control of the plan?</i>	in different ways? <i>Impact on inequalities – how severe/beneficial?</i> <i>What can be done to negate this?</i>		<i>any external factors that could affect this out of the control of the plan?</i>
Direct influences on health and behaviour	<p>Positives: consideration of health impacts- on anti-social behaviour. is considered.</p> <p>Positive: 7. 6.5 Where appropriate, advice and evidence will be sought from relevant key partners including other Council Departments, Public Health and the Police. Could be strengthened – Public health consulted on all new hot food takeaway applications. Schools , deprivation, areas of obesity. Also include wording into the policy section ‘In all cases, account will be taken of the impacts of the proposal on local residents and upon the amenity of the area, with particular regard to the proposed opening hours,</p>	<p>Probable</p> <p>Probable</p>		<p>Medium term</p> <p>Medium term</p>	<p>Moderate</p> <p>Moderate</p>

	<p>the impact of noise, health and wellbeing, disturbance, design (including ventilation), smell and litter, traffic generation, parking problems and highway safety' that refers to proximity to other hot food takeaways/density of hot food takeaways in the area, proximity to schools, refusal for applications in areas of worsening health inequalities and areas with highest obesity rates in the Borough.</p>				
<p>Community and Social Influences</p>	<p>Positive: Policy states further considerations are being made to ensure avoiding a density of shuttered properties in the daytime and that cumulative impact of such proposed uses is being taking into account. As this would reduce vibrancy of the high street during the day time offer if the high street was more operational in the evenings. The 'Minding the Gap' webinar which featured numerous Local Authorities that had brought in Hot Food Takeaway Policies and Gatesheads reported where applications for</p>	<p>Probable</p>		<p>Medium term</p>	<p>Moderate</p>

	new hot food takeaways had been refused there was no increase in vacant properties.				
Living environmental conditions potentially affecting health	<p>Positive: The policy recommends that in all cases, account will be taken of the impacts of the proposal on local residents and upon the amenity of the area, with particular regard to the proposed opening hours, the impact of noise, health and wellbeing, disturbance, design (including ventilation), smell and litter, traffic generation, parking problems and highway safety. This may mitigate negative impacts on local residents to reduce likelihood and impact of litter, noise and smells. Could be strengthened – Public health consulted on all new hot food takeaway applications. Schools, deprivation, areas of obesity. The following recommendations are made to improve access to healthy food impacts upon health and wellbeing: Consider whether there could be a policy restricting the development of hot food takeaways near schools. Schools, deprivation, areas of obesity. Restrict open hours of hot food takeaways depending</p>	Probable		Medium term	Moderate

	upon proximity to residential properties, which further addresses issues of crime and perception of safety.				
Economic conditions and links affecting health					
Access to and quality of services	<p>Positive – the local plan has indicated efforts to ensure ‘Where hot food takeaways are already present within the vicinity, the cumulative impact of any proposal will be taken into account’ a density of fast food takeaways is referred to as a ‘food swamps’ Where food swamps occur it can have significant negative implications to health linked to increased consumption of more calorific low nutritious foods which is linked numerous diet related health issues including obesity and diabetes. Within the Borough all three of the main town and district centres in the Borough currently (as of Summer 2023) have an above national</p>	Probable		Medium term	Moderate

	<p>average proportion of units in takeaway use.</p> <p>Recommendation: Considerations should take into account health data presented within the main report and areas particularly vulnerable to worsening health inequalities in the borough- South Wigston and Wigston Town.</p> <p>Could this section 'In all cases, account will be taken of the impacts of the proposal on local residents and upon the amenity of the area, with particular regard to the proposed opening hours, the impact of noise, health and wellbeing, disturbance, design (including ventilation), smell and litter, traffic generation, parking problems and highway safety'</p> <p>Also include proximity to other hot food takeaways/density of hot food takeaways in the area, proximity to schools, refusal for applications in areas of worsening health inequalities and areas with highest obesity rates in the Borough.</p>				
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Macro-economic, environmental and sustainability factors					
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Policy 18: Active design and travel	Health Impact Assessment Appraisal Tool: LCC Public Health				
	Nature	Likelihood	Scale / distribution?	Timing	Severity
	<p>How will the proposal affect health? Positive or Negative?</p> <p><i>Please take in to account the health profile of the local population using links given on this site.</i></p>	<p>Possible/ Probable/ Definite</p> <p><i>Are there any external factors that could affect this out of the control of the plan?</i></p>	<p>Will different groups of people be impacted in different ways?</p> <p><i>Impact on inequalities – how severe/beneficial?</i></p> <p><i>What can be done to negate this?</i></p>	<p>Short/ medium / long term</p>	<p>Minor/ moderate/ major</p> <p><i>Are there any external factors that could affect this out of the control of the plan?</i></p>
Direct influences on health and behaviour	<p>Positive: the policy key principle is to make healthy behaviours the easier option. Promoting active travel through accessible walking and cycle routes. This will positively contribute to health outcomes and reduced health inequalities. Actively</p>	<p>Probable</p>	<p>Whole population</p>	<p>Long term</p>	<p>Major</p>

	<p>travelling and reducing car dependency is beneficial to individual health outcomes and population level health outcomes. Active transportation modes, such as walking and cycling, offer substantial health benefits by increasing physical activity, which can reduce the risk of cardiovascular diseases, obesity, and diabetes. Reduced car dependency can significantly improve air quality. Air pollution from motor vehicles is a significant public health concern, contributing to respiratory and cardiovascular diseases.</p> <p>Negative: more detail would be useful about links between green spaces- green corridors. However this may be considered via the support the development of a network of high quality walking and cycling routes throughout the borough, including those identified in the</p>	Probable	Whole population	Medium term	Moderate
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	Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (or its successor).				
Community and Social Influences	Positive: Consideration of safety e.g. cycle storage	Probable	Whole population	Short/medium term	Minor
Living environmental conditions potentially affecting health					
Economic conditions and links affecting health					
Access to and quality of services					
Macro-economic, environmental and sustainability factors	Positive: Actively travelling and reducing car dependency is beneficial to individual health outcomes and population level health outcomes such as lowered emissions and improved air quality.	Probable	Whole population	Medium - long term	Medium
Policy 19- Improving health and wellbeing	Health Impact Assessment Appraisal Tool: LCC Public Health				

	<p>Nature</p> <p>How will the proposal affect health? Positive or Negative?</p> <p><i>Please take in to account the health profile of the local population using links given on this site.</i></p>	<p>Likelihood</p> <p>Possible/ Probable/ Definite</p> <p><i>Are there any external factors that could affect this out of the control of the plan?</i></p>	<p>Scale / distribution?</p> <p>Will different groups of people be impacted in different ways?</p> <p><i>Impact on inequalities – how severe/beneficial?</i></p> <p><i>What can be done to negate this?</i></p>	<p>Timing</p> <p>Short/ medium / long term</p>	<p>Severity</p> <p>Minor/ moderate/ major</p> <p><i>Are there any external factors that could affect this out of the control of the plan?</i></p>
<p>Direct influences on health and behaviour</p>	<p>Positive: high quality housing and adaptable housing for lifetime use. Positive: the policy recognises the importance for accommodation that is flexible for the whole life course. As per 6.8.4 , ‘inclusive homes accommodating the needs of a wide range of households, such as young professionals, families, older people and individuals with disabilities.’ this will help people to remain in their homes for longer if the home and space is accessible and</p>	<p>Probable</p>	<p>Whole population, Older people, people with limited mobility</p>	<p>Long term</p>	<p>Major</p>

	<p>adaptable to changing needs. The Quality of Life Framework 2024 suggests this contributes to ‘permanence’ which is the sense of rootedness we have to where we live.</p> <p>Positive- commitment to high quality houses and neighbourhoods helps to reduce likelihood of <u>Un-elective fixity</u>. The feeling of being ‘trapped’ in a home or neighbourhood that is inadequate, and this can exacerbate mental ill health. Promotes healthy neighbourhood design.</p>	<p>Probable</p>	<p>Whole population, Older people, people with limited mobility</p>	<p>Long term</p>	<p>Major</p>
	<p>Positive: Access to safe outdoor spaces for active travel. Policies that promote physical activity by providing accessible green spaces, which can reduce obesity, cardiovascular diseases, and improve overall fitness levels.</p>	<p>Probable</p>	<p>Whole population</p>	<p>Medium Term</p>	<p>Moderate</p>
	<p>This also supports mental well-being by offering natural environments that reduce stress, anxiety, and depression.</p>	<p>Probable</p>	<p>Whole population</p>	<p>Long term</p>	<p>Major</p>

	<p>Positive: clearly embeds process for health impact assessments (HIA) on development proposals requiring HIA screening as part of the planning application which is crucial in improving health and wellbeing through planning and ensuring healthy placemaking .</p> <p>Negative: Policy does not clearly reference the Health and Wellbeing Strategy which is recommended by TCPA guidance. Section 8.6.3 references 'Leicestershire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment' this needs to be replaced to reference the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy which sets out how partners will work together "to allow everyone across Leicestershire the best opportunity to live long, good quality and happy lives". The Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy follows a life course approach on best start for life - pre-natal to 19 years, or to 25 years for special educational need,</p>	Possible	Whole population	Medium term	moderate
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	staying healthy, safe and well - 19 years or 25 years plus, Living and supported well - older people and those with health needs and dying well - end of life. Policy does not include clear health definition or health inequalities definition which is recommended by the TCPA.				
<i>Community and Social Influences</i>					
Living environmental conditions potentially affecting health	Positive: a wide scope of housing considered within the policy. Consideration of needs of the growing older population. Consideration of affordability. Access to green spaces and green corridors. Green and blue spaces also provide opportunities for social contacts and help to improve community cohesion. Research shows that opportunities to engage with nature, conduct physical activity and interact with our wider community, all of which contribute to our wellbeing, are influenced by the	Probable	Whole population	Long term	Major

	safety and accessibility of green spaces				
Economic conditions and links affecting health	Positive: Consideration of affordability and economic disparities within the borough.	Probable	Areas with high levels of deprivation	Long term	Major
Access to and quality of services					
Macro-economic, environmental and sustainability factors					

Policy 21: Community facilities and indoor sports facilities.	Health Impact Assessment Appraisal Tool: LCC Public Health				
	<p>Nature</p> <p>How will the proposal affect health? Positive or Negative?</p> <p><i>Please take in to account the health profile of the local population using links given on this site.</i></p>	<p>Likelihood</p> <p>Possible/ Probable/ Definite</p> <p><i>Are there any external factors that could affect this out of the control of the plan?</i></p>	<p>Scale / distribution?</p> <p>Will different groups of people be impacted in different ways?</p> <p><i>Impact on inequalities – how severe/beneficial?</i></p>	<p>Timing</p> <p>Short/ medium/ long term</p>	<p>Severity</p> <p>Minor/ moderate/ major</p> <p><i>Are there any external factors that could</i></p>

			<i>What can be done to negate this?</i>		<i>affect this out of the control of the plan?</i>
Direct influences on health and behaviour	<p>Positive: consideration of a wide range of indoor spaces for all members of the community. Protected against redevelopment. This will help to strengthen social networks and community ties by providing spaces where people can gather, interact, and participate in community activities, fostering a stronger sense of belonging and social support networks.</p>	Probable	Whole population	Long term	Moderate
	<p>Negative: Could consider vulnerable groups/people using facilities for access to showers and washing facilities e.g. Travellers and Roma population. This population group is identified as a group of concern for being vulnerable to worsening health inequalities in the 2023 Health Inequalities Joint Strategic Needs Assessment. Consideration of quiet</p>	Possible	Gypsie and traveller groups.	Short term to medium term	Minor

	places for people to sit away from their home.				
Community and Social Influences	Negative: further considerations could be made to retaining or increasing community assets in areas of concern vulnerable to increasing health inequalities in South Wigston and Wigston Town.				
Living environmental conditions potentially affecting health					
Economic conditions and links affecting health					
Access to and quality of services	Positive: Proposals for the development of new or extensions of existing facilities will be supported where: They are accessible to all of the surrounding community by prioritising access by walking, wheeling, cycling and public transport. Ensures new community assets that are easily				

	accessible without car dependency..				
Macro-economic, environmental and sustainability factors					

Policy 22: Open Spaces, Outdoor Sport and Recreational Facilities	Health Impact Assessment Appraisal Tool: LCC Public Health				
	Nature	Likelihood	Scale / distribution?	Timing	Severity
	<p>How will the proposal affect health? Positive or Negative?</p> <p><i>Please take in to account the health profile of the local population using links given on this site.</i></p>	<p>Possible/ Probable/ Definite</p> <p><i>Are there any external factors that could affect this out of the control of the plan?</i></p>	<p>Will different groups of people be impacted in different ways?</p> <p><i>Impact on inequalities – how severe/beneficial?</i></p> <p><i>What can be done to negate this?</i></p>	<p>Short/ medium/ long term</p>	<p>Minor/ moderate/ major</p> <p><i>Are there any external factors that could affect this out of the control of the plan?</i></p>
Direct influences on health and behaviour	Negative: Open spaces can be difficult to navigate for people who are unsteady on their feet- could	Probable	Whole population	Medium term	Moderate

	<p>consider places to rest at regular intervals, natural break points to pause.</p> <p>Positive: Consideration of travel to green spaces by active travel rather than car Close to catchment areas is beneficial</p> <p>Protected from development- positive. physical activity by providing accessible green spaces, which can reduce obesity, cardiovascular diseases, and improve overall fitness levels. It also supports mental well-being by offering natural environments that reduce stress, anxiety, and depression.</p>	Probable	Whole population	Medium to Long term	Moderate
<i>Community and Social Influences</i>	<p>Positive: Parks and green spaces create spaces where people can gather, interact, and participate in community activities, fostering a stronger sense of belonging and social support networks. This can help to strengthen social networks and community ties by providing space for interaction. Research by Make Space for Girls provides examples of</p>	Possible	Whole population	Medium term	Moderate

	recreational facilities that are inclusive and feel safer for girls, teenage girls and women ensuring Safer Parks for Women and Girls Guidance is taken into account within the policy.				
Living environmental conditions potentially affecting health					
Economic conditions and links affecting health					
Access to and quality of services					
Macro-economic, environmental and sustainability factors	Positive: The policy will contribute to sustainability by enhancing biological diversity, improving climate resilience, and promoting environmentally friendly urban planning. These factors are crucial for long-term public health and environmental stability. Mitigation recommendations may include the				

	<p>implementation monitoring programmes to assess the impact of biodiversity and climate resilience measures and adjust policies as necessary to prevent negative outcomes.</p>				
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Policy 30: Green and Blue Infrastructure	Health Impact Assessment Appraisal Tool: LCC Public Health				
	<p>Nature</p> <p>How will the proposal affect health? Positive or Negative?</p> <p><i>Please take in to account the health profile of the local population using links given on this site.</i></p>	<p>Likelihood</p> <p>Possible/ Probable/ Definite</p> <p><i>Are there any external factors that could affect this out of the control of the plan?</i></p>	<p>Scale / distribution?</p> <p>Will different groups of people be impacted in different ways?</p> <p><i>Impact on inequalities – how severe/beneficial?</i></p> <p><i>What can be done to negate this?</i></p>	<p>Timing</p> <p>Short/ medium/ long term</p>	<p>Severity</p> <p>Minor/ moderate/ major</p> <p><i>Are there any external factors that could affect this out of the control of the plan?</i></p>
<p>Direct influences on health and behaviour</p>	<p>Positive: Green and blue infrastructure provides access to nature which can have</p>	<p>Probable</p>	<p>Whole population but especially older people</p>	<p>Long term</p>	<p>Major</p>

	<p>a positive effect on mental health and stress reduction. The policy promotes infrastructure including cycleways, walkways, bridleways which will support active lifestyles in these spaces; physical activity improves cardiovascular health and reduces the risk of obesity and other diseases.</p> <p>Positive: The policy aims to prevent flooding; flooding is associated with numerous health impacts including threats to life, disease, physical trauma and long-term mental health impacts. The policy aims to incorporate development of green and blue spaces which cool and shade the environment; features such as trees and water bodies can reduce health risks associated with extreme heat.</p>	Possible	and those with limited mobility Whole population	Medium term	Minor to moderate
Community and Social Influences	<p><u>Positive</u> : Access to green and blue space is associated with increased social contact and social interaction which</p>				

	positively impacts on health and wellbeing				
Living environmental conditions potentially affecting health	<p>Positives: Vegetation and green space can reduce pollutant concentrations which can help to prevent the exacerbation and development of respiratory diseases. The incorporation of features such as SUDS and flood storage areas can help to manage storm and rainwater, reducing flood risk. Features like trees and water bodies help in cooling the environment, which reduces risks associated with extreme heat such as heat stroke.</p> <p>Negative: Oadby and Wigston has a population which is ageing. For disabled people and older adults, both proximity and design of green spaces is important. Structural barriers in the design of street furniture, provision of amenities and the accessibility of wayfinding can all contribute to exclusion(The Quality of Life Foundation, 2024), therefore the design of green spaces should consider these communities. If design of green spaces does</p>	Probable	Whole population	Medium to long term	Moderate
		Possible	Older people, people with disabilities	Short to long term	Moderate

	<p>not account for the accessibility and mobility needs of these populations, they may cause decreased access or increased injury. Recommendations to strengthen policy Residents affected by disability and chronic illness would benefit from green spaces designed with them in mind, for example by including resting and stopping places and access to water. The policy should also take into account planning guidance from the WHO age-friendly cities guide) and facilitate access for the older population. The policy could utilise information from the Leicestershire County Council Value of Trees report to maximise their health impacts.</p>				
Economic conditions and links affecting health	Positive: Green and blue infrastructure projects can lead to jobs related to the maintenance, management and expansion of spaces, creating employment opportunities to residents, which can improve their economic and health outcomes. Green and blue spaces have also been found to host economic activities	Probable	Whole population	Medium-long term	Moderate
		Possible	Whole population	Medium –	Moderate

	<p>and events, encouraging inward investment(The Quality of Life Foundation, 2024).</p> <p>Negatives: The development of high-quality green and blue infrastructure could lead to gentrification in some areas, causing property values to rise, displacing lower-income residents and exacerbating health inequalities. If residents cannot afford to stay in these improved neighbourhoods, they may lose access to the health benefits provided by green spaces. Policy should consider inclusion how to ensure access to quality spaces in areas of higher deprivation.</p>			long term	
Access to and quality of services	<p>Positive: The creation of green infrastructure can improve access to recreational facilities such as parks, sports areas, and trails, which provide the community with opportunities for physical activity and mental relaxation and connection to nature.</p> <p>Negative: If disadvantaged</p>	<p>Probable</p> <p>Possible</p>	Whole population	Medium to long term	Major

	<p>neighbourhoods or populations have less access to green and blue infrastructure development or maintenance, this will deepen inequalities in access and decrease associated health benefits. Groups who may have decreased access to green spaces include disadvantaged communities, ethnic minorities and disabled people(The Health Foundation, n.d.).</p> <p>Recommendation- The siting of green and blue projects should take populations of greatest need into account to promote health benefits in populations where it is most needed; the policy could prioritise areas vulnerable to health inequalities in Oadby and Wigston as found in the in Health Inequalities chapter of the Leicestershire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (Leicestershire County Council, 2023). The policy could reference how it considers physical accessibility and usability for different groups, especially the older population. It should ensure cycling and walking routes are</p>		<p>People with disabilities, reduced mobility, areas of deprivation</p>		<p>Moderate</p>
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	connected to existing and accessible routes, and public transport where possible.				
Macro-economic, environmental and sustainability factors	<p>Positive:</p> <p>The policy's highlights biodiversity friendly environments helps support ecosystem health, which in turn contributes to clean air, water, and food sources, all of which are vital for long-term human health.</p> <p>The policy supports sustainable management of blue and green space developments; encouraging multifunctional benefits supports sustainable development principles, helping to balance economic, social, and environmental considerations.</p> <p>These factors are crucial for long-term public health and environmental stability.</p>	Possible			

Policy 33: Green wedges	Health Impact Assessment Appraisal Tool: LCC Public Health
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	Nature How will the proposal affect health? Positive or Negative? <i>Please take in to account the health profile of the local population using links given on this site.</i>	Likelihood Possible/ Probable/ Definite <i>Are there any external factors that could affect this out of the control of the plan?</i>	Scale / distribution? Will different groups of people be impacted in different ways? <i>Impact on inequalities – how severe/beneficial?</i> <i>What can be done to negate this?</i>	Timing Short/ medium/ long term	Severity Minor/moderate/ major <i>Are there any external factors that could affect this out of the control of the plan?</i>
Direct influences on health and behaviour	Positive: Green infrastructure provides access to nature which can have a positive effect on mental health and stress reduction. The policy promotes ensures green wedges ‘act as an open and undeveloped recreational resource’ which will support active lifestyles in these spaces; physical activity improves cardiovascular health and reduces the risk of obesity and other diseases.	Possible	Whole population	Long term	moderate
Community and Social Influences	Positive: Access to green and blue space is associated with increased social	Possible	Whole population	Long term	moderate

	<p>evidenced as being a necessity will only be acceptable where it has been proven that there are no alternative routes outside of the Green Wedge'. We would recommend that access especially to areas of concern raised in the Health Inequalities JSNA is taken into account when considering road proposals and green wedges.</p> <p>Considerations on access to green wedges and how populations of greatest need can access easily.</p>				
Economic conditions and links affecting health					
Access to and quality of services					
Macro-economic, environmental and sustainability factors	<p>The policy highlights how green areas in the Borough green infrastructure network support biodiversity. Biodiversity friendly environments helps support ecosystem health, which in turn contributes to clean air, water, and food sources, all of which</p>	Possible	Whole population	Long term	Moderate

	are vital for long-term human health.				
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