



WHIASU



LEADING FROM THE FRONT: HIA IN WALES

Liz Green

Principal HIA Development Officer
Wales HIA Support Unit/Public Health Wales

LOCATING WALES



DEVOLVED GOVERNMENT

- Emphasis on:
 - Health and wellbeing
 - Addressing inequalities within population
 - Sustainable Development
 - Citizen centred public services
 - Partnership working
 - Integrated agenda

- Devolved Powers include: health, planning, social services and social care
- Ability to legislate for these through Assembly Bills and Acts



IMPORTANCE OF CONSIDERING HEALTH AND WELLBEING

- Wales exhibits high levels of poor health
- Increasing rates of obesity and associated illness ie diabetes, heart disease and respiratory diseases
- Smoking and alcohol
- Inequalities in health - deprived communities exhibit higher levels of ill health and have shorter life expectancy than more affluent communities
- Not just physical health - wider determinants of health and mental wellbeing



HIA AND HIAP IN WALES: STRATEGIC DRIVERS

- Consideration of Health in All Policies (HiAP)
- Wellbeing of the Future Generations of Wales Bill (2014)
- One Wales: A Progressive Agenda for the Government of Wales (2007)
- Our Healthy Future' (2010) and 'Fairer Outcomes for All' (2011) - Public Health Strategy for Wales
- Welsh Public Health Green and White Papers (2013 and 2014)



SUCCESSFUL LEVERS FOR HIA

- Planning Bill (2015) and Planning Policy Wales (PPW)
- Active Travel Act (2014) and Welsh Transport Appraisal Guidance (WelTAG) (2008)
- Wales Waste Strategy and Collections, Infrastructure and Markets Waste Sector Plan (2012)
- MTAN2: Coal (2009) - open cast mining. EIAs require a broad HIA to be undertaken
- Vibrant and Viable Places: Welsh regeneration framework (2013)



APPLICATION AT A LOCAL LEVEL

- Road Improvement Schemes - M4 at Newport
- Local Development Plans (Swansea, Cardiff, Wrexham, Flintshire)
- Housing initiatives - WG Landlord Licensing Scheme; Draft Housing Strategies; Extra Care Housing;
- Waste Management - EFW and Biomass Plants
- Regeneration - VVP Stage 2 Funding (£13.5M to 3 LAs who used HIA)



WELLBEING OF THE FUTURE GENERATIONS OF WALES ACT (2015)

- Explicit inclusion of Health as one of 7 common goals.
- Legislation which places a STATUTORY duty on named national and local Public Sector Bodies and organisations to meet the Health Goal
- Local Public Sector Boards established to develop and deliver Local WELLBEING Plans - including health and inequalities
- The intention is for HiAP to be delivered from a national to a local level through FG Bill
- Health is intrinsic to the Act



CONTINUED

- No direct reference to HIA
- Not statutory but is anticipated that HIA will be highlighted in the STATUTORY guidance as one method to support the Health aims of the Act
- PHW ‘Health in All Policies’ Guidance for Wales (2015) important to support work



SUMMARY

- Welsh Government recognise the importance of health and wellbeing - inclusion in many policies/guidance documents
- Public Health Bill - technical focus ie obesity; smoking; alcohol **But** no specific legislation for HIA and HIAP
- FG Act - PHW will need to monitor its effectiveness with regard to health
- Several years time we can evaluate any success
- Continue HIAP approach - PHW guidance, HIA a key tool





Grazie!

Diolch yn fawr!

Liz.Green@wales.nhs.uk

www.whiasu.wales.nhs.uk

