

**APPENDIX 6**

**Environment and Health**

<b>Recommended Structural Improvements</b>		
<b>COMMENT</b>	<b>BY WHO</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>
Could split into 'environmental health' and 'natural environment'.	Biodiversity Partnership (West Midlands)	The areas covered will be explained briefly at start of chapter.
Chapter focuses primarily on the natural environment, and for consistency with the previous chapter on Planning, Transport and Health, should also cover the built and historic environment.	English Heritage, West Midlands Region	The built environment is included in Planning and Transport Chapter. Culture would be the most appropriate chapter for 'heritage'
The Climate Change section should be included at the start of the strategy, perhaps following a section on Sustainable Development so it is seen as cross cutting the strategy chapters.	Regional Environment Partnership	Agreed. This is one of our most important priorities.
The obesity element of the chapter may need to be looked at as there may be a way of making it more concise and	PAN-WM	Obesity section will be cross referenced with the revised Culture and Leisure chapter

<p>sentence length etc. seems a little long in places. It does not read well at the moment.</p>		
<p>Too many priorities in this section might be preferable to group those relating to infectious diseases under a separate heading.</p>	<p>West Midlands Strategic Migration Partnership (Dave Newall – Policy Officer) Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007</p>	<p>Agreed too long but this is the only logical location for Infectious Diseases.</p>
<p>Need recommendations aimed at specific sectors within the document itself so then it will be known who the document is aimed at. This could form the implementation plan.</p>	<p>Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007</p>	<p>Agreed. Will be included in the Implementation Plan</p>
<p>The title “Priorities for Action” is confusing. These should be included in the implementation plan.</p>	<p>Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007</p>	<p>Agreed. Phrasing for priorities for action will be reviewed to ensure they are appropriate. They will also be included in the Implementation Plan.</p>
<p>Should this chapter be called Physical Environment and Health as the chapter does not include the cultural environment</p>	<p>Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007</p>	<p>See first comment.</p>

**Recommended Content Improvements**

Need to link to education sector to promote common message. (Also schools help long term and engage BME). Education needs to be tailored to individual target groups. Education also needed about risk to countryside diseases.

Biodiversity Partnership (West Midlands)

Agreed. Include in Implementation Plan

Need demonstrations of case studies showing best practice.

Biodiversity Partnership (West Midlands)

There are case studies – these are limited by length of chapter.

Strategy needs to address waste and the effect on the environment, is there an attributable risk factor calculation that could be set out?

Directors of Public Health (West Midlands)

Chapter does cover waste; will review to ensure it covers environmental impact. Will investigate AR but unlikely to get answer as waste issues complex.

In accordance with the Regional Spatial Strategy, the historic environment hence warrants explicit recognition as a component part of a high quality natural and built environment.

English Heritage, West Midlands Region

Needs to be included in the Chapter on ‘Culture’.

Key facts (p25): Include a reference to the Region’s historic environment

English Heritage, West Midlands Region

Noted

<p>resource.</p>		
<p>Creating a Rich Environment (p26): this only addresses the natural environment. There is the opportunity to bring out the close interrelationship between the natural and historic environment e.g. urban parks, canal networks, cemeteries, other historic sites.</p>	<p>English Heritage, West Midlands Region</p>	<p>Will make general reference</p>
<p>Vision: Change to “To create, protect and enhance a high quality natural and lower carbon built environment, adapted to a changing climate that promotes health and wellbeing”.</p>	<p>Regional Environment Partnership</p>	<p>Could be an option. Will be reviewed against final Chapter</p>
<p>The West Midlands Environment: 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph start “The challenges include the impact of climate change, promotion of renewable energy and planning sustainable communities for lower carbon lifestyles, major new development pressures, cumulative impacts on land take and habitats fragmentation, changing land management practices, diffuse pollution, brownfield and contaminated land, increasing biodiversity loss, degrading of</p>	<p>Regional Environment Partnership</p>	<p>Could be an option. Will be reviewed against final Chapter.</p>

<p>historic and landscape assets, increasing woodlands and protecting and enhancing the water environment.”</p>		
<p>Link to Culture West Midlands Action Plan and the West Midlands 2012 Action Plan.</p>	<p>(Equality &amp; Diversity Partnership)</p>	<p>Agreed. Link will be made.</p>
<p>Promote a “healthy image” through diet and exercise etc for example the BCTV Green Gym, and local food growing initiatives. Also balance with thin image issues.</p>	<p>(Equality &amp; Diversity Partnership)</p>	<p>Will ensure strong link to obesity, exercise etc.</p>
<p>Environmental Sustainability: Would like this to go further in terms of ruling out incineration of non clinical waste and greater emphasis on reuse, recycling.</p>	<p>Friends of the Earth, West Midlands</p>	<p>Agreed. Will be included in Implementation Plan.</p>
<p>Would wish to see the partnership being far more innovative and much more proactive with respect to sustainability issues especially resource use and the generation and management of so called “waste”</p>	<p>Friends of the Earth, West Midlands</p>	<p>Agreed. Will be included in Implementation Plan - work with NHS is developing.</p>

<p>Like to see focus on growing of food to benefit economy and way of life whilst aiming to eliminate food deserts.</p>	<p>Friends of the Earth, West Midlands</p>	<p>Agreed.</p>
<p>The effects of climate change should be considered, in particular the effect on the agricultural economy and food production in the future.</p>	<p>Herefordshire Partnership</p>	<p>Agreed. Climate change will be given more priority in Chapter</p>
<p>Lots of information provided in response about fluoridation of water.</p>	<p>Rugby Counsel of Older Residents – Mr Tom White</p>	<p>Fluoridation is a key public health measure which has improved dental health and reduced inequalities in dental health.</p>
<p>There should be greater emphasis on programmes to promote walking and cycling; greater encouragement of physical activities for children and young people; more promotion of physical activity at work or journeys to and from work; better promotion of programmes to vulnerable groups and people whose first language is not English.</p>	<p>Staffordshire County Council (Members)</p>	<p>Agreed. This is already in the Chapter but will be given more emphasis. Also need to stress this in the Chapter on 'Planning and Transport.</p>
<p>P27 Members felt that more ambitious targets were needed</p>	<p>Staffordshire County Council (Members)</p>	<p>Agreed. Need to consider this as part of implementation, and in the context of the new H&amp;SC outcomes framework.</p>

<p>Would like to see the strategy also recognise the demonstrable effect that woodland can have on improving peoples' health.</p>	<p>Woodland Trust</p>	<p>Agreed. Will strengthen the Chapter to include this.</p>
<p>We would like to see the Health Strategy recognise that the rich variety of plants and animals, together with the unique landscape, found in ancient woodland can offer exceptional mental and physical health benefits.</p>	<p>Woodland Trust</p>	<p>Agreed. Will strengthen the Chapter to include this.</p>
<p>P27 There is reference to factors that encourage physical activity including pavements. Should we pick up the importance of footway maintenance suitable for elderly to walk from their homes in confidence and the potential cost of falls to the health system?</p>	<p>Worcestershire County Council (Liz Tuckett, Councillor)</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>More about addressing the affects of climate change and the health impacts that are facing society.</p>	<p>Rural Workshop on Health and Health Services</p>	<p>Agreed. Climate change will be given more priority.</p>
<p>Include Sustainability Environmental Assessments (SEAs) helping to show how much rural areas can contribute over and above urban ones.</p>	<p>Rural Workshop on Health and Health Services</p>	<p>Needs to explore SEAs and what precisely is meant by contribution over and above. Each sector carries different strengths and weaknesses.</p>

<p>Account must be taken of global environmental challenges such as climate change, and tackling at a local level, making links with local communities and schools. This includes both mitigation and adaptation strategies reducing the impacts facing society today and into the future.</p>	<p>Rural Workshop on Health and Health Services</p>	<p>Agreed. Climate change will be given more priority.</p>
<p>Needs to be more specific about inequalities</p>	<p>Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007</p>	<p>Will try to identify a good evidence-base on this in relation specifically to WMids but may not be available. Can include general statement about environmental inequality.</p>
<p>Need to make stronger link to future generations e.g. children's well-being.</p>	<p>Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007</p>	<p>Agreed. Will revise Chapter to make this link.</p>
<p>Under the "Sustainability" heading should also mention funding as well.</p>	<p>Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007</p>	<p>Funding is an issue for Implementation.</p>
<p>There needs to be much more priority given to Climate Change.</p>	<p>Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007</p>	<p>Agreed. Climate change will be given more priority.</p>
<p>The design of new hospitals and concept of design needs to be re-emphasised in the Built Environment</p>	<p>Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007</p>	<p>Agreed. Will include more stress on this. Also an issue for the Chapter on Planning.</p>

section of the chapter. Need more green space and landscaping around the hospital to improve people's health and well-being.



Priority	Suggested Improvements	Rank Awarded	Action Currently Being Taken
<p>1. Promote the benefits of a diverse natural environment for physical and mental health and support the development of good quality green space.</p>	<p>Include reference to the built and historic environment e.g. ‘...diverse natural environment, high quality built environment and valued historic environment for...’ (English Heritage)</p> <p>Change to “Promote the maintenance and enhancement of the wider biodiversity resource, the benefits of the regions landscape and support the development of green infrastructure for physical and mental health” (Regional Environment Partnership)</p> <p>Add “and leisure, cultural and play opportunities” (Equality &amp; Diversity Partnership)</p> <p>This must include green space in urban areas as well as countryside. (RAF), (WMWFF)</p>	<p>1 Biodiversity</p> <p>1= Forestry Commission</p> <p>1= NHS West Midlands (The Board)</p> <p>1= West Midlands Wildlife Trusts</p> <p>1= WMWFF</p> <p>1= Warwickshire County Council (Adult, Health and Community Services)</p> <p>4 Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007</p>	<p>The following strategic outcome aligns with the above priority in The Council Plan 2007+ (page 40). Strategic Outcome: Stay safe – living in clean, green and safe communities. Priority action – Plant more trees in Birmingham (named BCC lead = Portfolio Holder for Leisure, Sport and Culture).</p> <p>(Birmingham City Council)</p> <p>This is the main priority for Natural England. Our work is solely geared around improvements to the natural environment for public benefit. Greater wildlife diversity and better quality landscapes are important to people’s lives and Natural England has been established to ensure that people understand, respect and enjoy the green and wild places of the West Midlands</p>

	<p>Rephrase to “Encourage health administrators and professionals to recognise the contribution of the natural environment in the treatment of physical and mental ill health.” (West Midlands Wildlife Trusts)</p> <p>Need reference to supporting the development of biodiversity, as well as leisure, cultural and play opportunities. (Sustainability West Midlands Policy Group)</p> <p>This is a subset of priority 2, could be split in 2 and linked to priority 2. (Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007)</p> <p>Change to “Promote the benefits and use of a diverse....” (Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007)</p>		<p>working in partnership with many other organisations. (Natural England)</p> <p>PAN-WM and Sport England will establish a ‘Green Activity’ sub-group to takeforward work in this priority area following the Environment conference that was held earlier this year in partnership with Natural England. (PAN-WM), (Sport England)</p>
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	<p>To promote the benefits of a diverse natural environment for physical and mental health and support the development and use of accessible, good quality green space and countryside.</p>		
<p>2. Increase the number of people using the Region's countryside and greenspaces, in particular to work to meet emerging standards for accessible local greenspace.</p>	<p>Change to "Improve access and increase the number of people using the regions countryside and green spaces developing new green infrastructure to accessible greenspace standards." (Regional Environment Partnership)</p> <p>Refer more to young people; also need to strengthen how people can access countryside, e.g. bus routes. (Equality &amp; Diversity Partnership)</p>	<p>2 Biodiversity 1= Forestry Commission 1= West Midlands Wildlife Trusts 1= WMWFF 1= Warwickshire County Council (Adult, Health and Community Services) 9 Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007</p>	<p>Natural England is developing the Access to Natural Greenspace Standards, with partners. It is hoped that they will be adopted by planning departments throughout the region when they are finalised.</p> <p>We are also working closely with providers and managers of public greenspace to improve the quality of experience for visitors and reducing the barriers to access either perceived or real. (Natural England)</p> <p>PAN-WM and Sport England</p>

	<p>This should be inclusive and apply to urban and rural green space. (RAF), (WMWFF)</p> <p>Rephrase to “Increase the number of people using the Region’s countryside and greenspaces and support the development of good quality greenspace in particular to meet emerging standards for accessible local greenspace. (West Midlands Wildlife Trusts)</p> <p>Need reference to the need to improve how people can access countryside, e.g. bus routes and to expand upon potential uses of the countryside to include stimulating the interest of people of all ages and ethnic origins. (Sustainability West Midlands Policy Group)</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Combined with previous priority - To promote the benefits of a diverse natural environment for physical</p> </div>		<p>will promote physical activity participation in the countryside and green space (PAN-WM), (Sport England)</p> <p>The Woodland Trust has researched and developed a Woodland Access Standard for public bodies to aim for, as set out in our ‘Space for People’ publication. This standard is endorsed by English Nature.</p> <p>The Woodland Trust Woodland Access Standard recommends:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ That no person should live more than 500m from at least one area of accessible woodland of no less than 2ha in size.</li> <li>➤ That there should also be at least one area of accessible woodland of no less than 20ha within 4km (8km round-trip) of people’s homes.</li> </ul> <p>(Woodland Trust)</p>
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	<p>and mental health and support the development and use of accessible, good quality green space and countryside.</p>		
<p>3. Reduce the number of people in the Region who do no physical activity.</p>	<p>Better placed in Culture, Physical Activity and Health chapter. (Birmingham City Council), (RAF). (Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007)</p> <p>This could be defined as those identified as doing less than 1*30mins per week, as measured by 'Active People'. (PAN-WM), (Sport England)</p> <p>This overlaps with priority 1 in the Culture, Physical Activity and Health Chapter. Would be better to phrase it here with an explicit link to the natural environment by saying 'increase the number of people who engage in physical activity in the natural environment' which would give it a specific</p>	<p>1 CSIP            1= Forestry Commission            1= Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust            1= West Midlands Wildlife Trusts            1= WMWFF            1= Warwickshire County Council (Adult, Health and Community Services)            2 Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007</p>	<p>Natural England through it's health campaign believes that the natural environment can play a very positive role in helping to improve people's physical and mental wellbeing. Natural England wants to expand its Walking the Way to Health Initiative by working with other organisations and Sport England to improve the region's health through contact and engagement with the natural environment. (Natural England)</p> <p>PAN-WM will work to support those working to deliver this priority in the region as a core part of its terms of reference. (PAN-WM)</p> <p>Sport England will continue to deliver the active people</p>

	<p>reason for being in this section. (West Midlands Wildlife Trusts)</p> <p>Rephrase to “increase the number of people that are doing physical activity” (Worcestershire Partnership)</p> <p>Overlaps with priority 1 in Culture, Physical Activity and Health. Either the wording should be the same or a separate cross-cutting theme developed. (Wychavon District Council)</p> <p>Should this be linked to certain target populations e.g. those suffering multiple deprivation – relative importance is lessened by the public places ban? (Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007)</p> <p>This outcome is not specifically linked to the environment. (Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007)</p>		<p>survey and embed and support the delivery system for sport to increase active participation. (Sport England)</p> <p>Target of sport England to increase by 1% the people participating in sport or active recreation. Encouraging new walking, cycling, dance groups and monitoring numbers. (Malvern Hills District Council)</p>
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	<p>RHP wanted to keep the target in this section, but cross link to the Culture &amp; Leisure chapter as the environment has an impact on Physical Activity.</p>		
<p>4. Halt the rise in the prevalence of obesity in children under 11 by 2010, whilst tackling adult obesity levels.</p>	<p>This appears to be two separate priorities – currently could simply be written as ‘tackle obesity’, which is very broad. This priority is based on the current PSA that only runs until 2010. It would be more appropriate to establish a priority that reflects the life of the strategy/beyond 2010. (PAN-WM), (Sport England)</p> <p>Not clear as to why in this section. (West Midlands Wildlife Trusts)</p> <p>Should be stronger links to healthy eating and the promotion of a healthy diet. (Wychavon District Council)</p>	<p>2 CSIP          1= NHS West Midlands (The Board)          1= Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust          1= Warwickshire County Council (Adult, Health and Community Services)          1 Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007</p>	<p>As mentioned above, encouraging children to engage in activities linked to the natural environment can lead to very positive health outcomes. Many children are “lost” to the natural environment if they have had a negative experience by the age of 14, so as adults they reinforce this negative experience. The sector as a whole needs to work together to ensure that every child in the region has good quality contact with the natural environment to increase confidence, improve knowledge and thus lead to a healthy lifestyle in later life. There are strong links with prevention work on this</p>

	<p>This is a more detailed version of priority 7 in Children and Young People. (Wychavon District Council)</p> <p>Strengthened by reference to promoting a “healthy image” through diet and exercise for example the BCTV Green Gym, and local food growing initiatives at the same time avoiding any endorsement of excessively thin images currently fashionable for “glamour models” (Sustainability West Midlands Policy Group)</p> <p>Should be moved to Children &amp; Young People chapter (Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007)</p> <p>This outcome is not specifically linked to the environment. (Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007)</p> <p>RHP wanted to keep the</p>		<p>objective that match Natural England’s work on promoting a Sustainable Strategy for Food and Farming (Natural England)</p> <p>NHS West Midlands is proposing a PCT collaboration around childhood obesity. NHS West Midlands recognises that there are certain areas where collaboration between Primary Care Trusts brings the combined benefit of accelerated and consistent service development. NHS West Midlands will consult with PCTs on the themes for this approach but the three being proposed are reducing levels of childhood obesity, reducing excess winter deaths and developing the life check. Once agreed projects will be established and Project Initiation Documents developed. It would be useful to engage partners outside the PCTs on this project. (NHS West Midlands – The Board)</p>
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	<p>target in this section because of the effect the environment has on the levels of obesity. Target will be cross-referenced with children and culture and leisure chapters.</p>		<p>PAN-WM will support the development of Physical activity interventions as part of a wider strategy to tackle obesity across all sectors and organisations that it works with. (PAN-WM)</p> <p>Sport England support the delivery system for sport to increase participation in active recreation and sport. (Sport England)</p> <p>Measuring height and weight of reception and yr.6 pupils in schools. BMI's calculated and interventions placed in schools with high obesity levels. Slimming on GP recommendation schemes to be run in local leisure centres. (Malvern Hills District Council)</p>
<p>5. Reduce the number of people smoking within the Region and ensure others are protected from second-hand tobacco smoke.</p>	<p>2 separate priorities included, should be split. (Sport England)</p>	<p>4 CSIP 1= NHS West Midlands (The Board) 2 Rugby Counsel of Older</p>	<p>NHS West Midlands are committed to ensuring smoking cessation services are enhanced. To improve services generally and to</p>

	<p>Could be strengthened by reference to working with Local Authorities to monitor/enforce national smoking ban from 1<sup>st</sup> July. (Sustainability West Midlands Policy Group)</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 10px 0;"> <p>Wording of priority will be considered for final document.</p> </div>	<p>Residents – Mr Tom White          1= Warwickshire County Council (Adult, Health and Community Services)          10 Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007</p>	<p>ensure that the recommendations of the Health Care Commission review on smoking are addressed and to work with partners to ensure compliance of the law, to be introduced on the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2007.</p> <p>(NHS West Midlands – The Board)</p> <p>Smoking ban enforced by environmental officers. One-to-one support and counsel to stop smoking in NHS Quit smoking groups across the County. (Malvern Hills District Council)</p>
<p>6. Protect people and their environment from risks such as air, land and water pollution.</p>	<p>Link priorities 6, 7, 8. (Equality &amp; Diversity Partnership)</p> <p>No mention is made of noise and its impact on the health of communities and its links to anti-social behaviour. (Hereford &amp; Worcester Chief Environmental Health Officers</p>	<p>3 CSIP          1 Rugby Counsel of Older Residents – Mr Tom White.          1= West Midlands Wildlife Trusts          6= Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007</p>	

	<p>Group), (Wychavon District Council)</p> <p>Unsure how this would be done. Reduce traffic use and congestion and food miles. Increase air fares to reduce aeroplane use. Increase recycling. (Malvern Hills District Council)</p> <p>Make reference to supporting the implementation of Environmental Management Systems. (Sustainability West Midlands Policy Group)</p> <div data-bbox="621 919 1029 1304" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"><p>Proposed new wording – To protect people and their environment from threats such as air pollution, land contamination, water pollution and community noise pollution.</p></div>		
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<p>7. Tackle climate change by promoting the reduction of emissions of global warming gases from public sector premises by 20% by 2010.</p>	<p>Link priorities 6, 7, 8. (Equality &amp; Diversity Partnership)</p> <p>Combine with Priority 10 (Hereford &amp; Worcester Chief Environmental Officers Group), (Wychavon District Council)</p> <p>Longer term targets need to be included say to 2020 and 2050 at least as stretching as Government targets, but preferably greater as these are now widely thought to be inadequate. The current phrasing refers to public sector buildings as a whole which is a very broad ambition. Would it not be more sensible to restrict targets to health sector buildings? (West Midlands Wildlife Trusts)</p> <p>We should be taking a twin-track approach to this – making significant cuts in</p>	<p>1 Birmingham City Council 1= NHS West Midlands (The Board) 3 Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007</p>	<p>Birmingham City Council has signed up to the Nottingham Declaration and has already set itself challenging targets on reducing CO2 emissions, improving energy efficiency and procuring energy from renewable sources.</p> <p>In The Council Plan 2007+ (page 47), the Council identifies the following strategic outcome and priority actions which align with the above priority. Strategic Outcome: Enjoy a high quality of life-benefiting from good housing and renowned cultural and leisure opportunities. Priority action – Implement combined heat and power schemes to reduce carbon emissions (named BCC lead Portfolio Holder for Regeneration). Priority action – Implement energy-saving measures in</p>

	<p>greenhouse gases and at the same time taking adaptive action for climate change we are already locked into. (Woodland Trust)</p> <p>Especially focus / reference to NHS contribution (Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007)</p> <p>Why just the public sector and why this % (Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007)</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Proposed new wording – To tackle climate change and its impacts, by promoting the reduction of emissions of global warming gases and promoting adaptation to climate change.</p> </div>		<p>City Council premises (named BCC lead = Portfolio Holder for Regeneration).</p> <p>(Birmingham City Council)</p>
<p>8. Reduce the health impacts that result from changes in climate and from an increase in the occurrence and frequency of extreme events</p>	<p>Link priorities 6, 7, 8. (Equality &amp; Diversity Partnership)</p> <p>Very broad – actions to</p>	<p>1= Forestry Commission 1= WMWFF 6= Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007</p>	<p>Natural England will be managing a Climate Change Campaign in the future. It will also be measuring and reducing it's own carbon</p>

<p>such as flooding or extremes of heat.</p>	<p>address the impacts need to be included. (West Midlands Wildlife Trusts)</p> <p>Could be linked to priority 10 (Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007)</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>Proposed new wording – To tackle climate change and its impacts, by promoting the reduction of emissions of global warming gases and promoting adaptation to climate change.</p> </div>		<p>footprint in the region.</p> <p>Through the management grants we give out we will be looking to achieve environmental gains in mitigating against climate change through improved land management practices and techniques which will contribute towards reducing regional health impacts (Natural England)</p>
<p>9. Reduce infectious disease rates, in particular to tackle inequalities.</p>	<p>Not clear as to why in this section. (West Midlands Wildlife Trusts)</p> <p>Unclear on this priority (Malvern Hills District Council)</p> <p>Needs to be linked more closely to the environment (Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007)</p>	<p>5 CSIP 6= Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007</p>	<p>It should be noted that the West Midlands is currently performing very favourably against the other regions in terms of Hospital Acquired Infections .</p> <p>Birmingham City Council's Health Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee receives quarterly updates on the areas of the Birmingham Health &amp; Well-Being partnership's Floor</p>

	<p>Proposed new wording – To reduce infectious disease rates in particular to tackle inequalities in distribution of infection risks.</p>		<p>Target Action Plans, which relate to Health Inequalities.</p> <p>The Committee requests that the inequalities mentioned above are not limited to those borne from infectious disease; it feels that there are many other health inequalities that should also be included in this priority such as teenage pregnancy, male life expectancy and obesity.</p> <p>(Birmingham City Council)</p>
<p>10. Ensure there are effective arrangements to minimise the health impacts of major incidents.</p>	<p>Link to national and regional government emergency planning. Need to ensure that there is equal (access to) support/awareness etc for all, regardless of income, location etc. (Equality &amp; Diversity Partnership)</p> <p>Combine with Priority 7 (Hereford &amp; Worcester Chief Environmental Officers Group),</p>	<p>1= NHS West Midlands (The Board) 5 Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007</p>	

	<p>(Wychavon District Council)</p> <p>This should not detract from the increasing need to ensure that prevention is of equal priority for resource allocation. (RAF)</p> <p>Not clear as to why in this section. (West Midlands Wildlife Trusts)</p> <p>Needs to be linked more closely to the environment (Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007)</p> <p>Could link to priority 8 (Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007)</p> <div data-bbox="625 1019 1029 1307" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"><p>Proposed new wording – To develop effective arrangements to minimise the health and environmental impacts of major incidents.</p></div>		
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**Additional Priorities Recommended**

<p>Support environmental technologies cluster, either in this chapter or the Economy and Health chapter.</p>	<p>Regional Economic Officers Group to the West Midlands Regional Assembly.</p>	<p>Will make link to the Environmental Technologies Cluster of AWM</p>
<p>Priority about food growing – local suppliers – community enterprise.</p>	<p>Equality &amp; Diversity Partnership</p>	<p>Agreed. Will make link to Sustainable Farming and Food</p>
<p>Priority around engagement, innovation, flexibility – support excluded groups.</p>	<p>Equality &amp; Diversity Partnership</p>	<p>Agreed. This is an underlying theme for the Chapter and indeed the whole strategy rather than a specific priority</p>
<p>Incorporate effective health dimensions into local and regional policies affecting health and environment, and into national development policies and actions for environment and health, including legal and regulatory frameworks governing management of the human environment.</p>	<p>Herefordshire Partnership</p>	<p>Agreed. This is what the Chapter is seeking to achieve.</p>
<p>Would like to see a priority relating to Alcohol including its misuse and this could possibly be expanded to include other substance misuse.</p>	<p>Hereford &amp; Worcester Chief Environmental Health Officers Group Wychavon District Council</p>	<p>This is tackled in the Safer and Stronger Communities Chapter</p>

<p>Proactively strengthen and develop partnerships at regional, sub-regional and local levels to promote the links between natural environment and health.</p>	<p>West Midlands Wildlife Trusts</p>	<p>Agreed. This is will be taken up in the Implementation Planning.</p>
<p>Seek to ensure that the Health Service estate is managed in a way which supports biodiversity and wildlife.</p>	<p>West Midlands Wildlife Trusts</p>	<p>Agreed. Need to include this in the NHS as a Good Citizen work, and in relation to Planning and Transport</p>
<p>Priority for action around reducing road accidents</p>	<p>Wychavon District Council</p>	<p>Agreed –Included in the Planning and Transport Chapter</p>
<p>Encourage and enable waste minimisation, reuse, recycling and recovery to divert resources away from the waste stream, including the use of recycled materials where possible.</p>	<p>Sustainability West Midlands Policy Group</p>	<p>Noted for action plan.</p>
<p>Reward efficient resource use and encourage development of alternative and renewable resources in order to reduce dependence on fossil fuels.</p>	<p>Sustainability West Midlands Policy Group</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>Water pollution / fluoridation, both air and food in relation to infant mortality.</p>	<p>Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007</p>	<p>Fluoridation does not contribute to infant mortality. There is very little pollution of drinking water that</p>

		goes unrecognised and untreated quickly in this country, and no evidence of any link to infant mortality.
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**Additional Work Being Carried Out**

- Prioritise with Commissioners the need to shift activity from health services to the health and well being agenda. This is a significant challenge given the pressure on commissioners to reduce financial deficits and remain focused on government targets.
- CSIP generally can support progress in these areas by website development and other means of making best practice available to commissioners to enable a focus on these priorities

Care Services Improvement Partnership West Midlands

Noted and welcomed

The priorities in this section link with the following priorities of NHS West Midlands

Halt the rise in childhood obesity  
 Reduction in smoking prevalence  
 Development of Health Trainers  
 Development of the Expert Patient Programme.  
 Promotion of Life Check  
 NHS as a Good Citizen

NHS West Midlands (The Board)

Noted and welcomed

Health sector major incident planning, response and business continuity

These are articulated in the strategic framework of NHS West Midlands.

NHS West Midlands recognises the need to reduce the levels of childhood obesity and the number of people who smoke and would want to work closely with agencies to reduce the numbers. Other Programmes, which are relevant, are the Expert Patient Programme and the development of health trainers as both of these could be used to ensure people are aware and supported in reducing obesity and smoking prevalence.

NHS West Midlands will through the LDP performance manage PCTs on childhood obesity, GP recording of BMI, smoking status, and smoking cessation services. NHS West Midlands would be willing to share this data to help monitor delivery of the strategy

NHS West Midlands would want to see through the implementation of the strategy the promotion of Life Check. Life Check is a

<p>self-assessment tool, which can be used in all locations and in particular workplaces. The tool seeks information on individual demographics, physique, lifestyles, medical history, family medical history and will provide tailored feedback and recommendations for change. In addition Life check will provide information about services available to provide support.</p>		
<p>The LAA is the key local document which sets out how the Council and its partners will improve health and well being for the people of Staffordshire. Our focus in this section would be on influencing key partners to include environment and health issues in their planning.</p>	<p>Staffordshire County Council (Members)</p>	<p>Noted and welcomed</p>
<p>This Council has many programmes in place to encourage people to undertake physical activity. The Council also promotes the District's countryside and green spaces. In relation to the Health Inequalities Action Plan, schemes have been put in place to reduce the number of people smoking within the District and specific issues around tackling climate change have been</p>	<p>Staffordshire Moorlands Council (Health Scrutiny Panel)</p>	<p>Noted and welcomed</p>

<p>introduced within the Climate Change Policy adopted by the Council.</p>		
<p>The TUC has recently promoted and designed training packages for trade union environment representatives in order that they could support companies / negotiate agreements on work related climate change issues and processes. This innovation is in its' early stages of development but has the potential to take environmental and sustainability issues to the negotiating tables of companies across the West Midlands.</p>	<p>TUC, West Midlands</p>	<p>Noted and welcomed</p>
<p>We are particularly interested in working with the health sector in providing opportunities for people to have better access to green space and wildlife, whether by organising visits, supporting volunteers or developing new green spaces (subject to funding). This can provide benefits for those with mental health issues and also in terms of physical health and support the physical and mental wellbeing of the population generally.</p> <p>We are also interested in working with the health sector on the healthy eating agenda where there are close links between wildlife-</p>	<p>West Midlands Wildlife Trusts</p>	<p>Noted and welcomed</p>

friendly growing of foodstuffs and healthy eating.

An example of a project in which we are already engaged is Stepping Out and we are keen to expand this kind of work. Some further information is given about this below:

Stepping Out supports and involves informal carers of people suffering from mental ill health, and those they care for, to explore and discover green spaces and the countryside in and around Coventry.

Through a series of confidence building and awareness activities forming a "stepping stones" journey, Stepping Out supports and encourages participants to access the local environment.

Activity Groups meet regularly: weekly, fortnightly and monthly. The groups visit local places of interest, go on short walks, explore the countryside and its benefits through the arts. Those suffering from mental ill health are welcome to attend with

<p>their carer if they are able.</p> <p>Stepping Out is managed by Warwickshire Wildlife Trust in close partnership with Coventry Carers and the Asian Mental Health Action Project and funded by Natural England.</p>		
<p>Initiatives such as the Wye Wood and Wider Wood Projects have a track record for getting more involved in woodlands and health – fostering greater social inclusion and improving mental and physical health.</p>	<p>Rural Workshop on Health and Health Services</p>	<p>Noted and welcomed</p>
<p>Developing a range of health-based physical activity incentive schemes including one which can reward independent activity in green space or indeed, any location. Providing a range of health provision initiatives in green space – health walks, self led trails, art work way-marked trails, practical conservation tasks, volunteer recruitment, training and development programmes. The Black Country Living Landscapes Projects includes a commitment</p>	<p>Walsall Council</p>	<p>Noted and welcomed</p>

<p>developing a range of health initiatives which encourage the use of green space.</p>		
<p>Natural England is continuing to extend the Walking the Way to Health initiative.</p>	<p>Natural England</p>	<p>Noted and welcomed</p>
<p>Supporting Age Concern in various projects i.e. Advocacy. Supporting local area partnerships i.e. providing support for PHILLIS, a county-wide effort to support people in their own homes, support for various communities, including mental health locally.</p>	<p>Rugby Counsel for Older Residents</p>	<p>Noted and welcomed</p>
<p>Working with schools to promote healthy eating and encourage exercise.</p>	<p>Lichfield District Council</p>	<p>Noted and welcomed</p>
<p>Extending invitations to the health sector to annual conferences. Last year's conference resulted in a project being instigated by Staffordshire County Council Ranger Services to host regular healthy walks with one of the local health clinics</p>	<p>Cannock Chase AON B Unit</p>	<p>Noted and welcomed</p>
<p>Continued support for Walking the Way to Health Initiative. Expansion of this into green exercise programmes.</p>	<p>Natural England</p>	<p>Noted and welcomed</p>

**Signups to Strategy**

Biodiversity Partnership (West Midlands)

Very keen to discuss how biodiversity sector might work more closely to deliver specific aspects of Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

Noted and welcomed

English Heritage

Would like to be named as 'main partner'.

Agreed.