

# **Joseph Norton Academy SEMH School Deighton**

## **Health Impact Assessment**

Kirklees Children's Services

November 2023

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## 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This Health Impact Assessment (HIA) has been prepared by Lichfields on behalf of the Applicant, Kirklees Children's Services. The purpose of the HIA is to identify, assess and present any potential effects on the health of the population arising from the proposed development of a new social emotional and mental health (SEMH) school facility on land at the former Deighton Centre, Kirklees.

### HIA Requirement

- 1.2 Policy LP47 (Healthy, Active and Safe Lifestyles) of the 2019 Kirklees Local Plan states that HIAs are required *"for all proposals that are likely to have a significant impact on the health and well-being of the local communities, or particular groups within it, in order to identify measures to maximise the health benefits of the development and avoid any potential adverse impacts."*
- 1.3 Further criteria are outlined in Kirklees Council's Validation Requirements document. It states that a Rapid HIA will be required where the following criteria are met:
- Any major application comprising (ii) a floorspace of over 1,000sqm; and
  - If the proposed development is in a ward which has been identified to have one or more of the five public health indicators higher than the Kirklees average, where the land use planning could have an influence.
- 1.4 An assessment of the public health indicators confirms that the ward the proposed development falls within – Ashbrow – is characterised by:
- Higher than average levels of obesity;
  - Higher than average rates of adults feeling isolated/lonely among under 65s; and
  - Ranked within one of the five most deprived wards by the Index of Multiple Deprivation.
- 1.5 As such, the proposed development meets both of the above criteria and a HIA is required.

### Proposed Development

- 1.6 With reference to the Planning Statement, the proposed development comprises:
- "Development of the former Deighton Centre (previously Deighton High School), comprising a Social Emotional and Mental Health School (Use Class F1), comprising two storey and single storey educational buildings, roof mounted photo-voltaic panels, sensory garden spaces, multi- use games areas, landscaping, hardstanding areas, carparking, access with secure fencing and ancillary development, land off Deighton Road, Huddersfield, HD2 1JP."*

### Structure of this Report

- 1.7 The structure of the remainder of this report is as follows:

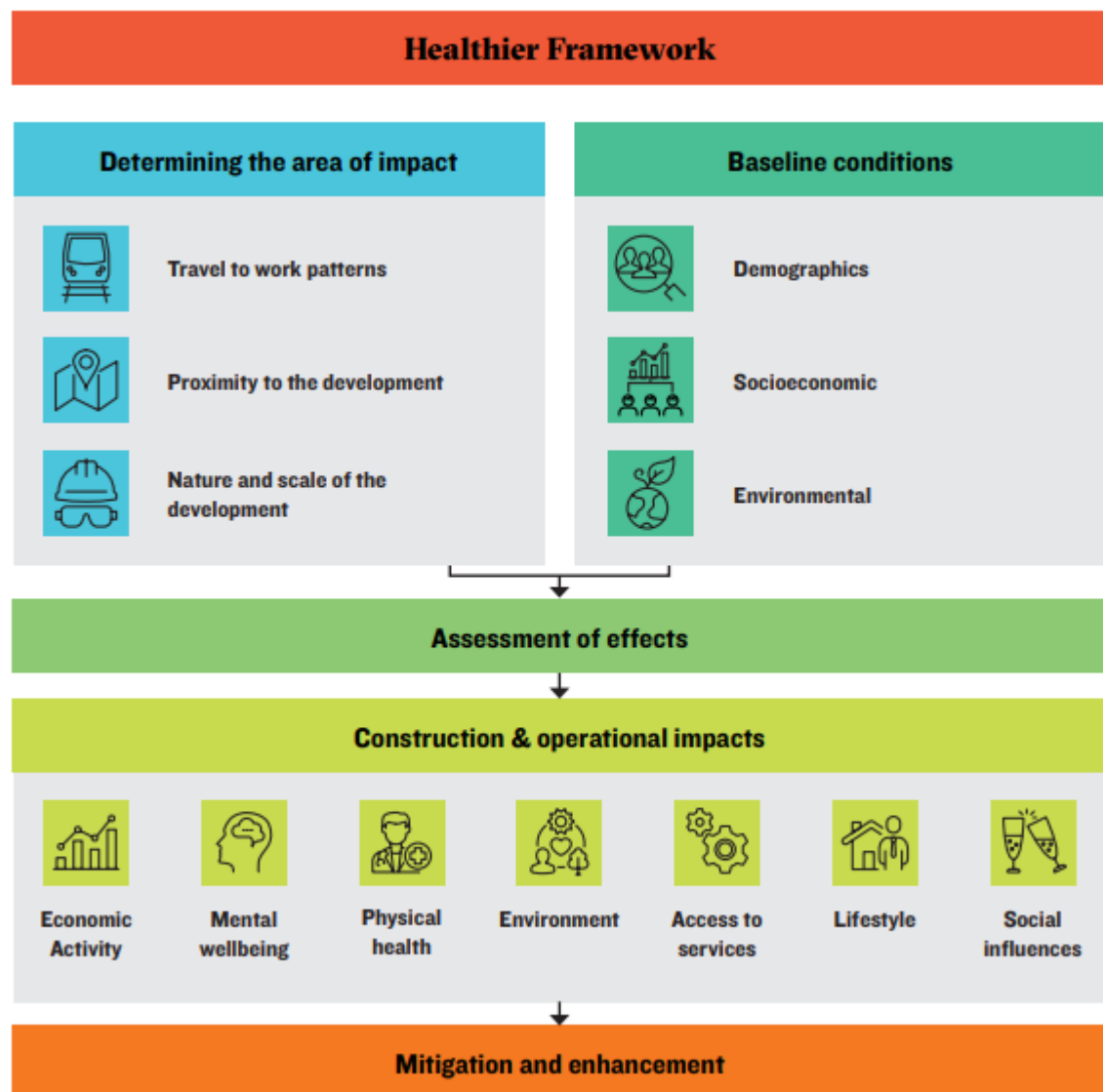
- **Section 2.0:** sets out the methodology applied in this assessment;
- **Section 3.0:** sets out the national, sub-regional and local policy context for the proposed development;
- **Section 4.0:** presents the analysis applied to determine the area of impact;
- **Section 5.0:** sets out the demographic, socioeconomic and health context of the area of impact;
- **Section 6.0 – 8.0:** considers the anticipated health impacts of the proposed development on the general population and identified vulnerable groups; and
- **Section 9.0:** draws out the conclusions of the assessment.

## 2.0 Assessment Methodology

### Methodology

- 2.1 This report draws upon the *Healthier* framework developed by Lichfields, which provides an analytical assessment of the anticipated health impacts of the proposed development (Figure 2.1). The framework is underpinned by Lichfields' expertise in assessing the impact of new developments across a range of environmental and health contexts.

Figure 2.1 Healthier framework



- 2.2 There is no single best practice methodology for undertaking health impact assessments in England. As such, the framework was informed by a blend of publicly available Health Impact Assessment guidance. This includes the following resources:

- Public Health England: Health Impact Assessment in spatial planning;
- Wales Health Impact Assessment Support Unit; and

- Healthy Urban Design Unit.

- 2.3 It has also been necessary to flex the framework to align with Kirklees Council's 'Rapid Health Impact Assessment for Spatial Planning' guidance, which provides a matrix for assessing impacts on health determinants (detailed below).
- 2.4 The framework first identifies which broad geographical area is likely to be impacted by the proposals. Key quantifiable data is then collected and applied to understand the existing conditions within the local area, which allows for analysis demonstrating the impact of the development during the construction phase and upon completion.

## Determinants, Pathways and Outcomes

- 2.1 The HIA identifies links between the new development and health using the determinants, pathways and outcomes approach. This process demonstrates the mechanism through which impacts can affect the health of the population during the construction and operational phases.

## Health Determinants

- 2.2 Health determinants are factors that can influence health outcomes. Factors may be personal, social, cultural, economic and environmental and can affect both an individual's physical and mental wellbeing. They include living and working conditions such as housing, employment, the environment, transport, education and access to services. The Dahlgren and Whitehead Health Map (1991) seeks to conceptualise these factors and are regularly summarised by Barton and Grant's 2006 health map at Figure 2.1.

Figure 2.1 Health Map



Source: Barton and Grant, 2010



## Health Pathways

- 2.3 Health pathways are the factors that form the link between determinants and health outcomes i.e. changes in a *determinant* impacts *health outcomes* through *pathways*. Pathways can be both direct and indirect, as well as positive and negative.

## Health Outcomes

- 2.4 Health outcomes reflect the range of physical, mental and general wellbeing impacts on a particular population or individual. For the purpose of this assessment, health impacts are considered as potential changes in health outcomes arising from the proposed development.
- 2.5 Table 2.1 seeks to illustrate the relationship between health determinants<sup>1</sup>, pathways and outcomes. The table provides broad examples of pathways and outcomes linked to new developments.

Table 2.1 Health Determinants, Pathways and Outcomes

Determinants	Pathways	Outcomes
Lifestyles: Developments can impact lifestyle choices of the local population	Those who use the site – or nearby area – may be impacted on their ability to engage in physical activity and, as a result, may reduce their level of activity.	Reduced physical conditions and higher obesity rates, reduced mental health conditions etc.
Social and community influences on health: Individuals, and the decisions they make, can often be impacted and influenced by their social situation.	Developments that provide social spaces can improve mental health, reduce feelings of social isolation and exclusion, and the overall safety of the area.	Reduced mental health problems and improved community spirit.
Mental health and wellbeing Developments can cause impacts (temporary or permanent) that affect an individual's mental wellbeing.	New employment opportunities associated with developments can increase participation in the community and reduce feelings of social isolation.	Improved mental health outcomes and overall confidence.
Living and environmental conditions affecting health: Developments can impact the living conditions in the local area, or alter the local environment.	Construction activities can have short-term negative impacts on air quality through increased dust from site works and emissions associated with plant and construction traffic.	Poor air quality can reduce life expectancy by 7-8 months as a result of long-term exposure to small particles, increases in air pollution can lead to increased cardiovascular and respiratory problems and mortality. Exposure to fumes from engines can also lead to higher incidences of cancer.
Economic conditions affecting health: New employment opportunities can be generated by the construction phase as well as the operational phase for various social groups.	Improved financial security through the uplift in wage associated with the new employment opportunities.	Reduced stress levels and anxiety by virtue of better financial security.
Access and quality of services	Increased population once a scheme is operational may increase demand for local social infrastructure such as	Reduced educational outcomes, overcrowding, reduced choice of services that are accessible.

<sup>1</sup> Determinants listed in this Table are influenced by the Health and Wellbeing Determinants Checklist guidance published by the Wales Health Impact Assessment Support Unit.

Determinants	Pathways	Outcomes
	healthcare and education facilities reducing their accessibility. Where appropriate, schemes may provide contributions or new facilities to offset this impact and benefit the local population.	
Macroeconomic, environmental and sustainability factors: Greenhouse gases can contribute to climate change; macroeconomic factors such as the cost of living can impact on an individual's ability to make choices that maximise their utility.	The construction phase can increase vehicle movements from construction vehicles. Embodied energy and carbon in construction materials can lead to an increase in fossil fuel use leading to an increase in greenhouse gas emissions. Sustainable design measures can reduce impacts on the environment. Reducing car usage should help decrease greenhouse gas emissions.	Climate change is an immediate and long-term threat to health and quality of life as a result of poorer air quality, prolonged heat waves and extremes of weather, such as more frequent storms, flooding, and drought events leading to, for example, increased fatalities, injury, infectious diseases, heat related deaths and incidences of skin cancer. In addition, the risks associated with energy and food security are likely to increase. Reduction in greenhouse gases will have a positive impact on health.

Source: Lichfields Analysis

## Significance Criteria

- 2.6 Taking the above information into account, it is clear that any development is likely to produce certain health impacts. Therefore, it is crucial to establish significance criteria to effectively evaluate and prioritise *significant* impacts, while avoiding overweighting those that are less so. This assessment will determine significance through two stages:
- 1 Sensitivity of the receptor; and
  - 2 Magnitude of effect.
- 2.7 Both stages will assess impacts based on the scale of change over the baseline position, as well as the nature and context of their effects. Where relevant, the location of the effect and its likely duration has been considered. In addition, it is important to consider the cumulative impacts that could arise from different development phases within the same project and impacts continued from other projects. In some cases, impacts cannot be quantified or measured, so the nature and context of the effects are considered more generally, taking into account of qualitative factors.
- 2.8 The duration of the build length is considered in the context of whether the effect is temporary or permanent. Due to their nature, construction effects are all considered to be temporary unless otherwise indicated. As such, the sensitivity of the local area to each impact during construction is adjusted to reflect the length of the build period. Based upon information provided to Lichfields by Kirklees Children's Services, the proposed development is expected to be constructed over a 72 week period – this is considered to be short term for the purpose of this assessment. Consequently, the scale to which the respective sensitivities have been assessed has been reduced. All operational effects are considered to be permanent unless otherwise stated.

2.9 Table 2.2 sets out the matrix that informs the judgement of the overall significance of the effect, ranking impacts from ‘substantial’ to ‘negligible’, where:

- Substantial: where the proposed development could be expected to have considerable effects (by extent, duration or magnitude) or of a more than local significance on the existing population and health profile;
- Moderate: where the proposed development could be expected to have a noticeable effect which may be considered significant on the existing population and health profile of the area;
- Minor: where the proposed development could be expected to result in a small or highly localised effect on the existing population and health profile of the area; or
- Negligible: where no discernible effect is expected as a result of the proposed development on the existing population and health profile of the area.

An effect that is of moderate or substantial significance is classified as ‘significant’.

Table 2.2 Matrix for determining the significance of effects

	Sensitivity of receptor			
Magnitude of effects	High	Medium	Low	Negligible
High	Substantial	Moderate	Minor	Negligible
Medium	Moderate	Moderate	Minor	Negligible
Low	Minor	Minor	Negligible	Negligible
Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible

Source: Lichfields

## Assumptions

2.10 In order to ensure the HIA process is transparent, it is important to acknowledge any assumptions the assessment has made. These include:

- Data sources: whilst the latest available data has been used, it should be noted that many data sources are frequently updated and could be subject to change since the time of drafting or during the course of the planning application process. However, under the circumstance that any data has been updated, it is assumed that there will not be significant deviation in the position of the local area relative to the data presented in this report.
- The assessment of effects is based on the description of the proposed development outlined in the Design and Access Statement.

2.11 Where relevant, the assessment uses information that has been extracted from other assessments exogenous to this HIA. It therefore follows that any assumptions applied in other assessments are carried forward in this HIA.

## 3.0 Policy Context

- 3.1 A review of the legislative and planning policy framework has been undertaken to identify the issues and policies relating specifically to health. This section of the assessment summarises the key documents.

### International Level

- 3.2 The World Health Organisation ('WHO') promotes the use of HIAs as a means of assessing the health impacts of policies, plans and projects in diverse economic sectors using quantitative, qualitative and participatory techniques. The WHO considers that a HIA is 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 a proposal's positive health effects and minimising its negative health effects.

### National Level

#### National Planning Policy Framework (2021)

- 3.3 The National Planning Policy Framework ('NPPF') (revised July 2021) sets out the overarching policy priorities for the planning system in England, against which local plans will be prepared – and decisions made on – planning applications. The document highlights the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development and the roles that planning has in each dimension.
- 3.4 Health is intrinsic to sustainable development and interacts with each of the three strands of sustainability. This is evidenced through links to planning and health being developed continually throughout the Framework, including policies on transport, good design, climate change and the natural environment. Chapter 8 'Promoting healthy and safe communities', in particular, sets out how planning policies and decisions should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places which promote social interaction, are safe and accessible and enable and support healthy lifestyles.
- 3.5 The importance of the links between planning and health is further underlined by paragraph 8 of the Framework that sets out the social objective of the planning system:
- "to support strong, vibrant and healthy communities...by fostering well-designed, beautiful and safe places, with accessible services and open spaces that reflect current and future needs and support communities' health, social and cultural well-being".*
- 3.6 The NPPF therefore adopts the World Health Organisation broad definition of health:
- "Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity."*
- 3.7 Paragraph 98 highlights the importance of access to a network of high-quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and physical activity for the health and well-being of communities and can deliver wider benefits for nature and support efforts to address climate change.

- 3.8 Paragraph 124(e) states that planning policies and decisions should support development that takes account of the importance of securing well designed, attractive healthy places.
- 3.9 Paragraph 130(f) states that planning policies and decisions should create places that are safe, inclusive and accessible and which promote health and well-being, with a high standard of amenity for existing and future users.
- 3.10 Paragraph 185(a) states that planning policies and decisions should avoid noise from developments that would give rise to significant adverse impacts on health and the quality of life.

### **Planning Practice Guidance**

- 3.11 The Planning Practice Guidance 2019 is an online “living” source of planning guidance issued by the Department for Communities and Local Government. It sets out guidance across a range of planning issues, including Healthy and Safe Communities.
- 3.12 Paragraph 001 of the Health and Wellbeing section states that:
- “The design and use of the built and natural environments, including green infrastructure are major determinants of health and wellbeing. Planning and health need to be considered together in two ways: in terms of creating environments that support and encourage healthy lifestyles, and in terms of identifying and securing the facilities needed for primary, secondary and tertiary care, and the wider health and care system (taking into account the changing needs of the population)”* (Reference ID: 53-001-20190722).
- 3.13 Furthermore, paragraph 003 sets out the Government’s vision of healthy places:
- “A healthy place is one which supports and promotes healthy behaviours and environments and a reduction in health inequalities for people of all ages. It will provide the community with opportunities to improve their physical and mental health, and support community engagement and wellbeing.*
- It meets the needs of children and young people to grow and develop, as well as being adaptable to the needs of an increasingly elderly population and those with dementia and other sensory or mobility impairments”* (Reference ID: 53-003-20191101).

### **Public Health England: Health Impact Assessment in Spatial Planning**

- 3.14 Public Health England’s guide, ‘Health Impact Assessments in Spatial Planning’ (October 2020) describes the health and well-being outcomes that can be influenced or optimised as part of the plan-making and planning application process, in alignment with a number of HIA-themed guidance documents.
- 3.15 The guide sets out an evidence-based approach for preparing HIAs, which includes establishing the baseline for the project, identifying HIA health outcomes, identifying specific population groups that could be affected, assessing the potential impacts of wider determinants of health as part of the scheme, and identifying recommendations for implementation and monitoring that will support positive health outcomes. It sets out that the extent of assessment within HIAs should be proportionate to the significance of impact of a proposed development.

## Sub-Regional and Local Policy

### Kirklees Local Plan

- 3.16 The Kirklees Local Plan was adopted by the Council in February 2019. It sets out the vision, policies and objectives that underpin how the Council aims to achieve the overarching vision and strategy throughout the period 2013 – 2031. It also considers the policies and strategies required to fulfil the objectives outlined in the Leeds City Region Strategic Economic Plan and Kirklees Economic Strategy and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
- 3.17 The vision for the plan can be summarised as:
- “In 2031, Kirklees will be a great place to live, work and invest in, delivered through an integrated approach to housing and employment. Development will have taken place in a sustainable way (balancing economic, social and environmental priorities) and by making efficient and effective use of land and buildings supported by necessary infrastructure and with minimal effect on the environment. **Health inequalities will have been reduced**, enabling higher standards of health and well-being resulting from improved access to training and job opportunities, a decent and affordable home, access to services and green spaces and opportunities for physical activity and a healthy lifestyle.*
- Kirklees will be ideally placed to encourage inward investment and stimulate economic growth.*
- People will have access to a range of local facilities including services, health-care and education provision, and adequate infrastructure. Places will be well-connected encouraging sustainable travel including increased opportunities for walking and cycling and improved links to other parts of the Leeds City Region and beyond” (emphasis added).*
- 3.18 The Strategy outlines 10 strategic objectives to realise the vision. Those key to this assessment include:
- Support the growth and diversification of the economy, to increase skill levels and employment opportunities including the provision of a high-quality communication infrastructure; and
  - Tackle inequality and give all residents the opportunity of a healthy lifestyle, free from crime and to achieve their potential in work and education.
- 3.19 Chapter 17 – Health and Supporting Communities – highlights the importance of promoting health and wellbeing in planning. It acknowledges that there are significant health inequalities in Kirklees and that it is necessary to reduce these. Through planning, Policy LP47 states that healthy, active and safe lifestyles will be enabled by a number of factors, included:
- Supporting initiatives which enable or improve access to healthy food;
  - Increasing opportunities for walking, cycling and encouraging more sustainable travel choices;

- Ensuring that the current air quality in the district is monitored and maintained and, where required, appropriate mitigation measures included as part of new development proposals; and
- Supporting appropriate initiatives which address poor health indicators.

## 4.0 Determining the Impact Area

- 4.1 In assessing the potential impacts of the development, it is typical to define an area of impact (AOI) covering the population groups and locations that are anticipated to be most directly affected by the proposals. This area will form the primary focus for understanding the demographic, socioeconomic, and health profile of the community before assessing the impacts of the development. It is necessary, however, to allow for a level of flexibility in the AOI depending on the indicator – where appropriate, consideration of population groups both within and outside the AOI could be required.
- 4.2 An area of impact is typically defined using the following considerations:
- 1 The nature of the development;
  - 2 The scale of the development;
  - 3 The location of the development including whether there are any cross-boundary issues; and
  - 4 The types of impact likely to be created during construction and operational phases.
- 4.3 In determining the baseline area, material weight was placed on the following considerations:
- **The nature of the development:** education facilities typically establish a catchment area to ascertain the selection of students that are considered for the school. This defines a geographical region that serves as the area of impact in relation to the school. By virtue of the specialist nature of the education provision provided by the proposed development, Kirklees Children Services consider the catchment area to be the whole of Kirklees. As such, for the purpose of this assessment, the AOI is defined as the local authority area of Kirklees.



## 5.0 Baseline Context

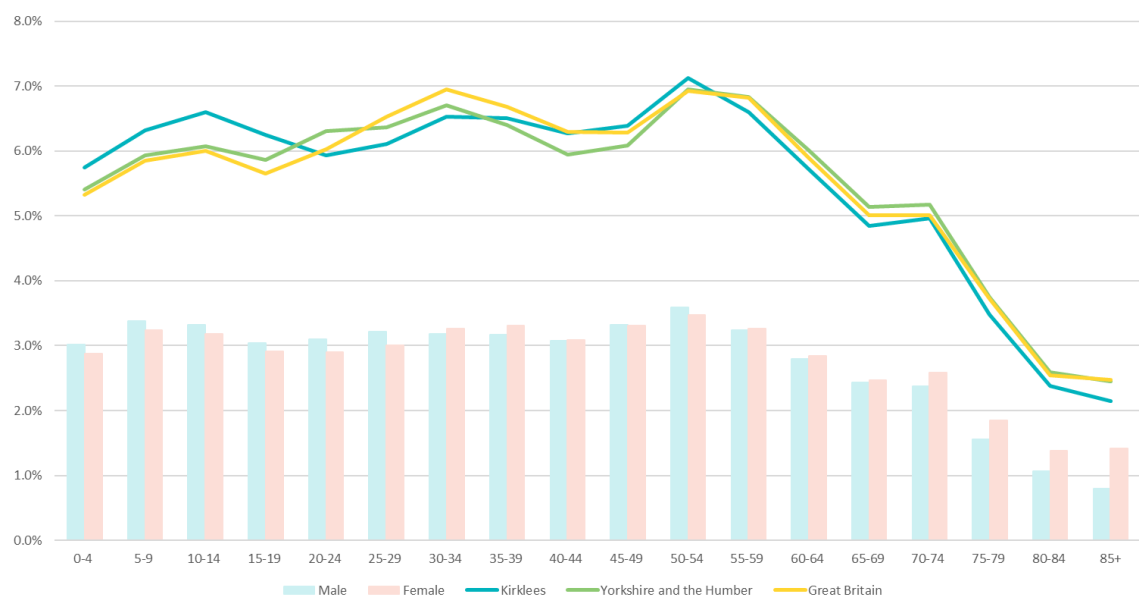
- 5.1 This section sets out the demographic, socio-economic and health context of the AOI. The data is presented, and indicators are benchmarked, against regional and national level data where appropriate and data availability permits.

### Demographic Profile

#### Age and Gender

- 5.2 The latest ONS Population Estimates<sup>2</sup> indicates that 433,400 people lived within Kirklees in 2021, accounting for 7.9% of the total population of Yorkshire and the Humber. A breakdown of the data by age structure and gender is presented in Figure 5.1. With respect to the age structure, it demonstrates that the AOI is characterised by a slightly lower proportion of working age residents (aged 16-64) (62.2%) in comparison to Yorkshire and the Humber (62.3%) and Great Britain (62.9%). In contrast, the AOI is shown to have a higher proportion of residents aged below 15 (20.0%)<sup>3</sup> compared to Yorkshire and the Humber (18.6%) and Great Britain (18.3%).

Figure 5.1 Population of the AOI by 5-year age groups and gender<sup>4</sup>



Source: ONS Population Estimates: local authority based by single year of age (2021) / Lichfields analysis

- 5.3 The same data indicates that the gender split in the AOI is broadly equal – 49.0% of the population is male and 51.0% is female.

<sup>2</sup> Population Estimates – Small area based by single year of age (2021)

<sup>3</sup> Equal to the proportion across Kirklees.

<sup>4</sup> Data for gender is unavailable at a MSOA level. As a result, data has been collected at a local authority level (smallest possible level).

## Deprivation

- 5.4 Deprivation is measured by the Index of Multiple Deprivation (2019) (IMD), which uses a series of indicators to rank areas across seven domains that range from income to health. These categories combined produce a multiple deprivation score for each local area. The IMD calculates deprivation as a proportion of the resident population of a given Lower Super Output Area (LSOA). As such, Kirklees local authority area has been converted into 259 respective LSOAs.
- 5.5 Figure 5.3 contains this IMD data disaggregated by the individual deprivation domains across the AOI. It shows the proportion of LSOAs that fall within each decile, where 1 (red) indicates the most deprived decile and 10 (blue) indicates the least deprived decile. The performance of the AOI varies considerably across the indicators. It most evidently performs well with regard to:
- 1 Barriers to Housing and Services: 62.9% of the LSOAs fall within the 50% least deprived LSOAs nationally, including 6.9% within the 10% least deprived. Only 2.7% of Area of Impact LSOAs fall within the 20% most deprived.
- 5.6 In contrast, the AOI performs less well with regard to:
- 1 Crime: 76.8% of the LSOAs fall within the 50% most deprived LSOAs nationally, including 17.8% that fall within the 10% most deprived. Only 0.8% of the LSOAs fall within the 10% least deprived nationally.
  - 2 Living Environment: 81.5% of the LSOAs fall within the 50% most deprived LSOAs nationally, including 20.5% that fall within the 10% most deprived. None of the LSOAs fall within the 10% least deprived nationally; and

Figure 5.2 Deprivation by IMD indicator



Source: IMD (2019) / Lichfields analysis

## Crime and Community Safety

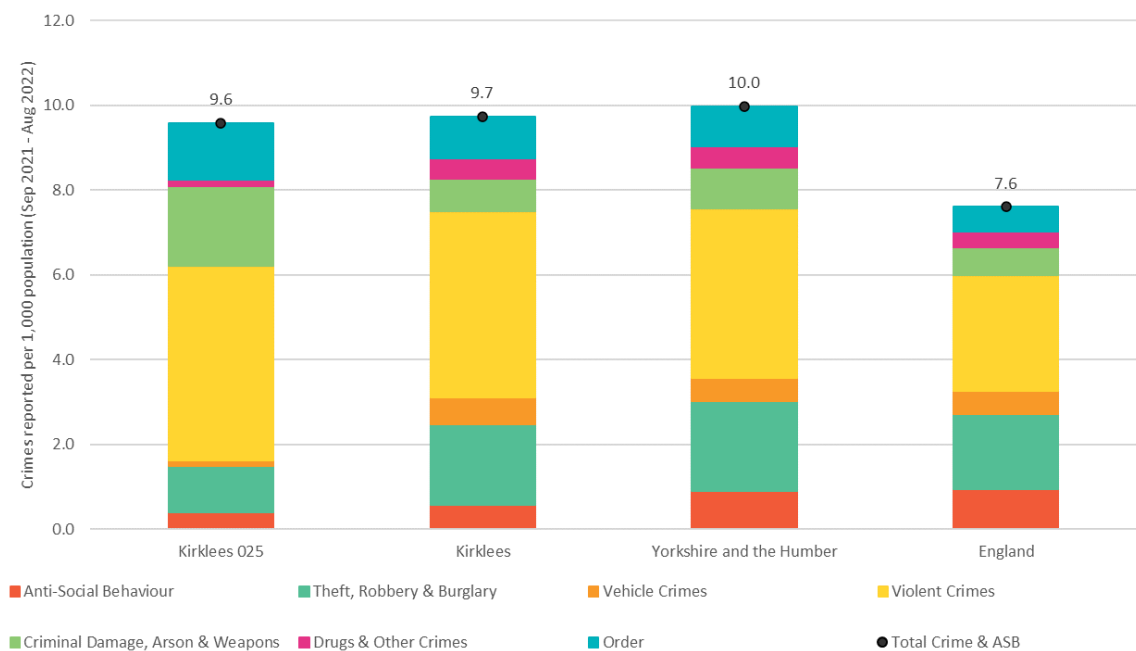
### Crime

5.7

Data from UK Crime Stats<sup>5</sup> provides a breakdown of crime per 1,000 population by category of offense. This is illustrated in Figure 5.3 and demonstrates that:

- Kirklees has a slightly lower overall crime rate (9.7) than Yorkshire and the Humber (10.0), but a higher rate than England (7.6);
- Violent crimes account for the largest proportion of reported crimes across all analysis areas. This is particularly apparent within the site Middle Super Output Area (MSOA) (Kirklees 025), where violent crimes account for 47.9% of all reported crimes (crime rate of 4.6). Violent crimes are also considerably higher in Kirklees (4.4) and Yorkshire and the Humber (4.0%) compared to England (2.7); and
- The site MSOA has a relatively low level of anti-social behaviour reported per 1,000 population (0.4) compared to Yorkshire and the Humber and England (both 0.9). By way of comparison, Kirklees demonstrates a rate of 0.6.

Figure 5.3 Reported crimes per 1,000 population, by type



Source: UK Crime Stats / Lichfields analysis

## Socio-Economic Indicators

### Employment

5.8

Analysis of ONS data indicates that the total number of jobs in 2021 within Kirklees stood at 189,000, which is an increase of 12.5% relative to 2012<sup>6</sup>. This rate of growth is slightly

<sup>5</sup> UK Crime Stats (January 2023)

<sup>6</sup> ONS Job Density (2021)

higher than the corresponding figures for Yorkshire and the Humber (12.0%) and England (12.3%).

- 5.9 The same dataset provides a measure of the ratio of total jobs to working age residents in a given area (job density). The latest available data (2021) shows that Kirklees had a job density of 0.69, indicating that for every 100 working age residents there were 69 jobs. This is considerably lower than Yorkshire and the Humber (0.81), and Great Britain (0.86).
- 5.10 Data collected from the Annual Population Survey (2022) highlights that the economic activity rate (the share of working age residents (16-64) either in or seeking employment) stands at 75.4% in Kirklees. This is lower than both the regional (77.8%) and national (78.6%) averages. The same data also shows that model-based unemployment in Kirklees in 2022 (2.3%) was lower than the regional (4.1%) and national averages (3.9%).

## Skills

- A1.1 Figure 5.6 provides a summary of the skills base of the resident population for Kirklees and the relevant benchmark areas. This illustrates that the AOI is characterised by<sup>7</sup>:
- A lower proportion of residents with NVQ level 1 and 2 qualifications (83.6% and 72.7%) than in Yorkshire and the Humber (86.4% and 76.3%) and Great Britain (87.5% and 78.1%).
  - A lower proportion of residents with graduate level (NVQ level 4+) qualifications (35.3%) than regionally (38.0%) and nationally (43.6%); and
  - A higher proportion of residents with no qualifications than regionally (7.8%) and nationally (6.6%).

Figure 5.6 Proportion of residents with qualifications



Source: Annual Population Survey (2021)

<sup>7</sup> Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (2022)

## Health-Related Indicators

### Adult and Child Health

5.11

Data from Public Health England provides health profiles of local authorities and covers a range of health indicators. It also provides data for Yorkshire and the Humber and England which can be used to benchmark the local authorities. Key data for child and adult health is provided in Table 5.2. It demonstrates that Kirklees performs favourably on two of the twelve indicators (inequality in life expectancy at birth (male) and killed and seriously injured on roads) when compared to the national benchmark.

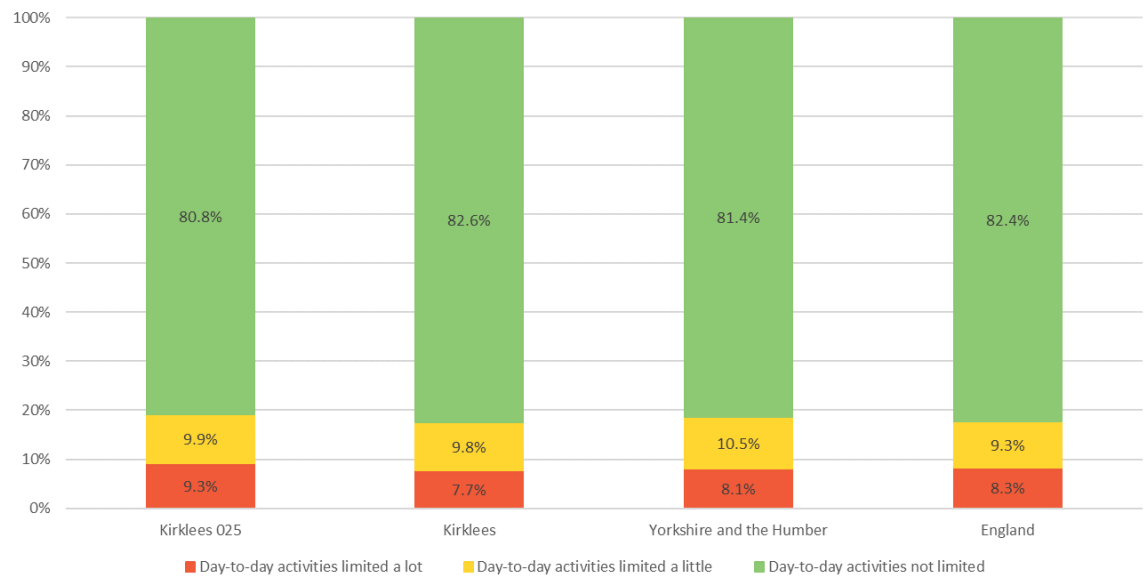
Table 5.2 Child and Adult health indicators (Green/Red = performs better/worse compared to national average)

Indicator	Period measured	Kirklees	Yorkshire and the Humber	England
Child Health				
Infant mortality rate	2018 - 20	5.6	4.2	3.9
Year 6: Prevalence of obesity (including severe obesity)	2019/20	21.0	24.2	23.6
Children in relative low income families (under 16s)	2020/21	28.2	25.2	18.5
Inequality in life expectancy at birth (male)	2018 - 20	9.3	10.7	9.7
Inequality in life expectancy at birth (female)	2018 - 20	8.1	8.8	7.9
Adult Health				
Life expectancy at birth (male)	2018 - 20	78.4	78.4	79.4
Life expectancy at birth (female)	2018 - 20	82.2	82.2	83.1
Suicide rate	2018 - 20	18.4	19.2	15.9
Killed and seriously injured (KSI) casualties on England's roads	2020	81.3	89.7	86.1
Smoking Prevalence in adults (18+) - current smokers (APS)	2019	17.5	17.3	15.8
Percentage of physically active adults	2020/21	62.8	65.2	67.9
Percentage of adults (aged 18+) classified as overweight or obese	2020/21	69.7	66.5	68.5

Source: Public Health England Local Authority Profiles

### Disability

Figure 5.6 Long-term health problem or disability



Source: ONS Census Data (2021) / Lichfields analysis

5.12 Based on 2021 Census data, Figure 5.6 shows that 17.4% of Kirklees has a long-term health problem or disability that limits the individual’s day-to-day activities. This is broadly comparable to the national (17.6%) average, and lower than the regional average (18.6%). This data includes people who have their day-to-day activities limited a lot by their disability or health problem. In Kirklees this stands at 7.7%, which lower than both the regional (8.1%) and national (8.3%) averages.

### Community Infrastructure

#### Education

- 5.13 The proposed development will provide additional capacity in the local area for SEMH students aged 5-18. It is therefore important to understand the existing supply and demand balance of SEMH places locally to demonstrate the full impact of the proposed provision. Taking into account the catchment area considered for the proposed development, all schools with SEMH provision in Kirklees have been considered within the existing capacity.
- 5.14 A review of DfE data identifies three state SEMH schools in Kirklees<sup>8</sup>. Together, these schools provide a total capacity of 287 pupil places, with 249 pupils currently on the roll. This indicates that there is a baseline surplus of 38 places (13.2%). It should be noted, however, that only one school (Ethos College) is shown to have surplus places (17 pupils; 60 places).
- 5.15 One of these schools (Ethos College) was graded an OFSTED rating of Outstanding, with the remaining being categorised as Good.

<sup>8</sup> Including the existing Joseph Norton Academy at Scissett

## 6.0 **Assessment of Impacts**

- 6.1 This section sets out the assessment undertaken to consider the potential impacts of the proposed development on the determinants of health during the construction and operational phases of the development, in accordance with Part 3 of the Kirklees Public Health Rapid Health Impact Assessment. Within the context of the proposed development, it is considered that the following issues outlined in the guidance are not relevant, and are therefore scoped out of the assessment:
- 1 Housing;
  - 2 Access to healthy food and affordable food;
- 6.2 In relation to access to healthy and affordable food, it is acknowledged that there is a need to ensure healthy and affordable meals are provided on site during the operation of the school. The existing Joseph Norton Academy facility provides free school meals for c. 82% of pupils. Whilst it is not possible to confirm at this stage that a similar proportion will be maintained to match the increased capacity in the new facility, it is reasonable to assume that for pupils that are eligible and require, free school meals will be accessible. Given the nature of the development, it is not anticipated that children and staff alike will be leaving the site during operational hours, and therefore the ease of access to local supermarkets is not considered applicable to this assessment. Similarly, pupils of the site are expected to be transported to the proposed development directly via minibus or private car, further limiting any reliance on local food amenities.
- 6.3 Alternatively, the school will provide in-house catering services to provide hot food to staff and pupils, including breakfast which is included within the typical school day routine. As the contracted catering service provider has not yet been determined, it is not possible to comment on the quality of such service. As such, it is important to ensure that such provider will adhere to good food standards. In any case, it is likely that some ingredients of the food will be derived from the farming and horticulture activities that will be provided within the curriculum.
- 6.4 It is also noted that the application site is within an allocated housing site in the Kirklees Local Plan. As this site is currently undeveloped, but has been allocated for a number of years, it is not anticipated that reallocated the site for education uses would have a significant adverse impact on health. Similarly, given the size of the allocation, the potential capacity of the site comprises a modest amount of the total Kirklees housing requirement. On this basis, whilst beneficial impacts on health from increased housing supply could be expected, it is unlikely that these would be significant. As there are no residential units on the site at present, the issues outlined in Table 2 of the Council guidance are not considered relevant for this assessment.
- 6.5 An assessment for each issue is provided below. Each assessment is structured in the following format:
- Evaluation of the overarching impact of the development on each issue. Each issue is assigned a level of sensitivity, based upon the criteria set out in Section 2.0, and informed by key quantitative and qualitative factors. A magnitude of change is also assigned to each issue – in some cases, this may refer to how the proposed development responds to key issues through its design;

- An overall judgement regarding the significance of the impact is also provided for each issue outlined above. The level of significance is colour-coded, as demonstrated in the table below;
- A brief summary of the key considerations for each issue is provided underneath each Table. Where appropriate, mitigation and/or enhancement measures are recommended.

Table 6.1 Level of Significance - colour-coding system

Substantial Beneficial	
Moderate Beneficial	
Minor Beneficial	
Negligible / Neutral	
Minor Adverse	
Moderate Adverse	
Substantial Adverse	
Not Assessed	

## Construction Phase

Table 6.1 Construction Phase

Indicator	Sensitivity of receptor	Magnitude of change	Expected Impact
Air Quality	Medium	Low	Minor Adverse
Noise	Medium	Low	Minor Adverse
Light	Medium	Negligible	Negligible
Odour	Medium	Negligible	Negligible
Construction Waste	Low	Undefined (not assessed)	Undefined (not assessed)
Recycling and repurposing of construction materials	Low	Undefined (not assessed)	Undefined (not assessed)
Safe and secure cycle parking for construction workforce	Low	Undefined (not assessed)	Undefined (not assessed)
Health, wellbeing and welfare on site for the construction workforce	Low	Undefined (not assessed)	Undefined (not assessed)
Description of impacts	<p>The proposed development will generate temporary impacts during the 72 weeks build period. Given the length of the build period, this is considered to be short term and therefore adverse impacts are not expected to cause significant disruption. This is further supplemented by the conclusions made in accompanying assessments (as outlined below), which do not anticipate any significant impacts on noise or air quality.</p> <p>Notwithstanding, the immediately surrounding area to the site is highly residential and therefore generates a level of sensitivity with regard to key</p>		



Indicator	Sensitivity of receptor	Magnitude of change	Expected Impact
			<p>issues during construction. As such, a Statement of Community Consultation has been produced in which limited/no concerns have been raised in relation to impacts during the construction phase. Further detail on community comments can be found from Page 5 of the Statement.</p> <p>Reference has been made to assessments accompanying the planning application, including the noise and air quality assessment. These assessments do not consider <i>significant</i> impacts, although it is noted that low levels of noise, emissions and dust generation may still occur. As such, this impact has been considered adverse. It is also noted that the Air Quality Assessment provides measures to mitigate the impact of the development on air quality, and therefore it is beyond the scope of this assessment to provide further measures past those already outlined.</p> <p>At this stage of the application phase, it is not possible to assess the impact of the development on construction waste, or specific details regarding construction employees. This is by virtue of the fact the contractor of the development has not yet been appointed. In any case, based upon Lichfields experience of working with contractors, it is reasonable to assume that best practice measures will be implemented and therefore no significant adverse impacts are expected.</p>
Mitigation and enhancement			<p>Ensure that construction occurs during reasonable hours.</p> <p>Once the contractor has been confirmed, ensure that construction waste is recycled wherever possible and that best practice measures are implemented. This may include the provision of cycle storage (or alternative active travel facilities), and health and safety best practice measures for employees.</p> <p>It is expected that approval of the proposed development will be conditioned with the adherence to a Construction Travel Management Plan (or equivalent). This will set out construction best practice to mitigate any community concerns, including the provision of a contact for local residents to use in case of any concerns.</p>

Source: Lichfields

## Active and Sustainable Transport

Table 6.2 Active Travel and Sustainable Transport

Indicator	Sensitivity of receptor	Magnitude of change	Expected Impact
Ease of walking	Low	Low	Minor Beneficial
Ease of cycling	Low	Low	Minor Beneficial
Cycling infrastructure which meets national standards	Low	Negligible	Negligible
Access to public transport links	Low	Low	Minor Beneficial
Promotion of active travel and sustainable travel	Low	Negligible	Negligible
Description of impacts	<p>Given the nature of the proposed development, the use of public transport and active travel methods may not be considered appropriate for pupils of the school. The need for private car may be necessary, in particular, for younger students to ensure safe and direct access to the school's drop off point. Notwithstanding, public transport, walking and cycling routes are readily available surrounding the site, and therefore accessible to parents and students where desired. This includes several bus stops within 500m of the application site, providing access to routes that connect the proposed development to areas throughout the school's catchment. Such public transport links may also be considered beneficial for staff members of the site.</p> <p>As such, whilst the proposed development is not anticipated to provide additional transport provision, the existing public transport options that connect within the vicinity of the school are expected to be beneficial for key stakeholders who may require it.</p>		
Mitigation and Enhancement	N/A		

Source: Lichfields

## Access to Open and Green Spaces

Table 6.3 Access to Open and Green Spaces

Indicator	Sensitivity of receptor	Magnitude of change	Expected Impact
Safe and secure open spaces	High	High	Substantial Beneficial
Accessible open and green spaces for all	High	Low	Neutral
Playable space with play equipment	High	High	Substantial Beneficial
Playable spaces – natural play	Medium	High	Moderate Beneficial
Location and size of open and green spaces outside of proposed development	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible

Indicator	Sensitivity of receptor	Magnitude of change	Expected Impact
Description of impacts	<p>The proposed development will principally be constructed on brownfield land and therefore not generate any significant loss in publicly accessible open space. Further, a review of the Kirklees Open Space Study (2015) indicates that the Ashbrow Ward has a considerable surplus of open space compared to the Council's standards. It is not anticipated that the proposed development will cause a major uplift in demand for publicly accessible areas of open space and therefore this surplus is anticipated to remain.</p> <p>It is noted, however, that a minor sub-section of the proposed development will encroach on the periphery of the urban green space, east of the site. Such space is reserved for recreational and sporting use, which will consequently be reduced once the development is under construction. However, the scale of loss does not constitute a significant impact and is considered to be balanced by the increase in dedicated play space within the proposals.</p> <p>Furthermore, such loss is expected to be balanced by an increase in publicly accessible woodland towards the north of the site. Whilst this constitutes a restructuring in the type of available green space (from urban green space to woodland), overall it indicates a <i>net</i> increase in publicly accessible open space.</p> <p>With this in mind, the proposed development is expected to provide secure areas of open space and play areas on site. The proposed site plan illustrates that c.3,000sqm of play space will be provided, as well as c.6,000sqm of habitat land. For security reasons, this space is not accessible for the public, but is considered to be significantly beneficial for potential pupils.</p>		
Mitigation and Enhancement	N/A		

Source: Lichfields

## Community and Personal Safety

Table 6.4 Community and Personal Safety

Indicator	Sensitivity of receptor	Magnitude of change	Expected Impact
Traffic management	Low	Negligible	Negligible
Lighting	High	Not assessed	Not Assessed
Clear and accessible off-road networks	Not Assessed	Not assessed	Not Assessed
Safe and secure play areas	High	High	Substantial Beneficial

Indicator	Sensitivity of receptor	Magnitude of change	Expected Impact
Safe and inclusive environments	High	High	Substantial Beneficial
Prevention of crime and anti-social behaviour	High	Medium	Moderate Beneficial
Prevention of suicide and self-harm	Medium	High	Moderate Beneficial
Description of impacts	<p>Given the scale of the development, a significant increase in traffic in the local area is not expected, although a small increase may occur. On-site, careful consideration has been made to ensure that collection and drop-off point is in suitable and secure location. Clear traffic flows should avoid congestion during peak hours. With reference to Page 24/25 of the Transport Assessment, the proposed site layout is considered to provide sufficient queuing capacity to avoid congestion on the local highway network.</p> <p>A key issue to consider, given the nature of the proposed development, relates to the security of the environment and play areas. The T-shape of the building ensures that all play areas within the development will be under natural surveillance, with further surveillance provided in the form of CCTV around the site. In addition, the full-site will be fenced. The ratio of staff to number of pupils is high, reflecting the specialist context of the proposed school. Consequently, groups of pupils per teacher should be comparably low which should enable for greater security.</p> <p>Another key issue relates to the prevention of self-harm and suicide. Pupils enrolled in the school, once operation, may suffer from mental health problems that may otherwise lead to further implications without intervention. This could be in both the short term and/or in the long term. The provision of additional capacity of SEMH places in the local area allows for more children to access necessary support, thereby providing intervention to reduce the chance of serious implications from mental health issues. The development has been carefully designed in consultation with key stakeholders to ensure that the development is safe and secure for pupils. This includes considerations regarding the provision of high walls and inaccessible roofing.</p> <p>Information provided to Lichfields by the client indicates that the development's lighting design details could be conditioning, and therefore it is not possible to assess this aspect at this stage. It is however important that the final development</p>		

Indicator	Sensitivity of receptor	Magnitude of change	Expected Impact
			provides sufficient lighting to ensure the safety and security of pupils and staff during dark hours, most notably in the winter months. Whilst it is vital that all areas of the development are well-lit, particular consideration should be given to the pick-up/drop-off area of the development, which is more easily accessible.
Mitigation and enhancement			Given that the proposed development is expected to increase the provision of woodland to the north of the site, it may be necessary to provide CCTV to secure public safety around the site.

Source: Lichfields

## Employment and Economic Vibrancy

Table 6.5 Employment and Economic Vibrancy

Indicator	Sensitivity of receptor	Magnitude of change	Expected Impact
Local employment opportunities	Low	Medium	Minor Beneficial
Job creation	Low	Medium	Minor Beneficial
Apprenticeships (and training)	Medium	Low	Minor Beneficial
Access of a variety of sustainable and active travel modes to places of work	Low	Low	Minor Beneficial
Description of impacts	<p>Having regard to the estimated build cost and length (72 weeks, or 1.4 years), the proposed development is anticipated to support 110 direct construction FTE jobs per annum throughout the build period. This rises to 135 FTE jobs when accounting for indirect effects, having regard to an appropriate regional-specific Type I multiplier. Further, the construction procurement process involves contractors demonstrating a commitment to providing a social value uplift locally. Based upon Lichfield's' experience of working with contractors, this typically involves the provision of apprenticeship and graduate opportunities.</p> <p>The proposed development is expected to support 99 permanent jobs (gross) when operational. When taking into account indirect and induced employment – that is, employment supported by the school's spending in the supply chain and from spending of wages of staff – a further 45 jobs could be supported. This indicates a total of 144 jobs (gross) could be supported by the school once operational. Taking into account the existing socioeconomic conditions locally, as set out in Section 5.0, the sensitivity of the local area with respect to employment is considered to be low.</p>		

Indicator	Sensitivity of receptor	Magnitude of change	Expected Impact
	<p>A low number of training opportunities may be provided to newly trained teachers looking to enter the labour market. This is unlikely to comprise a significant section of the staff, but will provide clear benefits to the individuals accessing such opportunities. Naturally, continuous increases in experience will be gained for all employees throughout the operation of the school.</p> <p>As indicated in Table 6.2, there are a number of bus stops near the site. Walking and cycling is also a viable option for employees.</p>		
Mitigation and Enhancement	<p>Ensure that local residents are provided with significant opportunity to access the new employment opportunities. This could include the advertisement of jobs on local newspapers, job centres, and/or targeted adverts online. It is also understood that the Council provides an employment support scheme, which may also be beneficial for supporting local residents into employment opportunities presented by the proposal.</p>		

Source: Lichfields

## Community Cohesion

Table 6.6 Community Cohesion

Indicator	Sensitivity of receptor	Magnitude of change	Expected Impact
Ease of access to public buildings for all	High	High	Substantial Beneficial
Opportunities for promoting community interaction	Negligible	Uncertain (not assessed)	Uncertain (not assessed)
Ease of access to and use of public spaces for all	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible
Description of impacts	<p>The proposed development is designed to be highly accessible to meet the needs of its users. Considerations have been made to ensure that spaces will avoid triggers, and provide invaluable resources to maximise the learning potential for pupils.</p> <p>Given the nature of the proposed development, it is uncertain whether opportunities for community interaction would be appropriate. Notwithstanding, it is envisaged that the farm provided within the school could host an annual open farm event.</p>		
Mitigation and Enhancement	N/A		

Source: Lichfields

## Climate Change

Table 6.7 Climate Change

Indicator	Sensitivity of receptor	Magnitude of change	Expected Impact
Green Infrastructure	Medium	Medium	Moderate Beneficial
Low carbon and renewable energy	Medium	Medium	Moderate Beneficial
Flood Risk and Drainage	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible
Air Quality	Medium	Low	Minor Beneficial
Noise	Medium	Low	Minor Adverse
Light	High	Low	Minor Beneficial
Odour	Medium	Negligible	Negligible
Waste	Medium	Negligible	Negligible
Description of impacts	<p>The Climate Change Statement outlines a number of measures that have been taken to ensure the development will have a beneficial impact on climate change. Such measures include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The use of solar PV to provide clean energy. This reduces the reliance of the development on the grid network, which comprises of energy from non-renewable sources.</li> <li>- The use of air source heat pumps.</li> <li>- Extensive energy efficiency measures, contributing towards the awarding of an A-rated building.</li> <li>- Natural daylight is designed into each class room to provide pupils and teachers exposure to sunlight.</li> <li>- The provision of green infrastructure onsite, including trees and farming facilities.</li> <li>- 12 EV charging points for eligible cars.</li> </ul> <p>In addition, a Flood Risk Assessment has been prepared, which concludes that the proposed development is at the lowest/negligible risk from the range of possible flood causes.</p> <p>The Noise Impact Assessment states that the proposed development, once operational, is not anticipated to generate a significant impact on local residents, however a low level of noise may be generated by the MUGAs.</p>		

Indicator	Sensitivity of receptor	Magnitude of change	Expected Impact
Mitigation and Enhancement	As recommended in page 12 of the Noise Impact Assessment, provide a method for local residents to raise any noise concerns and ensure that a minimum two year complaint log should be kept.  Encourage drivers to switch off engines when idle at drop off/pick up times.		

Source: Lichfields



## 7.0 Conclusions

- 7.1 This HIA has been prepared to identify, assess and present any potential effects on the health of the population arising from the proposed development of a new social emotional and mental health (SEMH) school facility on land at the former Deighton Centre, Kirklees.
- 7.2 A review of the demographic, socio-economic and health indicators for Kirklees (the area of impact) has been carried out to identify the existing conditions for which the proposals are assessed against. This exercise indicates that Kirklees is characterised by:
- A higher number of residents aged below 16 than the regional and national proportions;
  - A lower crime rate than regionally, but considerably higher than nationally;
  - A lower job density than regionally and nationally;
  - A markedly lower unemployment rate than regionally and nationally; and
  - A broadly poorer health position than nationally, based upon a number of key indicators.
- 7.3 The proposed development will deliver a range of health benefits for impacted individuals. Based upon Kirklees' Rapid Health Impact Assessment guidance, the key impacts relate to:

### **Substantial Beneficial Impacts in relation to:**

- The provision of safe and secure play areas and environments for the pupils of the school; and
- Accessibility of the school for all, taking into account the need for careful design to minimise triggers for pupils;

### **Moderate Beneficial Impacts in relation to:**

- Playable spaces for natural play;
- The prevention of crime, suicide and self harm;
- Green infrastructure; and
- Low carbon and renewable energy.

- 7.4 In addition, the school presents the opportunity to provide specialist education facilities thereby offsetting the pressure on existing provision. The impacts of education on health outcomes is likely to, primarily, impact on an individual's *long-term* health outcomes. Whilst – in the short term – education will provide individuals with crucial cognitive and social skills, the potential pathways in which these skills impact health, such as higher incomes and improved decision-making, may only be uncovered years later. The individuals attending the proposed development are particularly vulnerable to education accessibility, given the specialist needs these pupils may have. The proposed development, once operational, would offer a number a benefits for individuals that need specialist education needs compared to standard comprehensive schools, including smaller class sizes, tailored education plans, and access to therapy. Consequently, the proposed development is likely to have significant long-term health benefits for recipient pupils

compared to a scenario where the school did not come forward (limiting local capacity for special education needs).

- 7.5 Only one adverse impact is anticipated upon completion of the construction phase, which is in relation to the uplift in noise and the consequent impact this may have on the residential properties in the immediately surrounding area. It is not however expected that this noise will cause high levels of disturbance and further mitigation measures have been recommended to minimise its impact.



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