

Strategic Environmental Assessment

... the most important public health legislation?

Workshop at HIA conference

16th October 2007

www.bcahealth.co.uk



Rules ... and outcomes

Rules

- All the expertise we need is within this room
- Respect other's points of views
- If you don't ask you don't get ... and if you don't get ... ask

Outcomes

- Understanding of SEA
- Understanding of health within SEA
- Critical reflection on SEA and public health
- Input to the DH guidance
- Personal actions



Programme for the workshop

Introduction

- Ben Cave, BCA
 - Workshop aims etc ...

Policy

- Colleen Williams, DH
- Paul Fisher HPA
 - Results of the consultation on the *draft guidance to SEA and health*

Practice

- Andrew Pratt, Plymouth PCT
 - The engagement of health in an SEA

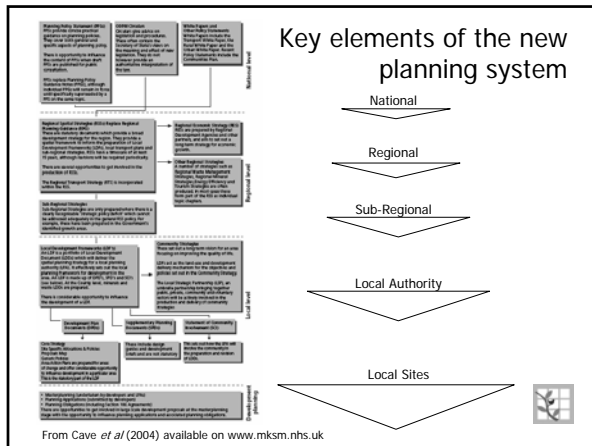
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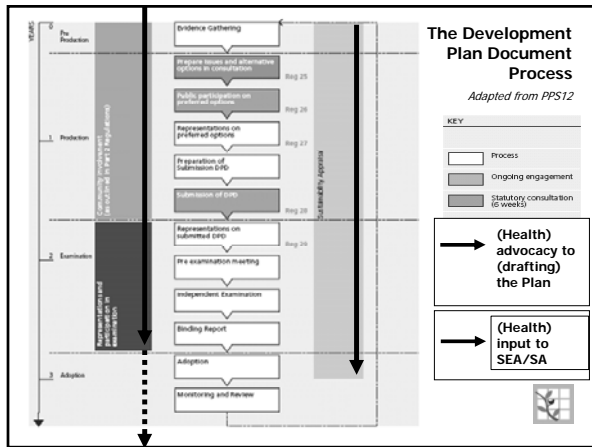
- Paul Iggulden, BCA
 - Report on an Environment Agency project looking at *Health data for SEA*

Discussion

- Two questions
 1. What challenges/opportunities does the SEA Directive pose for key players?
 2. What strengths and weaknesses do you see your organisation as having to address these questions in your day to day work







Health in SEA consultation responses

Colleen Williams
Department of Health

The engagement of health in an SEA

Andrew Pratt
Plymouth PCT



Health data for SEA

Paul Iggulden
BCA



Questions ...


1. What challenges/ opportunities does the SEA Directive pose for key players?
2. What strengths and weaknesses do you see your organisation as having to address these questions in your day to day work



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Health in Strategic Environmental Assessment: Consultation Responses

Colleen Williams
 Department of Health
 HIA UK and International Conference 2007

Health in SEA: Consultation responses	Health in SEA draft Guidance
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written by Department of Health in close collaboration with the Health Protection Agency and in consultation with the Department for Communities and Local Government and Environment Agency • Based on current good practice • Overseen by the Health and SEA Working Group • Complements other SEA topic guidance (e.g. Biodiversity, Landscape etc) • It will be amended in the light of responses to the consultation

Health in SEA: Consultation responses	Aims of the Guidance
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To inform the health community <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - how to get involved - when to get involved - what data to provide • To inform planners/Responsible Authorities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - what data are available and where - health determinants to consider during scoping - who/when to consult 'health

Health in SEA: Consultation responses	Consultation					
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Workshops</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Leeds IEMA SEA Forum 14 March - Midlands Consultation event in Derby 25 April - 10th Annual Achieving Excellence in Public Health in the West Midlands in Telford 10th May - North East Regional Public Health Meeting 4 June - Bristol South West Regional Consultation on Health in SEA 8 June </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Workshops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Leeds IEMA SEA Forum 14 March - Midlands Consultation event in Derby 25 April - 10th Annual Achieving Excellence in Public Health in the West Midlands in Telford 10th May - North East Regional Public Health Meeting 4 June - Bristol South West Regional Consultation on Health in SEA 8 June 	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Presentations</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Teaching Public Health Network London 9 February - East of England Linking Health and Planning: 30 March - Public Health Workforce Development: London 23 April - Chartered Institute of Water & Environmental Management Conference: Birmingham 26 April - Natural England Health Conference: Health and the Natural Environment: London 18 June </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Presentations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Teaching Public Health Network London 9 February - East of England Linking Health and Planning: 30 March - Public Health Workforce Development: London 23 April - Chartered Institute of Water & Environmental Management Conference: Birmingham 26 April - Natural England Health Conference: Health and the Natural Environment: London 18 June
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<p>Regional Public Health Groups' meetings in London and Yorkshire and Humber. Document at IEMA Conference 12-13 June, RTPi National Conference 14 -15 June.</p>						

Health in SEA: Consultation responses	Responses	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop notes representing a large number of people from different agencies • 58 written responses, some individual others on behalf of groups 	

Organization Type	Percentage
PCT	25%
Government organisation	27%
Consultancy	14%
NGO	11%
LA	11%
University organisation	5%
Environmental body	7%

Health in SEA: Consultation responses	Themes from the responses	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health as a statutory consultee and the need to underline the value of public health • Clarification of Director of Public Health (DPH), Regional Director of Public Health (RDPH) and Responsible Authority roles and responsibilities and suggestions for standardising health input • Structure, presentation, audience and joint publication with Communities and Local Government • Additional topics to be covered in the guidance • Scope of health topics and need for a potential pre-stage before scoping of the SEA • Content, length and terminology 	

Health in SEA: Consultation responses

Themes from responses

- HIA and other assessments and issues around equity and equality
- Relationship to other guidance
- Robustness, access to and links to data, especially locally and more information on evidence and tiering
- Indicators and monitoring
- Accountability, consultation and performance
- Resources for carrying out the health part of the assessment
- Training and capacity building

Health in SEA: Consultation responses

Gaps in topics and content

Health Topics	and	Content
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Mental well-being •Skin cancer, ultraviolet radiation and shade creation •Social care and social inclusion •Waste generation and management •Pest control •Sustainable communities •Social cohesion, inclusion and social capital •Emerging technologies in environmental control, building design etc 	and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How RAs apply the data • Regulatory Impact Assessment • Links between SEA and Water Framework Directive • Table showing the interrelationship between health and all the SEA topics. • No of plans to expect • PH & Information Specialists • Climate change & mental health • PPSs, • SEA Protocol & Manual

Health in SEA: Consultation responses

Way forward

Two types of guidance

- Short paper based document for reference
- Web based version with access to links on evidence, different sections for different audiences

Process

- Consultation response document to be published on DH website
- Draft document outlines to the Health in SEA Liaison Group November
- Development of short document and web based version January 2008

The engagement of health in an SEA

SEA & health in Plymouth

Andrew Pratt
(Health & Equity Impact Assessment Specialist
Practitioner, Plymouth PCT)

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Some local history

- SEA & HIA Learning Event 2005
- Council's initial 'stakeholders' group for scoping SEA
- Ongoing partnership working re DPD's
- Linking HIAs with LDF process
- Monitoring of LDF
- Impact Assessment Group established

Improving Plymouth's SEA framework

existing =

High level Objective: *Health & Well-being:
Promoting everyone's physical & mental WB*

Specific Objectives:

To enhance human health & safety

To promote & support healthier lifestyles

..Improving the SEA framework

ADD Specific Objective

To reduce health inequalities

How could this be measured?

By measuring the gap in LE between the areas with the lowest LE & the city as a whole

(If significant uncertainties, commission HIA)

Waste Management Strategy

Land for development of strategic WM facilities in suitable locations..

(energy from waste ie incineration)

What are the health issues?

Effects of the plans?

What can the authorities do?

SEA B1: testing the plan

Testing re SEA Health Objectives

Guidance Annex C (list of plans/topics)

Annex D (topics & health evidence)

See handouts

SEA B4 Evaluating the effects

New WM facilities

on balance the evidence does not suggest harm to physical health. There will arguably be greater long-term health benefits for all if waste production is reduced.

B4 Evaluating

Location of facilities

*- likely to be public concern about health re new facilities wherever they are sited
may be a risk of worsening health inequalities if there is a perceived &/or measurable decline in local environmental 'quality' in areas which already experience some health inequalities*

B5 Mitigating

- - *good public consultation & communication*
- - *there should be careful consideration of inequalities issues before significant development occurs at P Rock. (There may be a case for further investigation into localised health inequalities information for the identified sites)*

Final thoughts

Guidance:

crammed with useful info!

clearer summaries?

Plymouth process:

city undertaking SEAs.

Public Health participation in SEA group.

Health data for Strategic Environmental Assessment: (SEA) The Environment Agency's Approach

Ben Cave¹, P Iggulden¹, F Gallo¹, M Stonard²
Josh Fothergill³ and Lucia Susani³

¹Ben Cave Associates ²Halcrow ³Environment Agency

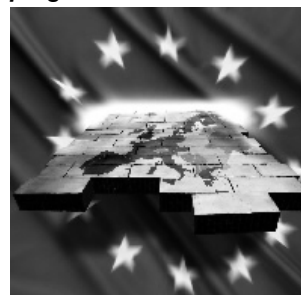
SEA and Health

- What is Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)?
- How does SEA consider health?
- The Environment Agency's role in SEA
- Our plans and programmes undergoing SEA
- How do we consider health in our SEAs?
- Health issues linked to our plans and programmes
- Relevant datasets and indicators
- The next step

What is Strategic Environmental Assessment?

- *Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is a process **tool** for integrating environmental considerations in the preparation and adoption of policies, plans and programmes*

Directive 2001/42/EC “on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment”



What value does SEA add?

- Enhances benefits and minimises environmental effects of a plan.
- Gains input from environmental experts and the public through consultations.
- Helps understand the environmental effects that result from interactions between different types of plan.

SEA: What does it cover?

- biodiversity
- population
- *human health*
- fauna, flora
- soil, water, air
-
- and interrelationship between the above factors

The Environment Agency's Roles in SEA

INTERNAL:

- Plan and Programme Maker ("Responsible Authority")

EXTERNAL:

- Provider of Information
- Statutory Consultee
- Source of Advice

Environment Agency's SEAs (Plans and Programmes)

Catchment Flood Management Plans



Shoreline Management Plans



Flood Risk Management Strategies



River Basin Management Plans



Salmon Action Plans



Catchment Flood Management Plans



- Overall direction for flood risk management at the catchment scale
- Range: 50-100 years
- Develop complementary catchment policies
- E.g.s:
River Trent
Thames Region

CFMP Sample Policies

1. No active intervention
2. Reduce existing flood risk management actions
3. Continue to manage flood risk at current level
4. Take further action to sustain current scale of flood risk into the future
5. Take further action to reduce flood risk now and in future
6. Take action to *increase* the frequency of flooding, to deliver benefits

Flood Risk Management Strategies

- More detailed level of flood risk management planning
- Geographical scale can vary
- Concentrate on specific actions to address flood risk
- E.g.s:
River Roding
Tidal Tees
Fluvial Trent



Examples of Options in Flood Risk Management Strategies

- Do Nothing
- Do Minimum
- Defences online
- Defence re-alignment
- New storage areas
- Existing storage areas

The health effect of our plans & strategies

- Reducing the risk of flooding
- Recreational and amenity resources
- Economic improvement
- Well-being of local communities
- Reduce vulnerability to the impacts of climate change
- Conserve and enhance landscape character
- Protect existing infrastructure
- Provide or enhance access to physical activity

Assessing health impacts in our SEAs

Current health indicators in our SEAs



- Households affected by strategy/plan
- Quality of life of affected population
- Accessible transport links
- Recreational opportunities
- Pollution issues
- Employment and economic development

Addressing Health in our SEAs: Other appropriate indicators?

- Mental or physical health
- Accidents and injuries
- Water borne infections
- Access to health and other services
- Community cohesion
- Access to employment, housing, education



Potential Sources of Health Data for our SEAs

- Office of National Statistics Census Data
- Health Survey for England
- Primary Care Morbidity Data
- Hospital Episode Statistics

Conclusions

- Our flood risk management plans and strategies have potential for health impacts
- We can review and address these impacts through the SEA process
- For an effective assessment, we need health data, indicators and objectives that can be linked to our plans/strategies
- The indicators we currently use could be refined to be better targeted to strategy-related health impacts

The Next Steps

- Identify most relevant dataset
- Discuss with health consultees
- Collect data
- Develop standard guidance for staff
- Apply across Environment Agency