Strengthening Health in the Housing Sector in Wales

Wales Health Impact Assessment Support Unit

Liz Green
Principal HIA Development Officer
Legal requirement...

- HIA is not statutory in Wales (nor the UK)
- Welsh Government Strategic Drivers
- Key Levers
HIA in Wales: Strategic Drivers

- Consideration of Health in All Policies (HiAP)
- Welsh Public Health Bill 2015
- Our Healthy Future’ (2010) and ‘Fairer Outcomes for All’ (2011) – Public Health Strategy for Wales
- Not included in Housing Act (2014) but...
Levers for HIA and Housing

- WG Planning Bill and new Planning Policy Wales (2015) – LDPs with an emphasis on housing development and affordable housing
- Vibrant and Viable Places: Welsh Regeneration Framework (2013) - important
- Welsh Housing Act (2014) – wellbeing included in Welsh Housing Quality Standards
Housing HIAs – Policy and Strategy

- Draft Denbighshire Housing Strategy 2015
- Welsh Government Agent and Landlord Licensing Scheme (2014)
- Additional Licensing Scheme for HMOs - Anglesey (2013)
- Additional Licensing Scheme for HMOs – Denbighshire (2014)
- Draft Conwy Housing Strategy (2013)
- Rhyl ‘Going Forward’ Delivery Plan (2012)
Housing HIAs – Projects and Plans

- Environmental Regeneration Scheme, Llandudno (2015)
- Bodelwyddan Key Strategic Site, Denbighshire (2014)
- Rhyl Housing Improvement Project (2014)
- Newport City Homes (2013)
- Tan-Y-Fron Extra Care Housing Scheme, Llandudno (2013)
- Area Renewal Plan, Rhyl (2010)
Evidence used

- ‘Housing and Health Evidence Review for HIA’ (WHIASU, 2014)
- Quantitative – housing and Environmental health statistics, health data, demographic profiles
- Qualitative – expert knowledge, community participation and local contextual information

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

- Local Authorities – use of HIA can demonstrate regard for health and wellbeing and consider inequality
- RSL’s – can be used as a collaborative tool to demonstrate to Welsh Government best practice and demonstrate principles of FGA
- Participation and collaboration essential in HIA, looks long term and at prevention