

Wokingham Inequalities Project

Understanding what will make a difference so that everyone in
Wokingham can be healthy, happy and safe.

59

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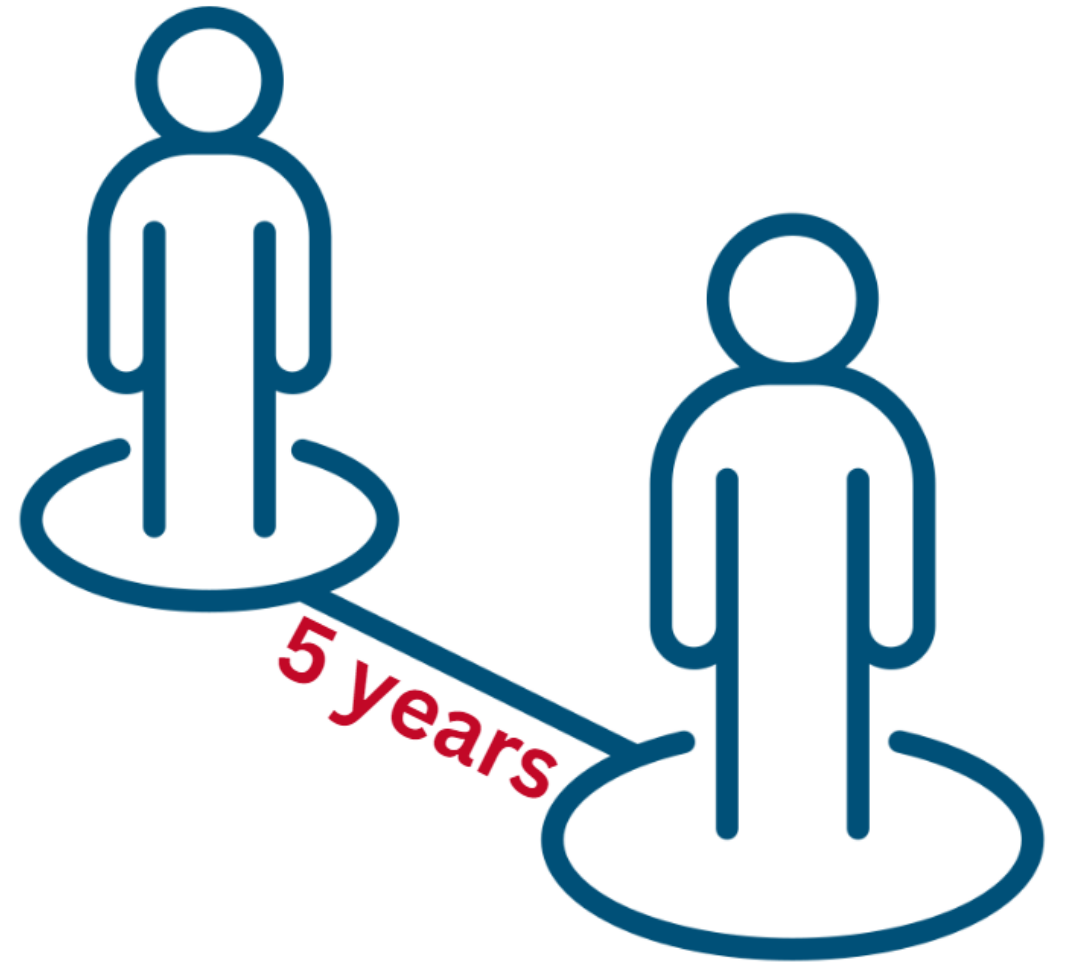
February 2024

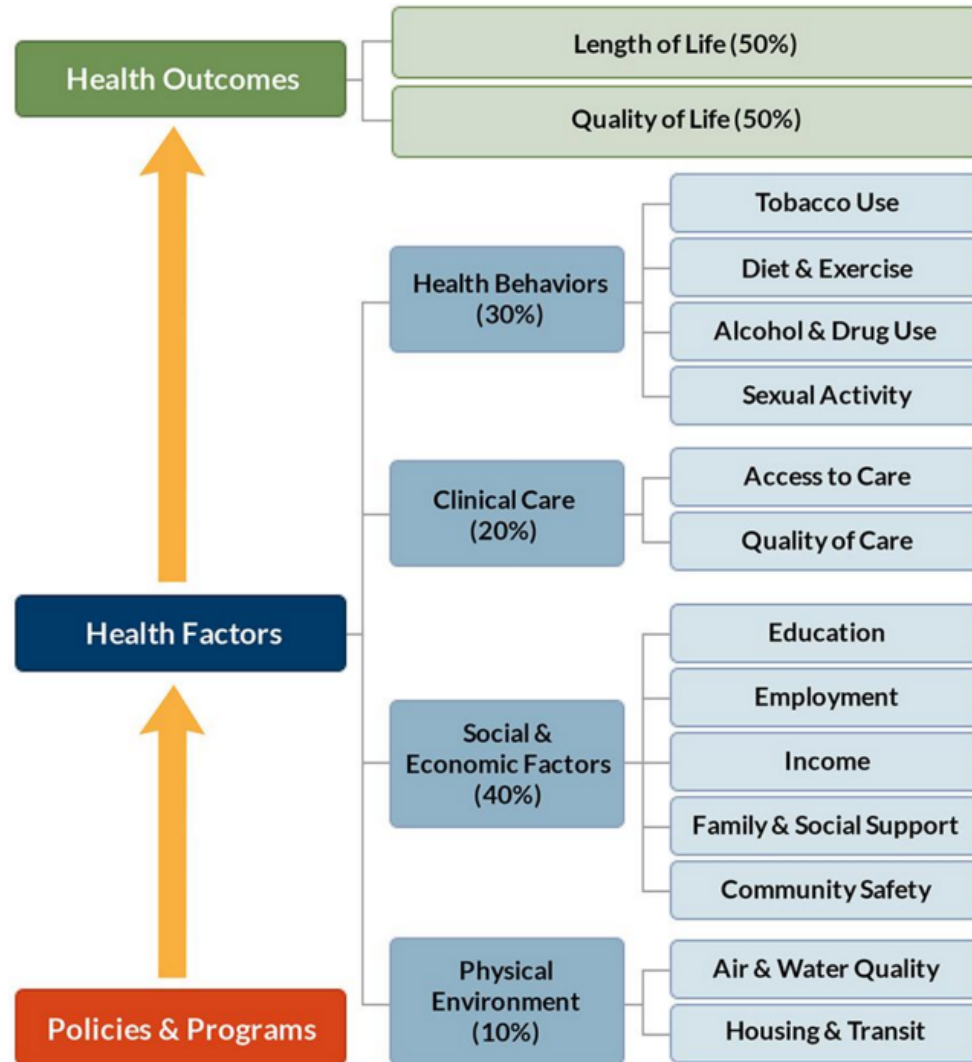
Agenda Item

42

It's a matter of life and death

In our most deprived neighbourhoods people are dying 5 years earlier than people who live in our least deprived neighbourhoods





County Health Rankings model © 2014 UWPHI

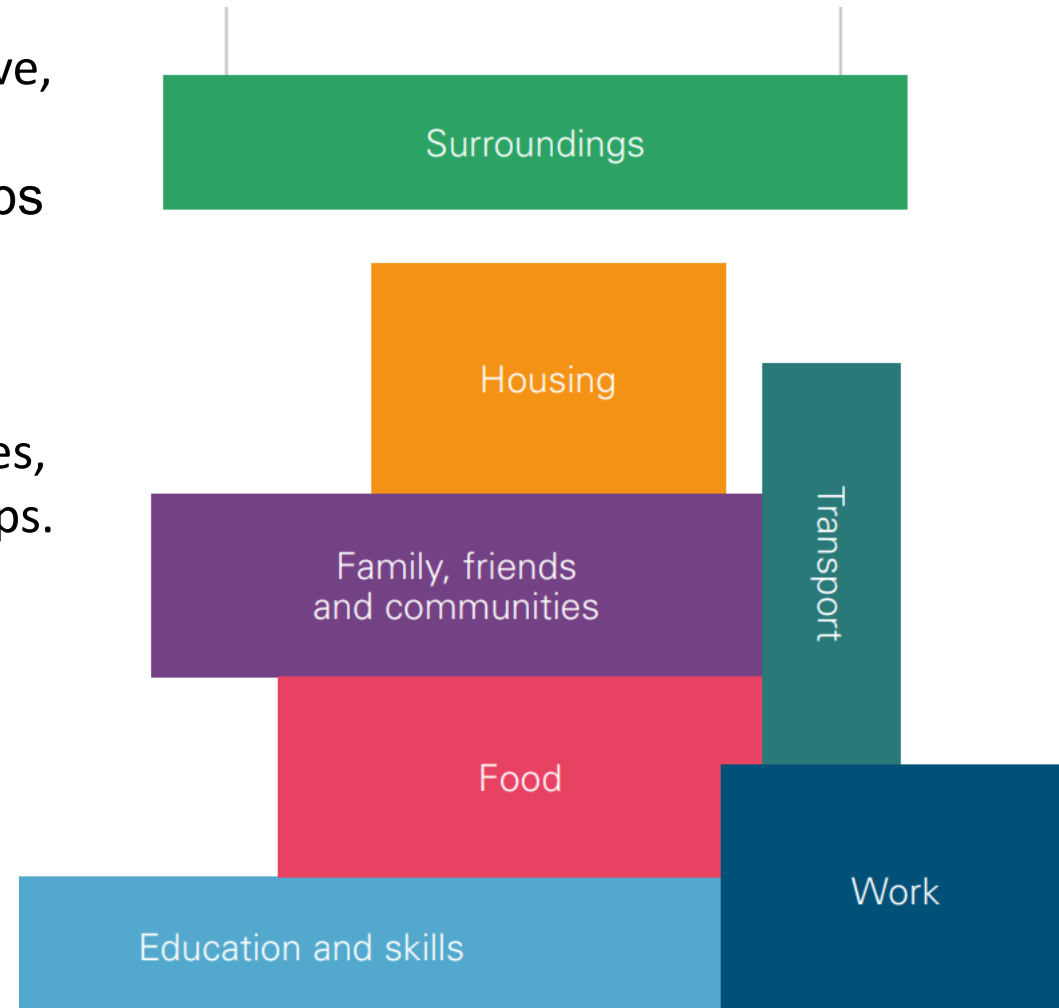
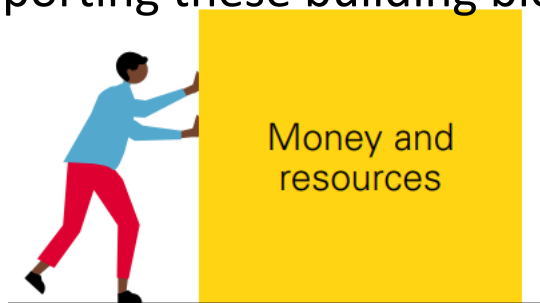
The University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. County Health Rankings & Roadmaps, 2022. www.countyhealthrankings.org

The environment people live in and the opportunities they experience throughout their life are the factors that are most likely to have the biggest impact on their health and wellbeing

The building blocks of health and wellbeing

- To create a society where everybody can thrive, we need all of the right building blocks in place: access to secure housing, good jobs with fair pay, quality education and much more.
- But right now, in too many of our communities, the blocks are unstable. It's time to fix the gaps.
- Public services can make a big difference in supporting these building blocks.

62



Reference: How to talk about the building blocks of health. The Health Foundation; 2022 (health.org.uk/publications/how-to-talk-about-the-building-blocks-of-health).

Change is possible

- It is important that we understand the building blocks of health and wellbeing in Wokingham. Where are the blocks that are missing for some residents and how can we work together to fix the gaps?

63

Project on a page

Aim

To understand what building blocks of health and wellbeing are missing for some residents in Wokingham and how we can work together to fix the gaps so that everyone can be happy, healthy and safe.

Timeline

12 months (August 2023 – August 2024)

Goals

1. To bring together intelligence, including insights from those with lived experience and from front-line staff, to create a common understanding
2. To support the development of the council plan so that change happens fastest for those with the greatest need
3. To improve applied research skills within the council
4. To work towards becoming a “Marmot Place”

Approaches

Talk to people

Look at what the data in Wokingham are telling us

Learn from others

Inequalities Project | Workstreams

Inequalities Project – Workstreams Structure

Data & Intelligence	Literature & Research Review	Insights from Frontline Workers	Lived Experience Conversations	Working with the Institute of Health Equity
Collate high-level data to describe existing inequalities across the building blocks of health	Reviewing the literature to understand the impact of relative deprivation and effective interventions to reduce inequalities	To hold discussions with frontline staff to understand their perspectives on relative deprivation	To hold discussions with residents to gain direct insight on their lived experiences of inequality	To investigate becoming a Marmot Place, and to understand and define requirements

The Steering Group have identified two key existing Wokingham strategies which highlight those residents who are at greater risk of experiencing inequalities. They would like to invite these residents to participate in the discussion groups.

Wokingham Tackling Poverty Strategy (2022-2026)

- **People in persistent hardship** - these are people on low income, Universal Credit or other benefits
- **People who are just about managing** - these are people who don't have much money left at the end of the month
- **People who are asset rich, cash poor** - these are people who own a home or a car, which is an asset, but they don't have much money

Wokingham Health and Wellbeing Strategy into Action

- People with learning disabilities
- Unpaid carers
- Young people in contact with the criminal justice system
- People with lived experience of substance misuse
- People with lived experience of domestic abuse

Frontline staff will be invited to share their perspectives on how the building blocks of health and wellbeing look and feel for those residents at greater risk of experiencing inequality.

The project steering group would like to invite people working in these areas to participate:

- **Voluntary and community sector**
- **Housing**
- **Adult Social Care**
- **Debt Support**
- **Education and skills – adults and children**
- **Children’s services**
- **Health visiting**
- **Community nursing**
- **Refugee Service**
- **Customer Service (Wokingham Borough Council)**
- **Community Engagement**
- **Libraries**
- **Sports and Leisure**

Governance

Project Sponsors:

- Sally Watkins (Chief Operating Officer, Wokingham Borough Council)
- Ingrid Slade (Director of Public Health, Wokingham Borough Council)

Governance:

- A **Steering Group** has been set up to oversee the project
- The Steering Group will report to the **Joint Equalities and Tackling Poverty Programme Board** (which meets every 6 weeks) and will update the **Wokingham Health and Wellbeing Board** (which meets every 2 months).