
Health in All Policies, South Australia

In Brief

Town/Region	Adelaide
State	South Australia
Context	Statewide
Target Group	All, but specifically children, youth, elderly, city workers, new home owners
Organisation(s):	South Australian Department of Planning and Local Government in partnership with the Department of Health
Timing of Project	Until 30 June 2011
Weblink	http://www.dh.sa.gov.au/pehs/health-in-all-policies.htm
Key Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Policy and strategic planning focus on health in urban planning ○ Development of an assessment tool for health in urban planning. ○ Project to embed health into urban planning and planning practice

Overview

The South Australian Government has created a Health in All Planning Officer position in order to promote better health through urban planning in South Australia (SA). The position forms the basis of a partnership between the SA Department of Planning and Local Government and the SA Department of Health. The Health in All Planning Officer works within the Department of Planning and Local Government to develop greater integration of best practice health principles into planning policies, programs and protocols.

The role was created as a result of work by Professor Ilona Kickbusch who recommended the state government adopt a healthy public policy framework known as *Health in All Policies* (HiAP). This is a new approach to health governance which has been successfully applied in northern Europe but is new to Australia. A HiAP approach emphasises collaboration across disciplines to improve the determinants of health and promote better population health outcomes.

OUTCOMES

Successes

The *Health in All Planning Officer* role is still in its early stages but the partnership has already led to:

- Strengthened engagement between the planning and health departments on planning issues. Both agencies share common targets through the *South Australian Strategic Plan* to improve the health and wellbeing of the community. The Health in All Planning Officer is working in partnership with both agencies to develop joint policies which address those targets.
- Improvement of the workforce capacity within both departments to communicate and collaborate on planning matters.
- Incorporation of a greater health focus in the development of the *30 Year Plan for Greater Adelaide* which is presently being developed.

Learnings

- The Health in All Planning Officer position is still in its early stages and will be evaluated for its success in delivering changes to planning practice which ultimately benefit the health of the community.

Costs

- The fulltime Health in All Planning Officer position is funded for three years by the SA Department of Health.

Benefits

- The Health in All Planning Officer has created a presence and an additional resource within the Department of Planning and Local Government to promote health in strategic and policy planning. The long term benefits of the role are likely to be a cultural shift towards health and planning within the organisation and systemic changes which incorporate a health focus that endure beyond the role of the position.



Case Study - Health in All Policies

www.healthyplaces.org.au

REFERENCES

Kicksbusch, I. 'Healthy Societies: Addressing 21st century health challenges,' *Adelaide Thinkers in Residence*, Department of the Premier and Cabinet, Government of South Australia.

http://www.thinkers.sa.gov.au/images/Kickbusch_Final_Report.pdf

SA Department of Health, *Health in All Policies*, Government of South Australia.

<http://www.dh.sa.gov.au/pehs/health-in-all-policies.htm>

