

Bedford Borough Health and Wellbeing Strategy

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Role of the health and wellbeing strategy – conductor of the orchestra

- Coordinate health and wellbeing activities across the council, wider public sector, businesses, voluntary organisations, and communities
- Provide a focus and sense of direction
- Accountability
- Statutory requirement

Many strategies and plans influence health and wellbeing – each with a different focus

Health and Wellbeing Strategy



BLMK Integrated Care Service Strategy

Focus on healthcare services



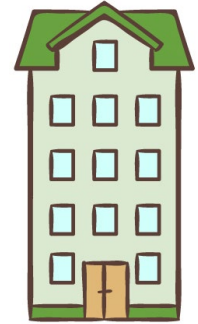
Children, Young People, and their Families Plan

Focus on early years, childhood and adolescence



Bedford Borough Transport Plan

Focus on making it easier and safer for residents to walk, cycle, and use public transport



Local Plan

Focus on increasing housing supply



Place Based Plan

Focuses on health and social care transformation and access to preventative services and screening



Adults' Services Directorate Plan

Focuses on adults' services

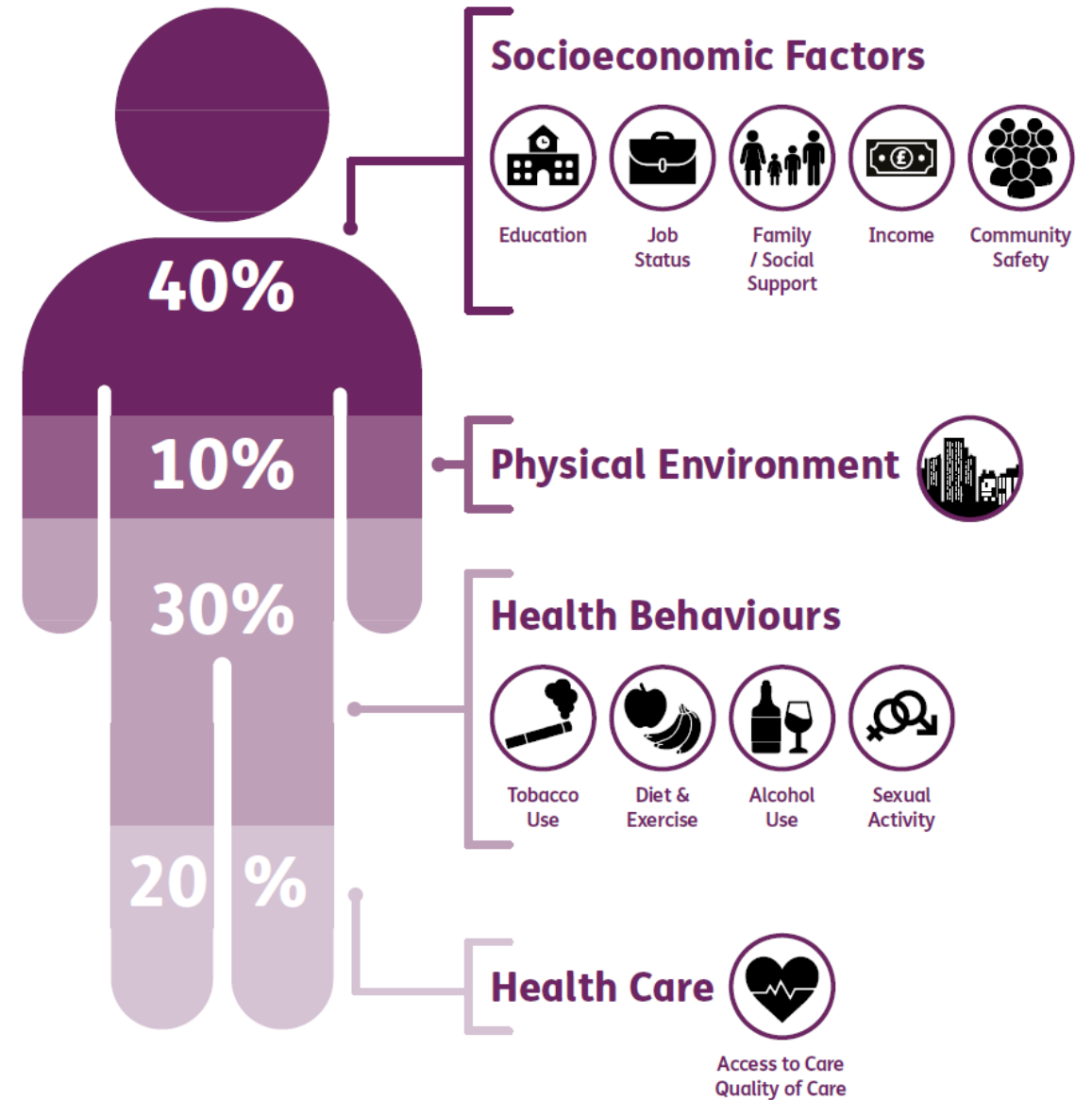


Bedford Borough Corporate Plan

Focuses on economic growth and response to climate change

What influences health?

- Mostly the social and physical conditions in which you live your life – the ‘building blocks of health’
- Differences in these building blocks result in some groups of people living longer and having better health than others



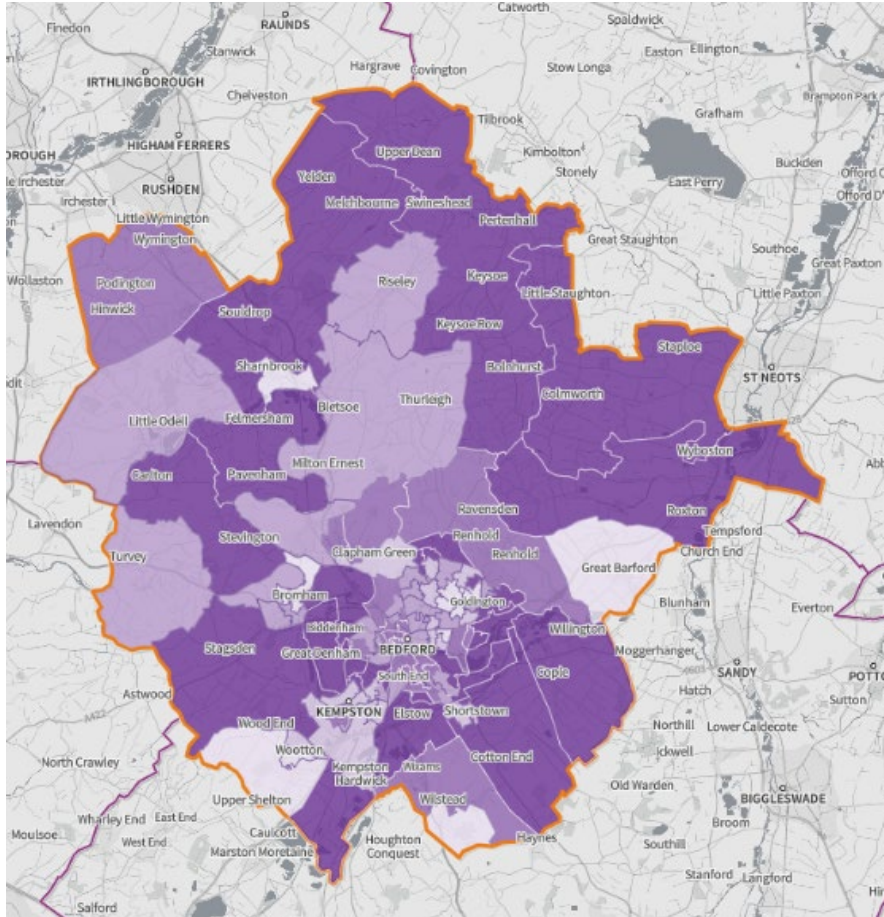
What we are worried about in Bedford Borough – people's lives being cut short

- Men living in the electoral ward with the highest average life expectancy (Oakley, now part of Clapham and Oakley ward) on average live 15 years longer than men living in the electoral ward with the lowest life expectancy (Harpur)
- Women living the electoral ward with the highest average life expectancy (Kempston Rural, now part of Bromham ward) on average live 11 years longer than woman living in the electoral ward with the lowest life expectancy (Harpur)
- The differences in life expectancy in Bedford Borough are amongst the largest in the East of England region

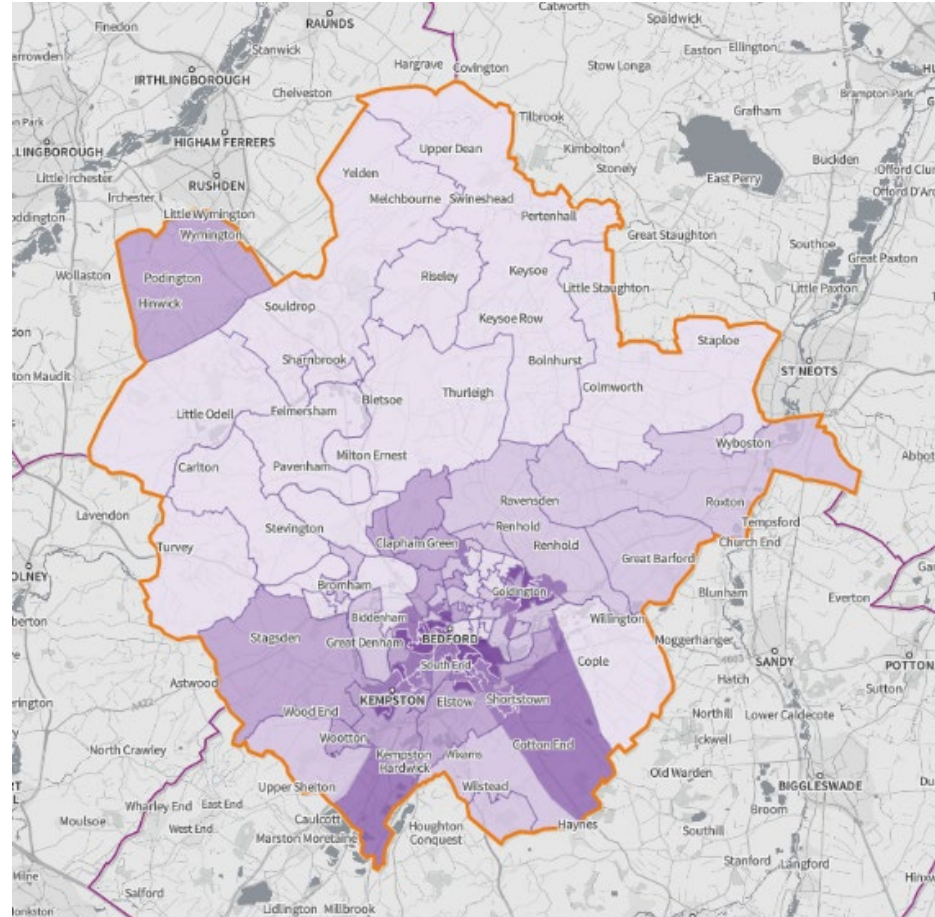
Examples of weaknesses in the building blocks of health

- In 2021/22 only 57% of children receiving free school meals achieved the expected level in their phonics screening check in Year 1 compared with 72% in the Borough overall
- In 2021/22 the gap in the employment rate for those who were in contact with secondary mental health services and the overall employment rate was 69%
- In the same period, the gap in the employment rate for those with a learning disability and the overall employment rate was 65%
- In 2021/22, the overall economic inactivity rate among 16 to 64 year olds was 24% (vs. 19% in the East of England region)

Different building blocks need strengthening for different groups

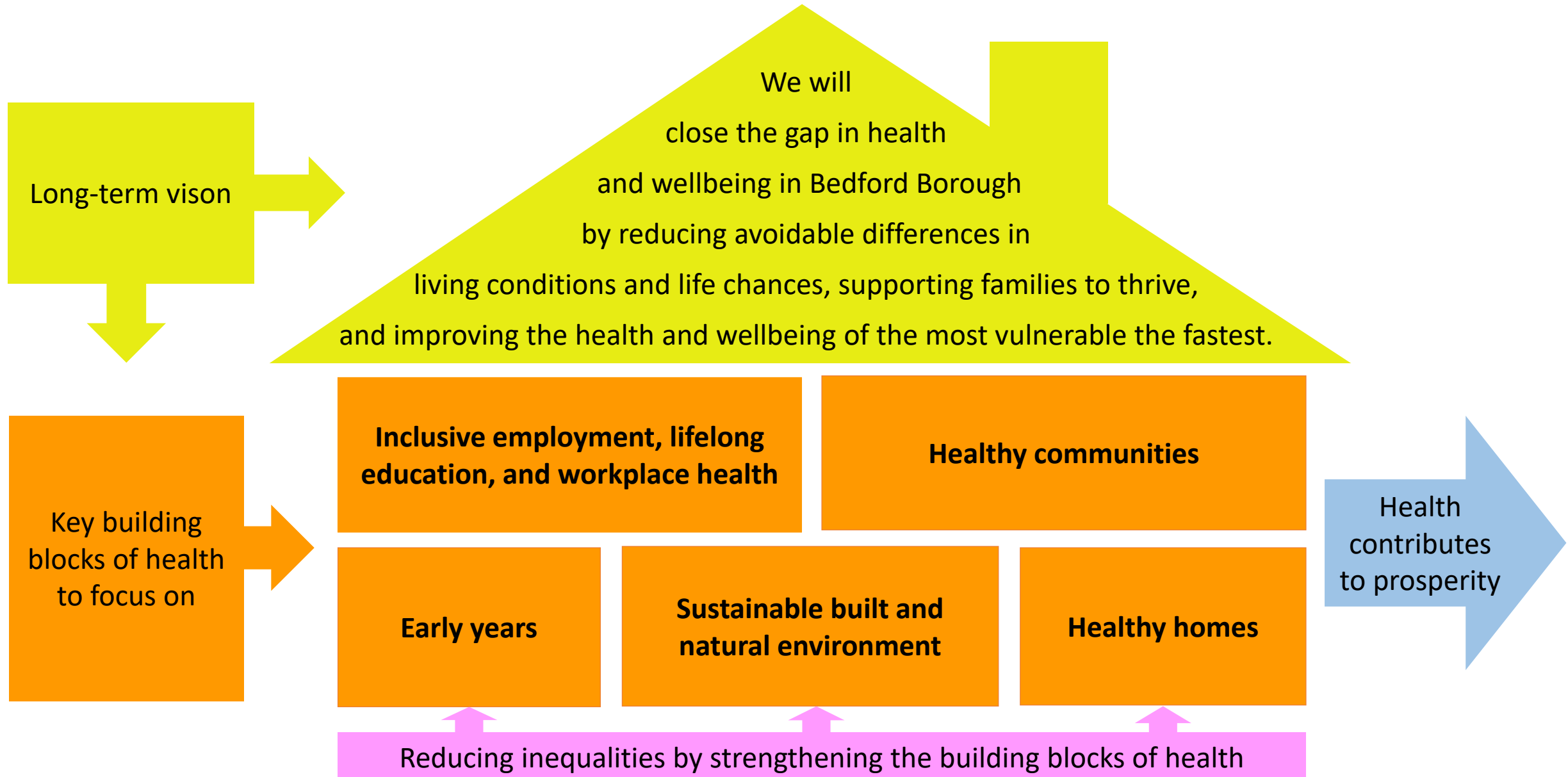


Barriers to Housing and Services Deprivation

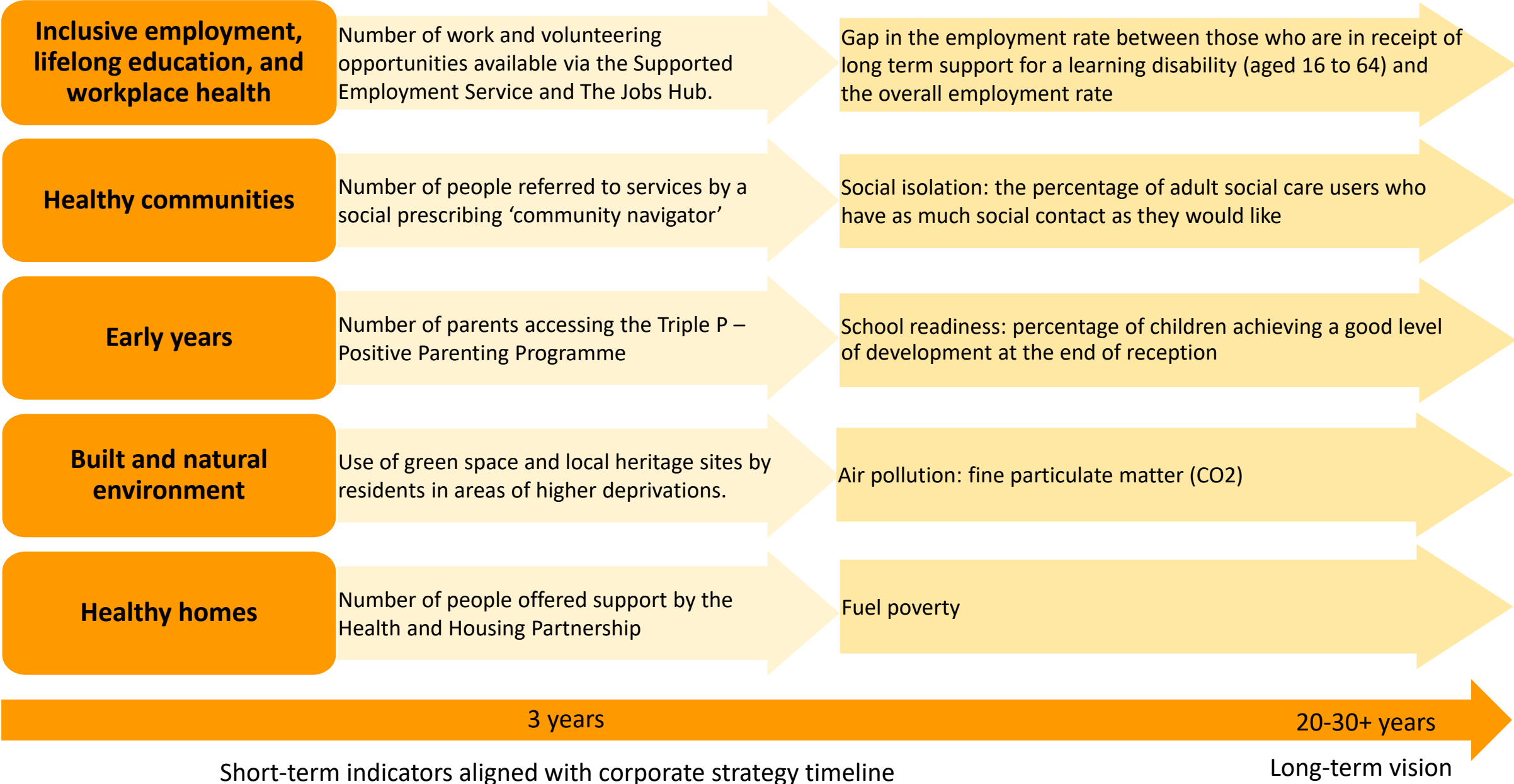


Education, Skills and Training Deprivation

Suggested approach for the health and wellbeing strategy



Examples of short and longer-term indicators



Planned next steps

- Draft submitted to the Health and Wellbeing Board in September
- Refinement of actions and indicators through collaboration with our partner organisations and local communities, including a community consultations particularly focused on engaging with:
 - Ethnic minority communities
 - People living in the 20% most deprived areas of the Borough
 - People living in rural poverty
 - People living with a learning disability or autism
 - Inclusion health groups (people that are homeless, people living with multiple long-term physical and mental health conditions, people that experience alcohol or drug dependency, vulnerable migrants, Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities, sex workers, and people in contact with the justice system).
- Submission of final strategy to the Health and Wellbeing Board in December

Summary

- The health and wellbeing strategy's long-term vision is to close the gaps in avoidable differences in health
- We propose to do this by strengthening the building blocks of health
- This will take time to change life expectancy, but short-term indicators can measure progress
- In the long-term, a healthier and less unequal population will contribute to prosperity
- Enacting the strategy will require coordination across the council, other public sector organisations, businesses, voluntary organisations and communities