Place Standard:
How Good is Our Place?
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NHS Health Scotland

Winner
Planning for Wellbeing

Architecture & Design Scotland
NHS Scotland
Scottish Government

Planning Excellence 2017
I will cover...

- Place, health and health inequalities
- Origins & principles of the Place Standard
- Implementation
- Conditions for success
- Application
- Transferability
Are we having the right conversations with the right people at the right time to change things for the better?
Place: a definition

- the **environment** in which we live
- the **people** that inhabit these spaces
- the **quality of life** that comes from the interaction of people and their surroundings


ANY development ALWAYS ‘makes places’...

...the question is whether they contribute positively, have little impact, or lead to negative outcomes.
Place - mending
Inequalities in health – the consequences

Males – 78.0 years
Females – 83.8 years

Males – 63.7 years
Females – 72.1 years
Place: a complex picture of health

- People factors - age, sex & genes
- Community factors - capital & networks
- Lifestyle factors - diet, physical activity & work-life balance
- Local economy - wealth creation & access to, & nature of market
- Activities e.g. working, shopping, moving around, living, playing & learning
- Built environment - buildings, spaces, streets, public realm & housing
- Natural environment - air, water, landscape, natural habitat
Source: NHS Health Scotland – 'Theory of Causation of Health Inequalities'
Our lives need to be comprehensible manageable and meaningful, ...or we experience a state of chronic stress - linked to early mortality.

The biology is very clear, chaotic, difficult circumstances lead to an increased risk of physical ill health. So let's not spend a fortune trying to find drugs to fix that; let's change the chaotic and difficult circumstances.

Aaron Antonovsky: concept of ‘salutogenesis’

Sir Harry Burns (Former Chief Medical Officer of Scotland)
Place Standard origins

Partners:
- Scottish Government (Planning & Architecture)
- NHS Health Scotland
- Architecture & Design Scotland
- Glasgow City Council

healthscotland.scot  Twitter @NHS_HS  Instagram @nhshealthscotland
A legal requirement to “prepare and publish a local outcomes improvement plan” July 2015
...to support the delivery of high quality places in Scotland and to maximise the potential of the physical and social environment in supporting health, wellbeing and a high quality of life.
Place Standard what is it?

- A simple, free, easy-to-use assessment tool to evaluate the quality of a place
- It can evaluate places that are well-established, undergoing change, or still being planned – at a range of scales: local to regional
- Developed based on evidence of the positive role that place plays in reducing inequalities
- 14 simple questions: physical, social & economic characteristics of place affecting health & wellbeing
- Can be undertaken by communities and/or professionals, individually or in groups
- Structures conversations on key issues and provides rich qualitative data
How does it work?

Data generated to identify priority actions important for good quality places. Place Standard targeted to areas of deprivation.

Actions taken to improve quality.

Improved wellbeing for community and reduction in health inequalities.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Question</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Moving Around</td>
<td>Can I easily walk and cycle around using good quality routes?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Transport</td>
<td>Does public transport meet my needs?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traffic And Parking</td>
<td>Do traffic and parking arrangements allow people to move around safely and meet community needs?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Streets &amp; Spaces</td>
<td>Do buildings, streets and public spaces create an attractive place that is easy to get around?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Space</td>
<td>Can I regularly experience good quality natural space?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Play &amp; Recreation</td>
<td>Do I have access to a range of spaces and opportunities for play and recreation?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilities &amp; Amenities</td>
<td>Do facilities and amenities meet my needs?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work &amp; Local Economy</td>
<td>Is there an active local economy and the opportunity to access good quality work?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing &amp; Community</td>
<td>Does housing support the needs of the community and contribute to a positive environment?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Interaction</td>
<td>Is there a range of spaces and opportunities to meet people?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identity &amp; Belonging</td>
<td>Does this place have a positive identity and do I feel I belong?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feeling Safe</td>
<td>Do I feel safe?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Care &amp; Maintenance</td>
<td>Are buildings and spaces well cared for?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence &amp; Sense of Control</td>
<td>Do I feel able to participate in decisions and help change things for the better?</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
MOVING AROUND

Walking and cycling are good for both our health and the environment. The design and layout of a place can encourage walking and cycling by providing pleasant and safe routes that connect people to where they want to go.

Now consider the question:

**Can I easily walk and cycle around using good quality routes?**

Next, rate your place on a scale from 1 to 7 where 1 means there is a lot of room for improvement and 7 means there is very little room for improvement. There are some points on right to help you consider your response.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

If you wish, note why you rated your answer the way you did below:

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You might want to think about the following:

- Are there enough routes for walking and cycling? Are these given priority over cars and other traffic as much as possible?
- Do routes provide obvious and direct links with the places that people want to go, such as schools, shops, parks and public transport?
- Are routes of good quality, in an attractive environment and pleasant to use?
- Do routes meet the needs of all people regardless of age, mobility or disability? Is seating available for those who may need it?
- Do routes feel safe to use all year round and at different times of the day?
The Place Standard is very easy to use. Users consider each question in turn rating a place on a scale of 1 to 7. One means there is a lot of room for improvement, 7 means there is little need for improvement, the quality is as good as it can be. Then you plot the ratings on the compass and join the dots to make a ‘spider’ diagram.
Place Standard: recording responses
Place Standard: analysis

Influence + Sense of Control:
Let local people be involved in the process from the beginning – what needs changed; How it will be changed; Help choose Who they want to work with; etc.

Housing:
More housing options needed for older people and starter homes for young people.

Play + Recreation:
new seats, lighting and café with toilets in our Park.
Different locations will have different graph shapes i.e. coastal; rural; city centre; neighbourhoods; etc.
South Queensferry Example:
- Public Response (August 2015)
- Public Responses (October 2015)
- School Children Responses (October 2015)
When to use it?

**Early stages**
- Identifying needs and assets
- Aligning priorities and investment
- Empowering communities, allowing their views to be articulated

**Design and development stages**
- Action planning
- Informing or reviewing proposals

**For continuous improvement**
- Monitoring changes and improvements
- Community after-care or stewardship
- Shared Learning

Gathering community priorities
Informing CPP considerations
Identifying needs
Reviewing impact of initiatives
Business planning
Baseline data
Development planning
Planning consultation
Regeneration planning
Capacity studies for places
Needs assessments
Asset mapping
Data for consultant briefing
Design charrette briefing
Development briefs
Participatory budgeting
Development frameworks
Masterplanning
Option appraisals
Desktop review
Design and access statements
Design review
Cross sector working
Community action planning
Development management
Anyone! The tool can be used to bring together all of the stakeholders involved in that place.
Evaluation: key findings

Conditions for success

- **Quality of engagement** is key
- Importance of **local context**
- Key **team skills**: project management skills, community engagement & facilitation skills, qualitative analysis
- **Resourcing**, to handle the Scale of conversations
- Achieving **buy-in** by decision makers in advance of using the tool
- **Managing expectation** & maintaining trust
- **Delivering actions** to show evidence of listening & impact
Evaluation: key findings

“Our reach was higher than we ever have had before. We also reached a lot of protected characteristic groups and those that wouldn’t typically engage in any type of consultation”

“We cannot afford to do all this work, engaging with the community, and nothing happens”

“The results of this inclusive approach far outstrip the resourcing costs... the amount of groups we have met through this process was worth it”

“Being a good facilitator and having this experience was key to the overall process”

“I would say the barrier would be around engagement, Engaging with the right people and representative groups. Yes, this can be challenging”

“The Place Standard Tool does not lend itself well to short-sharp consultations”
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AREA</th>
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<th>AREA</th>
<th>No</th>
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<td>North Ayrshire Council</td>
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<td>Comhairle nan Eilean Siar</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Perth &amp; Kinross Council</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Renfrewshire Council</td>
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<td>Stirling Council</td>
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<td>Falkirk Council</td>
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<td>West Lothian Council</td>
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<td>Fife Council</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Loch Lomond &amp; Trossachs National Park</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Glasgow City Council</td>
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</tbody>
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**At Least 16,750 People**

*Based on 28 Area Returns up to November 2018*
Application: for what?

- LOIP/Locality Plan Development: 33%
- Local Development Plan: 20%
- Training Awareness Raising: 15%
- Local Development Framework: 11%
- Local Place Plans: 7%
- Masterplan: 5%
- Other: 9%

Based on 103 Recorded Applications Up to November 2018
Transferability

WHO European Healthy Cities Network

Workshop: Edinburgh, Scotland, Sept 2017
Workshop: Antalya, Turkey, April 2018
Workshop: WHO International Conference, Belfast, N. Ireland, Oct 2018
Current: piloting across WHO European Region
Next: WHO Accreditation by Summer 2019
What’s next?

**Place Standard Strategy**

Over the next 3 years we will support place-based approaches to help deliver better places with a focus on these priorities...

- Build to rent
- Family
- Older people
- Community
- Homes
- Safe
- Build
- Assisted
- Accessible
- People
- Participating
- Inclusion
- Public cycling
- Inclusive
- Affordable
- Transport
- Walking
- Choice
- Town centres
- Amenities
- Accessible
- Environment
- Climate
- Justice
- Inclusion
- Air quality
- Water
- Biodiversity
- Heritage
- Emissions
- Green
- Voice
- Minority
- Vulnerable
- Young
- Climate
- Climate change
- Protection
- Justice
- Inactive
- Eating
- Local
- Leisure
- Choice
- Shops
- Safe
Place Standard tool available to use online or download free: www.placestandard.scot.

More information on Place Standard, including the process evaluation report: www.healthscotland.scot/PlaceStandardTool.

Case studies: www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLdtTilZi8S78EVEGTDIJJ_JSmGt_wLn6z.

Case studies: www.ads.org.uk/case_studies_place_standard.

National Standards for Community Engagement: www.voicescotland.org.uk.

Use it and please tell us: by email nhs.healthscotland-placestandard@nhs.net or Twitter @PlaceStandard.
Thank you.

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