

HIA; policy backdrop

- We must move beyond simply managing illness “Michelle O’Neill MoH”
- Review of Public Administration (RPA) Community Planning has much in common with a HIA approach including community voice in the planning & co-design process.
- Transforming Your Care (TYC). The prevention agenda sits at the heart of both TYC and HIA.
- Health In All Policies Placing individual and community health at the core of policy developments and giving voice to those likely to be most affected by a policy’s introduction.

Can Health Impact Assessment be used to develop People Friendly Places in West Belfast?

Dermot Glackin

West Belfast Partnership Board

4th November 2016

Focus

- Health Impact Assessment
- Dove Gardens HIA
- Using HIA in the west

Health Impact Assessment;

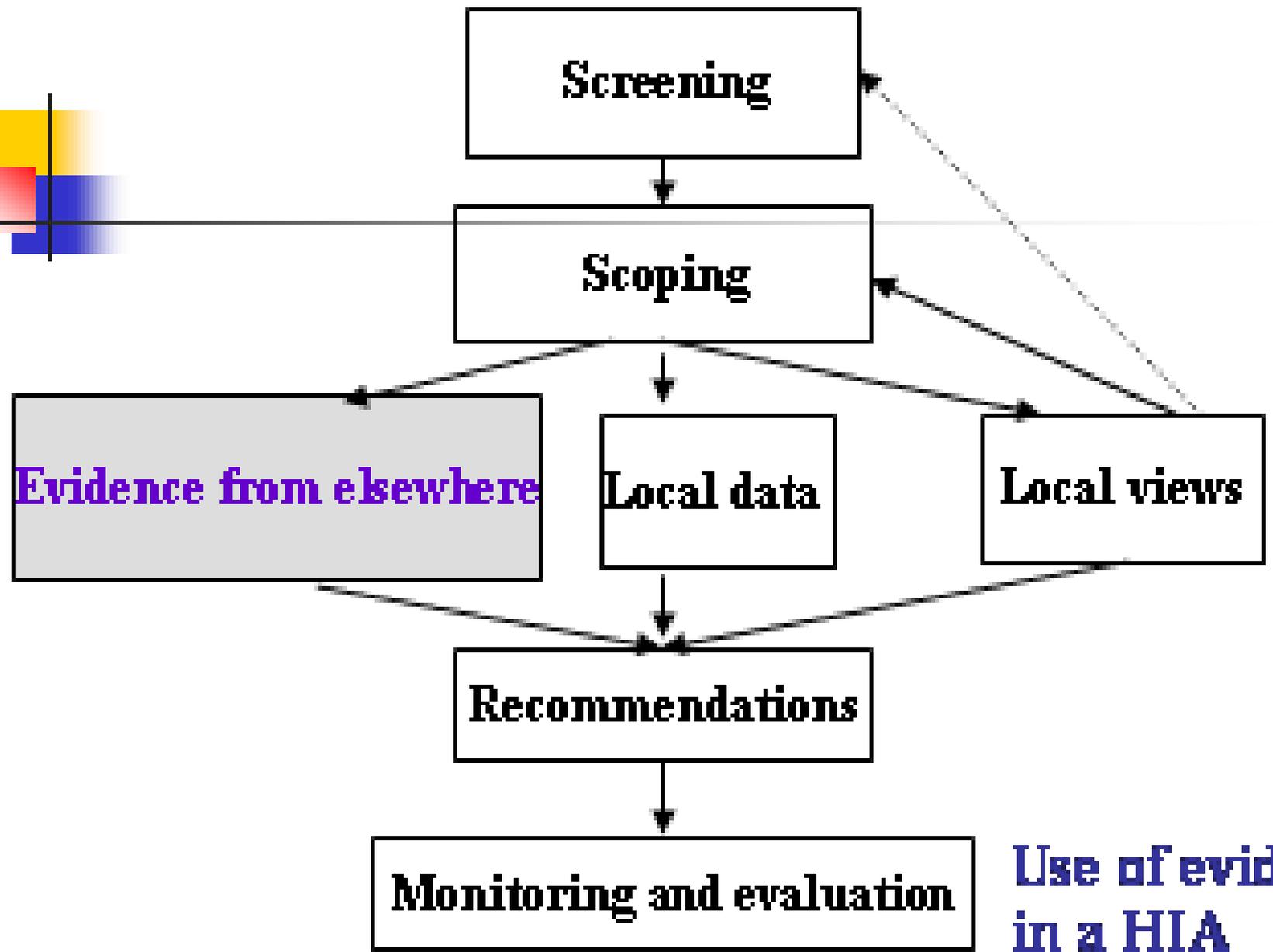
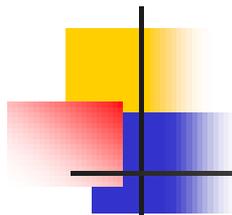
HIA is a systematic way of judging the potential impacts on health of a proposal with a view to identifying what is good about a proposal and how can this be made better; likewise reducing or eliminating negative health impacts.

Values

- **An explicit focus on equity and social justice**
- **Uses multi-disciplinary, participatory approach**
- **Recognize the need for differing ‘types’ of evidence**
- **Openness to public scrutiny**

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**Use of evidence
in a HIA
framework**

Dove Gardens Health Impact Assessment



HIA Stakeholders

Directly affected by proposal

Interested in proposal implications

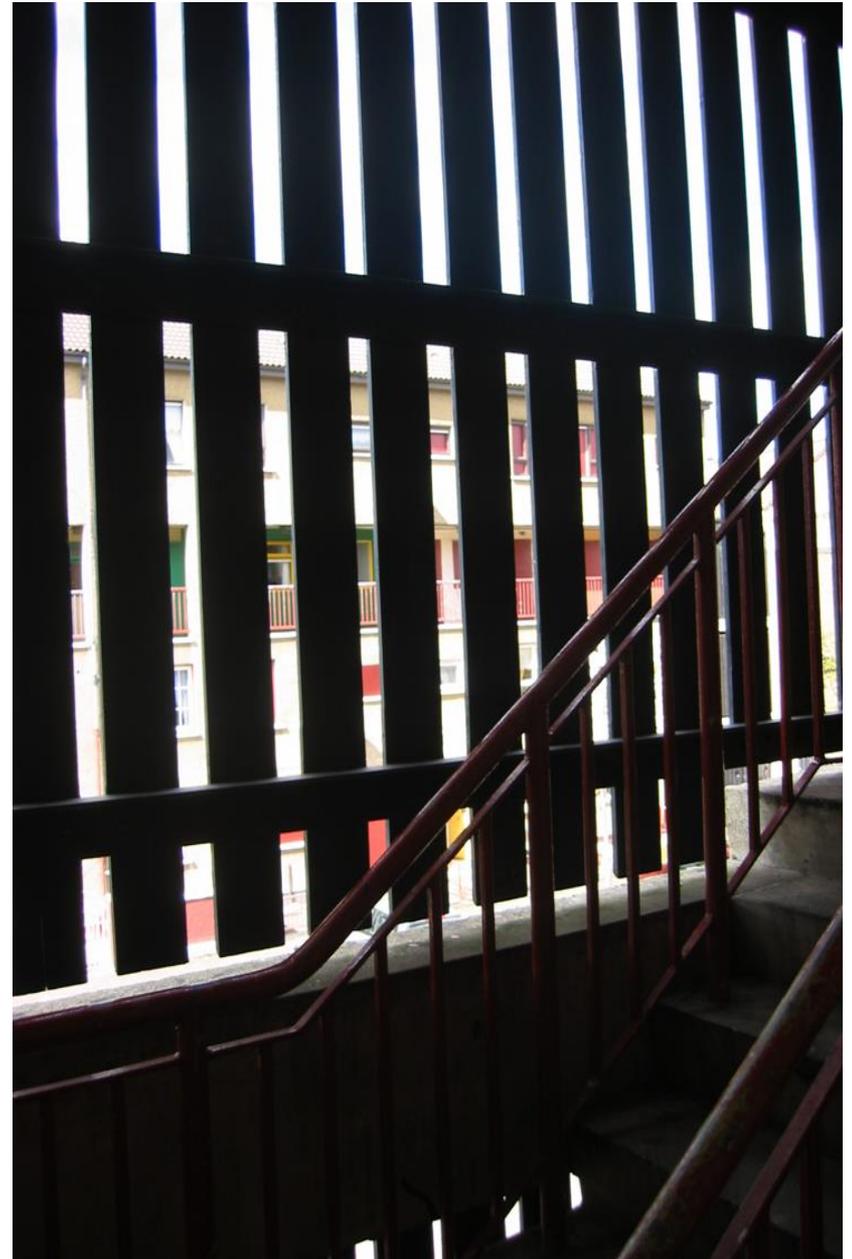
Decision makers

The Proposal

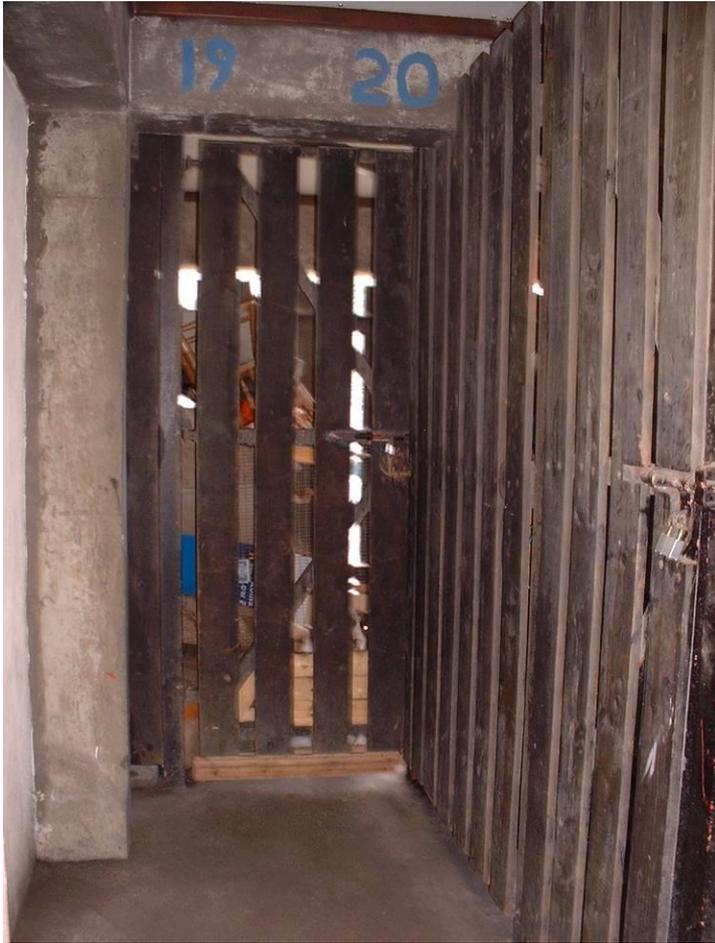
“To demolish the 79 dwelling that make up Dove Gardens and provide replacement dwelling for those that wish to return”



Communal stairway



Cloths drying Areas



View of the 4 laundry areas





Community Infrastructure

- Weak community Infrastructure.
- All attempts to establish a Tenants Association failed
- The majority (65%) of tenants were not interested in joining a group and that the majority of these (65%) said 'nothing would encourage them to join' (NIHE)

Stakeholders & screening

Directly affected by proposal

- Community Representatives

Concerned about policy implications

- Community Workers
- WHSSB Public Health Dept
- Health Action Zone
- Western Investing For Health partnership

Decision makers

- North & West Housing Association
- N.I.H.E.



Scoping

Aims of the HIA-

1. Influence the design for the regeneration of Dove Gardens.
2. Improve the health and well being of people living in Dove Gardens and surrounding areas.
3. Promote community participation to enable local communities to contribute to and influence the decision making processes.

Scoping

Target groups for the appraisal

- Returning population
- Neighbouring population

Geographical area affected by the proposal

- Dove Gardens
- Surrounding Areas: (Bogside and Brandywell)

Appraisal

1. Health profile
2. Appraisal workshops
 - Dove Gardens residents
 - Neighbouring area
 - Workers
 - Young people
3. Literature review

Appraisal workshops

- Environments
- Safer Neighbourhoods
- Community spirit
- Service Provision
- Employment & Local business opportunities
- Other things that affect our health

Quotes from young persons workshop

All you could smell was dope and pee. There was graffiti and broken windows. **Girl 16**

The steps were bad... all the people hanging 'round in them. There was a lot of noise; people hanging around and shouting. **Boy 17**

In my picture, all the windows are broken... there is graffiti and fires.
We're not moving back. **Girl 13**

I hope the new place won't have steps 'cause everybody hangs about them and all.
Boy 14



**WEST BELFAST
PARTNERSHIP**
MIRTÍOCHT
EIRSTE THÍAR

Coding Impacts

- L= likely and is supported by evidence
- I=effect on health inequalities
- C= cause for concern by the community
- S=speculative
- U=unlikely
- O=other

Evidence from literature review

Environments (Houses and homes)

The impact of improved appearance could create a new lease of life helping lift depression and get people out of doldrums.
L,C

Improvement in mental health is directly related to the extent of housing improvement, demonstrating a dose response relationship. This consistent pattern suggests that improving housing improves mental health.

Recommendations

- We recommend “design for life principles” should be reflected in bedroom size and potential use of roof space void”.

HIA in the west

- 10 year public health strategy
- Routine use of full or hybrid version of HIA to gain maximum health benefit from emerging plans