

Healthy Places Framework

To create a Solihull where every community can thrive, and everyone has the opportunity and environment to live active, healthy lives.



Solihull Healthy Places Framework

The Background

Solihull experiences significant health inequalities, with differences in life expectancy, healthy life expectancy, and physical activity largely driven by wider determinants such as housing, transport, green space, and social connection.

The Healthy Places approach aligns with Solihull's Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2024–2032 by taking a preventative, place based and whole-system approach to tackling health inequalities, to create the conditions and environments that support healthier, more active lives.

This is central to reducing demand on health and care services while supporting inclusive growth and resilient communities.

Our Ambition

Our ambition is to create a Solihull where every community can thrive, and everyone has the opportunity and environment to live healthy active lives. We want health and wellbeing to be consistently built into everyday decisions about place, ensuring that healthy, active choices are easy, inclusive and accessible to all.

Through prevention focused place-shaping, we aim to narrow health inequalities, increase everyday movement, strengthen community connection and support healthy active lives.

By embedding health into policy, systems and local environments, Healthy Places will contribute to a more sustainable health and care system and a stronger, fairer borough.

Healthy Places Framework

The Healthy Places Framework provides a coherent structure for action across the wider determinants of health. It brings together partners around shared outcomes and is underpinned by a set of cross-cutting principles: **equity** and **inclusion**; **place-based working**; **partnership** and **collaboration**; **prevention** and **early intervention**; **sustainability**; **community-led approaches**; and the use of **evidence, insight** and **continuous learning**.



Key work areas 2026-27

Healthy Environments

Creating physical environments that make healthy active choices easier and more accessible.

Health Systems and Policies

Shaping policies, systems and pathways to embed wellbeing, prevention and healthy active living across sectors.

Healthy Communities

Enabling strong, connected communities that support healthy active lifestyles.

The Right Conditions for Everyone to Thrive

Healthy Homes (housing quality and conditions)

- Address cold homes, damp and mould by improving pathways between health, care and housing.

Natural and Sustainable Environments

- Collaborate to increase the borough's resilience to climate change and mitigate its impacts on population health.
- Oversee and implement the Air Quality Action Plan.

Healthy Active Neighbourhoods

- Improve abilities to influence planning to deliver healthy neighbourhoods, and active design.
- Maximise access to high-quality, inclusive sport and physical activity facilities through strategic planning, effective oversight, and the securing and investment of Section 106 contributions.

Health in All Policies

- Strengthen the health evidence base for the new draft Local Plan.
- Assess whether the housing growth scenarios review represents a material change that warrants commissioning a full refresh of the PPOSS and ISFS in alignment with the emerging Local Plan.
- Work with the Licensing Committee and Licensing Authorities to improve licensing policy and enhance the Public Health Licensing Tool.

Prevention in health and social care pathways

- Embed healthy, active living into social care practice, including progression of the Moving Social Work programme.
- Enhance prevention and health condition management by extending the reach of the Active Wellbeing Hub programme, including DocSpot.

Community Infrastructure

- Expand and formalise community use agreements to maximise access to school and community assets.
- Strengthening community assets and infrastructure, annual update of evidence base for the PPOSS, and ISFS.
- Management of the leisure centre contract a 10 year contract with leisure provider Everyone Active May 2018-May 2028.

Connected, and resilient communities

- Embed physical activity and healthy lifestyle opportunities into place-based programmes in priority neighbourhoods.
- Establish sustainable cross-sector partnerships, including Sustainable Food Partnership, Solihull Community Partnership and Healthy Active Lives Partnership Board, to deliver coordinated support.

Key work areas 2026-27

Healthy Environments

Creating physical environments that make healthy active choices easier and more accessible.

Health Systems and Policies

Shaping policies, systems and pathways to embed wellbeing, prevention and healthy active living across sectors.

Healthy Communities

Enabling strong, connected communities that support healthy active lifestyles.

The Right Conditions for Everyone to Thrive

- Develop robust process for Public Health planning application consultation response.

Active Travel and Connectivity

- System review, benchmark and stakeholder engagement to determine where the greatest impact can be achieved across the system in supporting active travel, and inclusive streets.

Healthy Food Environment

- Shaping healthier food environments.

- Integrate healthy, active living into clinical pathways across the system, i.e. BSMHFT policies and Solihull Active Minds.
- Scope how community exercise prehabilitation can add value to existing NHS pathways, e.g. elective care.

Workforce Development

- Build workforce confidence and capability to promote healthy, active living through strategic coordination of MECC and targeted training, including piloting Physical Activity Clinical Champions.

Community Activation

- Work collaboratively to address social isolation, employment, volunteering, skills development and digital inclusion as key enablers of health and wellbeing.