

Case-study 8.4.5

Health impact assessment of Elephant Links Partnership SRB5 ... work in progress

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Introduction

The Elephant Links Partnership was granted the Single Regeneration Budget Challenge Fund on 15 July 1999.

There are two components to Elephant Links:

- physical and environmental regeneration, mainly in relation to transport infrastructure;
- enhancing social inclusion.

Of the HIAs that have been performed nationally, many have been on regeneration programmes. This may be because the HIA approach is largely based on community participation, and this often fits in with the approach of regeneration programmes. Also, both HIA and regeneration take a broad definition of health and look at a wide range of health determinants. HIA can provide useful recommendations to the delivery plans of regeneration programmes.

It was thought desirable that HIA was considered in relation to Elephant Links. The programme is large and wide-ranging. It seems likely that an appropriate approach to HIA will be through the development of some form of screening procedure.

Objectives

- To assess actual and potential health impacts of Elephant Links (both positive and negative) and make recommendations for its development of shared goals for health improvement.
- To raise awareness of health issues across the range of partners involved in SRB5 and support the development of shared goals for health improvement.
- To maximise opportunities for community development to contribute to health improvement and the SRB.
- To contribute to the development of integrated monitoring for SRB5.
- To contribute to the development of local expertise on health impact assessment in practice, and its application to other relevant initiatives.

Management arrangements

The proposal has the support of all partner organisations. The HIA is to be managed by the Southwark Health Alliance HIA reference group, with input from the Quality of Life subgroup of the Elephants Links SRB5.

HIA design

An initial rapid HIA, followed by detailed work on selected priorities.

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