

MERTON COUNCIL

Merton Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2013–2014

Working in partnership to increase opportunities for all to enjoy a healthy and fulfilling life and reduce health inequalities



www.merton.gov.uk



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Director of Public Health LBM

A Good Life in Merton

At the Merton Partnership conference on health inequalities participants agreed:

- Health inequalities between East and West Merton are unfair and unacceptable
- All Merton residents should have opportunities for a Good Life

The Place for a Good Life - Themes

- Best start in life – early years and achieving a strong educational base for children and young people
- Good Health – preventing illness, ensuring early detection and accessing good quality healthcare.
- Good life skills, lifelong learning and good work
- Community participation and feeling safe
- A good natural and built environment

Merton Does Well Overall on Most Outcomes

- Good Progress is being made on early years development and education achievement
- Merton Clinical Commissioning Group is improving quality of health care
- Public Health is striving to embed prevention, working with Council colleagues to ensure healthy options are available for individuals to make healthy choices

Yet gaps persist between the East and West of Merton

Link between Deprivation and Life Expectancy

Figure 2: Deprivation is higher in the east of Merion

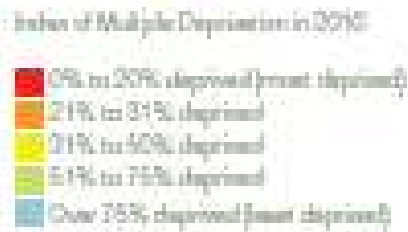
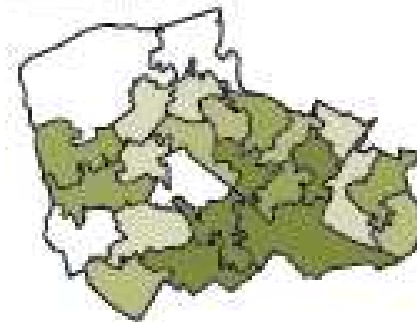
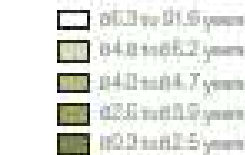
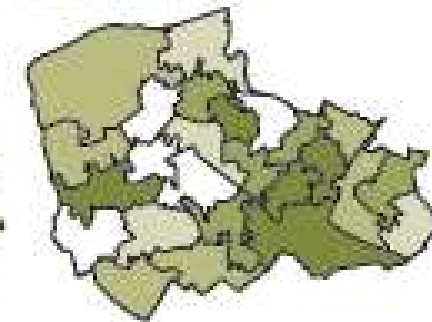


Figure 3: Good Overall Health Outcomes Despite Significant Inequality
Residents in the West live longer than those in the East of Merion

Male life expectancy at birth, 2005 to 2010
Index by MDCA

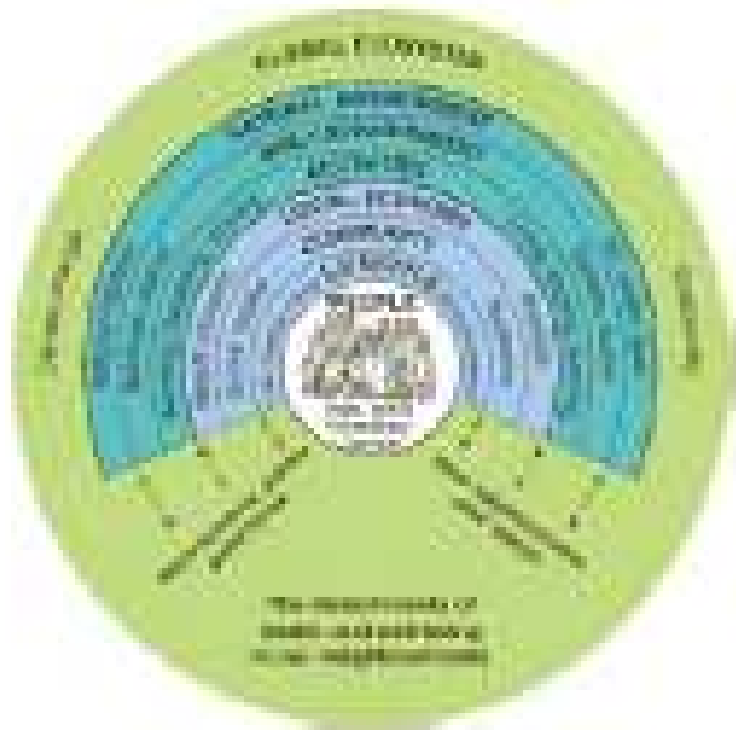


Female life expectancy at birth, 2005 to 2010
Index by MDCA

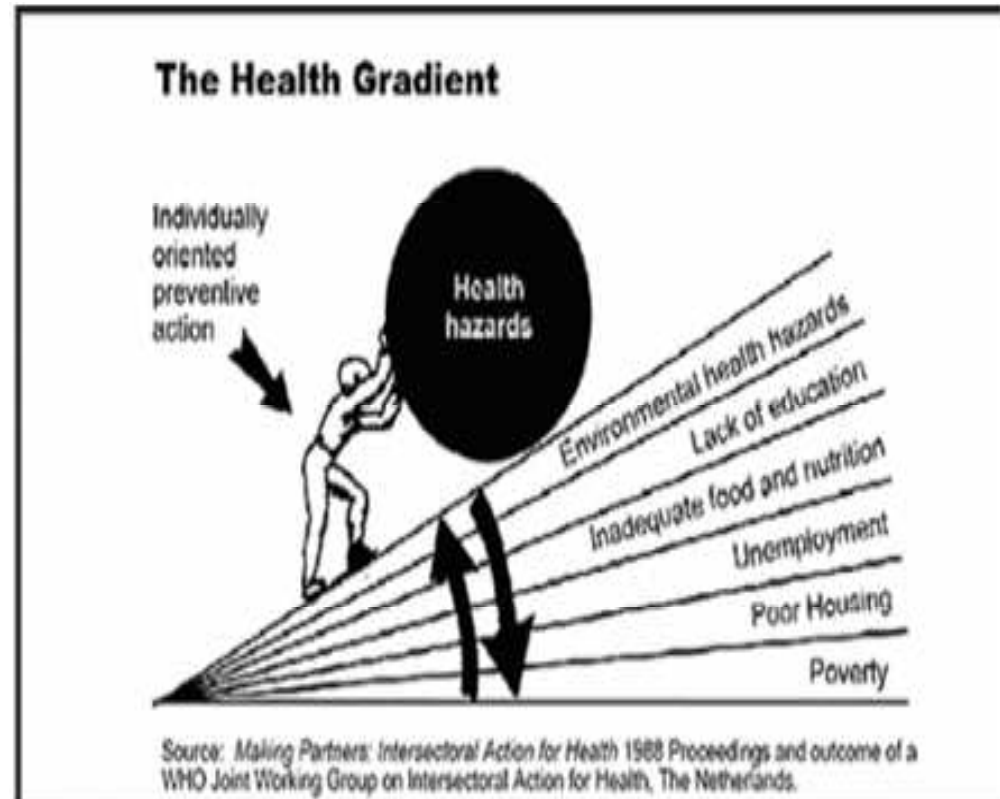


What Creates Health

Figure 1: What determines health or healthiness or ill



Edwin van Gent, 2006 based on Whitfield and Chalgren, 1991



The Good Life Themes – We Want To

Best Start in Life

Promoting the emotional wellbeing and resilience of children and young people



Promoting healthy lifestyle choices

Helping children and young people fulfil their educational potential

Good Health

Make every contact count



Embed prevention into local public policy making health everyone's business.

Develop health services to meet needs of East Merton

Improve mental health and physical health for those with mental health conditions

The Good Life Themes – We Want To

Good Life Skills and Good Work

Increase employment and economic activity through targeted initiatives.

Increase local employment, apprenticeships and traineeship opportunities.

Improve participation in lifelong learning and access to adult learning and development of skills

Community Participation and Feeling Safe



Increase the number of people engaged in their communities by encouraging volunteering.

Build capacity across community groups

The Good Life Themes – We Want To

Good Natural and Built Environment

Embed positive health and wellbeing outcomes within major developments.

Help tackle fuel poverty by promoting and managing collective energy switching programmes

Greater access to quality private sector housing.



Increase the number of street trees and trees in parks.

The Good Life – We Want To

Recognise that these inequalities are the responsibility of us all and that we can achieve more by working together than alone

Build a strong coalition to address these inequalities

Invite you all to take up this challenge to create a good life for all residents of Merton



QUESTIONS FOR HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES

- Does this committee support the focus on prevention and developing ways to use Council levers such as planning and licensing to influence health in positive ways?
- What barriers do you think we need to address?
- What opportunities do we have to take this forward?