

The Director of Public Health's Role in System Leadership for Heatwave Planning

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London Borough of Havering**

The DPH is responsible for...

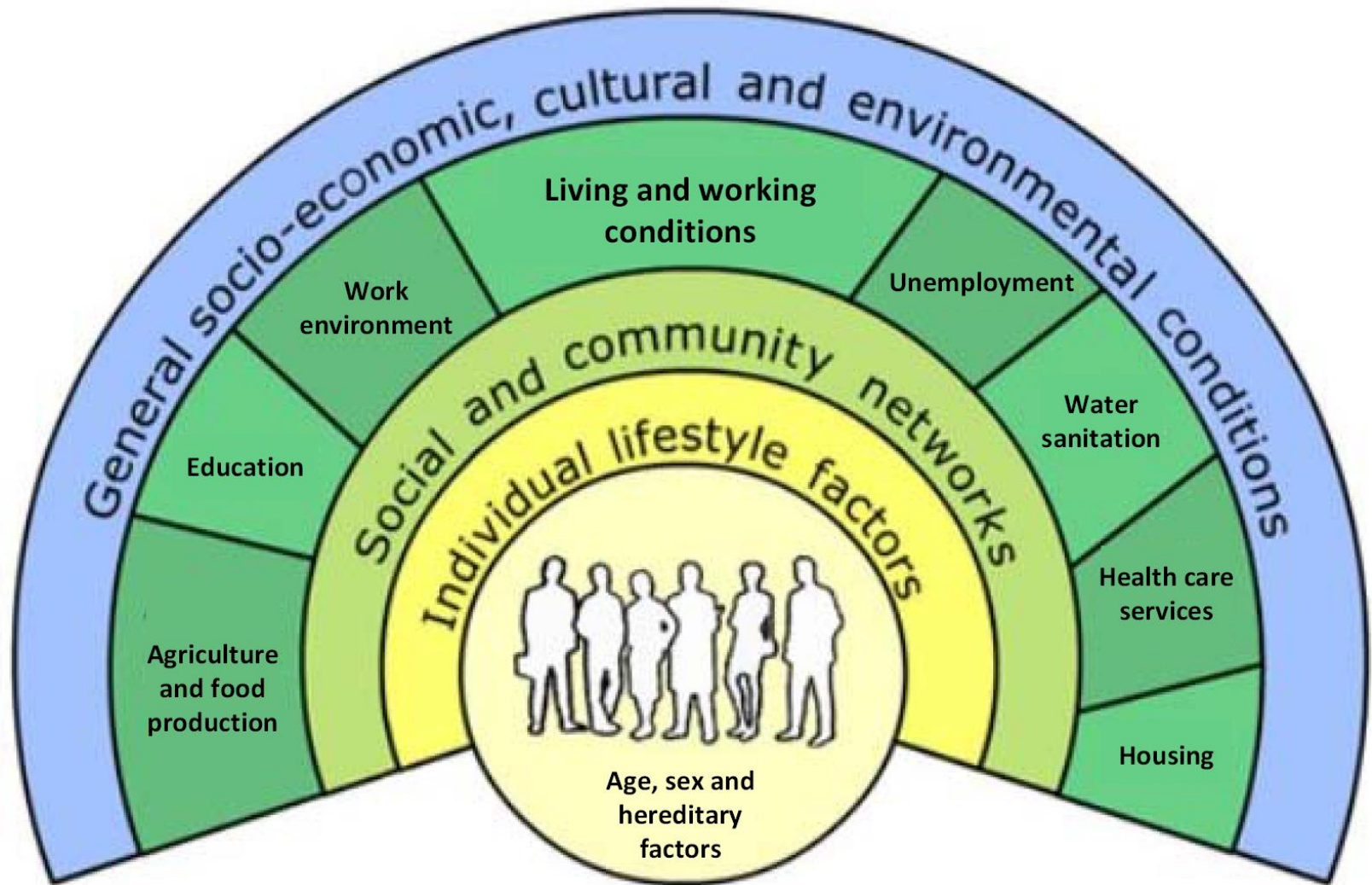


- all of their local authority's duties to take steps to improve the health of the people in its area;
- any of the Secretary of State's public health protection or health improvement functions that s/he delegates to local authorities, either by arrangement or under regulations – these include services mandated by regulations made under section 6C of the 2006 Act, inserted by section 18 of the 2012 Act;
- exercising their local authority's functions in planning for, and responding to, emergencies that present a risk to the public's health;
- their local authority's role in co-operating with the police, the probation service and the prison service to assess the risks posed by violent or sexual offenders; and
- such other public health functions as the Secretary of State specifies in regulations

What does this mean in practice?

- The DPH's role is to support, enhance and protect health of the population
- To ensure the “system” is working properly, improving communication and collaboration
- What do we mean by the system?
- Need to take a holistic approach to keeping well in summer from a wider determinants of health perspective





Impact / Risks of Adverse Weather:

	Health	Environment
Short term	Pollution-related respiratory conditions (Asthma, COPD) Dehydration/extreme thirst Sunburn Heatstroke Headache/fainting Dizziness/vomiting/diarrhoea Muscle cramps Fatigue/rapid heart beat Salmonella	Smog Air quality Power outages due to excess use of air conditioning Floods
Longer term	Cancers (melanomas) Food shortage Illness Malnutrition Increased risk of disease from lack of water for hygiene	Droughts & water shortage Impact on food production & crop failures Pavements – trips and falls Adverse weather floods Trees dying Change in ecology – mosquitos/ pathogens



Vulnerable Groups



- Life-course approach helps identify vulnerable groups:
 - Babies and under 5's
 - Schoolchildren
 - Working age people (18+) – both in offices and those who work predominantly outside
 - People who are physically active – for example, labourers or those doing sports
 - People who misuse alcohol or drugs including homeless and rough sleepers
 - People with serious mental health problems
 - People on certain medications, including those that affect sweating and temperature control
 - Older people especially those over 75
 - People with a serious chronic condition, especially heart or breathing problems
 - People with mobility problems – for example, people with Parkinson's disease or who have had a stroke

Preparing for Heatwave and Summer Health and Wellbeing Workshop April 2019



Aim/Purpose:

- Ensure the health of local residents is least adversely affected by summer weather
- Building on the success of the Winter Planning Workshop
- Facilitate a local partnership approach (NHS, Public Health, Social Care and other Community and Voluntary Organisations, including Adult Social Care, Children's Services, Housing, Communications and Business Partners)
- Focus on those most vulnerable (elderly, young, sick, overweight)
- Raise public awareness and trigger actions to support vulnerable people (health, housing or socio-economic circumstances)

Preparing for Heatwave and Summer Health and Wellbeing Workshop

Objectives:

- Consider the impact of hot/adverse weather on health
- Identify key issues for those most at risk
- Partners to discuss how well their systems work
- Identify gaps
- Identify any areas for stronger partnership working
- Ensure good communication between partners
- Ensure timely and relevant information is cascaded



Organisations Invited from the System



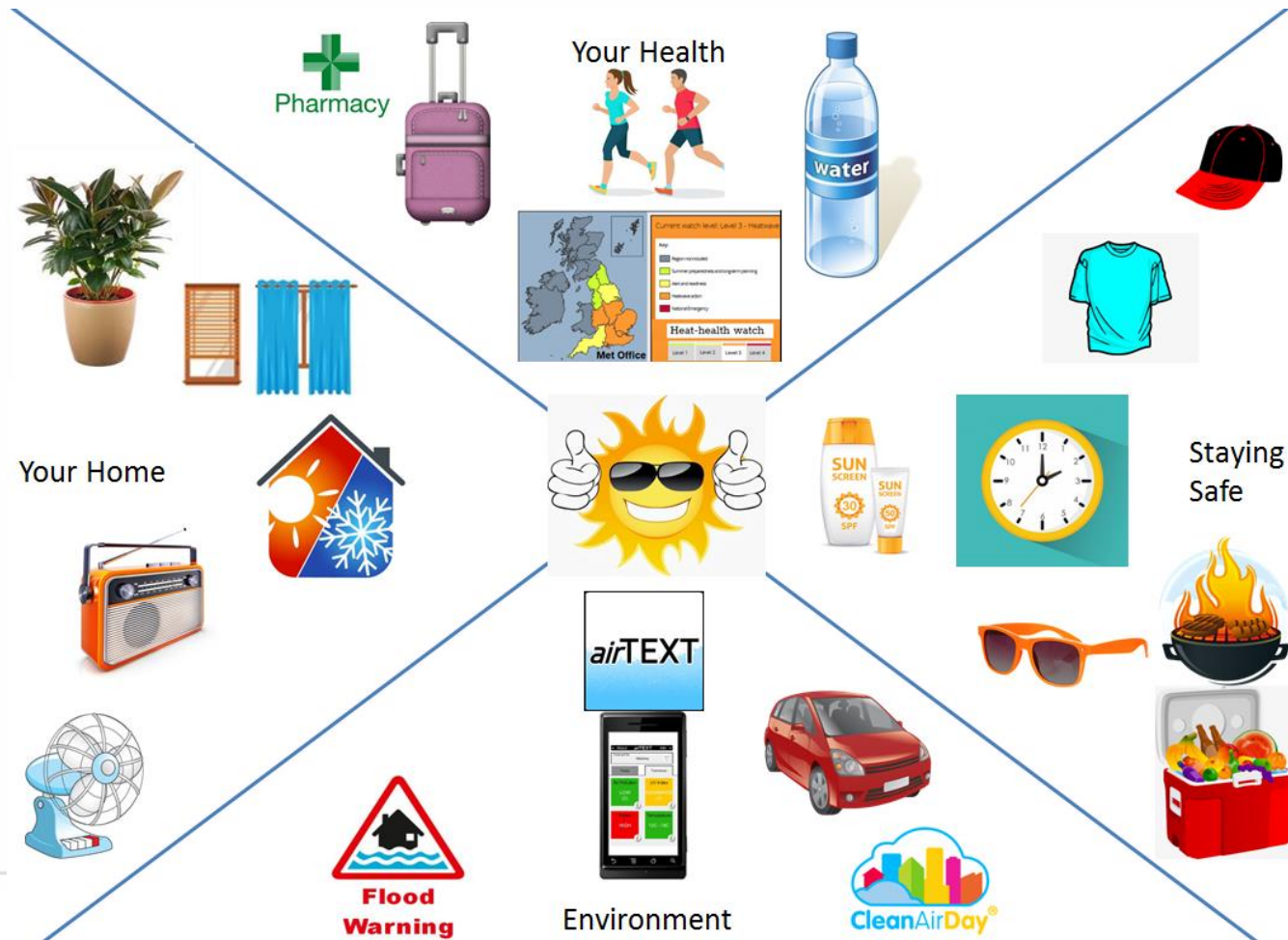
- PHE
- Early Help Service
- Health Visiting
- School Nursing
- HR Workplace wellbeing
- Care Homes
- Communications
- British transport police
- NELFT Mental Health
- BHRUT
- Air Quality lead
- Commissioners
- CCG
- Transport Planning
- Health champions
- Voluntary sector
- Social workers
- Homeless support
- Emergency Preparedness (NELFT, LBH, BHRUT)
- Fire Brigade

Agreed Actions

- Embed **year-round planning** for extreme/adverse weather conditions into work programmes, policies and strategies.
- **Consider the most vulnerable** in our society and how we can protect them from extremes of weather, paying particular attention to inequalities in health outcomes in these groups.
- All staff to be aware of importance of hydration and ensure good access to water.
- Memorandum of understanding between partners from both the statutory and voluntary sector across the borough to enable easy **shared access to water** e.g. filling up water bottles.
- Employers to raise awareness of summer wellbeing and **consider uniform policies** appropriate to weather conditions
- All partners recommended to look at PHE's online resource centre on <https://campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/resources/campaigns> for information on a variety of campaigns and available in different languages.
- Follow- up workshop in 2020, then bi-annually




Key Comms Messages



Cleaner, Safer, Prouder *Together*

www.havering.gov.uk



Thank you
Any Questions?