

# Linking Environment and Health

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The People Organisation

# The People Organisation

The People Organisation works with individuals and organisations to increase the impact of what they do.

We focus on

- futures thinking
- organisational development
- conflict resolution and mediation
- governance development
- public involvement and employee engagement.

We work creatively to reduce the obstacles which inhibit effective working. We have particular interest in making new and innovative connections between the private, public and third sectors.

Our approach is based on co-creation with whoever we work with, whether as clients or partners. We value working as part of a network of small specialist companies as it means we can offer the personalised services clients want, whilst keeping our overheads low and our rates competitive.



**LONDON**  
climate change  
PARTNERSHIP



## **Linking environment and health**

**A resource for policy and decision makers  
working on Joint Strategic Needs Assessment**

November 2012

# Leadership Challenge

## Linking Environment and Health

### ❖ **Traction on environment and health**

- Joint Working to secure public engagement and change
- Overcoming competing priorities
- Generating more consistency on adaptation

### ❖ **Growing community resilience & preparedness**

- Compelling vision/narrative
- Stimulation of behaviour change

# Leadership Challenge

## Whole System Agenda

- ❖ **Grow wider understanding** of the critical importance of community resilience and social preparedness amongst professionals and the public
- ❖ **Gear up** a number of different advocates and agents of change with the shared aim of changing public behaviour in relation to environmental change
- ❖ **Develop shared models** for engagement, service change and community resilience and of data capture, progress tracking and accountability
- ❖ **Increase integration** of leadership, planning and expertise around a compelling definition of what constitutes social preparedness

# Leadership Challenge

## A Changing Scene?

### ❖ Opportunities

- Health and Wellbeing Boards
- JSNA / Public Health Outcomes Framework – live data
- Localism – geographic/place/communities focus
- Potential for whole system response

### ❖ Limitations

- Getting started
- Same people/same cultures
- Health agenda – existing tropes
- Short-termism

# Environment and Health

## Situation report

### ❖ Positive Progress - Interesting work

- Progress on adaptation and mitigation
- But little evidence of appetite for holistic approach

### ❖ Mixed Picture on understanding

- Lack of cohesion – health/environmental/finance agenda
- Cultural and language divide

### ❖ Obstacles

- Cross-border decision-making
- Dominance of classic health issues
- Incremental silo-based action not dynamic modelling
- Disconnection between public and policy

# What is likely to happen locally?

## ❖ As Things Stand

- Core environmental mainstreamed into some of health agenda
- Better connections, alignment and sharing between agencies
- Service change continues in silos
- Narrow focus on health and health inequalities rather than sustainability
- Slow and variable participative processes
- Little focus on social preparedness and behaviour change
- Sustainability tackled incrementally
- Action after “catastrophic event”



# Ways to Meet Leadership Challenge

## ❖ **Political Alliance on Urban Health**

- Practitioner – community dialogue
- Experimentation and risk linked to assessment and learning

## ❖ **Scenarios and Modelling**

- Alternative futures
- Capacity development linked directly to narrative of change
- HWB advocacy on social preparedness and behaviour change
- Independent facilitation of engagement and space
- Creative public involvement / participative democracy

## ❖ **Progressive Governance**

- Contribution and links mapping
- Maturity Matrix

# Questions

- ❖ Is a holistic approach to environment and health possible or likely in the next three years?
- ❖ Is the level of expectation placed on HWBs being overplayed?
- ❖ What ways are most likely to help the Leadership Challenge to be met at a local level?
- ❖ Is meeting the Leadership Challenge as described actually necessary to drive local sustainability?
  
- ❖ And many others