



Public Health
England



School Superzones



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MAYOR OF LONDON

Foreword

Improving the health and wellbeing of London's children is our absolute priority.

The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed and exacerbated London's severe health, social and environmental inequalities, with the most acute impacts being felt by those in our most deprived neighbourhoods. London's children and young people have also been profoundly affected, with their education disrupted and their social contact limited. Despite these challenges, schools and boroughs continue to do incredible work supporting the health and wellbeing of our children and families. As we now seek to recover from this pandemic, we are redoubling our efforts to create a city where all children can thrive, regardless of their background.

Children, young people and parents continue to tell us that their environment makes it difficult to stay healthy. Every day they are exposed to fast-food takeaways, traffic fumes, betting shops, and London's highly polluted air. It is also often difficult for them to walk and cycle. Headteachers are working hard to make schools healthier, but they recognise the need to tackle the wider challenges that exist beyond the school gates.

The journey to School Superzones – our response to many of these issues – reflects many years of close collaboration between partners. In 2017, we joined forces across our capital, with the London Health and Social Care Devolution Memorandum of Understanding supporting work to develop and test designated healthier zones around schools. During 2018 and 2019, 13 London boroughs helped pioneer School Superzones – 400 metre radius zones around schools where actions are taken to create healthier places for children, young people and their families to live, learn and play. In partnership with schools and communities, the boroughs identified pressing local concerns and worked to identify local solutions. Some examples included restricting unhealthy food and drink advertising, working with local takeaways to make their food healthier, reducing air pollution from cars, promoting active travel, and addressing the fear and reality of crime. The publication of the London Plan 2021 also builds on this work, providing local areas with additional tools to help them limit the creation of fast-food takeaways close to schools.

We want to celebrate the incredible work done during the pilot phase and now build on this progress to go even further. The London Recovery Board, which brings together partners from across the capital, has put improving the health of our local environment and our children's prospects at the heart of their efforts to rebuild a greener, fairer and more prosperous city. We look forward to working with boroughs, schools and communities to learn from their experiences, to share best practice, and to scale up innovative solutions. Together, we can give our children the best possible start in life.



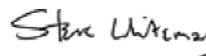
Sadiq Khan
Mayor of London



Kevin Fenton
Regional Director for
London, PHE



Georgia Gould
Chair, London
Councils



Steve Whiteman
Co-Chair, London
Association of Directors
of Public Health



Fiona Howie
Chief Executive,
TCPA

Background



Data sources: Food environment assessment tool (Feat), powered by Ordnance Survey, 2020; **Gambling Commission, 2020**; **GLA, 2021**; **MOPAC Youth Voice Survey, 2018**

Growing up in a healthy and safe neighbourhood is a key part of giving children the best start in life; places where children can play safely, breathe clean air, be active, enjoy a healthy diet and thrive.¹ The COVID-19 pandemic has made their importance even clearer. Too many children's schools are in environments that are dominated by traffic, have unrestricted advertising of unhealthy products and too many unhealthy food outlets, and limited access to high-quality green spaces.

Environmental harms cluster in areas of high deprivation, affecting the most vulnerable communities and widening health inequalities. Unhealthy exposures

in the early years, which affect physical, social and cognitive development, have lifelong effects on many aspects of health and wellbeing, including educational achievement and skills, employment prospects, obesity, heart disease, and mental health.²

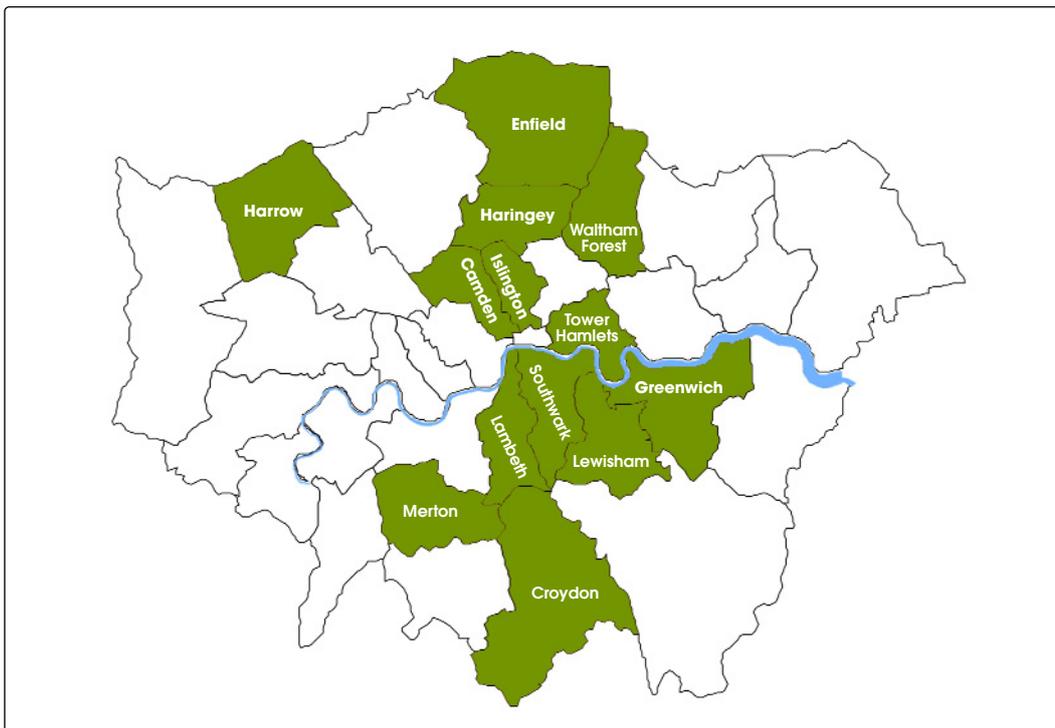
Local authorities and their partners can take action to improve the health of future generations by addressing environmental harms and assets in the places and spaces where young people spend the most time outside of the home, such as the school and its immediate neighbourhood.³ The greatest benefits can be realised by focusing improvements in the most deprived areas.

Notes

- ¹ *Fair Society, Healthy Lives. Strategic Review of Health Inequalities in England post-2010.* The Marmot Review, Feb. 2010. <http://www.instituteofhealthequity.org/resources-reports/fair-society-healthy-lives-the-marmot-review>
- ² *What Makes Us Healthy? An Introduction to the Social Determinants of Health.* Health Foundation, Mar. 2018. <https://www.health.org.uk/publications/what-makes-us-healthy>
- ³ *Spatial Planning for Health: An Evidence Resource for Planning and Designing Healthier Places.* PHE, Jun. 2017. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/spatial-planning-for-health-evidence-review>

2

Health and care devolution – creating healthier environments



In 2017, health and social care partners across London came together to take forward a theme set out in the London Health and Social Care Devolution Memorandum of Understanding⁴ to improve urban environments and create healthier places in which children can live, learn and play. London partners developed an innovative ‘**School Superzone**’ approach to create healthy zones around schools in deprived areas.⁵

From August 2018, 13 London boroughs participated in an 18-month project to explore, test and develop

the School Superzone concept. Activities were co-ordinated with support from PHE London, the Greater London Authority, the Association of Directors of Public Health, the Healthy London Partnership, London Councils, the Town and Country Planning Association, and the London Healthy Urban Development Unit.

The School Superzone concept, process, principles, actions, success factors and benefits described in this document are based on the learning gained from the boroughs testing this approach.

Notes

- ⁴ *London Health and Social Care Devolution Memorandum of Understanding*. Signed for London, central government, and national health and care partners. Nov. 2017
https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/nhs_hlp_memorandum_of_understanding_report_november_2017.pdf
- ⁵ Y Doyle: ‘Public Health Matters: Creating healthier spaces for London’s children to live, learn and play’. Blog entry. PHE, Mar. 2019.
<https://publichealthmatters.blog.gov.uk/2019/03/05/creating-healthier-spaces-for-londons-children-to-live-learn-and-play/>

3

Concept



School Superzones aim to protect children’s health and enable healthy behaviours, using local authority powers and place-shaping potential to implement environmentally based actions. Through this they will support meaningful partnership working with schools and communities, add value to the work of external and internal delivery partners and agencies (including those for transport, regeneration and planning), and better meet the public health needs of the local community.

The local authority designates a boundary around an existing or new primary or secondary school as a Superzone. Its extent is usually around 400 metres or a five-minute walk, although a wider area may be chosen to fit local need. Superzones provide a lever to address health and environmental inequalities around schools in areas of deprivation, and therefore selection is prioritised in the 30% most-deprived areas or where communities have poorer health outcomes.

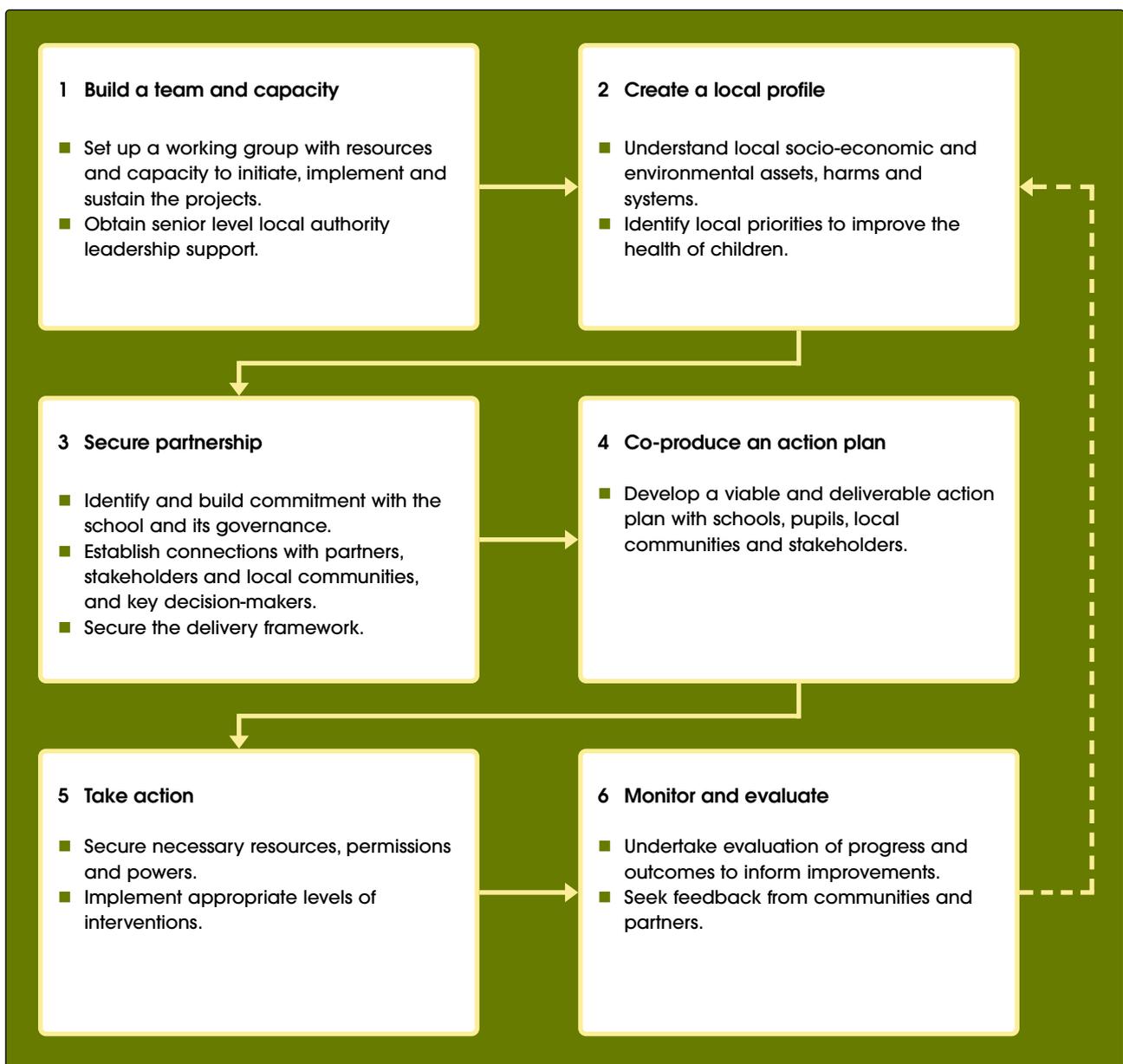
Local authorities work with the local community – including the school, pupils and parents, community groups, businesses and local councillors – to understand local needs and assets. The partnership builds a clear picture of what actions are needed and how they can help to achieve local public health and wider council priorities. A wide range of actions can be considered to address the wider determinants of health in an interconnected way through a combination of encouragement, regulation and co-implementation.

An open and accessible network of well designed and functional public spaces is at the core of a healthy, inclusive and prosperous city. School Superzones have the potential to play an important role in local place-making and in forming the identity and character of a neighbourhood. In the longer term, it is envisaged that the Superzones will support co-ordinated borough-led approaches to investment in the built environment around schools and the adaptation of existing public space into more child-friendly environments.

4

Process

London local authorities were invited to participate in the School Superzones pilot programme. Requirements of participation included obtaining support from the local authority chief executive or other senior leadership and designating an officer to lead the Superzones work.



The Superzone process

5

Principles of the Superzone model

The piloting of Superzones established six fundamental principles that underpin the Superzone model:

1

Put children and young people at the centre

Meeting the physical and mental wellbeing needs of children and young people is at the centre of policies and actions. The Healthy Streets Approach promotes active travel and supports children's independent mobility and play in the urban environment.

2

Take a flexible approach

Local partners adapt the model to reflect their local circumstances and health and wellbeing needs. Superzone plans can include a combination of existing and new actions or strategies.

3

Target the greatest need

School Superzones provide an opportunity to address health and environmental inequalities and are prioritised in the 30% most-deprived areas, identified using the national Indices of Multiple Deprivation.

4

Address multiple issues

Superzones take a holistic view of creating healthier environments around schools, normally focusing on a minimum of three issues. In London, Superzones commonly include actions on active travel, air quality and the food environment.

5

Consider local assets and harms

Boroughs identify environmental assets and harms in the area in order to inform the development of a local Superzone strategy. Assets include local community organisations, parks, play areas, healthy outlets, businesses, local champions and engaged politicians.

6

Co-produce action plans with partners

Local partners and community members, including schoolchildren, come together to identify issues and find solutions together, encouraging innovative thinking. Ownership of the action plan is shared, and partners align their powers and resources to design and implement the plan.

6

Actions

A defining feature of a School Superzone as an area-based initiative is the opportunity to address multiple issues relevant to the community. Superzones focus on actions outside the school and aim to complement in-school programmes, including Healthy Schools London⁶ and Transport for London's (TfL's) STARS scheme.⁷ Some actions can be 'quick wins' while others may deliver outcomes in the longer term.

Examples of issues addressed by Superzones, and common actions

Superzone issue	Common actions
Air quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Enforcement of anti-idling policies ■ School Streets (street closures at school opening and closing times) ■ Pupil engagement in air quality measurements
Active travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Implementation of the Healthy Streets Approach* to improve walking and cycling routes ■ Improved wayfinding and signage ■ Promotion of the use of Transport for London's STARS resources** by the school
Food and drink environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Planning policy to restrict concentration and location of hot-food takeaways ■ Promotion of the Healthier Catering Commitment*** to local food businesses ■ Installation of water fountains in the community
Advertising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Restrictions on unhealthy food and drink advertising on council-controlled boards
Tobacco and alcohol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ No-smoking zones around schools ■ Enforcement/test purchasing of tobacco and alcohol products in retailers within Superzones ■ Consideration of Superzones in alcohol licensing decisions
Gambling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consideration of Superzones in council licensing decisions
Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Improved lighting ■ Safe spaces/safe havens for young people to go to after school
<p>* The Mayor of London and Transport for London are taking the Healthy Streets Approach to encourage more Londoners to walk, cycle and use public transport. The Healthy Streets Toolkit (available at https://tfl.gov.uk/corporate/about-tfl/how-we-work/planning-for-the-future/healthy-streets) includes resources to help put the Healthy Streets Approach into practice</p> <p>** See https://stars.tfl.gov.uk/explore/idea</p> <p>*** See https://healthiercateringcommitment.co.uk</p>	

Notes

- 6 Healthy Schools London is a programme that supports London's schools in order to provide an environment and culture that helps their pupils grow up to be healthy and happy and to learn – see <https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/health/healthy-schools-london/awards/>
- 7 STARS (Sustainable Travel: Active, Responsible, Safe) is TfL's accreditation scheme for London schools and nurseries – see <https://stars.tfl.gov.uk/>

7

Success factors

The Superzone pilots identified a number of factors that supported the successful development of Superzones:

- 1 Endorsement by regional government agencies** such as the GLA, PHE and London Councils increased credibility and helped Superzone leads to promote the approach among partners.
- 2 Local authority political leadership support** from Chairs of Health and Wellbeing Boards and council leaders helped to engage and involve other council departments and support the allocation of resources to the project.
- 3 Local authority Superzone leads** required dedicated time and capacity to bring together partners and lead the process of setting up the Superzone and developing the action plan.
- 4 Establishing strong local governance arrangements**, such as working groups involving parents and school councils, can ensure accountability and consistency.
- 5 Sharing best practice** through London-wide opportunities to network and share ideas and approaches allowed Superzone leads to develop and refine the local Superzone approach.
- 6 Community engagement and co-production of the action plan with the local community** gives the Superzone project legitimacy and ensures that actions are supported and informed by the local community, including the school, community groups, businesses and young people.

'The Superzone project has already helped our staff to connect with key professionals from the local authority and the wider community. We want our children to become active members of their own community who make positive changes to their local area. The Superzones project has great potential to help us in that work.'

Michael Bradley, Headteacher of Merton Abbey Primary School

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Benefits

The Superzone pilots identified a range of benefits resulting from implementing the Superzone approach.

Short-term benefits

- Defining and designating an area as a Superzone provided a catalyst for local authorities to establish neighbourhood partnerships involving schools, local communities and other stakeholders.
- Having a neighbourhood partnership structure helped local stakeholders to identify local concerns and to develop action plans to tackle them.
- Where there were pre-existing structures, having a Superzone designation supported and strengthened the case for local voices and local action.
- Superzones raised awareness among children, parents and delivery partners of unhealthy environments and their impact on health and wellbeing.
- Superzones helped to identify barriers to healthy living – such as barriers to active travel, healthy diet and use of local green space by schoolchildren.
- Where there were opportunities for investment, having a local Superzone structure helped to identify local interventions and garner support and stakeholder buy-in, strengthening funding bids for Transport for London's Liveable Neighbourhoods programme⁸ and the Mayor's Good Growth Fund.⁹
- Superzone designations have been used to strengthen the case for local licensing and planning decisions.

Expected long-term benefits

The overall long-term benefit of Superzones is reduced exposure to harmful elements in the urban environment and increased exposure to health-promoting elements for children and young people, leading to reduced health inequalities linked to place. The Superzones programme helps to identify common issues affecting the environment around schools and provides an opportunity to explore how to address these issues at a regional level.

Depending on the range of interventions that a school has prioritised, expected long-term benefits include:

- Increases in the proportion of children participating in active travel to and from school.
- A positive impact on active travel by the wider community.
- Improvements in air quality around schools.
- The creation of healthier food environments around schools, with stronger engagement of local businesses.
- Improvements in green assets close to schools.
- Improvements in the use of community assets and in their connectivity to schools.
- Improved navigability and safety around schools, with children feeling safer outside their school.

Notes

8 See <https://tfl.gov.uk/info-for/boroughs-and-communities/liveable-neighbourhoods>

9 See <https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/regeneration/funding-opportunities/good-growth-fund>

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Superzone summaries

London Boroughs of Camden and Islington



Camden and Islington are two inner London boroughs which share a public health team. The Superzones pilot provided an opportunity to bring together the councils' actions on tackling the wider determinants of health that limit children's life-chances and to reinforce the work of each borough's school health improvement teams to improve pupils' health and achievement.

Superzones were selected using environmental data (air quality, exposure to fast food, availability of alcohol, and access to good-quality open space) and social factors (proportion of pupils eligible for free school meals, levels of obesity, participation in the Transport for London STARS scheme, and Healthy Schools London status). Primary schools were selected rather than secondary schools as pupils were more likely to live in the immediate area and experience greater exposure to the local environment. A cluster of two schools in Camden and a cluster of five schools in Islington were selected.

One of the challenges in delivering Superzones was that no new funding was available, and so action plans were largely reliant on agreed and proposed plans and activities. However, the Superzone designation led to a range of positive outcomes – for example, it contributed to the success of a funding bid for a Supporting Families Against Youth Crime¹⁰ project in Islington by demonstrating the importance of the environment around schools in tackling crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB). In Camden and Islington, the Superzone concept is influencing the Parks for Health project, which aims to transform parks into active enablers of health. Superzones have also led to action being taken by the council's ASB team following reports of visible substance misuse in a nearby street.

In Islington, the Superzone designation supported a bid for Transport for London Liveable Neighbourhoods funding. Although the bid was unsuccessful, the Superzone has maintained a focus on the area, and the council is working on parts of the liveable neighbourhood plan that it can resource itself. One of the ten School Streets that Islington is establishing is in the Superzone.

The Superzone concept has helped to develop a collective understanding of how the environment around schools is a key consideration in improving the life chances of children and their families, and how greater partnership working can enhance this.

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Note

¹⁰ See <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/98-million-fund-to-confront-knife-crime-and-gang-culture>

London Borough of Croydon



In Croydon, a Superzone was set up around a secondary school. Officers across the council worked in partnership to assess schools against a standard set of criteria, including air pollution levels, proximity of fast-food outlets, traffic accidents, levels of deprivation, and the potential to integrate a Superzone with existing funded activity. The selected school is situated in the most-deprived LSOA (Lower Layer Super Output Area) of all the secondary schools in Croydon, and fell within or adjacent to several other funded projects that complemented the Superzone concept, such as a Healthy Schools Neighbourhood, the London Road Corridor project (part of Croydon's growth zone and focused on improving pedestrian provision, cycling facilities, and bus priority) and the council's bid for Transport for London's Liveable Neighbourhoods funding. The council's public health team collaborated with the strategic transport team to include the Superzone within this bid, which was successfully awarded £9.6 million. Other actions include encouraging businesses to sign up to Eat Well Croydon (the borough's healthy catering award), commissioning traffic surveys to inform a scheme to prevent rat-running and reduce traffic dominance, exploring the implementation of greenways and green links to schools from bus and tram stops, and running an air quality campaign to raise awareness among parents and pupils.

The council found it difficult to engage with the academy school directly, but the Superzone project prompted enhanced partnership working within the council, building relationships and strengthening systems-thinking in relation to the creation of healthy environments, both around the specific school and across the borough in general.

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London Borough of Enfield



A Superzone was set up with one secondary school. All schools were invited to participate in the pilot. The school was selected based on its willingness to participate and engage with the council regarding the area surrounding the school.

The public health team conducted focus groups with pupils on the school council to identify issues to address in the Superzone, including traffic idling, safety of the alleyways leading to the school, food outlets, and road safety. It was established that many teachers live within 2 kilometres of the school and travelled by car. Officers from across the council and the school council are piloting a new school staff travel plan, collaborating to achieve the Healthy Schools London bronze award, working towards improving illumination and safety of the alleyways leading to the school, and encouraging local food outlets to sign up to the Healthier Catering Commitment for London.

The local work informed development of the hot-food takeaway policy in the Local Plan and the council's proposed strategy for tackling obesity in schoolchildren. The public health team is also working with the council's strategic property service and the legal team to ensure that health outcomes are considered when agreeing letting contracts for the council's commercial stock.

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Royal Borough of Greenwich



The Thamesmead Superzone focuses on engaging stakeholders to improve access to healthy food and on creating safer places for young people and families to be active. The Superzone priorities were developed through insight-gathering from parents of pupils and engaging with local stakeholders and partners, including colleagues from environmental health, planning, community safety and children's services. Agreed actions include engaging local shops to improve their food offer, rolling out the Good Food in Greenwich Business Charter to all commercial food outlets, ending advertising of food and drinks high in sugar, fat and salt, and improving lighting and wayfinding to support active travel and play. The Superzone provides an opportunity to raise awareness of health improvement related messaging and local services and contributes to a longer-term approach to improving safety.

The Superzone enabled the council to test out different ways of working, assess potential challenges to achieving outcomes on a smaller geographical scale, and optimise the benefits of partnership working. For example, initial partnership working on lighting improvements near the school identified that CCTV near local shops was ineffective due to poor lighting. Having the right people around the table has enabled barriers to be addressed more quickly than was expected.

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London Borough of Haringey



Haringey developed two Superzones that include three primary schools and a children's centre. Internal potential partners across the council met to ensure that they would all engage in the project. Relevant lead members, councillors, directors and heads of services such as environmental health, community safety and regeneration, and key voluntary sector organisations, were all briefed on the Superzones. Schools were identified for the Superzone using comparative data from schools in areas with high levels of air pollution, gambling premises and off-licences, access to little or poor-quality safe and green spaces, and high levels of obesity and free school meals. Walkabouts yielded useful information from local residents and school heads.

The project identified positive opportunities such as working with regeneration and planning on new developments in the area and improving the public realm and facilities, parks and open spaces. Council partners visited schools to listen to pupils in years 4-6 talk about their experiences outside their schools so as to ensure that the action plan addressed these issues. To track the progress of the project a children's survey was developed to record their eating habits, experiences within their local environment, and types of activities that they are involved in.

The engagement with pupils and parents on the Superzone has been used to inform a number of Haringey regeneration projects. Superzones have also been included in licensing representations and responses to hot-food takeaway planning applications, which has contributed to positive outcomes.

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London Borough of Harrow



Officers from across Harrow Council came together to identify a ward with higher need and set up a Superzone with an all-through school. Discussion groups with year 5 pupils helped to identify local issues, which included traffic congestion, road safety, air quality and an abundance of unhealthy convenience food.

In collaboration with the school, a video was taken at school closing time, which demonstrated the scale of traffic congestion and illegal parking on the yellow zig-zag lines. The public health team worked with the school and traffic enforcement to ensure that the area immediately outside the school was free of parked cars and safe for children to cross at peak times. A leaflet was produced with a map, asking children and parents living within one mile to walk, scoot or cycle to school. The leaflet highlighted the health benefits of active travel and reducing car use, emphasising that children are exposed to greater levels of air pollution inside cars. The headteacher emailed parents to reinforce these messages. The school also promoted the #AskAboutAsthma campaign in September, which highlighted the benefits of active travel.

Fast-food outlets in the area are being visited by environmental health officers to support them in providing a healthier food offer and in working towards the Harrow Healthier Hot Bites award. This led to three businesses close to the school achieving the award.

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London Borough of Lambeth



Lambeth chose a Superzone cluster consisting of seven schools (two secondary and five primary schools). Its selection was based on identifying a secondary school with relatively high needs in a deprived area with high footfall and a nearby primary school. The public health team used information recently received from schools, which provided evidence of support for creating a healthy and safe environment.

Priority issues included access to healthy food and drink, air quality, road safety and active travel, the London Living Wage (LLW) and the price of alcohol. Examples of actions taken in the Superzone include the installation of a water fountain and green barriers, a survey conducted with off-licences on alcohol minimum unit pricing, and business rate rebates for local employers signing up to the LLW.

The Superzone provided an opportunity to engage with a range of departments across the council and begin to identify not just Superzone priorities but borough-wide priorities. It helped in understanding some of the work being done across the borough, including key strategy and policy development, enabling a health perspective to be fed into these activities – such as the Statement of Licensing policy.

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London Borough of Lewisham



A Superzone was set up in the south of the borough around one primary school. Councillors and officers across the council used a set of criteria to select the Superzone area. These criteria included levels of need (located in the 20% most-deprived Lower Layer Super Output Area, air quality and child obesity), level of school engagement (participation in the TfL STARS programme and Healthy Schools London), and local assembly priorities.

Staff, parents, residents, community organisations and council teams were involved in identifying local issues to address in the Superzone. This insight helped to prioritise actions and develop a joint action plan. The priorities identified were air quality, road safety, active travel, alcohol, and access to healthy foods. Examples of actions included anti-idling events, drugs and alcohol awareness training, and working with local businesses on healthier menus.

The School Superzone designation helped in prioritising the area as a Healthy Neighbourhood Zone in the Local Implementation Plan (LIP). Measures will be put in place to improve air quality and deliver neighbourhood improvements for walking and cycling.

Work on Superzones was paused during the pandemic, but several actions were progressed, such as the proposal to introduce School Streets. It is planned to resume the Superzones work, building on the previously successful collaborative approach.

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London Borough of Merton



The Superzone primary school's community, including pupils and parents, participated in three engagement workshops, followed by a communal 'walk home' in which participants took photos of the environment and discussed how it impacts their wellbeing. Issues raised included traffic congestion around school gates, air quality, safety concerns on walking routes due to poor lighting, under-use of green assets, litter, and the lack of public art and community ownership of public spaces.

Three areas of action were developed in partnership with the school community and council officers: active travel and air quality; green and public space; and community safety. Actions included a 'kiss and drop' scheme (a drop-off area to prevent parents driving into a congested area), an anti-idling promotion, allowing the school to take ownership of a local park, and reviewing the placement of street lighting.

Despite interruptions during the pandemic, the pilot has provided good opportunities to build relationships with partners. Moving forwards, the council plans to review the action plan with partners and investigate the possibility of further expansion to other schools in Merton.

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UAE Southbank UAE



Heavy traffic/fast cars



Construction/no-go area

SP St Peter's Primary



Car bottlenecking



Busy area

 Buildings



Frequented supermarket/
convenience store



Air pollution

 Dark/Dodgy areas



Frequented fast-food
outlet



Gym equipment

 Park or green space

A child's-eye view of the Southwark Superzone

Credit: Emma Barnie

London Borough of Southwark



A Superzone was set up with one primary and one secondary school in Walworth, one of the most deprived areas of the borough. The priorities of obesity and physical activity, air quality and safety were identified using local data, GIS maps and consultation with the schools, council colleagues and partner voluntary and community sector organisations.

Southwark prioritised engaging with children and young people to understand their perspective. Pupils took part in workshops where they used art and maps to communicate how they interact with and feel about their environment. The information gathered has been combined into artwork and used to communicate the findings of the Superzone pilot to wider stakeholders. An action plan was developed in partnership. Actions include trialling street closures, pupils undertaking a community project to improve the sports facilities on a local estate, banning unhealthy food advertising across the borough, and securing a £500,000 air quality grant from the Mayor's Air Quality Fund for a Low Emission Neighbourhood in the Superzone area.

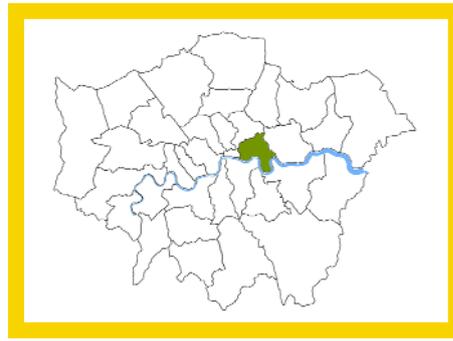
The Superzone concept is an effective way to co-ordinate multiple local partners around a defined physical place. Southwark is developing a strategy to roll out the Superzone approach to other areas in the borough. Southwark's long-term vision is for Superzones to act as testbeds for innovative solutions to tackle unhealthy environments.

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Note

¹¹ *Healthy Streets Surveys: Capturing How Members of the Public Experience the Street*. TfL.
<http://content.tfl.gov.uk/healthy-streets-surveys.pdf>

London Borough of Tower Hamlets



In 2019 Tower Hamlets established its Liveable Streets programme, which aims to improve the look and feel of public spaces in neighbourhoods across the borough and make it easier, safer and more convenient to get around by foot, bike and public transport. The council is using the Superzones concept and the views of children to develop a Healthy School Streets programme which links to Liveable Streets.

Tower Hamlets has developed a Healthy School Streets survey based on Transport for London's Healthy Streets Survey,¹¹ with additional questions regarding smoking, alcohol and fast-food outlets. The survey is currently being piloted with schools in Liveable Streets areas. It aims to ensure that children's views are better represented within the council's consultative processes, and it provides insight to inform public realm initiatives.

The public health team are inviting schools within a 200 metre radius around Liveable Streets to undertake a Healthy School Streets survey. The collective feedback from schools will contribute to the wider consultation and provide a basis for community participation within Liveable Streets localities, enabling children and young people to inform healthy place-making.

This approach puts children and young people and their health at the centre of decisions about how public spaces are designed, managed and used. It aims to make Tower Hamlets' streets healthy, safe and welcoming for everyone.

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London Borough of Waltham Forest



The location of the Superzone was chosen because of its high levels of deprivation, child obesity and anti-social behaviour, its poor air quality, and its high density of hot-food takeaways, off-licences and gambling premises. Following consultation across council departments a working group of key stakeholders was established and met bi-monthly at the primary school. The group comprises staff from a range of council teams, including public health, food safety, air quality and environmental protection, highways, sports and leisure, licensing and trading standards, regeneration, and parks.

Gaining insight from pupils and their parents was thought to be key to the success of the project. This identified assets around the school that families were not accessing, such as the leisure centre. An 'activity passport' was introduced to give families reward stamps for actions such as participating in the 'Daily Mile' and choosing healthy snacks. Once the minimum number of stamps are collected, they can be redeemed for a free family swimming session and taster exercise classes for parents. The action plan also included an anti-idling campaign, a review of off-licence shops by the licensing service, working with the local community to identify locations for cycle storage and parking, and encouraging the school to upgrade its Healthy Schools London award from bronze to silver.

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Further information and resources

School Superzones webpage:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/health/london-health-inequalities-strategy>

Healthy Schools London:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/health/healthy-schools-london/awards/resources>

Healthy Streets Toolkits:

<https://tfl.gov.uk/corporate/about-tfl/how-we-work/planning-for-the-future/healthy-streets>

Transport for London STARS resources:

<https://stars.tfl.gov.uk/explore/idea>

Hackney School Streets Toolkit:

<https://news.hackney.gov.uk/hackney-council-launches-nationwide-blueprint-to-ban-traffic-outside-schools/>

PHE's *Spatial Planning for Health: An Evidence Resource for Planning and Designing Healthier Places:*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/spatial-planning-for-health-evidence-review>

Healthier Catering Commitment:

<https://healthiercateringcommitment.co.uk/>

Good Growth by Design. *Making London Child-Friendly: Designing Places and Streets for Children and Young People:*

https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/ggbd_making_london_child-friendly.pdf

Acknowledgements

We would like to acknowledge Professor Yvonne Doyle and the London Devolution Steering Group for their leadership in the development of the School Superzones programme.

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Ian Sandford (Camden and Islington); Ashley Brown, Mar Estupinan, Georgia Ladbury, Rachel Tilford (Croydon); Margherita Sweetlove (Enfield); Catherine Hannafin, Alain Lodge (Greenwich); Maria Ahmad, Marlene D'Aguiar (Haringey); Anna Kirk (Harrow); Catherine Huntley, Bimpe Oki (Lambeth); Gwenda Scott, Laura Stoll (Lewisham); Poppy Middlemiss, Philip Williams (Merton); Rosie Dalton-Lucas, Jo Ellingham, Tizzy Keller, Nikita Sinclair (Southwark); Natalie Lovell, Matthew Quin (Tower Hamlets); Shona Lucitt, Sally Burns, Patroklos Sesis (Waltham Forest)

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Published by the TCPA on behalf of London Councils, the Mayor of London, PHE, and the TCPA. September 2021