

Rochdale Borough Draft Local Plan November 2025

Achieving a Healthy Place

10.13 The promotion of healthy places will be achieved by a series of measures. These are expected to reflect up to date national and local guidance on planning and sustainability. The Council will improve the borough through intentional placemaking and approaches that support shaping the urban and natural environment.

Policy PE2 - Achieving a Healthy Place

The Council will support measures that support healthy places as a priority. Proposals must consider the wellbeing of residents to ensure a better quality of life is delivered, by putting health outcomes at the heart of healthy environments. This will be accomplished by:

- a. Providing a suitable range of appropriate and good quality housing that supports wellbeing for all members of the community, including those most vulnerable;
- b. Facilitating safer streets and places through design and natural surveillance to improve cohesion and community;
- c. Delivering public spaces and streets that are attractive, well landscaped and safe for all users and prioritise the movement of active travel and sustainable transport users over other modes, in line with Policy T2;
- d. Ensuring that new development is designed to have a positive impact on improving health and wellbeing as per policy PE3;
- e. Pedestrians being given priority by improving pedestrian access within residential neighbourhoods;
- f. Having a good range of accessible open space and green space and recreation facilities nearby, prioritising a beneficial greener, biodiverse and resilient environment;
- g. Supporting multifunctional spaces which are also accessible for all members of the community to enjoy and participate, that also fulfils the wider requirements of community needs;
- h. Prioritising social infrastructure and having a good range of appropriate quality shops, leisure, restaurants and community spaces nearby and being easily accessible for residents making it easier for residents to access local amenities;
- i. Supporting access to healthy food and healthy eating places across the borough by:
 - i. providing greater access to healthier food options;
 - ii. by further enhancing the role of allotments;
 - iii. supporting food markets and local shops and;
 - iv. access to fresh and locally produced food.
- j. Expecting proposals for hot food takeaways outside of any local or primary retail centres be required to comply with any up to date national and local policy, including any relevant adopted Supplementary Planning Documents;
- k. Working in partnership in regard to maintaining and enhancing new health services in accessible locations, and;
- l. Supporting proposals for new health care facilities that are easily accessible by public transport and via walking and cycling routes.

Places for Everyone Links:

rochdale.gov.uk 107



Rochdale Borough Draft Local Plan November 2025

Policy JP-P1 Sustainable Places Policy JP-P6: Health

Reasoned Justification

- 10.14 A healthy place refers to designing, developing and managing the environment in a way that benefits communities and their wellbeing. This encompasses creating environments that support health for all by, promoting physical and mental wellbeing and safeguarding ecological, economic and sustainability objectives. Consideration should be given to high quality placemaking, the impact on the environment and increasing the positive perception and overall design standard of the borough.
- 10.15 Investing in healthier places is shown to contribute to longer, healthier and a higher quality of life and have economic benefits. By prioritising health and sustainability in planning and design, the Council can create an environment for people where the needs of residents are well-served and benefitting.
- 10.16 Developers and partners of major developments in the design of buildings and spaces should contribute to creating inclusive environments. These should include supporting public art, meanwhile uses and markets and other social activities as appropriate. Proposals should support people-friendly, safe, vibrant and uncluttered public areas and incorporate Active Design principles as established by Sport England guidance.
- 10.17 Prioritising liveability in communities can help create calmer and safer streets and enhance community cohesion. Development proposals should be designed to ensure a safe and secure environment that also reduces opportunities for crime. This maximises opportunities for natural surveillance and avoids creating hiding spots and secluded areas. Where relevant, planning applications should be supported by a statement which demonstrates how they have addressed the policy criteria.

rochdale.gov.uk 108