

# Kent Environment Strategy

## *A Strategy for Environment, Health and Economy*

Ashford Health and Wellbeing Board  
Carolyn McKenzie – Kent County Council

# What is the Kent Environment Strategy?

## Setting the direction for the county

- Strategic Context and Framework
- High level priorities
- Partnership
- Significant opportunity or challenge

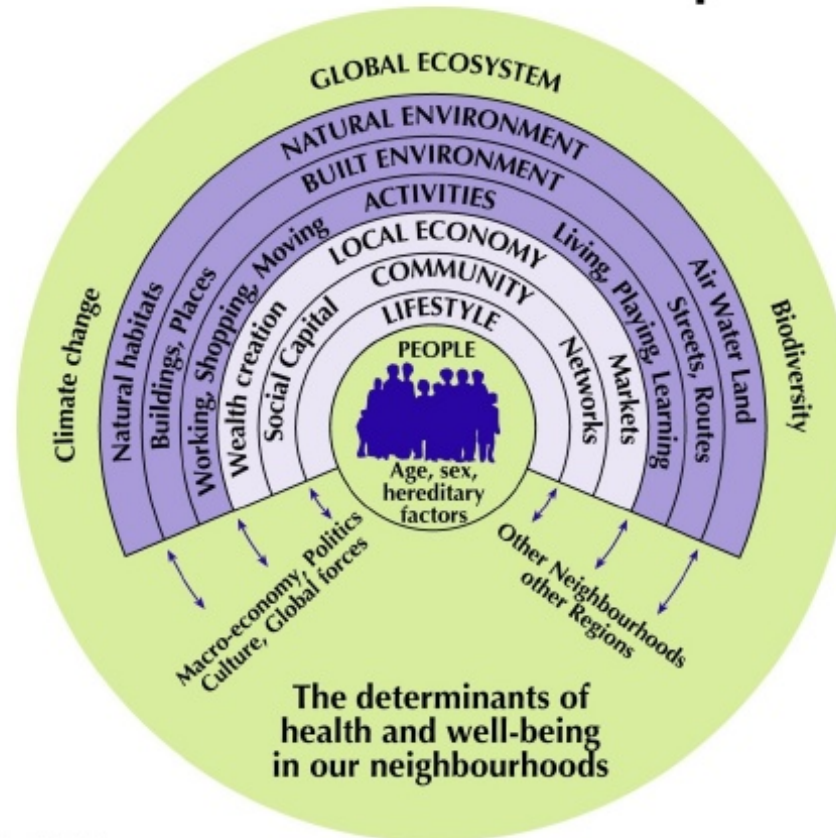


## Why work in partnership?

- Cross boundary issues
- Resources/expertise
- Funding
- Greater impact and better outcomes



# The Health Map



Barton and Grant 2006

# Public Health Outcomes Framework

## OUTCOMES

Vision: To improve and protect the nation's health and wellbeing, and improve the health of the poorest fastest

**Outcome 1: Increased healthy life expectancy**  
*Taking account of the health quality as well as the length of life*  
 (Note: This measure uses a self-reported health assessment, applied to life expectancy.)

**Outcome 2: Reduced differences in life expectancy and healthy life expectancy between communities**  
*Through greater improvements in more disadvantaged communities*

(Note: These two measures would work as a package covering both morbidity and mortality, addressing within-area differences and between area differences)

## DOMAINS

### DOMAIN 1:

Improving the wider determinants of health

Objective: Improvements against wider factors that affect health and wellbeing, and health inequalities

Indicators }  
 Indicators }  
 Indicators } Across the life course

### DOMAIN 2:

Health improvement

Objective: People are helped to live healthy lifestyles, make healthy choices and reduce health inequalities

Indicators }  
 Indicators }  
 Indicators } Across the life course

### DOMAIN 3:

Health protection

Objective: The population's health is protected from major incidents and other threats, while reducing health inequalities

Indicators }  
 Indicators }  
 Indicators } Across the life course

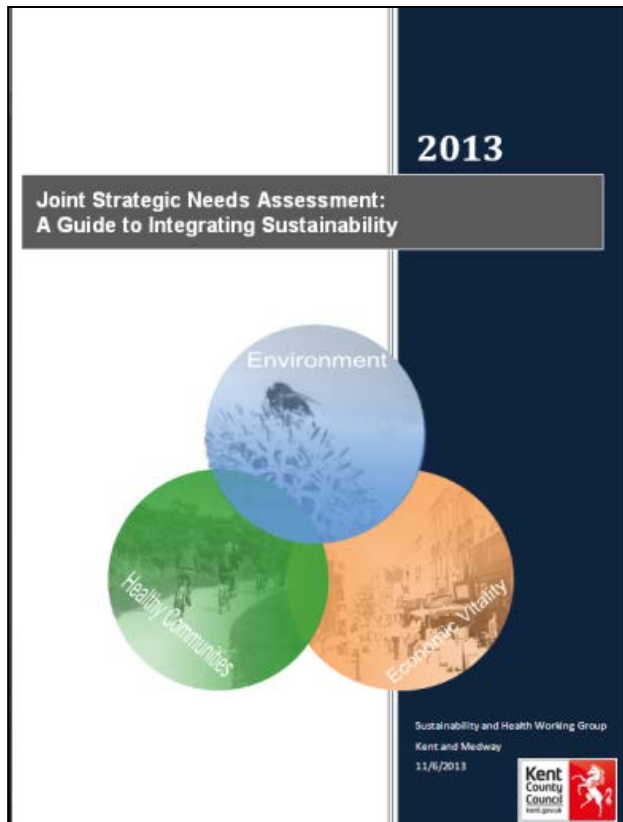
### DOMAIN 4:

Healthcare public health and preventing premature mortality

Objective: Reduced numbers of people living with preventable ill health and people dying prematurely, while reducing the gap between communities

Indicators }  
 Indicators }  
 Indicators } Across the life course

# JSNA SUSTAINABILITY CHAPTER



<http://www.sduhealth.org.uk/areas-of-focus/community-resilience.aspx>

# Sustainability Component affecting Public's Health

- Planning
- House and fuel poverty
- Transport
- Climate Resilience
- Air Quality
- Workplace and supply chain
- Natural Environment

# Domains

Sustainability Priority	Supports Social Care Domains:	Supports Public Health Domains:
Planning	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Enhancing quality of life for people with care and support needs</li> <li>2. Delaying and reducing the need for care and support</li> <li>4. Safeguarding adults whose circumstances make them vulnerable and protecting from avoidable harm</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Improving wider determinants of health</li> <li>2. Health Improvement</li> <li>3. Health Protection</li> <li>4. Healthcare, public health and preventing premature mortality</li> </ol>
House and fuel poverty	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Enhancing quality of life for people with care and support needs</li> <li>2. Delaying and reducing the need for care and support</li> <li>4. Safeguarding adults whose circumstances make them vulnerable and protecting from avoidable harm</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Improving wider determinants of health</li> <li>2. Health Improvement</li> <li>4. Healthcare, public health and preventing premature mortality</li> </ol>
Transport	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Enhancing quality of life for people with care and support needs</li> <li>2. Delaying and reducing the need for care and support</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Improving wider determinants of health</li> <li>2. Health Improvement</li> <li>3. Health Protection</li> </ol>
Climate Resilience	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Ensuring that people have a positive experience of care and support</li> <li>4. Safeguarding adults whose circumstances make them vulnerable and protecting from avoidable harm</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Health Protection</li> </ol>
Air Quality	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Delaying and reducing the need for care and support</li> <li>4. Safeguarding adults whose circumstances make them vulnerable and protecting from avoidable harm</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Health Protection</li> <li>4. Healthcare public health and preventing premature mortality</li> </ol>
Workplace and supply chain	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Enhancing quality of life for people with care and support needs</li> <li>2. Delaying and reducing the need for care and support</li> <li>3. Ensuring that people have a positive experience of care and support</li> <li>4. Safeguarding adults whose circumstances make them vulnerable and protecting from avoidable harm</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Improving wider determinants of health</li> <li>2. Health Improvement</li> <li>3. Health Protection</li> </ol>
Natural Environment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Enhancing quality of life for people with care and support needs</li> <li>2. Delaying and reducing the need for care and support</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Improving wider determinants of health</li> <li>2. Health Improvement</li> <li>3. Health Protection</li> </ol>

# Strategic Outcomes



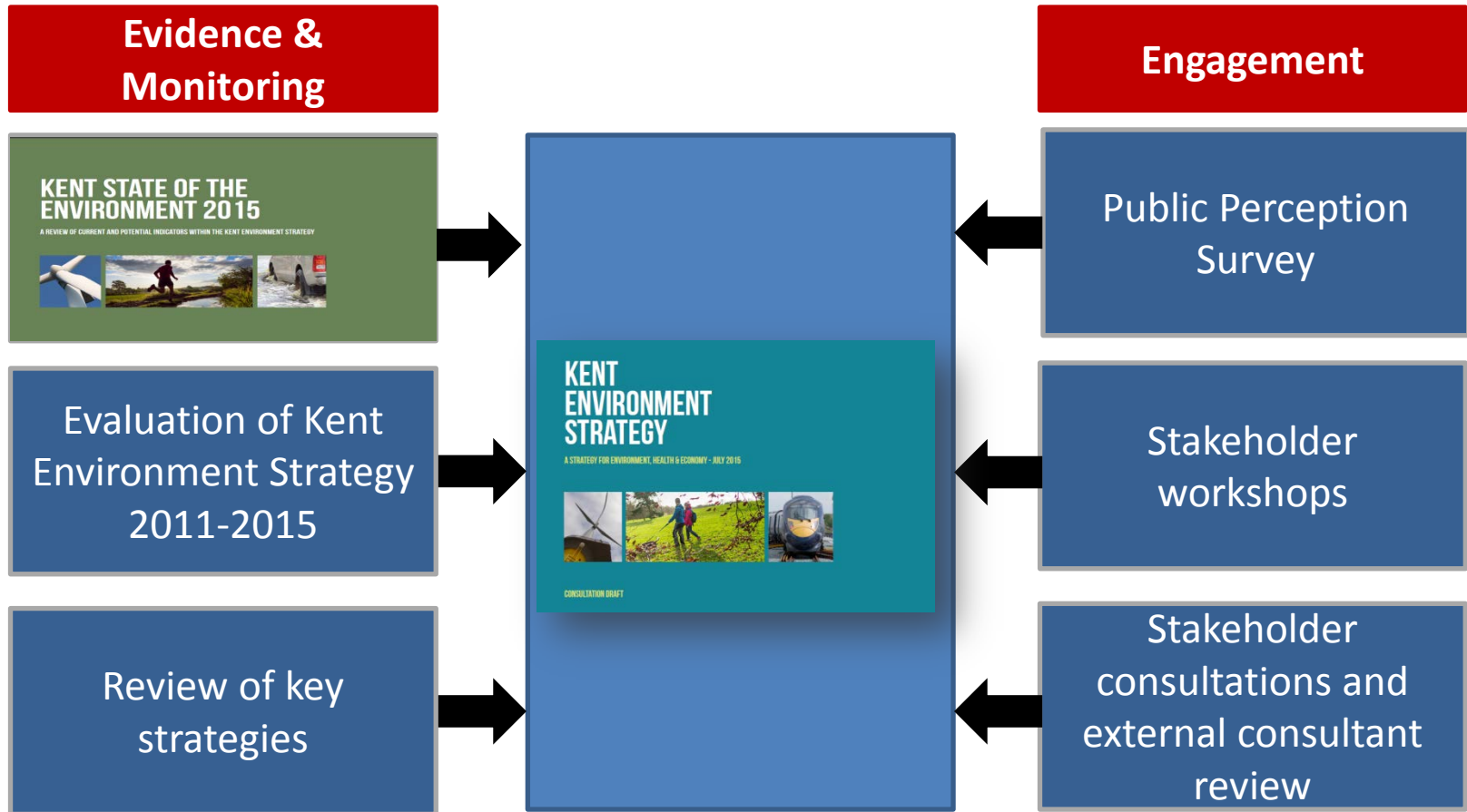
Residents have a high quality of life saving money in warmer healthier homes and benefiting from the many services provided by the natural environment

A resilient, competitive economy and low carbon economy

Communities and businesses are resource efficient and prepared for severe weather events

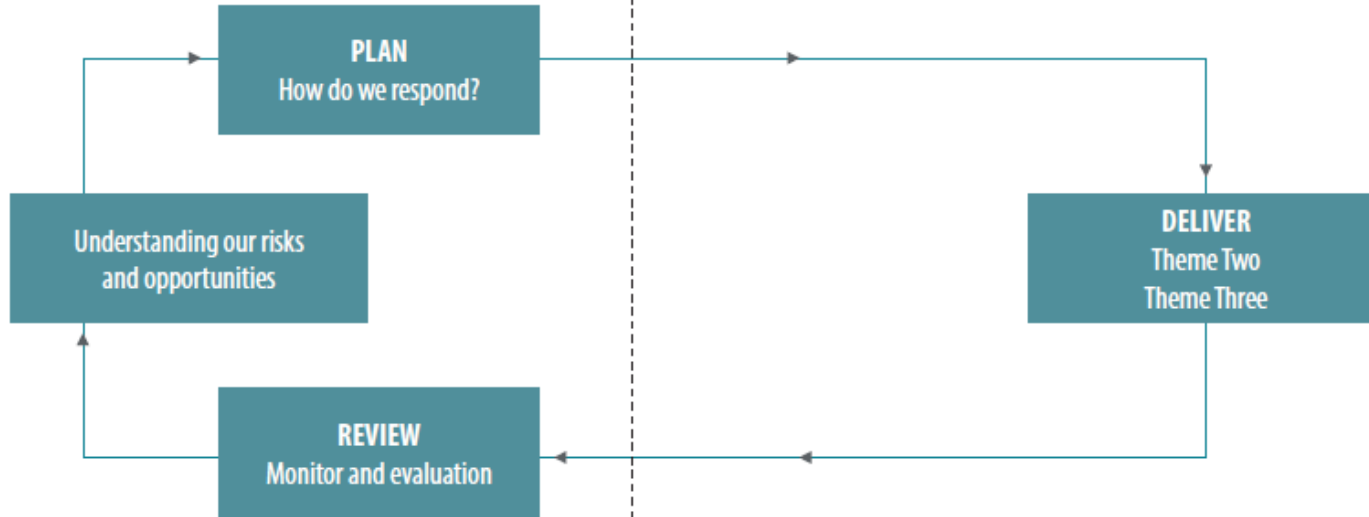


# Our Approach



## EVIDENCE

## DELIVERY



### THEME ONE: BUILDING THE FOUNDATIONS FOR DELIVERY

- 1 Bridging gaps in understanding our risks and opportunities to identify actions;
- 2 Integrating and influencing strategy and policy;
- 3 Building resources, capabilities and changing behaviour;
- 4 Monitoring and evaluation.

### THEME TWO: MAKING BEST USE OF EXISTING RESOURCES, AVOIDING OR MINIMISING NEGATIVE IMPACTS

- 5 Conserve and enhance the quality and supply of the county of Kent's natural resources and assets;
- 6 Improve our resource efficiency such as energy and water;
- 7 Ensure sustainable access and connectivity for businesses and communities.

### THEME THREE: TOWARD A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

- 8 Influence future sustainable growth for the county of Kent;
- 9 Improve the county of Kent's environmental, social and economic resilience to environmental change;
- 10 Supporting growth in the rural economy and low carbon and environmental services sector.

# KENT ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY

A STRATEGY FOR ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH & ECONOMY - MARCH 2016



## FOCUS KES:

- REDUCING  
NEGATIVE  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
IMPACTS FROM A  
'POOR'  
ENVIRONMENT
- MAXIMISING  
BENEFITS OF OUR  
NATURAL AND  
HISTORIC ASSETS

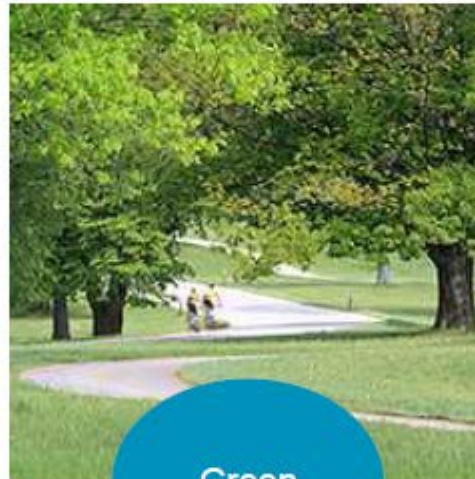
# Our factory setting is to be in a sociable group, supportive environment and have a purpose

People



Sociable

Place



Green

Purpose



Valued

© 2015 Intelligent Health



People



Loneliness

Place



Hostile

Purpose



Rejection

Fear and Chronic Stress

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- Poor environment – home or surroundings
- Air quality
- Traffic noise
- Limited access green space
- Even if access don't use
- Climate change impact
- Less ability to adapt

# UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2017



# Key Impacts

<p><b>Flooding and coastal change risks to communities, businesses and infrastructure (Ch3, Ch4 Ch5, Ch6)</b></p>	<p><b>MORE ACTION NEEDED</b></p>
<p><b>Risks to health, wellbeing and productivity from high temperatures (Ch5, Ch6)</b></p>	
<p><b>Risk of shortages in the public water supply, and for agriculture, energy generation and industry (Ch3, Ch4, Ch5, Ch6)</b></p>	
<p><b>Risks to natural capital, including terrestrial, coastal, marine and freshwater ecosystems, soils and biodiversity (Ch3)</b></p>	
<p><b>Risks to domestic and international food production and trade (Ch3, Ch6, Ch7)</b></p>	
<p><b>New and emerging pests and diseases, and invasive non-native species, affecting people, plants and animals (Ch3, Ch5, Ch7)</b></p>	<p><b>RESEARCH PRIORITY</b></p>
<p><b>NOW</b> -----&gt; <b>RISK MAGNITUDE</b> -----&gt; <b>FUTURE</b>    <b>LOW</b>    <b>MEDIUM</b>    <b>HIGH</b></p>	

# Climate Resilience and Health

Risk / Issue	Impacts
Flooding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Drowning or physical trauma</li><li>• Damage to infrastructure, displacement and disruption</li><li>• Mental health impacts (e.g., anxiety and depression)</li><li>• By 2050s looking at twice as many deaths, up to 50% more injuries and twice as many mental health events relating to flooding (compared to 2020s)</li><li>• Vulnerability of infrastructure</li></ul>
Temperature increases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 800 'heat related' deaths occur in the UK with 80,000 days additional NHS hospitalisation</li><li>• Expected to increase by 70% in 2020s, 260% in 2050s, 540% in 2080s</li><li>• Most at risk include pre-existing respiratory and cardiovascular problems as well as those impacted by thermoregulation</li><li>• Vulnerability of infrastructure</li></ul>



# Climate Resilience

## Evidence

- Severe weather and climate change pose significant threat and opportunities for residents and service provision
- Main issues for Kent include:
  - Flooding
  - Mortality and morbidity relating to temperature
  - Food and water borne diseases
  - Vector borne diseases
  - Air quality
  - Vulnerability of infrastructure and built environment



## Response

- Identification of groups with pre-existing conditions
- Alert and prepare
- Flood related mental and physical health risks
- Map infrastructure and develop actions as appropriate
- Sign up to the severe weather impacts monitoring system (SWIMS)



# Chronic Stress

Stress  
Hormones

Physical  
Inactivity

And other  
poor health  
behaviours

leads to inflammation  
Mitochondrial damage and telomere shortening

Depression

Cancers

Cardiovascular

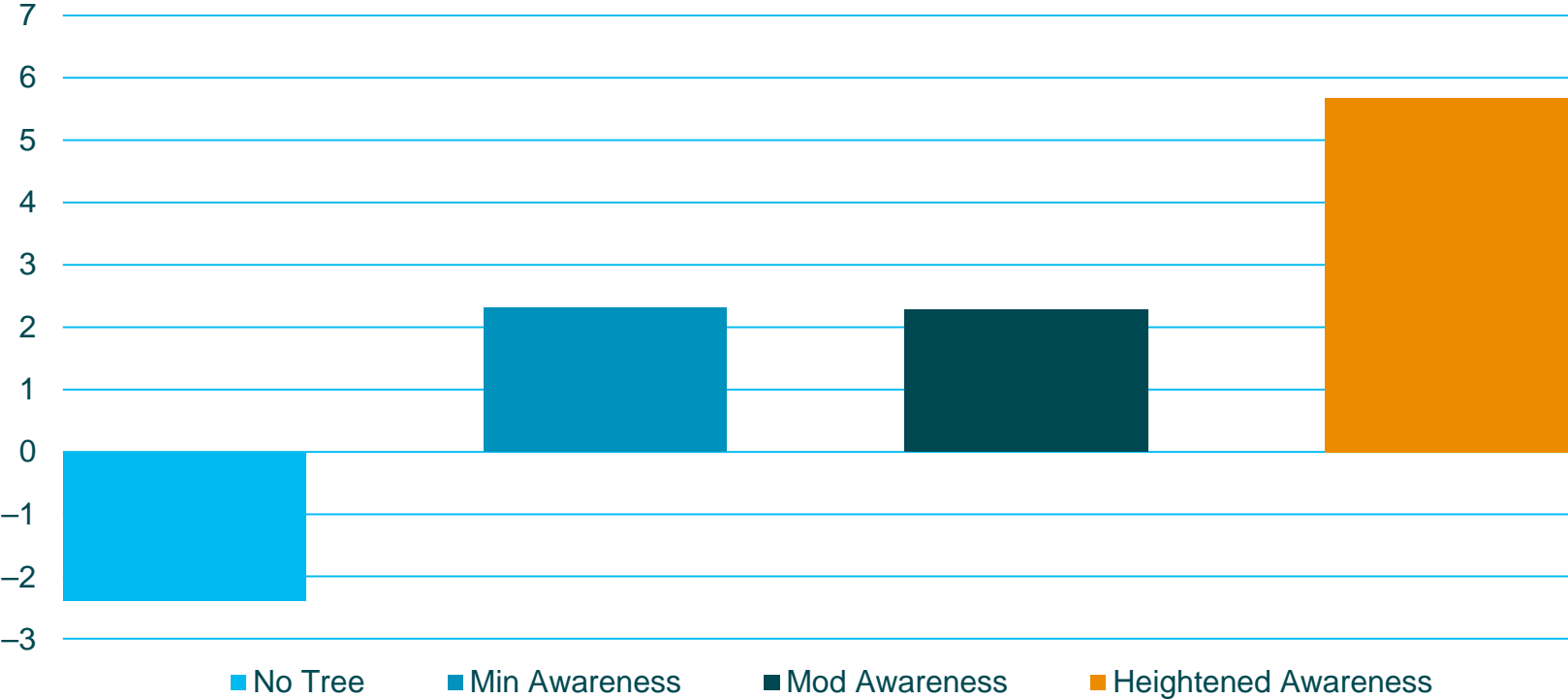
Diabetes

Dementia



# The Effect of Trees on Cognitive Performance

Digit Span Backward Test

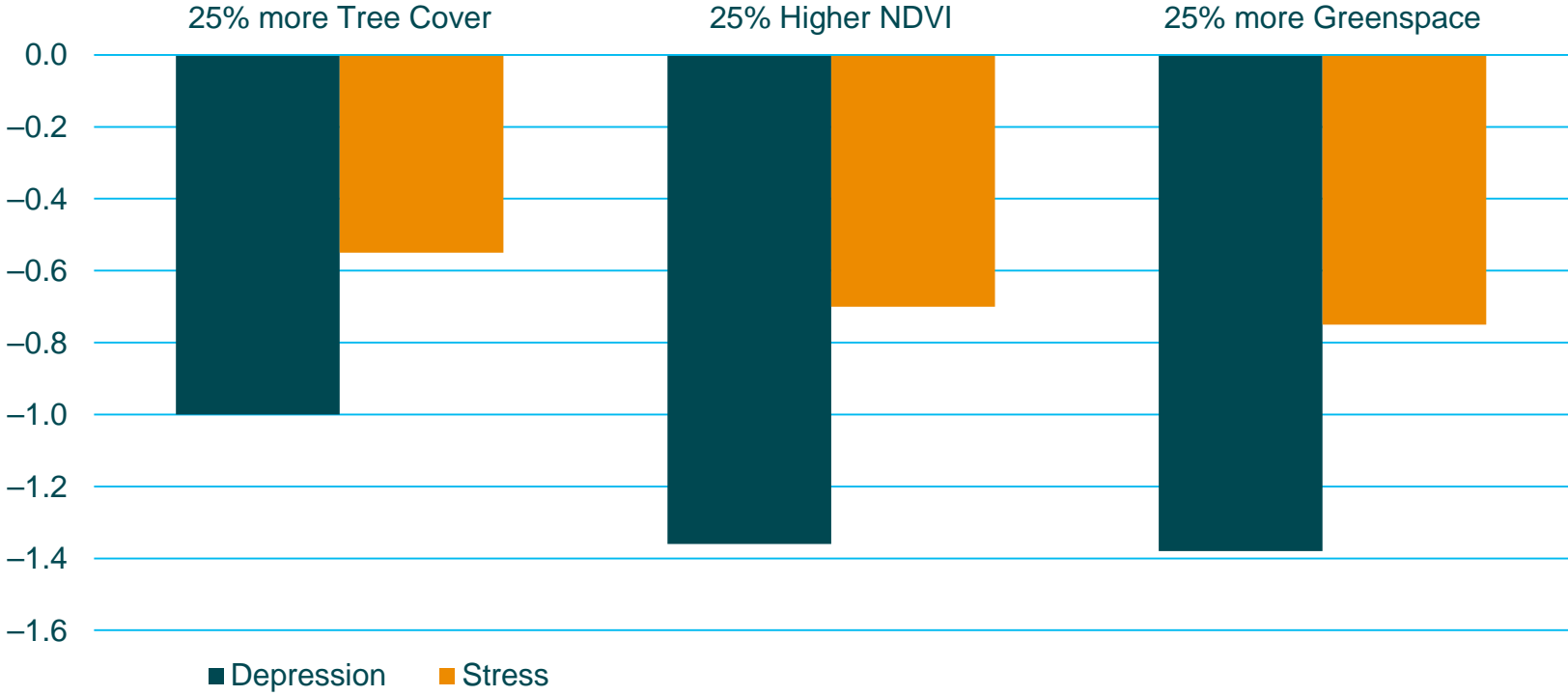


Lin, Ying-Hsuan, et al. "Does awareness effect the restorative function and perception of street trees?" Cognitive Science 5 (2014): 906.



# Association Between Trees, Vegetation, Depression and Stress

Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI)

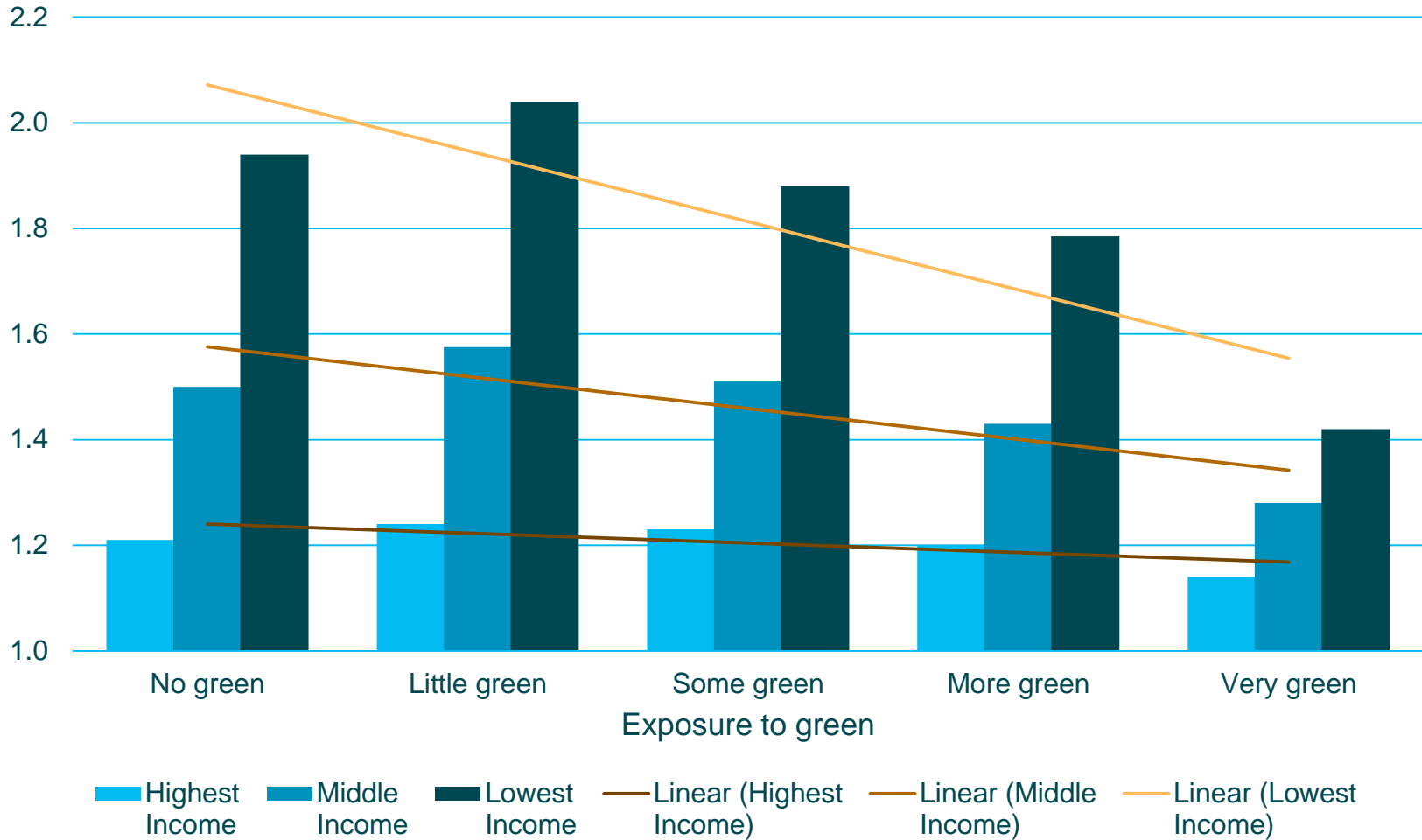


Beyer, Kirsten MM, et al. Int.J of environmental research and public health 11.3 (2014): 3453-3472



# Green Space reduces Health Inequalities

Incidence Rate Ratio



Mitchell, R. and Popham, F. (2008) Effect of exposure to natural environment on health inequalities: an observational population study. *The Lancet* 372(9650):pp. 1655-1660.



# Nature and the Unborn Child

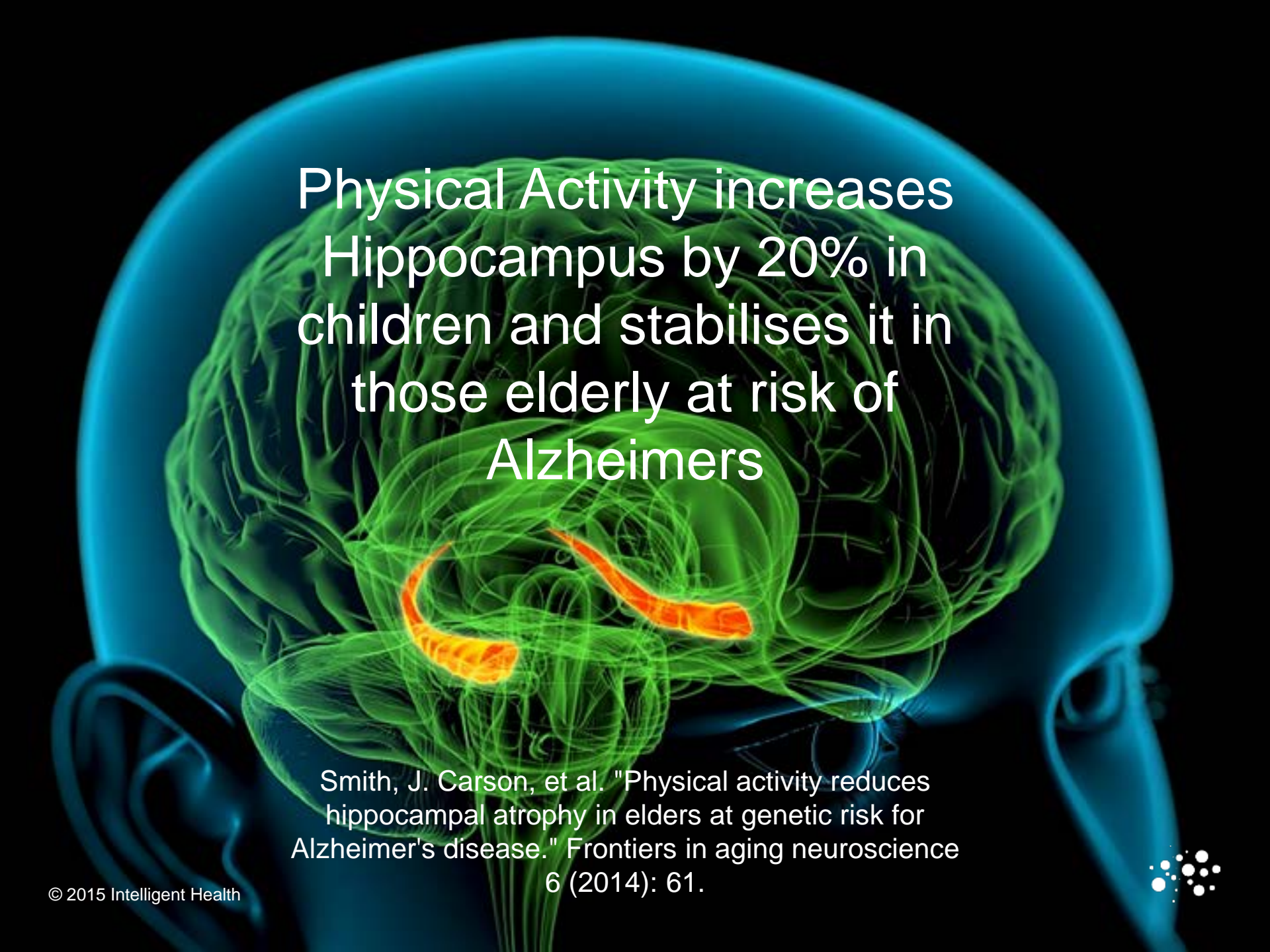
High  
Blood Pressure  
in pregnant  
women increased  
by 14% for every  
300 meters away  
from green  
space

Birth  
weight and  
baby's head  
size were larger  
within the 500  
metres of  
green space



1. Grazuleviciene R et al Int J Environ Res Public Health 2014 11 2958-2972
2. Davvand P Env Health Perspectives 120 10





Physical Activity increases  
Hippocampus by 20% in  
children and stabilises it in  
those elderly at risk of  
Alzheimers

Smith, J. Carson, et al. "Physical activity reduces hippocampal atrophy in elders at genetic risk for Alzheimer's disease." *Frontiers in aging neuroscience* 6 (2014): 61.



# Some Examples

- Minimising negative environmental impacts
- Providing a place for informal, self-directed access to nature
- A venue for outdoor recreation and sport or programmes that use the outdoors as part of their day-to-day activities, such as outdoor education
- A basis for projects and programmes that specifically use the outdoors to improve physical and mental health and reduce social isolation.



# warm homes

Save energy, save money



## ENERGY EFFICIENCY - RETROFITTING







Dandelion Time  
*Restoring hope to young lives*



# SHERWOOD SHEDDERS









- Kent Nature Partnership [www.kentnature.org.uk](http://www.kentnature.org.uk)
- Explore Kent [www.explorekent.org](http://www.explorekent.org)
- Countryside Management Partnerships
- <http://www.kent.gov.uk/about-the-council/partnerships/countryside-management-partnerships>



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