



PROJECT OVERVIEW

Access to food was identified as a key issue in Merseyside as 1 of the 8 pilot areas within the DfT Accessibility Planning pilot. A case study of access to food was undertaken in the Knowsley Borough Council area to the east of the City of Liverpool, after a strategic-level review of these issues across Merseyside had identified it as subject to particularly poor levels of access.

ABOUT DHC

Derek Halden Consultancy staff and associates have leading expertise in transport planning, community development, psychology, transport and accessibility modelling, social inclusion, marketing, environmental assessment, and economic development.

Common to all projects is a commitment to draw from state of the art knowledge to ensure that solutions are soundly based and tailored to the needs of clients.

Offices at:
12 Melville Terrace
Stirling, FK8 2NE
☎ 01786 448005

7-9 North St David Street
Edinburgh, EH2 1AW
☎ 0131 524 9610



info@dhc1.co.uk
www.dhc1.co.uk

Access to Food in Knowsley

This case study served to demonstrate how accessibility planning techniques could bring added value to national initiatives to improve the national diet (e.g. '5-a-day') with follow-on benefits for personal health and well-being.

A number of key partners drove the case study forward including:

- DHC who provided expertise on accessibility assessment techniques;
- the Food and Safety Team of Knowsley Borough Council who provided on-the-ground survey expertise; and,
- Mott MacDonald MIS who undertook analytical mapping

It is a requirement of law that the basic details of premises selling food are included on a Council Food Register. This was therefore used to identify all relevant outlets in the area in preference to other potential sources such as telephone directories. Outlets were asked to complete a survey detailing the range, quality and price of food available as well as the price of a basket of healthy food. These data were then used map food accessibility in terms of:

- Variations in the range of food available
- Variations in the price of a health food basket
- Variations in quality

The analysis is now being used by local partners to develop proposals to improve access to food for people in areas on low incomes or poor health that coincide with low levels of food access. These proposals the introduction of 'Veggie Vans' and providing for the provision of new outlets through the Local Plan process.

