



Advancing competence in HIA to strengthen health equity

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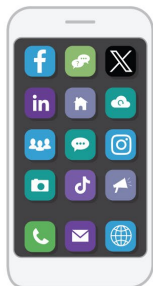
HIA training needs survey



Aim

The aim of this survey was to better understand the support and training needs of the HIA community.

Method

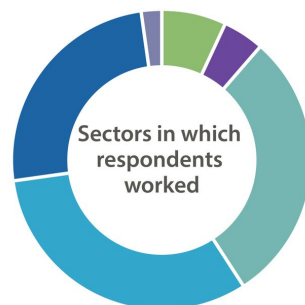


Questionnaire issued to HIA contacts by email and via social media platforms.

Questionnaire open for 10 weeks

56 valid responses received

Respondents



32%	Local government
29.5%	Community/voluntary sector
25%	Statutory agency
7%	Academia
4.5%	Central government
2%	Student

HIA Experience



29%	None
23%	<1 year
14%	1-2 years
9%	3-4 years
25%	5+ years

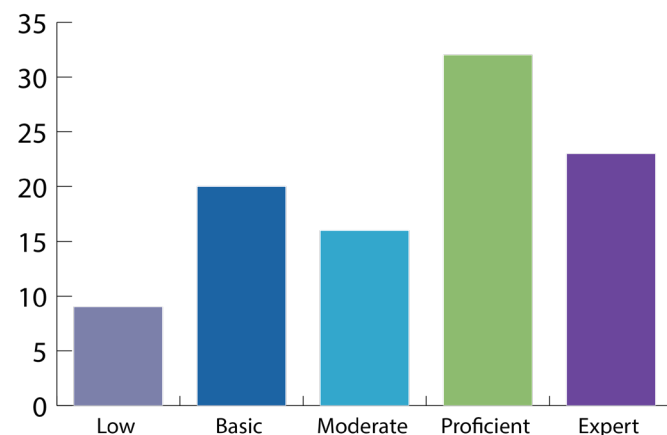


63%	None
9%	<1 year
5%	1-2 years
5%	3-4 years
18%	5+ years

Survey findings



Competence in HIA - self-reported knowledge, skills and experience of HIA



Respondents indicated their preference for training in the following areas:

-  Step by step approach to HIA
-  HIA in the context of Health in All Policies
-  HIA case studies
-  Using an existing project as basis for HA training



Greatest knowledge or expertise were reported by respondents in the following areas relevant to HIA

Respondents reported highest level of skill in the following areas relevant to HIA

Developing the new course



HIA survey identified the demand for more comprehensive HIA training



Training course will complement the HIA Guidance and existing resources



Commissioned BCA Insight Ltd to develop course content



Draws on best practice with input from international experts



Pilot study and evaluation completed March 2026



HIA course – pilot study



WHAT WORKED WELL

- Good use of case studies and practical examples
- Excellent supporting resources
- Relevant to Ireland/Northern Ireland context
- Application of the conceptual models at the project and policy level
- Systematic approach to designing, completing and assessing HIAs
- Self-paced and varied formats helped maintain engagement
- Clear and structured training programme



AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

- Tracking and saving progress as modules are completed
- Ability to pick up where you left off
- Ability to go back and re-read sections
- Improved course navigation
- More interactive functionality
- More simulated or real-life examples
- Improved clarity on policy-led or case-by-case screening section
- Indication of whether a quiz pass rate is needed to progress to the next stage

The HIA test course provided a **strong foundation** with valuable content and practical relevance. By implementing these improvements, we can **enhance the learning experience** even further.

How the course will be delivered



- Online via IPH Public Health Matters Learning Platform from **1 May 2026**
- Accredited and non-accredited options
- Approx 4 days to complete the online course
- Optional in-person Masterclass (September 2026)



Who can undertake the course?



Course overview



Module One



Looks at how health is defined and how health is considered in other impact assessments.

Module Two



Guides you through the HIA in a step-by-step manner. The various stages of the HIA are presented separately within this module.

Module Three



Sets out the approach to reviewing a HIA.

Module Four



Presents how health is assessed in environmental impact assessments.

Health Impact Assessment 2.0

- IPH is recognised by the Institute for Sustainability and Environmental Professionals (ISEP) as a professional body which can deliver accredited HIA training
- HIA 2.0 meets the ISEP training criteria for recognition as a ***Competent Expert for Health Impact Assessment, including Health in Environmental Assessments***



Translating learning into practice



1



Upskilling people

Upskilling people from a wide range of backgrounds will lead to HIA being used in broader public policy.

2



Health beyond the health sector

Greater recognition that health is not solely the responsibility of the health sector.

3



Health in All Policies

HIA will become a common tool for implementing a Health in All Policies approach.

4



Embedded in decision-making

As practitioners become more competent in the use of HIA, it will become more embedded in policy making and programme development.



How to book your place

HIA 2.0 Comprehensive Plus Programme *Accredited pathway*

Access to self-paced online HIA 2.0 training (approx 4 days effort) **plus an in-person full-day masterclass** to deepen skills and knowledge.

Opportunity to attain accreditation from IPH, subject to masterclass participation, specific educational qualifications and professional HIA experience.

Certificate on successful completion of the programme.

€1,250
per participant

HIA 2.0 Comprehensive Programme *Online only*

Online course only (no masterclass).

Access to self-paced online HIA 2.0 training programme (approx 4 days effort).

No accreditation route. Does not include a masterclass or the opportunity to attain accreditation from IPH.

Certificate on successful completion of the programme.

€380
per participant





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