

Reviewer's report

Title: Municipal policies and plans of action aiming to promote physical activity and healthy eating habits among school children in Sweden: a cross sectional study

Version: 1 **Date:** 23 February 2009

Reviewer: Marjan Hoeijmakers

Reviewer's report:

I enjoyed reading the manuscript and value it highly.

1. It demonstrates, on a scientific basis, the commonly felt discrepancy between what is written down in policies and what is seen in action on the ground. This is of importance to the field of health promotion and policy development.
2. The study is well structured and based on (recent) literature, and uses different, appropriate methods.
3. The manuscript meets the criteria of scientific reporting.

Nevertheless I make some comments and recommendations to improve the manuscript still. Discretionary revisions.

1. The information given on the socio-cultural environment in the theoretical framework on page 4 differs from the question block in table 1. These questions address rather the physical environment. Please give attention to this by reorganising the table or explaining why the socio-cultural environment is hardly questioned.
2. Table 2 needs some explanation on column (three and) four. What is meant by score 1?
3. On page 5; Spearman rank need a little explanation for the reader with less knowledge on statistics.
4. (most important) Could you please say something about the implications of the findings for public health practice and health policy development. How can shortcomings be overcome in favour of school children. Do we need to adopt another perspective on health development than the linear one presented here?

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.