



Healthy City Design

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15-16

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LIVERPOOL
Royal College of Physicians

CALL FOR PAPERS

Building a fairer future
Advancing health equity through impact investment



Organised by



Community + Impact Partner



Journal Partner



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Silver Knowledge Leader



Bronze Innovation Leader



Building a fairer future

Advancing health equity through impact investment

In a decade characterised by major geopolitical shifts, a climate crisis and a pandemic, the future has never seemed so uncertain. Yet, there is hope that by investing in healthier and more sustainable cities, a fairer future can emerge.

By embedding 'health in all policies' and positioning people and communities at the centre of urban policy and practice, city leaders who work in partnership with business and community leaders to prioritise health equity, diversity and inclusion can underpin future prosperity by helping create the conditions for a healthy and more productive population.

Non-communicable diseases, including heart disease, cancer, respiratory disease, diabetes, and mental health conditions, kill 41 million people each year and are intrinsically linked to the quality of the built environment. The way we plan, design, regenerate, and invest in our urban environments is therefore critical to future health creation. Planning compact neighbourhoods with a mix of residential, commercial, and recreational spaces, supported by sustainable transport infrastructure and green spaces, can create major health benefits, in air quality, mental health, and social cohesion. At the same time, higher standards are needed for buildings to promote healthy and sustainable living via energy-efficient design, access to daylight, and better indoor air quality.

Sustainability of our cities depends on building resilience to climate change impacts, through infrastructure upgrades and disaster preparedness, at the same time as protecting finite planetary resources through better water conservation, waste management and sustainable food programmes. Promoting diversity, equity and social cohesion through inclusive policies, affordable housing strategies, community engagement, and accessible services ensures that all

residents benefit from the city's growth. And data-driven decision-making and citizen participation can capitalise on smart technology and AI to enhance urban sustainability, improve service delivery, and optimise city operations. By integrating these characteristics into urban planning, cities can create a more resilient, liveable and sustainable environment for current and future generations.

Routes to health equity

But knowing what needs to be done is different from delivering a fairer future. Improving health equity through city regeneration needs strong governance and new approaches to finance, such as accessing the US\$1.6 trillion global market for impact investment, which prioritises environmental, social, and governance (ESG) criteria in real estate investment decisions to generate positive social impact while delivering financial returns.



This involves strategic planning, wide stakeholder collaboration, and targeted interventions, to ensure that real estate and place-based impact investments support inclusive urban planning to address housing insecurity and create diverse, resilient communities. There is also a need to incentivise community participation and co-design that engages residents, community organisations, and public health experts in the urban regeneration process, to ensure that the needs of marginalised populations are met.

Investing to provide identity and hope

Attracting real estate investment can revitalise underutilised urban areas, brownfields, or blighted properties, transforming them into attractive, mixed-income communities with better infrastructure, public spaces, and amenities. Connected to new business, innovation and knowledge districts, these investments create jobs, stimulate growth, raise income levels, and provide identity and hope to future generations.

By integrating these strategies into city regeneration projects and investment decisions, stakeholders can create inclusive, healthy and sustainable urban environments that promote health and wellbeing for all residents, and prioritise equity in planning, implementation, and evaluation processes, essential for achieving lasting positive impact.

This year, the historic maritime city of Liverpool will again host the 8th Healthy City Design 2024 International Congress and Awards. Organised by SALUS Global Knowledge Exchange and the Helen Hamlyn Centre for Design, Royal College of Art, in collaboration with Impact on Urban Health and Cities & Health journal, we are delighted to invite you to contribute to a new dialogue on the future fairness of our cities and communities by submitting abstract submissions by the deadline of 23 May at www.healthycitydesign.global

Submission process

Healthy City Design 2024 (HCD 2024) International Congress & Exhibition is a global forum for the exchange of knowledge on the research, policy, investment and practice of designing healthy and sustainable cities and communities.

After several years held at the Royal College of Physicians, London, for the second consecutive year, the Congress will be hosted at the WELL-certified The Spine, the Royal College of Physicians' northern headquarters.

Attendees will develop their knowledge of the political, social and economic context, new policy directions, emerging practice, latest research findings, and skills and core competencies in designing, planning and commissioning city services, technology, infrastructure and developing real estate that improve people and planetary health. We are delighted to invite you to submit abstracts on the themes listed in the sidebar on the right.

Authors are invited to submit abstracts of 400 words in English for in-person presentation in the following formats: a) themed paper; b) video+poster; c) workshop. The abstract should clearly state the background, purpose, methods, results and conclusions/implications. Presentations in all formats can be focused on research, practice or theory. For full abstract guidelines and the submission form, visit www.healthycitydesign.global.

Each presentation will be delivered to an interdisciplinary audience. All abstracts will be subject to a rigorous blind peer-review process by the HCD 2024 programme committee. A select number will be chosen for oral presentation with a wider number presented as videos + posters. Proposals must be submitted using the abstract proposal form and MUST include the following:

- presentation type (themed paper, poster or workshop);
- knowledge focus (research, practice or theory);
- congress theme (plenary or stream);
- title, author(s), organisational affiliation, and three learning objectives.

Abstracts of the papers selected for presentation will be published in the Final Programme. Please note: the author(s) and/or co-author(s) are required to register and pay the registration fee to participate and present the paper at the Congress. While the Congress will include virtual streaming online for delegates around the world, all speakers are expected to attend 'in person'.

More information on the conference venue, recommended hotel and the registration fee will be available at www.healthycitydesign.global in mid-May. The Preliminary Programme will be published in July. All abstracts should be submitted online by 23 May and all enquiries by e-mail should be sent to: info@salus.global

Congress themes

- **Impact investment and good governance**
Mobilising capital for place-based investment that builds diverse, inclusive and prosperous communities
- **Community impact**
Empowering communities to design and lead changes to systems and environments driving health inequalities
- **Homes and neighbourhoods**
Creating healthier and inclusive living spaces that enhance residents' quality of life and contribute to thriving communities
- **Urban design, placemaking and the public realm**
Urban strategies that promote compact and vibrant cities, prioritise wellbeing, and foster community resilience
- **Transport and mobility**
Innovative, inclusive and accessible transportation strategies that promote healthy active travel and sustainable mobility
- **Planetary health**
Embedding planetary health and circular economy principles into urban governance, policy, design and implementation
- **Innovation and the knowledge economy**
Scaling digital transformation with AI, new workplace models and innovation districts in the smart city
- **Population health**
Delivering accessible place-based care through cross-sector partnering and health planning across local health economies

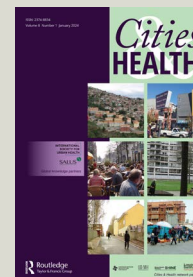
Who should submit a paper and attend?

- City governance and policy
- Community leaders and voices
- Urban designers and planners
- Public health practitioners
- Commercial property developers
- Health and social care planners
- Sustainability and ESG practitioners
- Academics and researchers
- Economists and social scientists
- Occupational therapists
- Institutional investors
- Business leaders
- Technology leaders
- Real estate investors
- Senior public servants
- Environmental groups
- Architects and engineers
- Housing developers

Cities & Health – Healthy City Design Congress special issue

For the second year, SALUS is partnering with the international Routledge journal Cities & Health to publish a Healthy City Design Congress 2024 Special Issue, providing opportunities for academic exposure, practitioner impact, and policy insight.

Should you wish your abstract to be considered as a potential paper for the Special Issue, please check the box on the Congress abstract submission form. The selection process for presenting at Healthy City Design and for the Special Issue are separate evaluation processes. Authors may submit practice-based case studies, academic research papers, policy-based papers, or commentary. For more information visit bit.ly/CitiesxHealth_Scope or contact marcusxgrant@citieshealth.world



Provisional timetable

March 2024

Launch of Call for Papers

April 2024

Launch of Awards Call for Entries

23 May 2024

Deadline for HCD 2024 Congress abstracts

June 2024

Deadline for Awards entries

July 2024

Launch of the Preliminary Programme

September 2024

Deadline for early-bird, speaker registration and manuscripts

15-16 October 2024

08.00-19.00: HCD 2024 Congress & Exhibition

Congress venue

Royal College of Physicians, The Spine

One of the world's healthiest buildings, the Spine is designed to the WELL Platinum Standard. As the northern home of the Royal College of Physicians, the building is located in Paddington Village in Liverpool's new Knowledge Quarter.



Liverpool's renaissance: Building on a legacy of health innovation and regeneration

Steeped in history built on maritime heritage and influence on world trade, the first-ever commercial wet dock opened in Liverpool in 1715. A further milestone came in 1846, with the opening of the revolutionary and architecturally celebrated Albert Dock. By the late 19th century, Liverpool was at the epicentre of global commerce, with over 40 per cent of the world's trade passing through the docks.

But after the devastating impact of the Second World War, Liverpool suffered the same post-industrial confidence crisis that hit many northern cities in the UK. By the 1970s, the Albert Dock was left derelict and abandoned, and it was not until the 1980s, with the reclaiming of the Dock and its regeneration, that Liverpool was put back on the map.

Now known as the Royal Albert Dock, after being granted a Royal Charter in 2018, it's a major tourist attraction and comprises the largest collection of Grade I listed buildings in the UK. It's home to the International Slavery Museum, Tate Liverpool, and many shops, bars, restaurants, and businesses.

Fast forward to 2024 and strong leadership is now creating the conditions for an urban and economic renaissance across Liverpool and the City Region, underpinned by public health innovation and a commitment to address, "significant health inequalities faced by residents across the city often marked by deprivation"¹ through frameworks such as the Marmot Principles, to provide an evidence-based approach addressing the wider determinants of health.² With a tourism economy valued at £5.2bn every year, Liverpool's maritime and cultural heritage offers a firm foundation for regeneration, upon which a healthier and fairer city fit for the future can be built.

In the Liverpool Strategic Futures Advisory Panel: Final Report, the panel's chair, Steve Rotheram, Mayor of the Liverpool City Region, calls for the city to "diversify its economy to take advantage of its pre-eminent position as

the UK's renewable energy coastline and capitalise on its strengths in life sciences, materials innovation, advanced computing, and infectious disease control."



The report of the panel, which aims to "support the development of a long-term economic strategy to shape Liverpool's future", outlines how local partners are collaborating to deliver three core priorities:

1. Reboot regeneration to transform the places in which people live and work, restore market confidence, and create an environment conducive to sustainable economic growth, including creation of a new Regeneration Partnership aimed at accelerating development in the city and improving Liverpool as a place, particularly in areas of longstanding deprivation.
2. Deliver public service reform through creation of an Office for Public Service Innovation, to support the reconfiguration of services around citizens; build community resilience; and embed a whole-place perspective, where no community is left behind, and investments promote the life chances of all residents.
3. Turbocharge the knowledge economy to support the city region's transition to a high wage, high skill, high productivity economy, delivered by Liverpool City Region's Investment Zone, which, backed by £160m of government funding



stimulating potential for an estimated £640m of private investment, will drive the city's status as a globally significant location for innovation in health and life sciences.

It is a strategy for Liverpool's renaissance that has already begun, with the city's regional economy now one of the fastest-growing in England, while developments such as the £1bn flagship Paddington Village at the eastern gateway to the Knowledge Quarter; a thriving innovation district, are attracting businesses and enterprises from across the science, tech, education, and health and life sciences sectors.

This vision and commitment to an inclusive, equitable and sustainable urban and economic regeneration will be critical to addressing the "stark realities of [poor] health and health inequalities", identified by Liverpool City Council's director of public health, Prof Matt Ashton, in his report, 'State of Health in the City: Liverpool 2040'.

The report shows that those living in Liverpool's "poorest areas live 15 years less than those in more affluent areas, and they live 18 more years with poor health", identifying inequalities in health outcomes between groups of people and places across the city. The report also projects that by 2040, more than a quarter of Liverpool's residents' lives will be spent in ill health, with up to 38,000 more people living with major illness and co-morbidities. The report adds that "this increase in poor health is likely to have a disproportionate impact in groups from disadvantaged backgrounds and minority ethnic groups".

Setting out its ambition for "a healthier, happier, fairer Liverpool for all", focused upstream on the wider

determinants of health, the report outlines a number of priorities and recommendations to address the challenges of poor health and health inequalities, including:

- a) a 'health in all policies' approach across the Council, for example, in planning, housing, and regeneration;
- b) a neighbourhood model to transform the way services are delivered to address issues such as unhealthy housing;
- c) achieving health co-benefits by improving community resilience to climate change by delivering the 2023 Net Zero Liverpool Action plan;
- d) work towards becoming a Marmot city by April 2025, and more equitable access of health and care services;
- e) support the role of the voluntary and community sector;
- f) ensuring children and young people have the best start in life and supporting children in care to thrive;
- g) developing a women's health strategy;
- h) shaping mental health and wellbeing services founded on better knowledge and understanding;
- i) making healthier choices more accessible; and
- j) strengthening health protection systems.

Liverpool's renowned community spirit and resilience, and its diverse talents and cultural identity, combined with strengthened leaderships and partnerships between government, the public sector, business, investment, and communities across the city and city region, are creating the conditions for a fairer and more prosperous future for its citizens with the potential to create a new global definition and benchmark for a healthy, sustainable and equitable city.

1. Liverpool City Council. (2023). Meeting of the City Council – July 2023 on Tackling Health Inequalities.
2. State of Health in the City: Liverpool 2040, January 2024, Liverpool City Council
3. Independent report. Liverpool Strategic Futures Advisory Panel: Final Report. March 2024.

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