

FORTNIGHTLY LITERATURE REVIEW

REFERENCE	DESCRIPTION	ALERT SOURCE	KEYWORDS
GENERAL POLICY AND RESEARCH			
Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. 2012. <i>Australia's health 2012 no. 13. Cat. No. AUS 156</i> . Canberra: AIHW. http://www.aihw.gov.au/publication-detail/?id=10737422172	This report by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare provides a comprehensive overview of the state of Australian health. Highlights include high life expectancies for males (79.5 years) and females (84.0 years); the finding that the farther people live away from major cities, the less healthy they are likely to be; and that in comparison with other OECD countries, Australia has one of the highest rates of obesity (1 in 4 adults and 1 in 12 children were obese in 2007-2008).	APO	Obesity; chronic disease; socio-demographic characteristics; socio-economic status
Grady, M. and Goldblatt, P. 2012. <i>Addressing the social determinants of health: the urban dimension and the role of local government</i> . Belgium: WHO. http://www.euro.who.int/en/what-we-do/health-topics/environment-and-health/urban-health/publications/2012/addressing-the-social-determinants-of-health-the-urban-dimension-and-the-role-of-local-government	This report explores the evidence related to the social determinants of health in the urban context and provides local government policy examples from several European countries. It emphasises the applicability of the social model of health in local policies (especially in relation to education, transport, housing and urban planning) and the imperative for authorities to respond to local needs. It concludes with a framework for action through a schema of people (maintaining the wellbeing of residents, migrants and visitors), process (administrative, regulative, planning, commercial and social responsibilities) and place (built and natural environments).	Social Impacts Alert	Health; well-being; policy
Parliament of Victoria. 2012. <i>Inquiry into environmental design and public health in Victoria</i> . Melbourne: Victorian Government	This report by the Parliament of Victoria (AU) Environment and References Committee compiled evidence regarding the planning and design of the	PCAL	Chronic disease; health; well-being; policy; parks and

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<p>Printer. http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/standing-committee-on-environment-and-planning/references-committee/references-committee-inquiries/article/1521</p>	<p>environment and its relation to public health. Public submissions and hearings covered topics such as contributors to chronic disease and the impact of urban growth and public health. Legislation, guidelines and policy approaches with respect to health and planning are outlines with a focus on parks and open space and active transport. A collection of case studies concludes the report.</p>		<p>open space; active transport; case studies</p>
<p>The Green Building Council of Australia. 2012. <i>Green Star – Communities Rating Pilot Tool</i>. Sydney: The Green Building Council of Australia. http://www.gbca.org.au/green-star/green-star-communities/rating-tool/</p>	<p>This Green Star – Communities Rating Pilot Tool provides a framework to assess the sustainability, productivity and liveability of Australian communities. Green Buildings Council Australia developed the tool in collaboration with the three tiers of government, developers, academics and other industry stakeholders. It rates the planning, design and construction of communities against governance, design, liveability, economic prosperity, environment and innovation categories. Projects can achieve the Healthy and Active Living credit.</p>	<p>PCAL</p>	<p>Health; well-being; Assessment tool; neighbourhood design; measurement; surveys</p>
<p>*National Heart Foundation. 2012. <i>Active living impact checklist: A tool for developments in the Australian Capital Territory</i>. Canberra: National Heart Foundation of Australia. http://www.heartfoundation.org.au/SiteCollectionDocuments/Active-Living-impact-checklist.pdf</p>	<p>This checklist draws from the Healthy Spaces and Places document to assist planning and design professionals along with other interested stakeholders during the planning stages of a proposed development in the ACT. It assesses the following criteria: active transport, aesthetics, connectivity, environments for all people, mixed density, mixed land use, parks and open space, safety and surveillance, social inclusion, supporting infrastructure.</p>	<p>APAN</p>	<p>Health; well-being; Assessment tool; neighbourhood design; measurement; surveys</p>
<p>*Rydin, Y., Bleahu, A., Davies, M., Dávila, J., Friel, S., De Grandis, G., Groce, N., Hallal, P., Hamilton, I., Howden-Chapman, P., Lai, K-M., Lim, C., Martins, J., Osrin, D., Ridley, I.,</p>	<p>This article focuses on how to deliver potential health benefits for citizens in urban environments. It provides case studies regarding sanitation and wastewater management, urban mobility, building standards and</p>	<p>APAN</p>	<p>Health; well-being; policy; transport; urban agriculture</p>

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<p>Scott, I., Taylor, M., Wilkinson, P. and Wilson, J. 2012. 'Shaping cities for health: complexity and the planning of urban environments in the 21st century.' <i>The Lancet</i> 379(9831): 2079-2108. http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(12)60435-8/fulltext#article_upsell</p>	<p>indoor air quality, the urban heat island effect and urban agriculture. The article highlights the complexities involved in the achievement of healthy cities through urban planning policies. It urges for local assessments and discussions between key stakeholders and suggests that local experimentation through a range of projects can best improve health and well-being outcomes.</p>		
GETTING PEOPLE ACTIVE			
<p>Veitch, J., Ball, K., Crawford, D., Abbott, G. and Salmon, J. 2012. 'Park Improvements and Park Activity.' <i>American Journal of Preventive Medicine</i> 42(6): 616-619. http://www.ajpmonline.org/article/S0749-3797(12)00141-9/abstract</p>	<p>This article measures the impact of park improvements on the physical activity levels of its users. Observational measurements were conducted at an intervention and a control park In Victoria, AU at baseline, post-improvement and one year later. The results showed significant increases in the number of people frequenting, walking and being vigorously active at the improved park.</p>	APAN	Neighbourhood design; parks; physical activity; walkability; intervention
<p>Chillón, P., Ortega, F., Ruiz, J., Evenson, K., Labayen, I., Martínez-Vizcaino, V. Anita Hurtig-Wennlöf, A. Veidebau, T and Sjöström, M. In Press. 'Bicycling to school is associated with improvements in physical fitness over a 6-year follow-up period in Swedish children.' <i>Preventive Medicine</i>. 55(2): 108-112. http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0091743512002460</p>	<p>This article measures the effects of active travel on cardiorespiratory fitness among Swedish children over a period of six years (ages 9-14). A questionnaire surveyed children's travel modes while a bicycle test assessed their fitness levels. The results indicate that walking levels decreased while bicycling levels increased among children as they progressed to adolescence. Moreover, children who bicycled to school showed an improvement in fitness when compared to those who used passive modes or walked.</p>	APAN	Physical activity; active transport; children; Sweden; school
<p>Linetzky, B., De Maio, F., Ferrante, D., Konfino, J. and Boissonnet, C. 2012. 'Sex-stratified socio-economic gradients in physical inactivity, obesity, and diabetes: evidence of short-term changes in</p>	<p>This article evaluated the influences of gender, age, income and educational attainment on levels of physical activity, obesity and diabetes. Data was collected from both the 2005 (41,392 adults) and 2009 (34,732 adults) Argentine National Risk Factor Survey. Participants</p>	APAN	Physical activity; obesity; diabetes; men; women; Socio-demographic

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<p>Argentina.' <i>International Journal of Public Health</i>, doi: 10.1007/s00038-012-0371-z. http://www.springerlink.com/content/q1j212j21643ur84/?MUD=MP</p>	<p>completed the International Physical Activity Questionnaire. The data from the surveys underwent logistical regression analysis. The results show a prevalent increase in low physical activity, obesity and diabetes from 2005-2009 across education and incomes. Females of the lowest socio-economic status generally exhibited the highest increase, particularly in relation to low physical activity. The prevalence of risk factors have occurred in a relatively short time and across the socio-economic spectrum, particularly among women. Further studies are recommended to understand the dynamics of health inequalities.</p>		<p>characteristics</p>
CONNECTING AND STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES			
<p>*National Heart Foundation. 2012. <i>Active living impact checklist: A tool for developments in the Australian Capital Territory</i>. Canberra: National Heart Foundation of Australia. http://www.heartfoundation.org.au/SiteCollectionDocuments/Active-Living-impact-checklist.pdf</p>	<p>This checklist draws from the Healthy Spaces and Places document to assist planning and design professionals along with other interested stakeholders during the planning stages of a proposed development in the ACT. It assesses the following criteria: active transport, aesthetics, connectivity, environments for all people, mixed density, mixed land use, parks and open space, safety and surveillance, social inclusion, supporting infrastructure.</p>	<p>APAN</p>	<p>Health; well-being; Assessment tool; neighbourhood design; measurement; surveys</p>
<p>Hanibuchi, T., Murata, Y., Ichida, Y., Hirai, H., Kawachi, I. and Kondo, K. 2012. 'Place-specific constructs of social capital and their possible associations to health: a Japanese case study.' <i>Social Science and Medicine</i> 75(1):225-232. http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0277953612002626</p>	<p>This article explores the local and historical dimensions of social capital on health in a specific region in Japan. A mixed methods approach produced survey data from 11,876 adults aged 65 years and older and interview transcripts from seven semi-structured interviews. The results indicate a relatively good health profile and high levels of social capital when compared to residents of other nearby regions. In particular, there was high participation in organisations (e.g. sports group, volunteer group). The interviews reflect that the level of</p>	<p>HBEP</p>	<p>Health and well-being; social capital; workplace</p>

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	social capital was attributed to the number of people residing in the area at the same time and working for the same company rather than coming from the same hometown. The findings suggest that social capital can partially explain health status; however, the cultural and historical context of an area must be taken into account.		
<p>Cohen, A. and Schuchter, J. 2012. 'Revitalizing Communities Together: The Shared Values, Goals, and Work of Education, Urban Planning, and Public Health.' <i>Journal of Urban Health</i>. DOI: 10.1007/s11524-012-9733-3 http://www.springerlink.com/content/v867858582p6r5q2/</p>	<p>This article discusses the relationship among education, the urban environment and health and investigates how practitioners in these three fields can synergise their effort to reduce health inequities. It discusses the four values shared within the fields of education, planning and public health: place-based, participatory, youth focused and equitable. Three shared outcomes are also reviewed: resilience, social capital and civic engagement. The article concludes with examples of interdisciplinary programs exhibiting these values and outcomes and recommends further collaborator research and initiatives.</p>	HBEP	<p>Planning; education; public health; social change; interdisciplinary thinking</p>
<p>*Tsui, E., Bylander, K., Cho, M., Maybank, A. and Freudenberg, N. 2012. 'Engaging youth in food activism in New York City: Lessons learned from a youth organization, health department and university partnership.' <i>Journal of Urban Health</i>. DOI: 10.1007/s11524-012-9684 http://www.springerlink.com/content/3626560424831102/</p>	<p>This article reviews the Health Equity Project, a New York City intervention aimed at increasing the capacity of youths to improve local food environments. Project collaborators included the New York City Department of Health and Hygiene, District Public Health Offices, the City University of New York and youth organisations. Over the course of three years, a total of 373 young people participated across 14 areas. Youths underwent educational workshops related to food and health, media and communication and community food assessments. Armed with this knowledge, youths were then tasked with designing and implementing research projects in the surrounding areas. Projects included working with small food shop owners to provide healthy</p>	HBEP	<p>Food environments; access; healthy food options; quality of food; youth; collaboration; case studies</p>

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	menu offerings or planting vegetable gardens. The outcomes of these projects suggest that community collaborations and partnerships with youth can help drive healthy innovations at the community level.		
PROVIDING HEALTHY FOOD OPTIONS			
<p>Stuckler, D., McKee, M., Ebrahim, S. and Basu, S. 2012. 'Manufacturing epidemics: The role of global producers in increased consumption of unhealthy commodities including processed foods, alcohol and tobacco.' <i>Public Library of Science Medicine</i> 9(6): e1001235. doi:10.1371/journal.pmed.1001235</p>	<p>This article investigates the reasons for the growth in the rate of consumption of soft drinks and processed foods. The authors analysed data (1997-2010) on packaged food sales (including snacks, ice creams, chilled and dried processed food and soft drinks) from 80 countries. The results suggest that the consumption of unhealthy food is associated with higher tobacco and alcohol sales. With the exception of soft drinks, rising income levels rather than urbanisation is a strong risk factor for greater consumption of unhealthy food.</p>	APO	Healthy food options; access; quality of food
<p>*Rydin, Y., Bleahu, A., Davies, M., Dávila, J., Friel, S., De Grandis, G., Groce, N., Hallal, P., Hamilton, I., Howden-Chapman, P., Lai, K-M., Lim, C., Martins, J., Osrin, D., Ridley, I., Scott, I., Taylor, M., Wilkinson, P. and Wilson, J. . 2012. 'Shaping cities for health: complexity and the planning of urban environments in the 21st century.' <i>The Lancet</i> 379(9831): 2079-2108. http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(12)60435-8/fulltext#article_upsell</p>	<p>This article focuses on how to deliver potential health benefits for citizens in urban environments. It provides case studies regarding sanitation and wastewater management, urban mobility, building standards and indoor air quality, the urban heat island effect and urban agriculture. The article highlights the complexities involved in the achievement of healthy cities through urban planning policies. It urges for local assessments and discussions between key stakeholders and suggests that local experimentation through a range of projects can best improve health and well-being outcomes.</p>	APAN	Health; well-being; policy; transport; urban agriculture
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* denotes an item which has been placed in a number of different categories