
The Healthy Built Environments Program Overview

The Healthy Built Environments Program vision is that built environments will be planned, designed, developed and managed to promote and protect health for all people.



The Healthy Built Environments Program

The Healthy Built Environments Program is an innovative collaboration that brings the built environment and health together.

The Program is situated in the City Futures Research Centre, Faculty of the Built Environment at the University of NSW (UNSW). The Healthy Built Environments Program receives its core funding from the NSW Department of Health.

As Australia faces increasing health costs from rising rates of obesity, diabetes and other lifestyle diseases, health workers are seeking to influence the design of cities to make them more supportive of healthy ways of living. Recent research has demonstrated links between modern epidemics and the way of life in cities.

Car-dominated transport, reduced opportunities for exercise, increased fast-food availability and lack of social connection are all implicated. Increasingly the health sector is focusing on prevention, and to be effective, health professionals need to work in

Research – the Healthy Built Environments Program is developing a research strategy to prioritise research questions and foster interdisciplinary and policy relevant research. Research funding from bodies such as the Australian Research Council (ARC), National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) and the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI) is sought to undertake relevant projects. Postgraduate students are also engaged to work on appropriate projects.

This Literature Review is a major project under the research strategy of the Healthy Built Environments Program.

Education and workforce development – the Healthy Built Environments Program is delivering innovative, cross disciplinary education and capacity building. Specific programs are delivered to NSW Health staff. Formal courses in healthy built environments are taught at the University of NSW.

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collaboration with other professional groups, especially those from the built environment.

The Healthy Built Environments Program is contributing to revitalising the relationship between the built environment and health professions so that together we can create built environments that support people being healthy in their everyday lives.

Healthy Built Environments Program Strategies

The Healthy Built Environments Program strategy aims to support the development in NSW of current and future communities in which the built environment promotes good health for all. This is being done through the Healthy Built Environments Program's three identified core strategies:

Leadership and advocacy – the Healthy Built Environments Program aspires to be a leader in NSW advocating for improved links between health and the built environment. This advocacy involves government and non-government agencies, the private sector and the community and is achieved through scholarly publications disseminating the latest research, popular media articles, talks and events.

HEALTHY BUILT ENVIRONMENTS PROGRAM

Further Information:

Further information on the Healthy Built Environments Program can be obtained by visiting the Program's website: <http://www.fbe.unsw.edu.au/cf/hbep/> or contacting the Healthy Built Environments Program by email: hbep@unsw.edu.au



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