

# Benchmarking and monitoring cities to learn how to create healthy, liveable and sustainable cities for all?

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**What's next...**

# Rapid urbanisation and population growth





# Global recognition of the role of city planning



United Nations  
Sustainable  
Development  
Goals



City Planning and Health  
9 goals and 24 targets



**COVID19 has reinforced the importance of good city planning  
...And the importance of evidence to inform policy and practice**



# What is liveability?



*'Safe, socially cohesive and inclusive, and environmentally sustainable; with affordable and diverse housing linked via public transport, walking, and cycling infrastructure to employment, education, public open space, local shops, health and community services, and leisure and cultural opportunities'*  
(Lowe et al, 2013)



## +Undertake policy-relevant studies

Original Article

‘Tell us something we don’t already know or do!’ – The response of planning and transport professionals to public health guidance on the built environment and physical activity

Steven Allender<sup>a,\*</sup>, Nick Cavill<sup>b</sup>, Mike Parker<sup>c</sup> and Charles Foster<sup>a</sup>

*Journal of Public Health Policy* (2009) 30, 102–116.



# +Understand the policy world we were trying to influence

Integrated Planning for  
Healthy Communities  
Victorian State Government Policy  
and Practice

*Melanie Danica Lowe*

Submitted in total fulfilment of the requirements of  
the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

February 2016

Melbourne School of Population and Global Health  
Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences  
The University of Melbourne

How does local  
government use evidence  
to inform strategic  
planning for health and  
wellbeing?

*Geoffrey Russell Browne*

*ORCID ID: 0000-0003-1990-3050*

Doctor of Philosophy

July 2017

Melbourne School of Population and Global Health  
Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences  
The University of Melbourne

Submitted in total fulfilment of the degree





# + Partnership with policy-makers and practitioners





# + Create an exciting scientific enterprise (Badland et al...)



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Using spatial measures to test a conceptual model of social infrastructure that supports health and wellbeing

Melanie Davern<sup>a,d</sup>, Lucy Gunn<sup>b</sup>, Carolyn Whitzman<sup>b</sup>, Carl Higgs<sup>a</sup>, Billie Giles-Corti<sup>a, c</sup>, Koen Simons<sup>a, c</sup>, Karen Villanueva<sup>a</sup>, Suzanne Mavao<sup>a</sup>, Rebecca Roberts<sup>a</sup> and Hannah Badland<sup>a,d</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Healthy Liveable Cities Group, Centre for Urban Research, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia; <sup>b</sup>Melbourne School of Design, University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia; <sup>c</sup>Centre for Biostatistics and Epidemiology, Melbourne School of Global and Population Health, University of Melbourne, Australia; <sup>d</sup>Centre for Health Equity, Melbourne School of Global and Population Health, University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia

## Question 1: Are the underlying domains of liveability associated with health and wellbeing?

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**Abstract:**  
Background: Travel and urban environments are important for health and wellbeing. However, urban environments are often characterized by poor quality of life, which can have negative impacts on health and wellbeing. The purpose of this study was to explore the relationship between travel and urban environments and health and wellbeing. Methods: A conceptual model of social infrastructure that supports health and wellbeing was tested using geocoded health survey data linked to spatial social infrastructure measures. Both accessibility and mix of social infrastructure were associated with higher Subjective Wellbeing. Residents were most likely to have close access to childcare services, dentists, doctors and sport facilities and least likely to have access to services of culture and leisure including cinemas, theatres, libraries, museums and art galleries. Results provide evidence of direct associations between social infrastructure planning and public health, the need for alternative social infrastructure urban planning methods and policies, and areas for future research.

**Introduction**  
Social infrastructure is essential for the creation and ongoing development of healthy communities and must be planned for, to ensure provision of social services across the lifespan. The amenities and services available within a community also influence the liveability of local communities, as well as the health and wellbeing of individuals. Timely and accessible delivery of social infrastructure is an essential domain of liveability in a review of liveability indicators (Badland et al. 2014; Lowe et al. 2015). The review defined a liveable community as:

safe, attractive, socially inclusive and cohesive, environmentally sustainable with affordable and diverse housing, linked by convenient public transport, walking and cycling infrastructure to employment, education, local shops and community services, leisure and cultural opportunities and public open space (Lowe et al. 2013).

Social infrastructure addresses a number of the social determinants of health and influences avoidable health inequalities across Australia (WHO Commission on Social

2008). Socio-spatial inequities have been quantified across Australia (Baum and Gleeson 2010) and spatial inequality has been demonstrated (Gleeson 2009). Gentrification, population growth and housing unaffordability have been associated with the displacement of low-income residents in areas well served by transport and social infrastructure (Smith 2002; Simons and Graves 2005; Desmond and Kimbro 2015; Lowe et al. 2015).

Rapid growth in established communities and urban development requires new approaches to social infrastructure policy, planning and delivery, including a clear definition of social infrastructure. Evidence also required to demonstrate the importance of social infrastructure access to health and wellbeing and how this might influence a community's liveability. This review therefore examines the impact of social infrastructure on the health and wellbeing of residents. This paper seeks to address these gaps. First, it provides a clear and reasonable definition of social infrastructure and explores its role in promoting health and wellbeing.

STORY  
October 2015  
February  
Social infrastructure; health and wellbeing; planning; policy; health; subjective wellbeing

KEY WORDS  
Melbourne



**Question 2: Are there spatial variations in access to health-promoting amenities in Melbourne?**

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**What's next...**

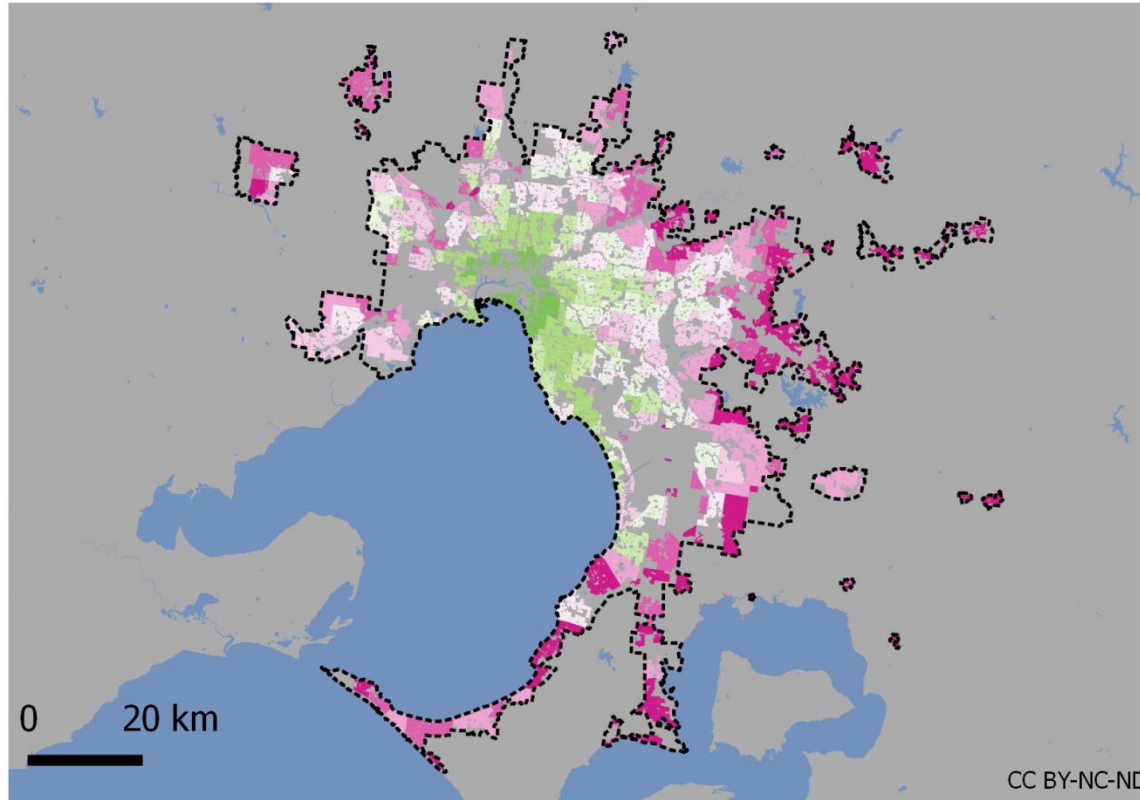




Melbourne's walkability



# Composite walkability indicator\* for suburbs within Melbourne



## Legend

 Study regions

## Decile



CC BY-NC-ND



\* decile score for the suburbs of Melbourne, combining street connectivity, dwelling density and daily living scores

# +Influencing policy: Making sense of the evidence



About

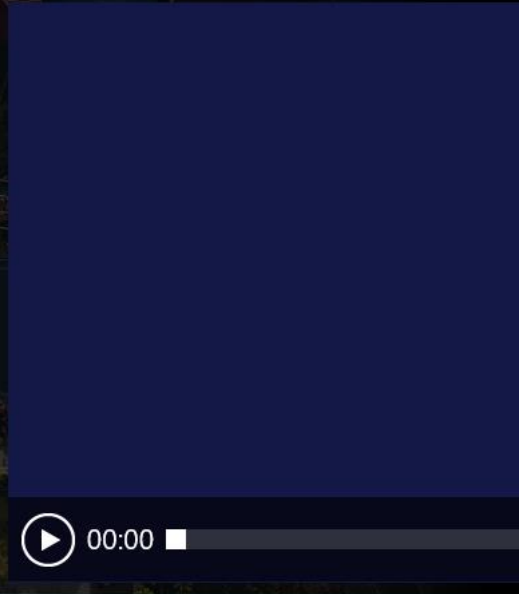
Become a partner

What we measure

Using the indicators

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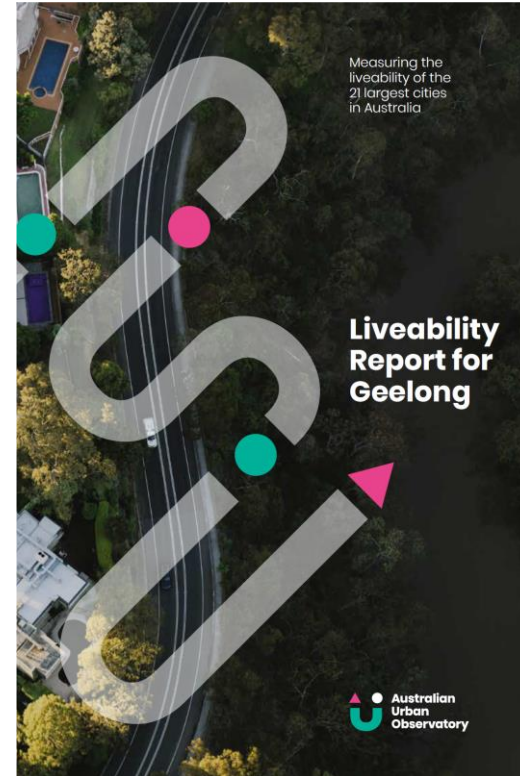
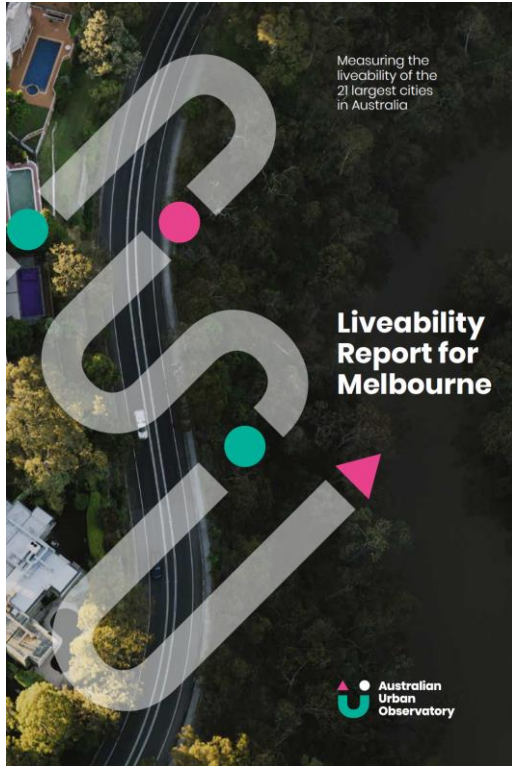


Join



Become a project partner to view mapped liveability

# +Influencing policy: Making sense of the evidence





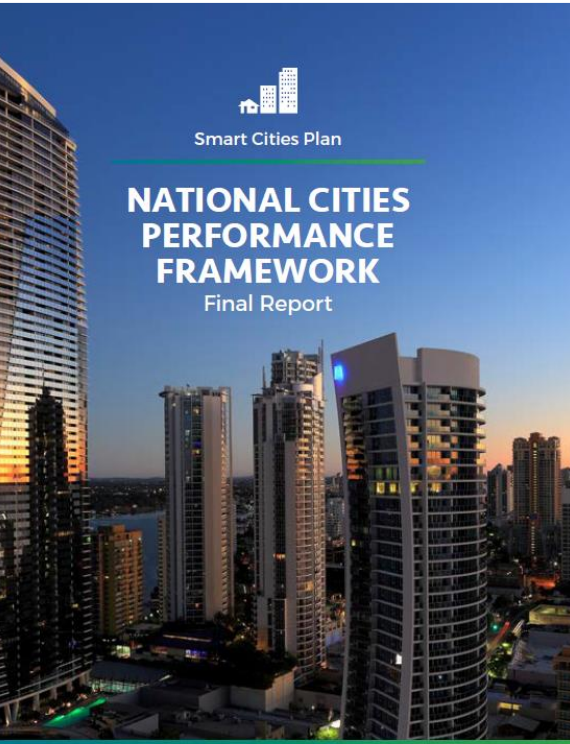
# Is anyone listening?

Have we had policy impact?

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What's next...

# National Government



Smart Cities Plan

## NATIONAL CITIES PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK Final Report

Final Report



Australian Government



### 5.2: Performance Indicators

Performance indicators reflect the performance of cities in achieving wider economic, social and environmental objectives. Performance indicators aim to help governments implement city strategies by linking the six Smart Cities policy priorities to clearly defined performance measures.

A list of performance indicators is at Box 7. Detailed information about each performance indicator, including how it is calculated, the source of the data, why it matters and its limitations is provided in the Performance Framework Data Dictionary at Appendix A.

### Box 7: Performance Indicators

#### Jobs and Skills

- Employment growth (New)
- Unemployment rate
- Participation rate
- Educational attainment

#### Infrastructure and Investment

- Jobs accessible in 30 minutes
- Work trips by public and active transport
- Peak travel delay

#### Liveability and Sustainability

- Adult obesity rate
- Perceived safety (New)
- Access to green space
- Green space area
- Support in times of crisis
- Suicide rate
- Air quality
- Volunteering (New)

- Office building energy efficiency (New)
- Access to public transport (New)

#### Innovation and Digital Opportunities

- Knowledge services industries
- Broadband connections
- New business entrants and exits
- Patents and trademarks

#### Governance, Planning and Regulation

- Governance fragmentation

#### Housing

- Public and community housing
- Homelessness rate
- Rent stress
- Mortgage stress
- Housing construction costs
- Dwelling price to income ratio
- Population change per building approval

## Access to public transport

### Description

The proportion of dwellings within 400 metres of a frequently serviced public transport stop — one with a scheduled service every 30 minutes from 7am to 7pm on a normal weekday.

### Rationale

A well-integrated and accessible public transport system has the potential to reduce traffic congestion in a city and improve residents' access to jobs and goods and services.

### Limitations

Access to public transport can make it easier for people to get to jobs, but it does not mean that jobs are close by.

Data are not available for all cities.

### Data source

Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology  
— Creating liveable cities in Australia — 2017

### Source-data geography

GCCSA

### Method

Source data geographies align with city geographies.

### City geography

GCCSA

### Unit

# Local government municipal health planning

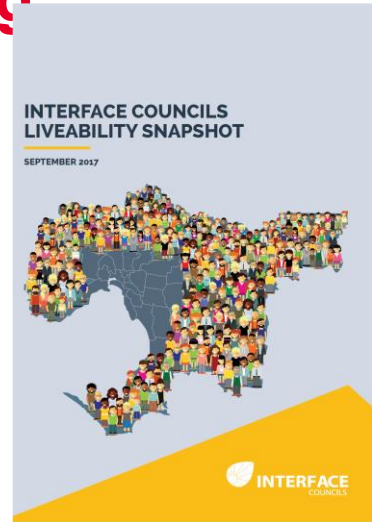


## MORELAND MUNICIPAL PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELLBEING PLAN 2017-21



## The Moreland Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-21

<b>VISION</b>	
Moreland is a healthy, liveable and sustainable city	
<b>VALUES</b>	
Whole-of-Council • Partnerships • Human rights • Healthy equity • Life-course • Place-based	
<b>Focus areas</b>	
<b>Healthy Communities</b>	<b>Liveable Neighbourhoods</b>
<b>Goals</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Moreland residents are physically active at all stages of life</li> <li>2. Nutritious food is socially and economically accessible to everyone in the community and residents are eating nutritious foods</li> <li>3. Moreland residents participate in community life, are socially connected and are connected to culture</li> <li>4. Moreland residents are safe and part of a resilient community</li> <li>5. Harm caused by gambling, alcohol and other drugs (AOD) is reduced across the municipality</li> <li>6. Moreland residents have access to and participate in lifelong learning opportunities</li> <li>7. Moreland residents live in communities that support their mental wellbeing</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Moreland residents have walkable access to 'everyday' needs</li> <li>2. Moreland has a growing economy that promotes a diversity of local jobs</li> <li>3. Moreland has a range of housing that meets community needs</li> <li>4. Moreland residents have access to well designed and well located community facilities</li> <li>5. Moreland's buildings and public spaces are well designed, and encourage community interaction</li> <li>6. Moreland residents have access to open spaces close to where they live</li> <li>7. Moreland has an integrated transport system that prioritises and encourages walking, cycling and public transport and targets a reduction in car usage</li> <li>8. Moreland is a cooler, greener and more sustainable city</li> </ol>
<b>Implementation</b>	
Yearly Action Plans	Monitoring and Reporting Framework
Evaluation Plan	



Attachment 10



## MORNINGTON PENINSULA LIVEABILITY INDEX 2017

A liveability report of the towns and villages in the Mornington Peninsula





# State government

## 20-Minute Neighbourhoods

Creating a more liveable Melbourne



## Planning outcomes need to be monitored

The term 'liveability' is used across the world to describe and compare cities. Despite extensive use of the word, the term is not consistently defined or monitored.

Currently, there is no monitoring framework to track planning policy and the liveability of our neighbourhoods at a local level.

In 2018, RMIT University developed a liveability scorecard for Melbourne, building on the Creating Liveable Cities in Australia 2017 report.

Key recommendations were:

- measurable standards be included in policies, regulations and guidelines for urban planning, transport and infrastructure

- spatial policies be included for improving the food and alcohol environment
- spatial indicators be adopted to measure and monitor the implementation of state government policies designed to create liveable communities.

RMIT will be developing a liveability framework to measure public health and wellbeing. This framework and others should be monitored to assist in delivering *Plan Melbourne Action 76 Metropolitan-wide 'neighbourhoods index'*.

# Features of healthy and sustainable learning cities



1. Genuine partnerships between academics, policymakers and practitioners
2. Research that is policy-relevant
3. Researchers understand the policy world they are trying to influence
4. A dynamic high quality scientific enterprise
5. Researchers want to influence policy: they make sense of the evidence
6. Policymakers and practitioners open to learn and to use evidence to inform policy and practice





Natural Environmental Science Programme

