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HEALTHY CITY DESIGN INTERNATIONAL

RESEARCH • POLICY • PRACTICE

14-15 OCTOBER 2019

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS, LONDON

CALL FOR PAPERS

DESIGNING FOR UTOPIA OR DYSTOPIA?
PEOPLE AND PLANETARY HEALTH AT A CROSSROADS

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DESIGNING FOR UTOPIA OR DYSTOPIA?

PEOPLE AND PLANETARY HEALTH AT A CROSSROADS



Against a background of global climate change, healthier cities and communities are shaped by taking tough decisions on issues such as air quality, resilience planning, spatial strategies, working practices, active travel, sustainable homes and green spaces. How can we design a thriving, health-inducing future for all citizens – and avoid a dystopian alternative where our cities descend into crisis and chaos?

Making our cities more healthy, successful and sustainable for people to live, work and play in requires a co-ordinated interdisciplinary effort across a wide range of areas – from policymaking and governance to investment, planning and design. Progress in one area can be slowed or impaired by a lack of action or resolve in another.

As a result, the bigger picture around improving the health and sustainable development of our cities can be challenging and often overwhelming. Are we moving in the right direction or doing things now that will make matters worse down the line for both people and planetary health? How do we reconcile economic prosperity with the preservation of the natural planetary systems that sustain life? As Dr Howard Frumkin, head of the Our Planet, Our Health programme at the Wellcome Trust told the Healthy City Design Congress in 2018, we should not be “mortgaging the health of future generations for economic growth in the present”.

The movement to develop healthier cities appears to be coming to a crossroads. On one hand, there is a utopian vision of urban change and renewal, with the green shoots of revival clearly evident in a host of policies and projects that support healthier lifestyles. In this scenario, walking, cycling and public transport addresses over-reliance on the car; effective resilience planning stops the spread of infectious diseases and mitigates the effects of climate change; flexible working strategies and environments reduce stress and improve productivity; and access to safe, affordable housing,

green spaces and healthy local food underscore a commitment to community wellbeing. Technological advances and AI are safely integrated into our daily lives, enhancing city services, increasing efficiencies and creating intelligent environments, seamlessly converging with art and culture in the city to improve the quality of life for all citizens in a fair and equitable way. As a result, a significant burden is lifted off formal healthcare services.

The alternative vision is dystopian. In this scenario, indoor and outdoor air quality (already unacceptable in many cities, homes and workplaces) deteriorates further as cars clog up the roads; more than

500 cities are threatened with flooding, and many more with water shortages and heatwaves more intense than ever before; tensions rise between well-heeled business districts and areas of urban deprivation that circle them; ‘food deserts’ increase and green spaces are gobbled up by development. Healthcare services, in this scenario, start to collapse under exceptional pressure and demand.

In this, our third Healthy City Design International Congress, we’ll address the question of designing for utopia or dystopia. In a world where the effects of population migration and ageing play out amid rapid urbanisation, how can we support cities to take a healthier path? How can we ensure that, despite the best intentions of policymakers, urban planners, public health professionals, architects, designers and developers, our worst dystopian nightmares don’t come true. Environmentalist Sir David Attenborough’s impassioned plea to save our planet at the World Economic Forum in Davos, in January this year, effectively sketched out the destructive path we’re currently on.

The inaugural Healthy City Design Congress in 2017 explored ways to bring public health and urban planning professionals back closer together after a long period of drift and divergence. Our second congress last year focused on the need to address health inequalities in cities by designing for equity and resilience. In essence, the first reinstated a basic principle to develop healthier cities; the second raised the bar in terms of ambition. In our third congress, we will build on both of these themes to look at alternative futures for healthy cities from several angles.

We’re delighted to invite you to contribute and participate in the exchange of knowledge on the design of our future cities at this critical juncture for their development. We welcome abstracts addressing a diversity of issues within low, middle and high-income countries, and from across the disciplinary spectrum at the intersection of research, practice and policy. Various formats, from the presentation of themed papers and posters to more interactive ideas for workshops, are encouraged and should be submitted by 2 May 2019 at www.healthycitydesign.global. We also recommend viewing videos of talks from previous congresses in the Talks section of our online community and journal at www.salus.global/journal.



Prof Jeremy Myerson
Helen Hamlyn Professor
of Design, Royal College
of Art



Marc Sansom
Director
SALUS Global Knowledge
Exchange

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CALL FOR PAPERS

Healthy City Design 2019 (HCD 2019) International Congress & Exhibition is a global forum for the exchange of knowledge on the research, policy and practice of designing healthy and sustainable cities and communities.

Congress attendees will develop their knowledge of the political, social and economic context, new policy directions, emerging practice, latest research findings, skills and core competencies in designing, planning and commissioning city services, technology and infrastructure, project management, and the evidence base for designing and developing cities and real estate that safeguards and improves people and planetary health. We are delighted to invite you to submit abstracts on the following core themes.

Plenary theme

Designing for Utopia or Dystopia?

People and planetary health at a crossroads

Congress streams

- **Homes and neighbourhoods**
Nurturing and sustaining health, wellbeing and quality of life
- **Urban design, placemaking and the public realm**
Promoting healthy, active lifestyles and social inclusion
- **Mobility, travel and transport**
Designing ecological and accessible systems & modes of travel
- **Smarter cities**
Health improvement at the intersection of art, design & technology
- **Sustainable development**
Reconciling economic development with the preservation of natural systems
- **Work and workplace**
Creating thriving work environments and wellness programmes

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

Each presentation will be delivered to an interdisciplinary audience, and each stream carefully curated to encourage an informed dialogue. Papers addressing more than one of the congress themes will be given preference. All abstracts will be subject to a rigorous blind peer-review process by the HCD 2019 programme committee. A carefully selected number will be chosen for oral presentation with a wider number presented as posters.

Proposals must be submitted using the abstract proposal form, available at www.healthycitydesign.global and MUST include the following:

- a) presentation type (themed paper, poster or workshop);
- b) knowledge focus (research, practice or theory);
- c) congress theme (plenary or stream);
- d) title;
- e) author(s);
- f) organisational affiliation; and
- g) three keywords.

The 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. The official language of HCD 2019 is English.

Full edited versions of the papers and videos may be published on the SALUS Global Knowledge Exchange at www.salus.global following the congress. No paper will be published without the author's consent. Papers can also be submitted to *Cities & Health Journal* for peer-review publication, edited by programme committee member Marcus Grant. For more information, visit: www.healthycitydesign.global

More information on the conference venue, hotel accommodation and registration fee will be available at www.healthycitydesign.global. All abstracts should be submitted online no later than 2 May 2019 and all enquiries by e-mail to the HCD 2019 Secretariat at the following address:

HCD 2019 Secretariat

E-mail: info@salus.global | **W:** www.healthycitydesign.global

Tel: + 44 (0)1277 634176

Who should submit a paper and attend?

The Healthy City Design 2019 International Congress & Exhibition attracts the world's leading interdisciplinary policymakers, researchers and practitioners designing healthy and sustainable cities and communities. The congress will be of interest to:

- City governance and policy
- Urban designers and planners
- Estates/capital development
- Sustainability practitioners
- Academics and researchers
- Architects and designers
- Engineers and developers
- Health/social care planners
- Public health practitioners
- Occupational therapists
- Business/technology leaders
- Senior public servants
- Environmental groups
- Economists

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

7 March 2019

Launch and announcement of Call for Papers

2 May 2019

Deadline for HCD 2019 Congress abstracts

14 May – 4 June 2019

Evaluation of abstracts by programme committee

4 July 2019

Launch of the Preliminary Programme

5 September 2019

Deadline for early bird/speaker registration and manuscripts

Monday 14 October 2019

09.00–18.00: HCD 2019 Congress & Exhibition

18.30–22.00: HCD 2019 Gala Dinner

Tuesday 15 October 2019

09.00–18.00: HCD 2019 Congress & Exhibition



THE PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

**Rachel Cooper OBE**

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WHO Collaborating Centre, UWE, UK

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and founding partner, Penoyre & Prasad, UK

Ann-Marie Aguilar

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Derek Clements-Croome

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Christine Hancock

Founder, C3 Collaborating for Health, UK

Rama Gheerawo

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Royal College of Art, UK

David Green

Director, Perkins+Will, UK

For further enquiries on the event programme,
sponsorship or exhibition opportunities, contact:

SALUS Global Knowledge Exchange

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