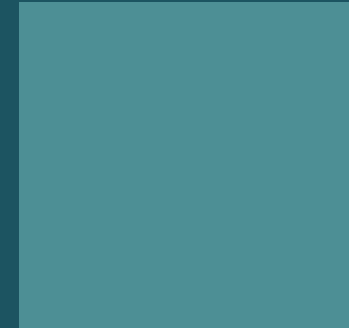




Healthy City Design



OCT
14-15

- > RESEARCH
- > POLICY
- > INVESTMENT
- > PRACTICE

CALL FOR PAPERS

Transitions to health

Impact through planning, policy and investment



Submission deadline: 28 May

Submit at: www.healthycitydesign.global

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Transitions to health

Impact through planning, policy and investment

As policymakers, practitioners and investors explore fresh ways to create healthier cities and communities that promote inclusive economic growth and social development, there are reasons to be optimistic in 2025.

Around the world, new agendas are emerging with a renewed focus on the wider determinants of health that are embedded in our urban plans, communities, major infrastructure and the built environment. This perspective is vital to embracing a whole-system approach to urban health and health inequalities.

In the UK, the new Government has announced a ten-year plan to “fix the NHS”, centred on three important transitions: moving health services from hospital to the community; shifting systems from analogue to digital; and refocusing from treating sickness to health prevention.

All three of these transitions play directly into the wider healthy city agenda, which advocates for compact neighbourhoods with care services closer to home, smart city integration, and the design of the urban realm as an enabler of healthier lives and choices.

A report by the NHS Confederation, *‘The State of Integration at Place’* (2024)¹, underscores the importance of place in “tackling inequalities, delivering more proactive, preventative care, delivering a ‘community first’ health service, and contributing to social and economic development.”

The UK’s *Chief Medical Officer’s annual report on health in cities*² for 2024 also identifies physical activity through walking and cycling, access to healthy food and the outdoor leisure environment as key determinants of urban health. As Prof Chris Whitty observes: “The health of our cities is very important for the health of the nation.”

Central to the challenge of creating healthier cities for all is finding solutions for a housing crisis globally as well as in the UK, marked by a severe shortage of affordable and adequate homes, as rising costs outpace incomes, leading to homelessness and substandard living conditions. Planning reforms, local government reorganisation and devolution offer hope in the UK, so long as health, community building, and sustainable development are not swept to one side in the ‘rush to build’.

Investing in health to drive growth

As countries strive for growth, placing health at the front and centre of social and economic policy and investment is increasingly at the heart of national and municipal government strategies, in recognition that rising economic inactivity, lower productivity, and less innovation and creativity is being driven by declining population health and widening health inequalities.

Clearly there is now growing momentum behind driving the transitions towards a healthier city that are community-based, digital and preventative. The new mood in the UK is mirrored internationally. How these transitions might be achieved in cities around the world through investment, research, development, planning, design and delivery; and what can those cities learn from each other?

There is great significance in Salford as the destination for this year’s congress, as a place that can share many recent stories about urban regeneration and redevelopment. The congress

venue at the Lowry itself is a potent symbol: a derelict dockland site transformed into a vibrant art centre that has contributed to the wellbeing of the community for 25 years.

Salford sits within the framework of Greater Manchester, which, as a recent King’s Fund report³ points out, has been a ‘poster child’ for devolution in England. The journey Greater Manchester has been on towards more local, community-based control over health has significant lessons for impact investment, development and participatory design.

Empowering mayors to promote health

As cities in the UK and around the world invest more powers in city and regional mayors, their role in addressing the wider determinants of health and reducing health inequalities to help attract investment and underpin economic growth prosperity locally, can give control back to local communities.

We invite proposals for papers, posters and workshops in the spheres of practice, research, policy and investment that speak to key transitions in the evolution of healthy cities by submitting abstract submissions by the deadline of 28 May at www.healthycitydesign.global.

1. *The State of Integration at Place*. NHS Confederation, 27 November 2024.

2. *Chief Medical Officer’s annual report: health in cities*. December 2024

3. *Population health in Greater Manchester: The journey so far*. The King’s Fund, October 2024.



Professor Jeremy Myerson

Co-founder, Healthy City Design;
director, WORKTECH Academy;
professor emeritus, Royal College of Art, UK



Marc Sansom MBA

Co-founder, Healthy City Design;
Managing director, SALUS Global
Knowledge Exchange, UK

Submission process

Healthy City Design 2025 (HCD 2025) 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.

Organised by SALUS Global Knowledge Exchange in partnership with the Helen Hamlyn Centre for Design, Royal College of Art, which is an international research hub for inclusive design, this year's congress will be held at the Lowry, MediaCity in Salford, Greater Manchester.

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, impact investment and real estate development 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 2025 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:

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

Abstracts of the papers selected for presentation will be published online. 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. All speakers are expected to participate 'in person'.

Information on the conference venue, hotels and the registration fee will be available at www.healthycitydesign.global in May. The Preliminary Programme will be published in July. All abstracts should be submitted online by 28 May. Enquiries should be sent to: info@salus.global.

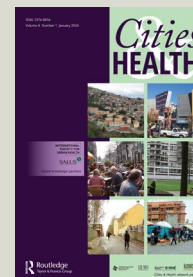
Congress themes

- > **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, mobility and movement**
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
- > **Workplace design and the knowledge economy**
Digital transformation, innovation districts and new workplace models promoting economic and social development
- > **Population health and integrated care**
Hospital to community: Delivering place-based care through cross-sector partnering and health system planning across local health economies

Cities & Health – Healthy City Design Congress special issue

For the third year, SALUS is partnering with the international Routledge journal Cities & Health to publish a Healthy City Design Congress 2025 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.



Who should participate?

- City governance and policy makers
- 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

Programme Committee



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HDR, USA



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Advisory group

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Provisional timetable

April 2025

Launch of Call for Papers

May 2025

Launch of Awards Call for Entries

28 May 2025

Deadline for HCD 2025 Congress abstracts

June 2025

Deadline for HCD 2025 Awards entries

July 2025

Launch of the Preliminary Programme

September 2025

Deadline for early-bird, speaker registration
and manuscripts

14 October 2025

08.00-18.00: HCD 2025 Congress & Exhibition
18.00-22.00: Evening networking dinner

15 October 2025

08.00-17.00: HCD 2025 Congress & Exhibition
17.00-18.00: HCD 2025 Awards ceremony

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For further enquiries on the event programme, sponsorship
or exhibition opportunities, contact:
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www.healthycitydesign.global



Event partners

