



Healthy City Design AWARDS 2025

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CALL FOR ENTRIES

Recognising excellence in the design and planning
of healthy and sustainable cities and communities

Deadline for entries:
4 September

Organised by



Destination City Partners

Salford City Council



Community + Impact Partner



Journal Partner



Silver Knowledge Leaders



Judging process and timetable

July 2025

Awards Call for Entries launched

4 September 2025

Deadline for Awards entries

8-19 September

Judging phase 1: Evaluation and shortlisting of submissions by judging panel

23 September

Shortlist announcement: The shortlisted submissions are notified and invited to register their participation in the Congress to present their project live to the judges and in Poster format

14-15 October 2025

Shortlisted projects invited to present live to the judges at HCD2025. Presentations will be filmed and recorded

15 October 2025

Awards ceremony in final session of the 9th Healthy City Design 2025 Congress

October-November 2025

Publication of award winners on Healthy City Design website, and via press announcements in local, national, professional and social media channels

Image credits: Front cover, left to right: Image 1. Climate Innovation District, UK designed by Citu; Image 2. Gascoigne East Phase 2, UK designed by White Arkitekter. Page 2: Image 1. Gascoigne East Phase 2, UK designed by White Arkitekter. Page 3: Climate Innovation District, UK designed by Citu



Healthy City Design 2025 Awards

Recognising excellence in the design and planning of healthy and sustainable cities and communities

The Healthy City Design Awards 2025 celebrate and recognise professional and research excellence in the design and planning of healthy and sustainable cities and communities around the world

The Healthy City Design Awards recognise innovation and excellence in conceptualising, planning, designing and delivering places and infrastructure in the urban built environment that create human health and wellbeing, and embed the principles of planetary health and sustainable development.



The suite of eight awards is structured to encourage submissions in categories that span the micro, meso and macro levels of city design and planning. These encompass design for healthy homes and workplaces, neighbourhoods, placemaking, transport and mobility, social infrastructure, city-wide developments and, finally, the contribution of the research community to advancing knowledge in this field.

The awards aim to celebrate projects, schemes and research which offer novel and well-considered means to positively impact on the physical and mental health and wellbeing of urban populations, through improvements to environmental factors, opportunities for physical activity,

cleaner air, greater community agency and participation, climate resilience, diversity, equity and inclusion, and an improved quality of life for citizens of all ages.

The awards are also underpinned by the guiding principles of the UN Sustainable Development Goals, particularly in respect of progress towards good health and wellbeing, sustainable urban development, climate action, responsible consumption and strong partnership working.

Comprising eight categories across various aspects of urban health, planning and design, the awards celebrate excellence in innovation, sustainable development, health equity, social value and community impact. Each category highlights outstanding contributions from professionals dedicated to creating healthier and more liveable and resilient cities. The awards are presented at an illustrious ceremony during the final session of the Congress, and streamed online for delegates to view remotely around the world.



Prof 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

Who should enter?

The awards are open to international organisations and project teams in the public, private and academic sectors, participating in research, commissioning, planning, design, investment and development of public and private real estate in towns and cities, including but not limited to residential, commercial, mixed use, and social infrastructure.

Eligibility

Built and concept projects or research programmes completed between 1 January 2022 and 1 October 2025 are eligible to enter. Projects may be entered into multiple categories, provided they are tailored to meet the specific requirements for the judging criteria of each award, but may not be re-entered in the same category in subsequent years.

Evaluation committee

The awards evaluation committee features international experts from across the health and built environment sectors, who bring specialist knowledge to the specific categories they have been invited to judge. The shortlist and winner of each award are determined by a category chair, supported by two other judges with proven expertise in their field. This robust evaluation methodology ensures a balanced and transparent decision-making process. Any judge associated with any of the entries will withdraw from the relevant part of the adjudication process.

Judging process and criteria

Evaluation Phase 1: The judges will evaluate the submissions consisting of the submission statement and a 15-slide Powerpoint or PDF presentation of images and plans against a strict methodology and criteria. The judges carry out their evaluations remotely and independently prior to conferring to agree a shortlist.

Evaluation Phase 2: The shortlisted projects will be invited to present live to the category judging panel who will adjudicate the winner and finalise their decision prior

to the awards ceremony in the final session of the Healthy City Design 2025 Congress, 14-15 October, when the winners and high commendations will be announced and the awards presented.



How to submit

To submit, visit www.healthycitydesign.global and click on the Awards navigation in the top menu bar. Choose the award category or categories you are entering, then follow these steps:

Step 1: Complete the online entry form and the 1500-word submission statement relevant to the category you are entering

Step 2: Upload a maximum of 10 images and 5 plans of the project both as a 15-slide PPT/ PDF format and in high-resolution jpeg format, and, if available, a video link of the project hosted on either YouTube or Vimeo.

Step 3: Complete payment to register your submission

Important notes: The submission statement and associated materials MUST explicitly address the criteria outlined on the submission statement forms. Please refer to the rules of entry for further information on payment and submission requirements.

Rules of entry

1. Entries must reflect the criteria set out against each award and comprise the following items generated through the online submission process:

i) Completed entry form, including project details and contact details for key project team members and the primary person for correspondence.

ii) Completed submission statement for the category or categories being entered, providing a project summary and addressing the award criteria in no more than 1500 words in total. Please note that the online form provides more words and characters than are necessary in each criteria section, which is designed to allow for flexibility in the response, but the total word count for the full submission should not exceed 1500 words.

iii) Ten images and five plans of the project, supplied in both a 15-slide Powerpoint or PDF presentation and as separate high-resolution jpeg images. Submissions should include interior and exterior images and any plans and drawings demonstrating key features of the project (eg, a site plan). These illustrations must also be supplied at high-resolution (300+dpi) during Step 2 of the online submission process. Images in the slides may include small text captions, but any text should be removed from the high-resolution images.

iv) The standard fee for each entry is £125 + VAT. Payment should be made by completing the credit card details in Step 3 of the online submission process. Exception is the Design Research for Healthy Cities category which is free to enter.

v) Agreement of the commissioning authority, building/project owner or other key authority as appropriate to the project submission.

vi) Submissions can be either built projects, phased developments, or concept designs of 'real' projects developed in design but not yet built to completion. Concept designs and plans must be completed to such extent to allow clear understanding and evaluation of the project against the project brief or vision.

2. Any of the judges must be allowed reasonable access to make enquiries or request further information on a shortlisted submission.

Awards categories and judges



Healthy homes and neighbourhoods

Lead judge: Sunand Prasad OBE, PPRIBA,
Chair, UK Green Building Council; Principal, Perkins&Will, UK

Inspirational design for large and small neighbourhoods, streetscapes and residential developments, defined as distinct districts or communities within an urban setting, to promote the physical and/or mental health of residents and visitors, improve health equity, and adhere to sustainable development principles. Submissions should demonstrate how the project/scheme applies fundamental design principles for healthy communities, such as creating compact, mixed use and walkable urban environments, healthy homes and dwellings, connectivity to community amenities, active travel, integration of green space, and supporting biodiversity and climate resilience.



Healthy workplaces

Lead judge: Jeremy Myerson, The Helen Hamlyn Centre for Design, Royal College of Art; director, Worktech Academy, UK

An innovative workplace design project, business park or innovation district that advances the physical and mental health and wellbeing of the workforce and wider community by applying a range of design principles and strategies, such as fostering a positive sense of community and belonging; bringing light and nature into the workplace; implementing more flexible ways of working; encouraging active and sustainable travel and workstyles; and creating greater comfort (thermal, acoustic, psychological).



Healthy transport and mobility

Lead judge: Camilla Siggaard Andersen,
Founder, Occasio Insights, UK

A transport and/or citizen mobility project which achieves a step-change in improving the physical and/or mental health and wellbeing of all city residents, visitors and workers, through ambitious commitment to principles of health equity and sustainable development and by demonstrating a holistic contribution to a healthy urban environment and community life. Submissions should demonstrate innovation in how to redesign mobility networks and/or transport infrastructure to support more sustainable forms of travel, promote less sedentary lifestyles and reduce air pollution.



Regenerative design for the public realm

Lead judge: Sue Morgan, Advisor, SALUS, UK

A health-creating public space or landscape that embraces sustainable development and regenerative design principles, delivers social value, and is economically viable. Submissions should demonstrate the co-benefits of integrating public health considerations to foster healthy living, with mitigation against climate change impacts, environmental degradation and air pollution, by incorporating green infrastructure, nature, biodiversity, and the use of sustainable materials and renewable energy. From new schemes to the regeneration, reactivation or adaptation of existing places, submissions may include but are not limited to public parks and gardens; plazas, esplanades, markets and waterfronts; streets, public squares and inbetween spaces.



Healthy social infrastructure

Lead judge: Beatrice Fraenkel, Design regeneration and health consultant, Trustee, Design Council, UK

An outstanding social infrastructure project that through an innovative design and planning strategy, contributes to a strong, resilient and healthy local community, improving health equity, enhancing social value and adhering to sustainable development principles. Submissions should demonstrate how the project adopts fundamental principles of healthy and climate resilient building design, and integrates with the wider urban context and community, thereby making a positive and active contribution to community life. Submissions may range from larger anchor institutions in the healthcare, education, museums or sports/leisure sectors to smaller community projects including schools, youth, recreation and libraries.



Healthy city planning and design

Lead judge: Max Farrell,
Founder, LDN Collective, UK

Inspirational, evidence-based, strategic planning and design for large-scale urban environments, focused on game-changing elements which protect and promote citizens' health and well-being, underpinned by a clear commitment to the principles of health equity and sustainable development. Submissions should demonstrate the adoption of innovative and inclusive planning, design and investment strategies that provide equitable access to healthy housing, safe and active transport choices, good quality air, water and food, access to natural environments and essential services and amenities, including healthcare, education and employment across the life course.



Healthy placemaking for community impact

Lead judge: Lourdes Madigasekera-Elliott, Public health strategic lead: Creating Healthy Places, East Sussex CC, UK

A transformational micro or meso creative placemaking scheme that enhances public spaces, impacting positively on the health and quality of life of the community. Submissions should demonstrate active community engagement and co-creation. Schemes may include but are not limited to: community gardens, pocket parks, green corridors, nature preservation, playgrounds, courtyards, public seating areas, trails, public arts installations, pop-up, digital placemaking and spaces for community events and other cultural activations.



Design research for healthy cities

Lead judge: Dr Mark Drane,
Director, Urban Habitats; research associate, SALUS, UK

An original, complete and independently assessed research project which makes a significant contribution to the conceptualization, planning, design, development, or evaluation of the urban environment, as a key factor in improving human health, equity and wellbeing and promoting the principles of sustainable development. Research projects are welcomed from practitioner organisations and academic institutions, and may include but is not limited to design research studies, advanced design innovations, health impact studies, frameworks, tools, and guidelines.

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

info@salus.global
www.healthycitydesign.global



Event partners

