

# PAPER 1: EMERGING URBAN LIVEABILITY LESSONS FROM AUSTRALIA

## PAPER FOCUS:

STUDY DESIGN: **Review**

STUDY LOCATION: **VIC**

POPULATION: **Adults**



**BUILT ENVIRONMENTAL FEATURES:** **Walkability, Transport, Public Open Space, Food Access, Local Employment, Housing, Crime & Safety, Social Infrastructure**

**HEALTH & WELLBEING OUTCOMES:** **Walking (Transport & Recreation), Obesity, Mental Health, Sitting Time**



## WHAT WE DID:

- Brought together the concepts of 'liveability' and the 'social determinants of health'.
- Reviewed 114 documents that included liveability measures used internationally in urban planning and empirical studies.
- Assessed the quality of these liveability measures using a social determinants of health lens.
- Applied these findings to the Australian urban planning policy context.

## WHAT WE FOUND:

- 233 liveability measures: 61 were promising.
- 11 domains of liveability.
- Liveability measures were diverse and inconsistent, and few were validated.
- It was unclear how liveability measures could inform urban policy and practice.

### LIVEABILITY DOMAINS

CRIME & SAFETY  
EDUCATION  
EMPLOYMENT & INCOME  
HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES  
HOUSING  
LEISURE & CULTURE  
LOCAL FOOD & OTHER GOODS  
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT  
PUBLIC OPEN SPACE  
SOCIAL COHESION  
TRANSPORT

## SO WHAT?

- Liveability measures need to be tested with health and wellbeing behaviours and outcomes.
- There is potential to turn liveability measures into spatial indicators and test these with population surveys.
- Best-practice spatial liveability indicators could be used in future to monitor and better inform urban planning policies within Australia and internationally.

Urban Liveability: Emerging Lessons From Australia For Exploring The Potential For Indicators To Measure Social Determinant Of Health | Hannah Badland, Carolyn Whitzman, Melanie Lowe, Melanie Davern, Lu Aye, Iain Butterworth, Dominique Hes, Billie Giles-corti | *Social Science & Medicine* 111 (2014) 64-73

Contact Details: [hannah.badland@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:hannah.badland@unimelb.edu.au)