

Healthy Built Environments Program Annual Report 2011

Never Stand Still

Faculty of Built Environment

Healthy Built Environments Program



THE HEALTHY BUILT ENVIRONMENTS PROGRAM

What is the Healthy Built Environments Program?

The Healthy Built Environments Program is an innovative collaboration that brings the built environment and health together. The Program is situated in the City Futures Research Centre, Faculty of the Built Environment at the University of NSW (UNSW). The Healthy Built Environments Program receives its core funding from the NSW Department of Health.

As Australia faces increasing health costs from rising rates of obesity, diabetes and other lifestyle diseases, health workers are seeking to influence the design of cities to make them more supportive of healthy ways of living. Recent research has demonstrated links between modern epidemics and the way of life in cities. Car-dominated transport, reduced opportunities for exercise, increased fast-food availability and lack of social connection are all implicated. Increasingly the health sector is focusing on prevention, and to be effective, health professionals need to work in collaboration with other professional groups, especially those from the built environment.

The Healthy Built Environments Program is contributing to revitalising the relationship between the built environment and health professions so that together we can create built environments that support people being healthy in their everyday lives.

Healthy Built Environments Program Vision Statement

The Healthy Built Environments Program vision is that built environments will be planned, designed, developed and managed to promote and protect health for all people.

Healthy Built Environments Program Personnel 2011

In 2011 the Healthy Built Environments Program was led by Co-Directors Associate Professor Susan Thompson (0.5 full time equivalent) and Professor Tony Capon (0.15 full time equivalent). The Co-Directors have complementary disciplinary backgrounds and experience in the built environment (Thompson) and public health (Capon). The Co-Directors were supported by full time Senior Research Officer, Ms Joanna York, and full time Research Officer, Ms Emily Mitchell.

Research assistants also contributed to the Program's work in 2011. So did postgraduate and undergraduate students enrolled at the University of NSW. A consortium of partners, from built environment and health public and private sector organisations, provide ongoing contributions to the work of the Healthy Built Environments Program. See Appendix One. The consortium partners bring a multitude of skills in research, management and education, together with a breadth of knowledge across the built environment and health disciplines. They also provide the Healthy Built Environments Program with an exceptionally wide network of academics, policy makers and practitioners working in the area of healthy built environments.

Healthy Built Environments Program Strategy

The Healthy Built Environments Program strategy aims to support the development in NSW of current and future communities in which the built environment promotes good

health for all. This is done through the Healthy Built Environments Program's three identified core strategies.

Healthy Built Environments Core Strategies

Research – the HBEP fosters interdisciplinary research which is policy relevant. A literature review has been conducted to identify gaps in current knowledge. This has enabled the development of a research strategy to prioritise policy relevant healthy built environments research.

See Page 3 for 'Research' initiatives undertaken in 2011.

Leadership and Advocacy – the HBEP is advocating for closer links between health and the built environment. This advocacy involves government and non-government agencies, the private sector and the community. There has been an emphasis on education through scholarly publications disseminating the latest research, professional journals, popular media articles, talks and events.

See Page 8 for 'Leadership and Advocacy' initiatives undertaken in 2011.

Education and Workforce Development – the HBEP aims to deliver innovative, cross disciplinary education and capacity building. An audit of practices in NSW Health has been conducted so that appropriate strategies for education and partnership building across the health and built environment sectors can be determined. Educational approaches also build on the Faculty of the Built Environments 'Healthy Planning' and 'Healthy Built Environments' courses. Doctoral research students are engaged in significant projects.

See Page 17 for 'Education and Workforce Development' initiatives undertaken in 2011.

Governance and Administrative Activities underpin the three core strategies of the Healthy Built Environments Program. *See Page 23 for 'Governance and Administrative Activities' undertaken in 2011.*

Healthy Built Environments Further Information

Further information on the Healthy Built Environments Program can be obtained by visiting the Program's website: <http://www.be.unsw.edu.au/programmes/healthy-built-environments-program/about> or contacting the Healthy Built Environments Program by email: hbep@unsw.edu.au. You can also read more about the different initiatives and projects listed in this Annual Report on the Healthy Built Environments Program website.

2011 Healthy Built Environments Program Achievements

RESEARCH

The HBEP fosters interdisciplinary research which is policy relevant. The research deliverables completed in 2011 have built on previous work, reinforcing the HBEP's future strategic direction. An overview of these achievements is provided below.

1. Publications

Books

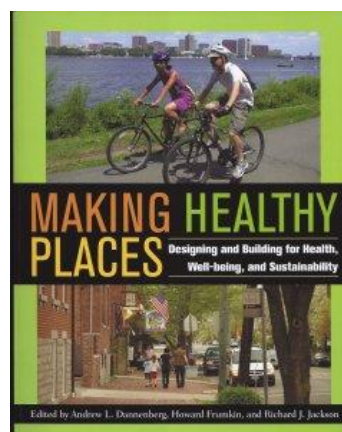
Literature Review

The HBEP Literature Review titled 'Healthy Built Environments: A review of the literature' was published in 2011. It was widely disseminated to HBEP partners and healthy built environment stakeholders throughout the second half of the year. The Review provides relevant stakeholders with an evidence base to develop, prioritise and implement healthy built environment policies. The Literature Review has also resulted in the development of a series of fact sheets for practitioners which will be released in 2012 (see page 22 for more detail).



Making Healthy Places

'Making Healthy Places: Designing and building for health, well-being, and sustainability' was published by Island Press in August 2011. The book provides an excellent overview of healthy built environment issues. The HBEP Co-Directors authored the final chapter entitled 'Built Environments of the Future'. 'Making Healthy Places' has been set as the text for the UNSW postgraduate Healthy Built Environments course. More information about the book can be found here: <http://makinghealthyplaces.com/>



Planning Australia

'Planning Australia: An overview of urban and regional planning' (2nd Edition) was finalised this year for publication early in 2012 by Cambridge University Press. Co-Director Thompson is both the co-editor of the book and a joint author (with Co-Director Capon and PhD candidate, Jennifer Kent) of one of the new chapters: 'Healthy Planning'. It is anticipated

that the monograph, as has been the case with the first edition, will be widely adopted as a text by urban planning faculties throughout Australia.

Refereed Conference Papers

The Healthy Built Environments Program presented papers at two major conferences in 2011 – the World Planning Schools Congress (WPSC) in Perth (July) and the State of Australian Cities Conference (SOAC) in Melbourne (Nov-Dec). All papers presented were refereed and published on the conferences websites/CDs. Details are listed in the table below.

Conference	Paper Title	Authors
WPSC 2011	<i>Healthy Built Environments: Connecting and strengthening communities</i>	S Thompson, J Kent, A Wheeler
WPSC 2011	<i>A Pathway for Practice: Translating research evidence into healthy planning policy</i>	A Wheeler, J Kent, S Thompson
WPSC 2011	<i>Housing and Health: Exploring the relationship</i>	S Thompson, P Phibbs (UWS)
SOAC 2011	<i>Supporting Human Health: Focusing effective built environment interventions</i>	S Thompson, J Kent, B Jalaludin
SOAC 2011	<i>Partners for Life: Fostering interdisciplinary relationships between the built environment and Health</i>	J Kent, S Thompson
SOAC 2011	<i>Healthy Built Environments: Stakeholder engagement in evidence based policy making</i>	E Freeman, S Thompson, B Jalaludin
SOAC 2011	<i>Ageing in Place: Providing supportive environments for older men</i>	H Kendall, L Corkery, S Thompson

Refereed Research Monographs

HBEP Co-Director Thompson was co-author of a refereed research monograph published by the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI) in 2011. The monograph titled 'The Health Impacts of Housing: Toward a policy-relevant research agenda' was the outcome of a 2010 AHURI grant. The monograph is co-authored by Professor Peter Phibbs (University of Western Sydney, Urban Research Centre). The research undertaken for this project was the subject of several of Co-Director Thompson's papers, media interviews and presentations throughout 2011. The monograph can be downloaded from the AHURI website: <http://www.ahuri.edu.au/publications/projects/p70619>

Special Reports

Several special reports were published in 2011. They are all available on the HBEP web site. Details are provided below.

Listening Tour Report

After consultation with NSW Health in early 2011, the 'Listening Tour Report' was completed. The Report collates and analyses feedback from the (former) NSW Area Health Services collected during the 2010 HBEP Listening Tour. The last section of the report titled 'The Way Forward' discusses how the HBEP and NSW Health can work together to improve the participation of the health workforce in planning procedures.

Stakeholder Consultation Report

The Stakeholder Consultation Report was finalised and approved by NSW Health. This report was the result of Mr Even Freeman's (NSW Health Public Health Officer Trainee) six-month placement with the HBEP during 2010/11. Mr Freeman undertook interviews with key stakeholders to determine current gaps in research and policy to bring about built environments that support health as part of everyday living. He conducted this research under the supervision of Co-Director Thompson and Professor Bin Jalaludin (HBEP consortium partner with Sydney South West Local Health District).

Other Publications

The HBEP Co-Directors continued their regular column for *New Planner* – the official quarterly journal of the NSW Division of the Planning Institute of Australia – throughout 2011. See Page 11 for additional details.

Co-Director Capon was invited to edit a special issue of *World Health Design* in 2011. Co-Director Thompson and public health trainee Dr Lisa Mu joined Co-Director Capon to write an article entitled 'The View from the City' for the special issue.

2. Research Grants and Grant Proposals

Australian Research Council (ARC) Linkage Grant

Co-Director Thompson was awarded funding for a three-year ARC Research Linkage Project entitled 'Planning and Building Healthy Communities: A multidisciplinary longitudinal study of the relationship between the built environment and human health'. This project formally commenced early in 2011. Four sites are being examined for the study – Airds Bradbury (South West Sydney), Rouse Hill (North West Sydney), Renwick (Southern Highlands of NSW) and Victoria Park (South East Sydney).

The image on the left shows seniors housing in Airds Bradbury. The centre image is of new housing being built in Renwick and the image on the right is the Rouse Hill town centre.



Major achievements in the ARC Linkage project for the year included:

- Recruitment of a full time Research Officer Ms Emily Mitchell
- Establishment of a management committee and regular meetings
- Development of a comprehensive 'Healthy Neighbourhoods Audit' Instrument which has been trialled on the various case study sites enabling further refinement of the audit instrument
- Substantial progress on a literature review for the project
- Engagement of FBE PhD student Mr Ji Yu to provide GIS expertise, as well as assisting with data collection and mapping for the case study sites
- Engagement of Dr Roy Byun of the NSW Health partner to assist in undertaking audits for Victoria Park and Rouse Hill, as well as contributing health data for the project
- Engagement of project partners in site visits.

The Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) for Low Carbon Living

The Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) for Low Carbon Living, led by Professor Deo Prasad from the Faculty of the Built Environment UNSW, was awarded \$28 million over seven years by the Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research. The CRC brings together leading researchers and key end-users to develop new tools to reduce carbon emissions and transform the built environment to a low carbon future. Co-Director Thompson and Senior HBEP Officer, Joanna York had a substantial involvement in developing the application documents for the CRC. The CRC will officially commence on 1 July 2012.

3. Student Supervision

The Healthy Built Environments Program is building a strong postgraduate research culture. Doctoral students researching in the area of healthy built environments and supervised by Co-Director Thompson in 2011 are listed below.

- Ms Jennifer Kent is investigating 'Commuting using cycling to access public transport: benefits, barriers and the built environment'.
- Ms Helen Kendall is investigating 'Integrated landscapes for ageing well in the urban environment: an Australian perspective'.
- Mr Gary Shiels is investigating 'Planning for ageing: a healthy lifestyle in an age-friendly built environment'.
- Ms Louise McKenzie is investigating 'Climate, public space and public health: the influence of heat on public space use and implications for public health'.
- Ms Anumitra Mirti Chand is investigating 'Hospital facility resilience: developing an adaptation framework for extreme weather events'.

4. Conference Organisation

In 2011 the Co-Directors were actively involved in organising national and international conferences. Some of these forums focus specifically on healthy built environments, whereas others incorporate these issues within the breadth of the conference. In 2011 the following conference organisational work was undertaken.

Design & Health Australasia 2011 (May 2011)

Co-Director Capon's contribution to this conference included a keynote address on Day 1, chairing the morning session on Day 2 and co-facilitating the workshop on healthy communities on Day 3.

World Planning Schools Congress 2011 (July 2011)

Co-Director Thompson was a member of the local organising committee and Co-Track Chair for the Healthy Cities and Planning Track. The Healthy Built Environment Program was also a sponsor for this significant international planning congress.

Healthy Cities Conference 2011 (July 2011)

Co-Director Thompson was a member of the National Steering Committee. She has also accepted an invitation to be a member of the National Steering Committee for the 2012 Healthy Cities Conference.

UPE 10 Conference (July 2012)

Co-Director Thompson accepted an invitation to be a Symposium Chair for the 10th International Urban Planning and Environment Association Symposium (UPE10) to be held in Sydney in July 2012. In her role as one of the three Symposium Chairs, Co-Director Thompson will bring healthy built environment issues to the Conference in the form of key note speakers, submitted papers and field trips. Several meetings of the organising committee took place in 2011.

5. Strategic Documents

The Healthy Built Environments Program completed work on the following strategic documents.

Research Strategy

The HBEP 'Research Strategy' was finalised in 2011. The Strategy is based on the findings of the HBEP Literature Review, Stakeholder Consultation Project and the Listening Tour. A draft of the Strategy was submitted to NSW Health in July for review. This resulted in changes to the Strategy so that it had a stronger focus on priorities for research. The final version of the Strategy was presented to the HBEP Advisory Board on 30 August. The Research Strategy is on the HBEP website for downloading: <http://www.be.unsw.edu.au/programs/healthy-built-environments-program/reports>

Policy Map

The first iteration of a 'Policy Map' for healthy built environments was completed. This Map provides an overview of key healthy built environment policies. The Map has been derived from several sources including the Stakeholder Research and more specifically, the HBEP Stakeholder Workshop held on the 16th February (see page 14 for more detail). Additional input was sought from members of the HBEP Advisory Board at its meeting on 24th February. The HBEP 'Policy Map' is a living document and will be updated as HBE policy evolves.

LEADERSHIP AND ADVOCACY

1. Conference and Professional Presentations

The HBEP Directors presented papers at different conferences throughout 2011. The main presentations are listed below (ST denotes Co-Director Thompson; TC denotes Co-Director Capon):

- Keynote address 'Planning Cities to Promote Mental Health' at the Rising to the Challenge, 2nd Annual International Urban Mental Health Conference in Sydney, 17-18 February (ST)
- Conference presentation 'Delivering a Healthy Environment: The contribution of green, open space' at the PLA NSW State Conference held in Dubbo, March 30-April 1 (ST)
- Keynote address at Landcom's 2011 Sustainability Conference, 'DiverseCity', in Sydney, May 31 (TC)
- Conference presentation 'Healthy Built Environments: Connecting and strengthening communities' at the World Planning Schools Congress in Perth, 4-8 July (ST)
- Conference Presentation 'Housing and Health: Exploring the relationship' at the World Planning Schools Congress in Perth, 4-8 July (ST)
- Conference presentation 'Connecting People and the Environment: An exploration of the walking experience' at the 2011 Healthy Cities Conference in Noosa, 28-29 July (ST)
- Invited presentation 'The Health Impacts of Housing: Toward a policy-relevant research agenda' at the AHURI Research Seminar entitled 'Healthy Sustainable Suburbs' in Brisbane, 20 September (ST)
- Keynote address 'Supportive Environments for Health' at the Australian Public Health Association 2011 Annual Conference in Brisbane, 26-28 September (TC)
- Invited presentation 'Planning for Healthy Active Living' at the 2011 Parks and Leisure Australia (PLA) seminar in Byron Bay, 20 October (ST)
- Conference presentation (via video link) at the International Conference on Urban Human Health in Brazil, 1-4 November (TC)
- Invited presentation 'The Impact of the Built Environment on the Determinants of Health and Community Wellbeing! Can we make a difference?' at the NSW Health Promotion Network Forum in Sydney, 3 November (ST)
- Invited presentation 'The Health Impacts of Housing' at the MADD5 (Mites, Asthma and Domestic Design #5: Exploring human health, environmental exposures and the built environment) seminar in Sydney, 8-9 November (ST)
- Invited keynote presentation 'Integrating Health and Planning: What does the evidence say?' at the Health for all Through Planning Forum in Adelaide, 23 November (ST)
- Conference presentation 'Supporting Human Health: Focusing effective built environment interventions' at the 2011 State of Australian Cities Conference in Melbourne, 29 November-2 December (ST)
- Invited presentation 'Urban Planning for Health' at the Centre for Health Innovation and Partnership (CHIP) Symposium entitled Partnerships for Community Health and Wellbeing: Prevention is Everyone's Business, held in Sydney, 8-9 December (ST)

2. Participation in UNSW and City Futures Research Centre Strategic Faculty Committees

UNSW Postgraduate Reviews

Co-Director Thompson participated in formal UNSW reviews of post graduate students throughout 2011. Several of these research projects, all PhDs, were related to healthy built environments and included healthy built environments support for active transport; healthy ageing; health and environmental sustainability.

City Futures Research Centre Executive Committee

This committee was formed as a result of the 2011 UNSW review of the City Futures Research Centre (CFRC). This review is performed on all UNSW research centres every three years to decide whether they are viable and should continue to operate in their current form. The CFRC was deemed satisfactory and will be reviewed again in 2014. One of the Review's recommendations was to create an Executive Committee of representatives from each of the CFRC's newly expanded areas, including the HBEP. Co-Director Thompson sits on this Committee as an Associate Director (Healthy Built Environments) of the CFRC. The Executive Committee meets once per month.

3. Participation in External Committees, Panels and Forums

Workshop on National Urban Policy Discussion Paper

Co-Director Thompson participated in a high level workshop of leading Australian urban researchers to discuss the Australian Government's National Urban Policy. Held in Sydney on Wednesday 2nd March, 2011, the purpose of the meeting was to workshop how to best address the challenges and questions raised in the Major Cities' Discussion Paper 'Our Cities: Building a productive, sustainable and liveable future'.

AHURI Public Seminar on Housing and Loneliness

Co-Director Thompson participated as an invited panellist at an Australian and Housing Urban Research Institute (AHURI) seminar entitled 'Housing, Loneliness and Health in Contemporary Australia: What is the connection?' Other panellists included Professor Adrian Franklin (University of Tasmania), Mr Michael Moore (CEO, Public Health Association of Australia) and Mr Michael Perusco (CEO, Sacred Heart Mission). This event took place on 10th March 2011 in Melbourne at the State

Library of Victoria. The image below shows the panel in session.



International Board Sustainable Places Research Institute

Co-Director Capon has accepted an invitation to be a member of the International Board for the Sustainable Places Research Institute at Cardiff University. This Institute was established to combine expertise from a range of disciplines to tackle sustainability and develop sustainability science in an innovative way. The role of the Board is to advise on the strategic direction of the Institute and its international links.

Green Building Council of Australia Rating Tool Development

Co-Director Thompson participated in a high level stakeholder meeting to develop the Green Building Council of Australia's rating tool for sustainable communities. The purpose of the forum was to discuss progress on a new national rating tool for best practice standards for planning, designing and constructing sustainable communities. In particular, ways of measuring a healthy community were explored. The meeting took place on 1st February.

CSIRO Cluster Workshop

Co-Director Thompson participated in an integrative workshop at the Australian National University (ANU) in Canberra on the 23rd March. This workshop was part of the CSIRO Cluster on Urbanism, Climate Adaptation and Health. Co-Director Thompson contributed insights on healthy urban planning to the projects under discussion, as well as presenting an overview of healthy planning principles to the researchers.

Health and Environmental Policy Workshop

Co-Director Capon was invited to participate in a policy development think tank workshop held by the South Australian Departments of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and Health (DoH). The aim of the workshop was to identify a small number of key policy directions that the South Australian Government could take to bring about joint outcomes for both human health and the environment in the context of the Government's Strategic Plan.

Expert Group for the Australian Urban Research Infrastructure Network

Co-Director Thompson accepted an invitation to be a member of an Expert Group for the Australian Urban Research Infrastructure Network (AURIN). There are ten lenses that will be the focus for the AURIN project over the period to June 2014. Co-Director Thompson was invited as a member of the expert panel for the 'Urban health, well-being and quality of life' lens. The first meeting of the expert panel was held in Melbourne on 1st June with subsequent meetings via teleconference throughout the year.

Nature Connection Forum

Co-Director Capon attended the Nature Connection Forum on 13th April at the Sanctuary, Adelaide Zoo. This event was hosted by Allan Holmes, Chief Executive of the SA Department of Environment and Natural Resources. The participants were asked to speak unscripted about the links between greenspace and urban health.

Australian Academy of Sciences Workshop

Co-Director Capon attended the 'Australia 2050: Towards an Environmentally Sustainable and Socially Equitable Way of Living' workshop which took place in Bowral in late July. Workshop participants were asked to deliberate about the science that must underpin an ecologically, economically and socially sustainable Australia in 2050. The workshop is the first phase of a three-year project by the Academy.

NSW Health and Medical Research Strategic Review

Co-Director Thompson was invited to participate in a Roundtable Discussion on 8th August to inform the NSW Health and Medical Research Strategic Review. This Review, which is being chaired by Mr Peter Wills, AC, will result in the development of a ten year Strategic

Plan for Health and Medical Research. Co-Director Thompson used this opportunity to discuss how the HBEP's work can influence the Strategy.

Department of Planning Forum

Ms Emily Mitchell, HBEP Research Officer, attended the Planning Forum held on 22nd July 2011, at Waterview Convention Centre in Bicentennial Park. The Forum, hosted by the Department of Planning and Infrastructure, provided an opportunity for key stakeholders from local government, the development industry and peak bodies to share their views on the planning reforms proposed by the new State Government.

NSW Skin Cancer Prevention Digital Strategy Interview

Co-Director Thompson was selected as a key stakeholder by the Cancer Institute NSW to be interviewed on December 6th for the State's Skin Cancer Prevention Digital Strategy. This Strategy will inform the direction of digital activities in skin cancer prevention over the next 12–18 months.

Children, Young People and the Built Environment Seminar

Co-Director Thompson and Ms Emily Mitchell, HBEP Research Officer, attended the Launch of the Commission for Young People's Children, Young People and the Built Environment Seminar Series and Child-Friendly Planning & Design Award. This took place at UNSW on 11th October 2011. Attendees were expected to provide feedback on opportunities and challenges around young people and the built environment.

4. New Planner Column

In 2011 the Co-Directors continued to contribute their regular 'Healthy Built Environments' column to the quarterly *New Planner* magazine published by the Planning Institute of Australia (NSW Division). This column provides an important opportunity to advocate for healthy built environments to urban planners. It also enables the dissemination of policy relevant research to support urban planners implement healthy built environments. The 2011 columns, which drew on the findings of the HBEP Literature Review, are listed below:

March 2011 Edition: This column examines how planning policy and practice can best create environmentally sustainable environments that support human health.

(Ref: Thompson SM and Capon AG, 'Healthy Built Environments: Supporting planning policy and practice', *New Planner*, March 2011: 10-11)



June 2011 Edition: This column focuses on the theme of how the built environment supports people being active as part of everyday living.

(Ref: Thompson SM and Capon AG, 'The Built Environment and Getting People Active: What's the Evidence?', *New Planner*, June 2011: 12-13)

September 2011 Edition: This column explores ways that planners can enhance social connection for health and well-being through built environment policy interventions.

(Ref: Thompson SM, Capon AG, 'The Built Environment and Strengthening Communities: What's the Evidence?', *New Planner*, September 2011: 20-1)



December 2011 Edition: This column explores how the built environment – particularly via zoning and land use regulation – can support healthy eating.

(Ref: Thompson SM, Capon AG, 'Access to Healthy Food: What's the Evidence?', *New Planner*, December 2011: 16-17)



The Healthy Built Environments column is illustrated with images from Co-Director Thompson's library – here are some examples published in 2011.

5. Media Coverage of the Healthy Built Environments Program

The Healthy Built Environments Program is increasingly sought for comments in the media about different issues. Media coverage in 2011 included the following.

Sun Herald Article (21/3/11)

Co-Director Thompson was interviewed for an article on healthy retirement living in a special report in the Domain Section of the 'Sun Herald' on 21st March 2011. The article entitled 'Your Post-vocation Location is Crucial' covered a variety of issues for retirees to consider when buying a new property so that it supports healthy living.

Sydney Morning Herald Article (6/8/11)

Co-Director Thompson was interviewed for, and quoted in the 'Sydney Morning Herald' on 6th August 2011. The article entitled 'Street smarts: how to find the right address' enabled Co-Director Thompson to talk about healthy built environments in relation to streetscapes and local neighbourhoods as part of every-day living.

Sydney Morning Herald Article (10/9/11)

Co-Director Thompson was interviewed for an article in the 'Sydney Morning Herald' published on 10th September 2011. The article was entitled 'Don't let your home make you sick' and referred to Co-Director Thompson's AHURI research report on health and housing.

6. Healthy Built Environments Program Website, Newsletter and Promotional Material

Website

The Healthy Built Environments Program website continued to expand throughout 2011. Towards the end of the year, the Faculty of the Built Environment launched a totally new website which resulted in the HBEP having to transfer all of its material across to this platform using different procedures and referral protocols. The new HBEP website URL is: <http://www.be.unsw.edu.au/programmes/healthy-built-environments-program/about>.

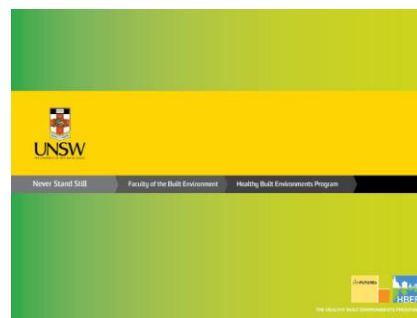
Newsletter

The Healthy Built Environments Program released four newsletters in 2011 (March, June, September and December). They are distributed electronically to the HBEP's growing mailing list and are placed on the HBEP website. The newsletters highlight major HBEP activities and achievements, referring readers to the Program's website.



Branding

Lawton Design prepared a revised report template for HBEP publications and presentations to comply with UNSW's new branding colours and slogan 'Never Stand Still'. At right is the new title slide for HBEP presentations. A promotional banner has also been designed and manufactured.



7. Recognition of the Healthy Built Environments Program

Different projects of the Healthy Built Environments Program have been recognised both nationally and internationally in various ways. Achievements for 2011 are outlined below.

City University New York (CUNY) School of Public Health

HBEP Advisory Board Chair A/Professor Peter Sainsbury was invited to present a talk at the CUNY School of Public Health at Hunter College, New York (www.cuny.edu/sph). He used this opportunity to introduce the HBEP to the international audience. Co-Director Thompson provided the PowerPoint slides for this presentation.

Australian Policy Online

The Australian Policy Online (<http://apo.org.au>) website included an article on Co-Director Thompson and Professor Peter Phibbs (UWS Urban Research Centre) AHURI report entitled 'The Health Impacts of Housing: Toward a policy-relevant research agenda'. The website outlined the research undertaken as well as the recommendations for policy relevant projects that might advance the Australian evidence base.

UNSW BEN (Built Environment News)

The November edition of the BEN included an article on the publication of the HBEP's Literature Review. This newsletter is distributed to UNSW Built Environment Faculty employees and the Faculty's alumni. Copies of BEN can be found on the Faculty of Built Environment's web site (<http://www.be.unsw.edu.au/news>).

2011 'State of Australian Cities' Report

This annual report was released by the Major Cities Unit (MCU) of the Australian Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure and Transport on the 20th October 2011. It makes several references to the HBEP's 'Literature Review', specifically in relation to the usefulness of the 'three domains' to focus effective healthy built environments policy and action. The report can be accessed from the MCU's website:

www.infrastructure.gov.au/infrastructure/mcu/soac.



BE Active WA Website

The Be Active Western Australian Physical Activity Taskforce website has dedicated a full page to the HBEP Literature Review (<http://www.beactive.wa.gov.au/index.php?id=1351>). This review contains links to the first domain of the Literature Review, 'The Built Environment and Getting People Active', as well as the HBEP website for those interested in the other domains identified by the Review.

8. Policy and Inquiry Submissions

During 2011 several submissions to government and a health NGO were undertaken by the Healthy Built Environments Program.

Submission on Australia's National Urban Policy

On 18th May the Federal Department of Infrastructure and Transport released the National Urban Policy – 'Our Cities, Our Future: A national urban policy for a productive, sustainable and liveable future'. It represents the Australian Government's long-term commitment to making the nation's cities and regional centres more productive, sustainable and liveable. The HBEP submission was considered in the framing of this Policy. In its submission, the HBEP identified five areas that require further development to ensure that health and wellbeing are fully and adequately addressed in a national urban policy.

Victorian Parliamentary Inquiry

The HBEP made a submission to the 2011 Victorian Parliamentary Inquiry into the contribution of environmental design to preventive public health. In making its submission, the HBEP drew from the findings of the Program's Literature Review.

NSW Skin Cancer Prevention Digital Strategy

The HBEP made a submission to the NSW Cancer Institute's Skin Cancer Prevention Strategy 2012-15 Public Consultation. The purpose of the Strategy is to operationalise the skin cancer prevention component of the NSW Cancer Plan, and to provide a framework for a coordinated comprehensive, community-wide approach to reducing over-exposure to UVR for the next four years. The HBEP's submission referred directly to the Program's Literature Review, raising issues relating to the importance of shading as a vital component in encouraging sun-safe physical activity and community connection in outdoor spaces.

NSW Planning System Review

The NSW Government commenced a comprehensive review of the NSW Planning System in July 2011. The Review process includes extensive consultations across the state. The HBEP's submission was written by Co-Director Thompson with assistance from HBEP PhD student, Jennifer Kent. The submission drew from the HBEP Literature Review and a workshop held on October 18th involving key healthy built environment stakeholders. This workshop was jointly organised with the NSW Premier's Council for Active Living (PCAL). It captured stakeholders' perspectives on how the NSW Planning System can be improved, particularly in relation to supportive environments for health. The HBEP's submission focuses on the importance of including health and wellbeing at every level of the plan making process.

Built environment infrastructure to support physical activity (such as recreational shared pathways for walking and cycling shown below) and access to healthy food in a supportive environment (such as the

provision of community gardens shown below) are examples of how health and wellbeing can be supported through the planning system.



9. Strategic Partnership Identification and Development

Stakeholder Workshop

A healthy built environments 'Stakeholder Workshop' was held on 16th February. At this workshop Mr Evan Freeman, the HBEP's Public Health Officer (PHO) Trainee, presented the initial findings of his research project (see Page 5 for more detail) for feedback. The workshop attendees included the project interviewees and a range of other healthy built environment stakeholders. It was facilitated by HBEP consortium partner, Dr Danny Wiggins.

Stakeholder Network Map

The first iteration of a Network Map for healthy built environments was completed in 2011. This Map provides an overview of key healthy built environment stakeholders. The Map was derived from several sources including the Stakeholder Research and more specifically, the HBEP Stakeholder Workshop on the 16th February. Input from members of the HBEP Advisory Board at the meeting on 24th February was also incorporated. The Map will be updated as the HBEP's work with its stakeholder network evolves.

Meeting with State Government Minister

Co-Director Thompson requested a meeting with the NSW State Government's Minister Humphreys - Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Healthy Lifestyles and Minister for Western NSW. The aim of this meeting was to inform the Minister about the work of the HBEP and to discuss the possibility of support for the CRC for Low Carbon Living. This meeting was attended by the Minister's Policy and Media Advisor, Co-Director Thompson and Professor Deo Prasad (CRC Leader) on 15th June. Items of discussion included an overview of the HBEP's work and the CRC bid in the context of the co-benefits framework for health as a result of action on climate change.

Strategic Think Tank with HBEP Partners and Friends

The HBEP's Advisory Board members, Consortium Partners and 'friends' participated in a Strategic Think Tank on 16th December at UNSW. Attendees were updated on the HBEP's activities in 2011, and told about plans for 2012. The Think Tank then turned to brainstorm important issues with participants. The focus was on the following three issues:

1. Outreach/advocacy: Engaging professionals in healthy built environments
2. Ideas for collaborative healthy built environment research projects
3. Communicating the healthy built environments message to the broader community.

All participants contributed to each of the focus issues, resulting in a rich variety of ideas for future HBEP deliberation and action. The report of the Think Tank is on the HBEP website: <http://www.be.unsw.edu.au/programs/healthy-built-environments-program/reports>

EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

1. Formal Tertiary Courses

Healthy Planning

The 2011 undergraduate course BENV2949 'Healthy Planning' was held in Semester One 2011. The guest speakers, including Peter McCue, Manager of the Premier's Council for Active Living (PCAL) and Claudine Lyons of NSW Health, were invaluable in providing the students with information on the complexities of healthy built environments. Co-Director Thompson also collaborated with Randwick City Council on the major assignment which entailed group healthy built environmental audits of public housing sites around the Randwick LGA. The HBEP offered two pro-bono positions for students which were filled by Ms Mia Bromley, Project Officer from HNE Health, and Ms Joanna York, Senior Research Officer from the HBEP.

Healthy Built Environments

The 2011 Post Graduate course BENV7712 'Healthy Built Environments' was offered in Semester Two 2011. Co-Director Thompson taught the course with contributions from Co-Director Capon and HBEP Partners Mr Peter McCue (PCAL) and A/Professor Peter Sainsbury (Clinical Support Division Western, NSW Health). Mr Patrick Harris (CHETRE) also presented a session on health impact assessment. The course was completed by planning, public health, environmental sustainability and architecture students, as well as four NSW Health employees (six initially enrolled) and Ms Emily Mitchell (HBEP Research Officer). This is the second year the course has been taught and the 2011 feedback is very positive.

2. Other University Based Educational Activities

Exercise Physiology Class Lecture

Co-Director Thompson presented an invited guest lecture to UNSW Exercise Physiology students on 24th March. Her lecture provided a broad overview of healthy built environments, including policy and practice initiatives. This invitation was seen as an encouraging sign that parts of the Faculty of Medicine recognise the critical influence the built environment has on human health.

Submission on the UNSW Built Environment (BE) Curriculum

Co-Director Thompson wrote a submission on behalf of the HBEP to the UNSW's Faculty of the Built Environment Curriculum Taskforce. The submission put the case for the creation of a Masters of Healthy Built Environments for a new suite of professional masters degrees to be offered in a restructured BE curriculum.

4. Other Educational Activities

Completion of HBEP Public Health Internship and PBL Module

The six month placement of Dr Lisa Mu with the HBEP was completed in May. Lisa, a medical graduate from the

University of Western Ontario, spent time at the HBEP as part of her post graduate internship in public health at the University of British Columbia, Canada. Lisa worked on various projects under the

supervision of both HBEP Directors. She spent the majority of her time developing a problem-based learning module on urban development and chronic disease. This project involved collaboration between the NSW Health Department, Sydney South-West Public Health, the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Sydney and the Healthy Built Environments Program at the University of New South Wales.



The aim of this project was to develop a teaching module for public health professionals to improve their familiarity with the relationship between urban development and chronic disease. The project team utilised a problem-based-learning approach for the module, as such an approach is recognised for its ability to improve skills that are important in the public health profession, such as team-work and solving complex, poorly defined problems.

Tender for the Planning Institute of Australia's Healthy Spaces and Places Curriculum Development

HBEP Consortium Partner Willana Associates, in collaboration with Co-Director Thompson, submitted a proposal to prepare the 'Healthy Spaces and Places' Training Module for the Planning Institute of Australia. Although ranked highly, the submission was ultimately unsuccessful. Nevertheless, this was a good opportunity for the HBEP to work with one of its partners.

3. Supervision of Bachelor of Planning Students

Co-Director Thompson supervised three Bachelor of Planning students undertaking healthy planning related undergraduate research theses. These included:

- *Healthy Planning: Current knowledge and attitudes* (by Ms Alexandra Plumb)
- *Healthy Built Environments in Rural and Regional NSW* (by Mr Adrian Villella)
- *Planning for Urban Health: An analysis of strategic metropolitan planning in Australia* (by Mr Andrew Wheeler)

4. Healthy Built Environment Program's Participation in Events and Exhibitions

UNSW End-of-Year Planning Exhibition

The HBEP was a sponsor of the UNSW Planning Program's end-of-year exhibition titled 'Plan, Place and People' on 31st October. The exhibition included final year student thesis research from the Planning and Urban Development Program. A number of these theses focussed on HBEs.



5. Capacity Building

The Healthy Built Environments Program continued its capacity building activities for NSW Health and associated staff in understanding the relationship between health and the built environment.

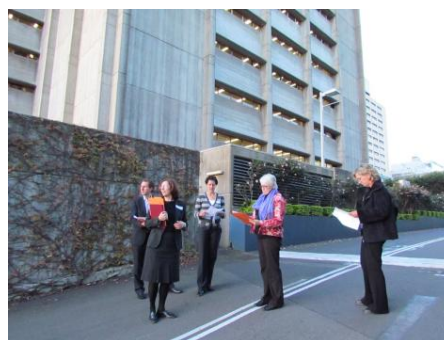
HBEP Annual Forum

The first HBEP Annual Forum was held on 18th May 2011 at UNSW. Entitled 'Be Informed and Inspired', the forum was principally for NSW Health workforce, although people from other organisations with an interest in healthy built environments attended. The speakers presented case studies on significant metro and regional initiatives in HBEs. They were:

- Michelle Maxwell – Service Development Officer, Clinical Support Division (Western)
- Andrew Gow – A/Director Population Health, Planning & Performance, Southern and Murrumbidgee Local Health Networks
- Paul Klarenaar – Manager, Northern Beaches Health Promotion
- Jane Carthey – Associate Professor and Healthy Built Environments Program Partner

All presentations were audio recorded, and together with the PowerPoint slides, these recordings have been placed on the HBEP website, particularly for those in rural and remote areas. See further information on page 22.

After the formal presentations, Co-Director Thompson led a practical healthy built environments audit activity. The image at the right shows forum participants undertaking the audit on the UNSW campus. They were required to examine how different aspects of the University supported people being healthy.



HBEP 'One Year On' Celebration

The Annual Forum was followed by the HBEP's 'One Year On' celebration, and a 2011 FBE Utzon Lecture delivered by Lars Gemzøe (of Jan Gehl Architects, Denmark). Lars is seen at right (centre) with Co-Directors Thompson (left) and Capon (right). Lars' lecture is on the HBEP website.



Professor Hugh Barton Events

Professor Hugh Barton (Professor of Planning, Health and Sustainability and Director for Healthy Urban Environments, WHO Collaborating Centre for Healthy Cities and Urban Policy at the University of the West of England) visited Australia in June and July to attend the World Planning Schools Congress. The HBEP organised and funded his travel to Sydney following the Congress so he could participate in two workforce seminars developed by Co-

Director Thompson in partnership with Mr Peter McCue (PCAL). The invitation for these events was distributed through the HBEP's network.

1. Afternoon Seminar (13 July 2011)

This seminar entitled 'Integrated Strategic Planning for Health' was held at UNSW. Professor Barton led the event which examined how professionals in health and the built environment can work together to plan healthy and sustainable environments. This seminar also included a practical session on developing effective strategic partnerships across the two disciplines.

2. Guided Bus Tour (14 July 2011)

Co-Director Thompson organised and led this bus tour to various sites around Sydney that demonstrate healthy built environment principles. Professor Barton provided an international perspective on different localities inspected during the tour. The sites included Victoria Park, Waterloo-Redfern community gardens, Wilga Crescent in Dulwich Hill, Summer Hill and Rouse Hill.



Participants visit the edible verge plantings in Wilga Crescent



Participants view Rouse Hill model with Professor Barton

Walkability in Commercial Precincts Walkshop

The 'Walkability in Commercial Precincts Walkshop' was held on 3rd November at UNSW. It was a joint initiative of the Heart Foundation, Premier's Council for Active Living and the Healthy Built Environments Program. An invitation was distributed to all three organisations' mailing lists. The free half-day seminar investigated integrating walking in commercial precincts using best practice from around the world. It was led by Dr Rodney Tolley, an international walkability expert and consultant in the field of active, sustainable transport. He is also Director of Walk 21.

The forum included a presentation from Dr Tolley on 'World Walking News' followed by a 'Walkshop' which involved participants assessing the commercial areas surrounding UNSW for their walkability. After the 'Walkshop' groups reported on their findings and discussed possible improvements to making the commercial precincts more walkable.

HBEP Staff Capacity Building

HBEP staff also undertook their own capacity building in a range of different activities.

Enrique Penolosa Seminar

On 11th March the HBEP Senior Research Officer Ms Joanna York and visiting Intern Dr Lisa Mu attended a seminar in Sydney led by Mr Peñalosa, former mayor of Bogota, Columbia, and President of the Institute for Transportation and Development Policy (ITDP), New York. During this inspiring and informative seminar Mr Peñalosa spoke about the transformation of Bogota into one of the world's leading examples of mobility and equity.

Clover Moore Utzon Lecture

The HBEP team attended the 2011 FBE Utzon Lecture delivered by the Lord Mayor Clover Moore MP on 6th April. She spoke about the 'Sustainable Sydney 2030' framework. This lecture is now on the HBEP website as an educational resource.

Post World Planning Schools Congress (WPSC) Seminar

The HBEP team attended a post WPSC event in Sydney – the 'Sydney Planning Symposium'. This took place on 11th July at the Australian Museum and involved presentations from several of the international academics already in Australia for WPSC.

Shaping Suburbia Seminar

The HBEP team attended the 'Shaping Suburbia' seminar on September 13th at Liverpool City Library. This seminar was organised by South West Sydney Local Health District.

UNSW Courses

Ms Joanna York, HBEP Senior Research Officer, undertook the following UNSW staff development courses to assist with her HBEP related duties:

- Writing Short Reports – 19th August
- Making Finance Reports Work for You – 7th September
- Website Training – 23rd November

State of Australian Cities (SOAC) Conference

Ms Emily Mitchell (HBEP Research Officer) attended the 2011 SOAC Conference from 29th November to 2nd December as a delegate. This provided her with an opportunity to hear about new research in healthy built environments, particularly in the area of low carbon futures, and the co-benefits of action on climate change for health and wellbeing.

Higher Degree Research (HDR) Supervision Workshop

Due to her role in supervising postgraduate students, Co-Director Thompson attended the Faculty of Built Environment's HDR supervision all-day workshop on 5th December.

6. Strategy Documents

Workforce Development Strategy

This Strategy was put on hold in 2011 while NSW Health underwent a significant restructure. Initial work on the Strategy was undertaken in a Scoping Paper.

7. Strategic Input into Partner Strategy

Liveable Communities Planning in Hunter New England Region

Co-Director Thompson and Senior Research Officer, Ms Joanna York, met with the Health Promotion team from Hunter New England Health (HNE) to discuss future opportunities for the Liveable Communities Program. The all day meeting took place on the 9th March at UNSW. HNE will utilise the outcomes of this capacity building meeting to submit proposals to NSW Health for further funding to support their Program.

8. Health Workforce Resources

Fortnightly Literature Review

The Healthy Built Environments Program undertakes a fortnightly review of new research relating to the three key domains of healthy built environments (as defined in the HBEP Literature Review). Other relevant HBE policy and research is also included. Key healthy built environment related email alerts, websites and newsletters are regularly checked for new publications, initiatives and news. Citations and web addresses for relevant articles, policy papers and publications are then tabulated, with key words and a brief summary provided. These tables can be found on the HBEP website:

<http://www.be.unsw.edu.au/programs/healthy-built-environments-program/updates-research>. The references are also uploaded into the HBEP's EndNote Library.

Annual Forum Presentations

The presentations made at the HBEP Annual Forum on 18th May were uploaded onto the HBEP website (including voiceover). The speakers and presentation titles are:

- 'Oran Park and Turner Road Health Impact Assessment' by Ms Michelle Maxwell (Population Health, Clinical Support Division - Western)
- 'A Rural Perspective of the Healthy Built Environment' by Mr Andrew Gow (Population Health, Planning and Performance - Southern and Murrumbidgee Local Health Districts)
- 'Healthy Built Environments: Some Recent Work by Population Health Northern Sydney and Central Coast' by Mr Paul Klarenaar (Northern Beaches Health Promotion)
- 'Sustainable Healthcare Facility Design' by Ms Jane Carthey (Senior Health Architect & Researcher, Rice Daubney)

Rural and Regional Case Studies

Under the supervision of Co-Director Thompson, Mr Andrew Wheeler (undergraduate Planning student) compiled a list of Rural and Regional healthy built environment case studies from around NSW. The final list was made available on the HBEP website and strongly promoted in the HBEP's June Newsletter which was dedicated to rural and regional issues.

Literature Review 'Fact Sheets'

Several 'Fact Sheets' have been developed to disseminate the findings of the HBEP Literature Review. They are intended to be a useful source of policy-relevant information for HBE practitioners. They will be finalised, published and widely disseminated in 2012.

Governance Activities

HBEP Advisory Board

The HBEP Advisory Board met four times in 2011 as listed below.

- 24th February in person at UNSW
- 2nd June - teleconference
- 30th August in person at UNSW
- 24th November - teleconference.

Each meeting requires considerable planning and organisation. The dates for the 2012 meetings have also been finalised.



Above: The HBEP Advisory Board in session

HBEP Business Plan 2011-12

The HBEP's Business Plan for the year commencing 1st July 2011 was prepared and accepted by the Advisory Board.

HBEP Quarterly Reporting to NSW Health

The HBEP Co-Directors and HBEP Senior Research Officer met every quarter with NSW Health staff to discuss the achievements of the HBEP. A detailed Quarterly Report was prepared for each meeting. Each Quarterly Report was also presented to the HBEP Advisory Board for discussion.

2012-14 External Research budget projections

The HBEP prepared 2012-14 external research budget projections for UNSW Finance.

HRDEC Return

HBEP's HRDEC return for 2009/10 was completed and submitted to UNSW Central Finance. The HRDEC return determines how much funding UNSW receives from the Commonwealth Government each year.

City Futures Research Centre (CFRC) Review

The triennial CFRC Review by UNSW was completed. All details of the HBEP's operations were submitted to the CFRC Director.

HBEP Annual Report

The 2010 HBEP Annual Report was finalised and is available on the HBEP website

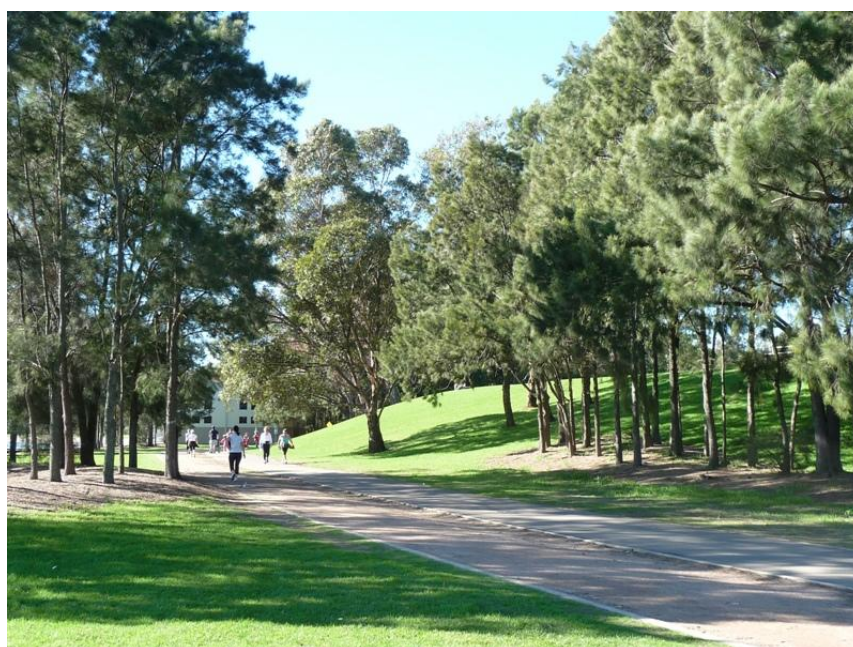
HBEP contribution to 2010 City Futures Research Centre (CFRC) Annual Report

The HBEP contributed specific information and data for the CFRC Annual Report.

Meetings

HBEP employees were involved in different meetings related to strategic and governance matters both within UNSW and beyond. Key meetings for 2011 (other than those presented elsewhere in this Report) are listed below:

- Regular attendance of at least one HBEP employee at the monthly City Futures Research Centre (CFRC) Team Meetings
- Attendance by Co-Director Thompson at Heart Foundation 'Developers Resource' Reference group meeting – 6 April
- Attendance by Co-Director Thompson at meeting with Alison Heller – Social planner with interest in HBEs – 6 April
- Meeting with HBEP Co-Directors and HBE interns – Dr Lisa Mu and Dr Kleete Simpson – 8 April
- HBEP Strategy and Ideas Meeting – 12 April (internal team meeting)
- Attendance by Co-Director Thompson at meeting with Michael Cullen, Principal of UrbaCity (www.urbacity.com.au) – planning consultant interested in researching healthy town centres – 2 May
- Both Co-Directors held a phone meeting with Gweneth Leigh, landscape architect, about 'Bloom' – proposed 2012 exhibition on how landscapes affect health and well being – 5 May
- Meeting with Margaret Noble (UNSW FBE Finance Manager) regarding 2012-14 External Research budget projections – 16 August
- City Futures Research Centre 'Away Day' – attendance by all HBEP staff to discuss HBEP work, research project ideas and potential funding sources – 25 & 26 October
- Meeting with Centre for Health Innovation and Partnership (CHIP) – Co-Director Thompson met with CHIP Director to discuss synergies with HBEP – 31 October
- Planning and Urban Development Program retreat – 9 December – attendance by Co-Director Thompson to review teaching in 2011 and prepare for 2012



APPENDIX ONE – HEALTHY BUILT ENVIRONMENT CONSORTIUM PARTNERS

Sector	Key Attributes	Organisation	Consortium Partner
Academic	Specific disciplinary & research knowledge	Faculty of the Built Environment, UNSW	City Futures Research Centre
	Interdisciplinary research understandings and skills		Centre for Health Assets Australasia
			Planning and Urban Development Program
			Landscape Architecture Program
	Learning and teaching expertise		Visiting Associate Sue Holliday
	Academic networks	Faculty of Medicine, UNSW	Public Health and Community Medicine
State Government	Policy knowledge in health	Sydney South West Area Health Service Population Health – now Local Health District	Population Health Directorate
	Research projects in health and built environment		Centre for Research, Evidence Management and Surveillance
			Centre for Health Equity Training, Research and Evaluation
	Practice expertise		Health Promotion Service
	Health network		Public Health Unit
			Multicultural, HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis C Services
			HIV and Related Programs
Local Government	Legislative, policy and practice knowledge; key networks	Western Sydney Region of Councils	Western Sydney Region of Councils
Non-government organisation	Broad knowledge and expertise in health and the built environment; key networks	Heart Foundation NSW	Heart Foundation NSW
Industry	Practice knowledge in health, built environment and sustainability; management skills	Arup	Arup
		Danny Wiggins, Planning, Facilitation and Education Services	Danny Wiggins
		Willana Associates, Urban Planning and Facilities Management	Willana Associates



THE HEALTHY BUILT ENVIRONMENTS PROGRAM

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w: <http://www.be.unsw.edu.au/programmes/healthy-built-environments-program/about>

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