

Green Infrastructure and the Health and wellbeing Influences on an Ageing population (GHIA)

Lindley, S.¹, Ashton, J.², Barker, A.³, Cavan, G.⁴, Cook, P.⁵, French, D.⁶, Gilchrist, A.³, James, P.⁷, O'Neill, J.⁸, Phillipson, C.⁹, Tzoulas, K.⁴, & Wossink, A.¹⁰

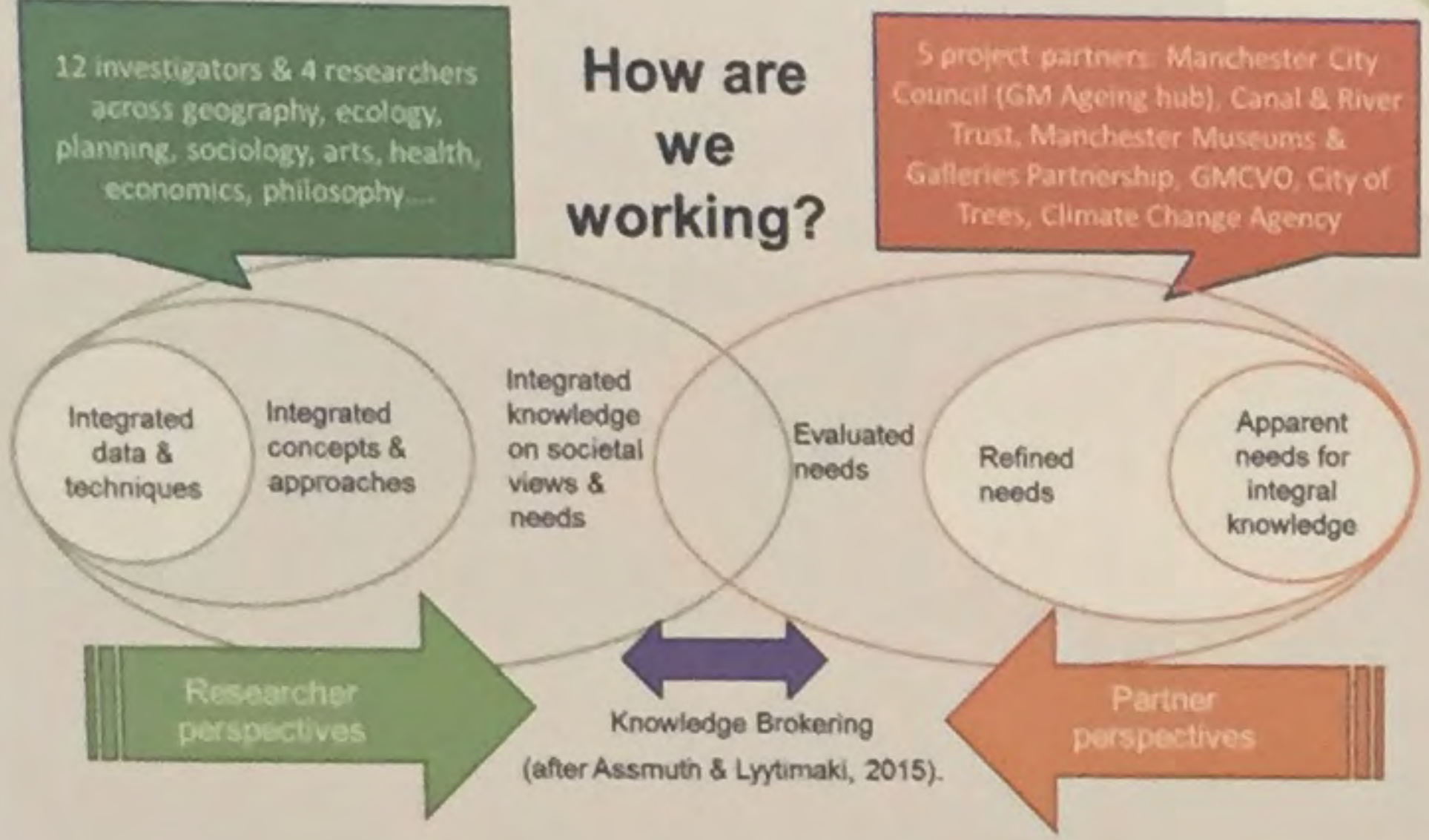
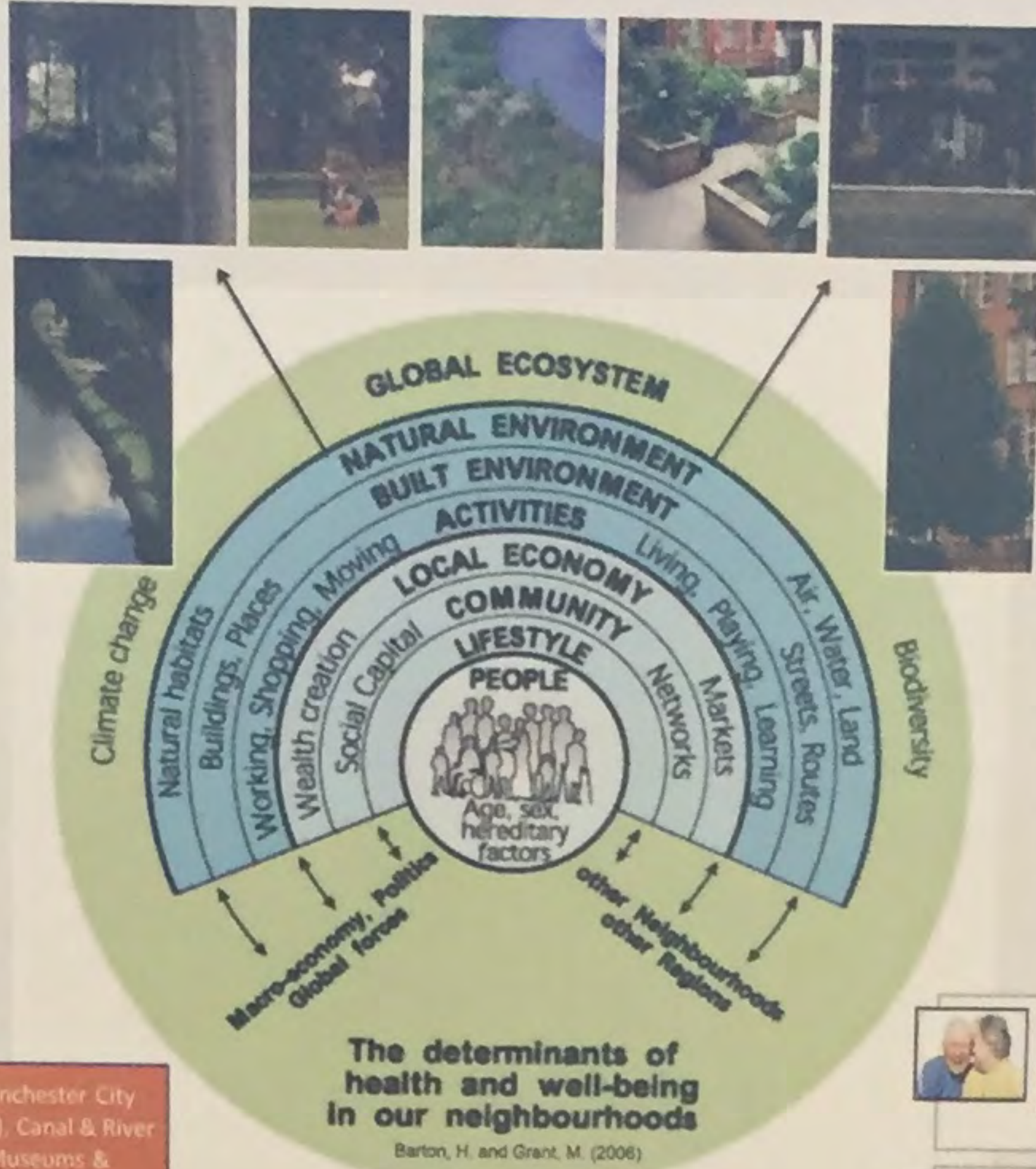
1 Geography, School of Environmental, Education & Development, University of Manchester
 2 Office for Research and Knowledge Exchange, Manchester Metropolitan University
 3 Planning and Environmental Management, School of Environmental, Education & Development, University of Manchester
 4 School of Science & the Environment, Manchester Metropolitan University
 5 School of Health Sciences, University of Salford
 6 Faculty of Medical & Human Sciences, University of Manchester
 7 Ecosystems and Environment Research Centre, School of Environment and Life Sciences, University of Salford
 8 Political Economy Institute, Philosophy, School of Social Sciences, University of Manchester
 9 Sociology, School of Social Sciences, University of Manchester
 10 Department of Economics, University of Manchester

October, 2017

Project Overview

Aim: To better understand the benefits and values of urban Green Infrastructure (GI) to older people and how GI attributes and interventions can best support healthy ageing in urban areas

- How GI can be best designed, enhanced, managed and promoted to support its use as part of preventative and restorative therapies and other health and wellbeing related activities
- Six interconnected Work Packages covering the themes within the project
- Case studies around different types of green and blue spaces around Greater Manchester, such as parks, gardens, rivers and canals



The determinants of health and well-being in our neighbourhoods
 Barton, H. and Grant, M. (2006)

- Principles**
- Principle 1: We are involving older people and other people who are expected to benefit from the outputs of the research.
 - Principle 2: Our research considers the role of life transitions for understanding links between green infrastructure and health and wellbeing.
 - Principle 3: We seek to broaden participation in green and blue spaces and in decisions associated with green infrastructure, such as its valuation.
 - Principle 4: Our work emphasises the importance of valuing the ways in which people relate to & are motivated to engage with the natural environment through urban GI and its valuation.
 - Principle 5: Our research is flexible and acknowledges the legitimacy of different perspectives and views.
 - Principle 6: We consider spatial and temporal scales and how they influence research and practice.
 - Principle 7: We are working in a range of locations in Greater Manchester and producing evidence relevant to a variety of social and environmental contexts.
 - Principle 8: Our research emphasises pathways through which health and wellbeing is influenced by urban green infrastructure.
 - Principle 9: Our work acknowledges that green infrastructure operates as a system involving both people and the natural environment.



Greater Manchester as the case study

Arts & heritage role

What are we doing?
 To agree GHIA's multi-disciplinary foundation

Biodiversity as a specific attribute of interest



Understanding inequalities

- Understanding how older people can realise physical, social & mental wellbeing within GI spaces
 - cultural participation & creative practice for tackling loneliness and isolation in old age
 - role for GI & volunteering
 - involvement of people with a variety of needs, while ensuring adequate protection, security & care
- Understanding the ways in which GI can influence the health and wellbeing of older people
 - profiles of older people in GM and analysis of health & wellbeing indicators
 - urban greening, physical activity & overall well-being
 - environmental exposures & GI
- Understanding how to value GI in the context of improving the health & wellbeing of older people
 - participatory and equitable forms of valuation
 - representation of non-monetary valuation in policy making & public deliberation
 - limits of monetary valuation

Older adults as co-researchers

Data Outputs



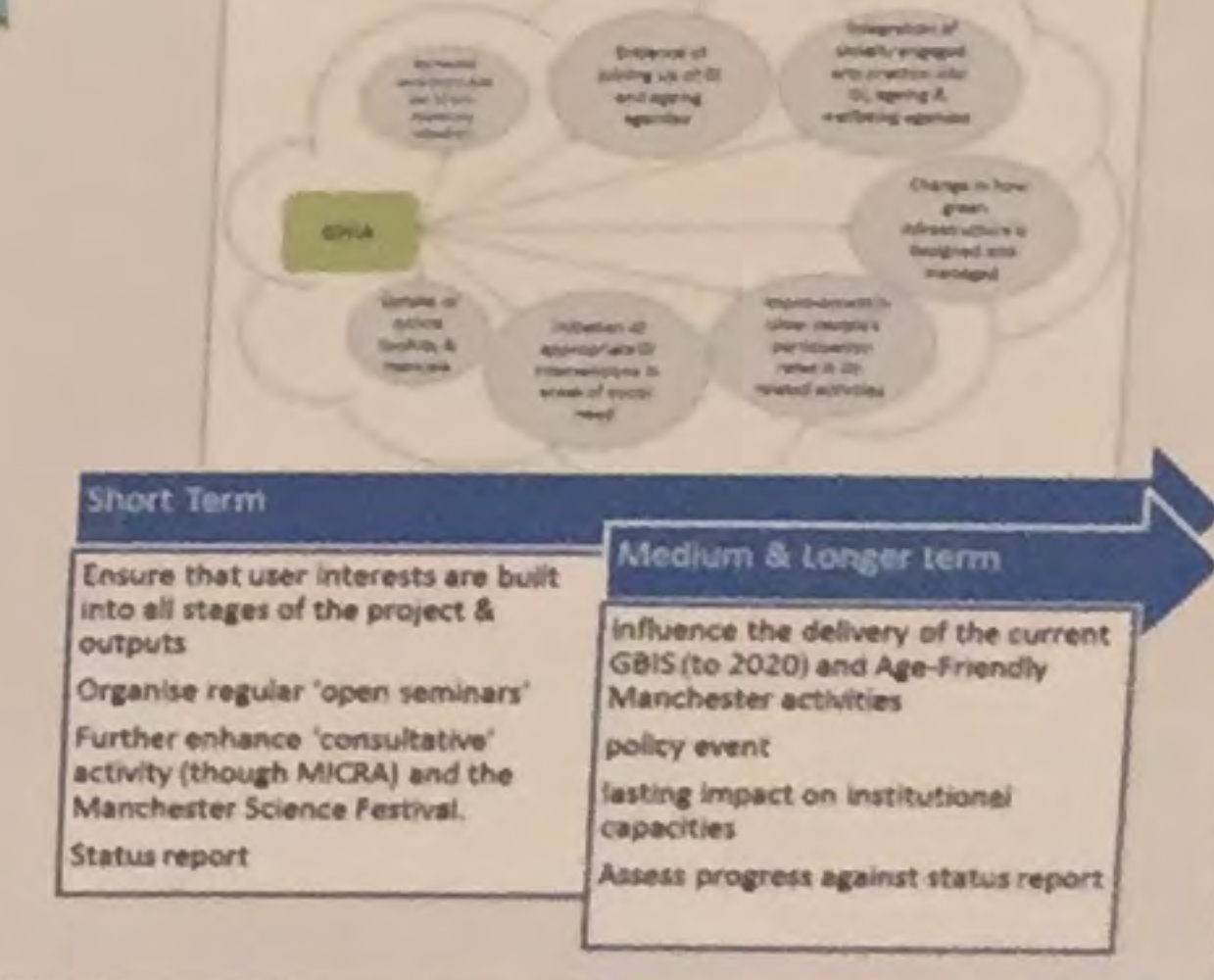
Multiple perspectives on values

Natural experiments

- Databases
- Methods/tools
- Online map
- Manuals
- Recommendations

References
 Assmuth, T. and Lytjinski, J. (2015) *Env. Sci. & Policy* 5: 1230-1236
 Barton, H. and Grant, M. (2006) *A health map for the local human habitat*. The Journal for the Royal Society for the Promotion of Health, 126 (6). Based on Dahlgren and Whitehead's (1991) well known rainbow model. <http://www.ac.uk/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/1266.pdf>
 World Health Organization (2007) *Global Age-Friendly Cities: A Guide*. http://www.wfp.org/publications/global_age_friendly_cities_guide

Impacts



Project Details: 1st August 2016 – 31st July 2019 NERC grant reference number NE/N013530/1
Funders: Natural Environment Research Council, the Arts and Humanities Research Council and the Economic and Social Research Council under the Valuing Nature Programme.

For further information, please contact:
 • Dr Sarah Lindley, Department of Geography,
 • School of Environment, Education & Development, University of Manchester
 • Email sarah.lindley@manchester.ac.uk

