

The role of GBGI in levelling up in Bristol

UWE team:

- Issy Bray (Associate Professor in Public Health Epidemiology)
- Danielle Sinnett (Professor in Sustainable Built Environments)
- Harry West (Senior Lecturer in Geography and Environmental Management)

AIM - to explore relationships between GBGI and a range of health and social outcomes in neighbourhoods across Bristol



Background

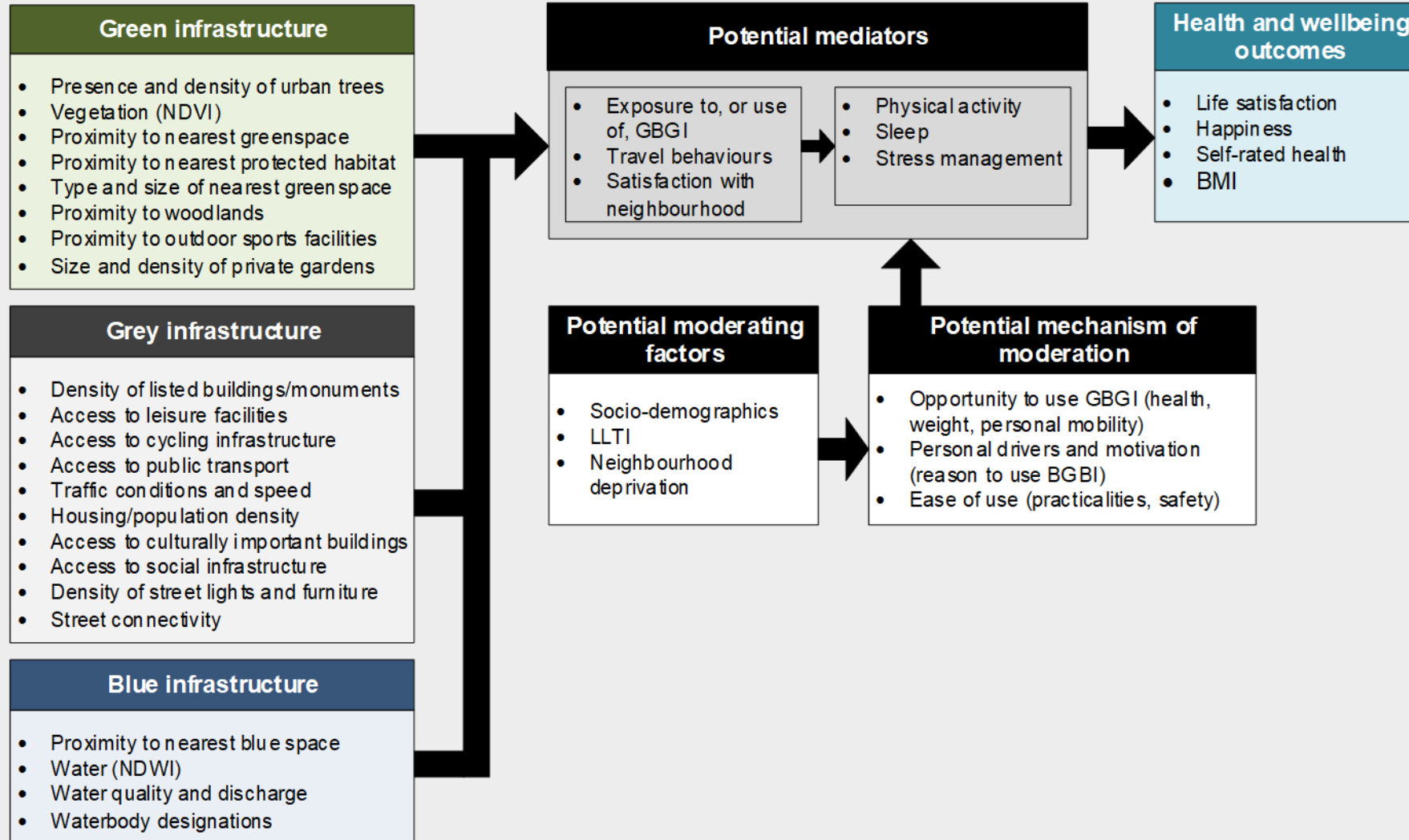
- » Mental health, particularly for urban populations, is a growing public health concern.
- » Understanding how people relate to and feel a sense of belonging in the urban environment is an important research agenda.
- » There is mounting evidence about the importance of green (e.g. parks, trees) and blue (e.g. rivers, lakes) infrastructure for the health and wellbeing of urban residents.
- » There is also emerging evidence about the benefits of certain 'grey' features (e.g. historic buildings, active travel routes).

Objectives

- » Collate health and wellbeing data from the Bristol Quality of Life Survey for 2011-2022 (3000-5000 responses per year)
- » Select outcome measures from ~190 indicators of QoL and wellbeing of residents
- » Collate spatial GBGI data from openly available sources e.g. OS, Bristol Open Data, Census, Natural England
- » Identify the most useful indicators of exposure to GBGI e.g. the number of trees within a 10-minute walk of a postcode, distance to the nearest bus stop, river or green space
- » Use GIS and regression modelling to link GBGI exposure to measures of QoL and wellbeing e.g. self-reported health, social interaction and neighbourhood satisfaction



Model



Results



* Satisfaction with green space, buses, leisure facilities, neighbourhood (noise, litter, air quality)

Conclusions

- » In this project we investigate the relationship between GBGI and self-reported life satisfaction and wellbeing over a long time period at high-resolution in Bristol.
- » Multiple GBGI factors were explored, including detailed mapping of GBGI exposure and reported satisfaction with and frequency of use of GBGI.
- » No significant relationships have been found between GBGI exposure and self-reported life satisfaction and wellbeing.
- » However, significant associations found between GBGI satisfaction and frequency of use and self-reported life satisfaction and wellbeing.
- » GBGI satisfaction and frequency of use is somewhat linked to GBGI exposure.
- » Suggests enhancing GBGI exposure in itself is not likely to directly lead to improvements in LS and wellbeing.
- » However, improving the quality of and peoples experience of GBGI and their local environment (as well as exposure) is potentially important in enhancing life satisfaction and wellbeing.