

The role of GBGI in levelling up in Bristol: a secondary analysis

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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).

Aim

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

Model

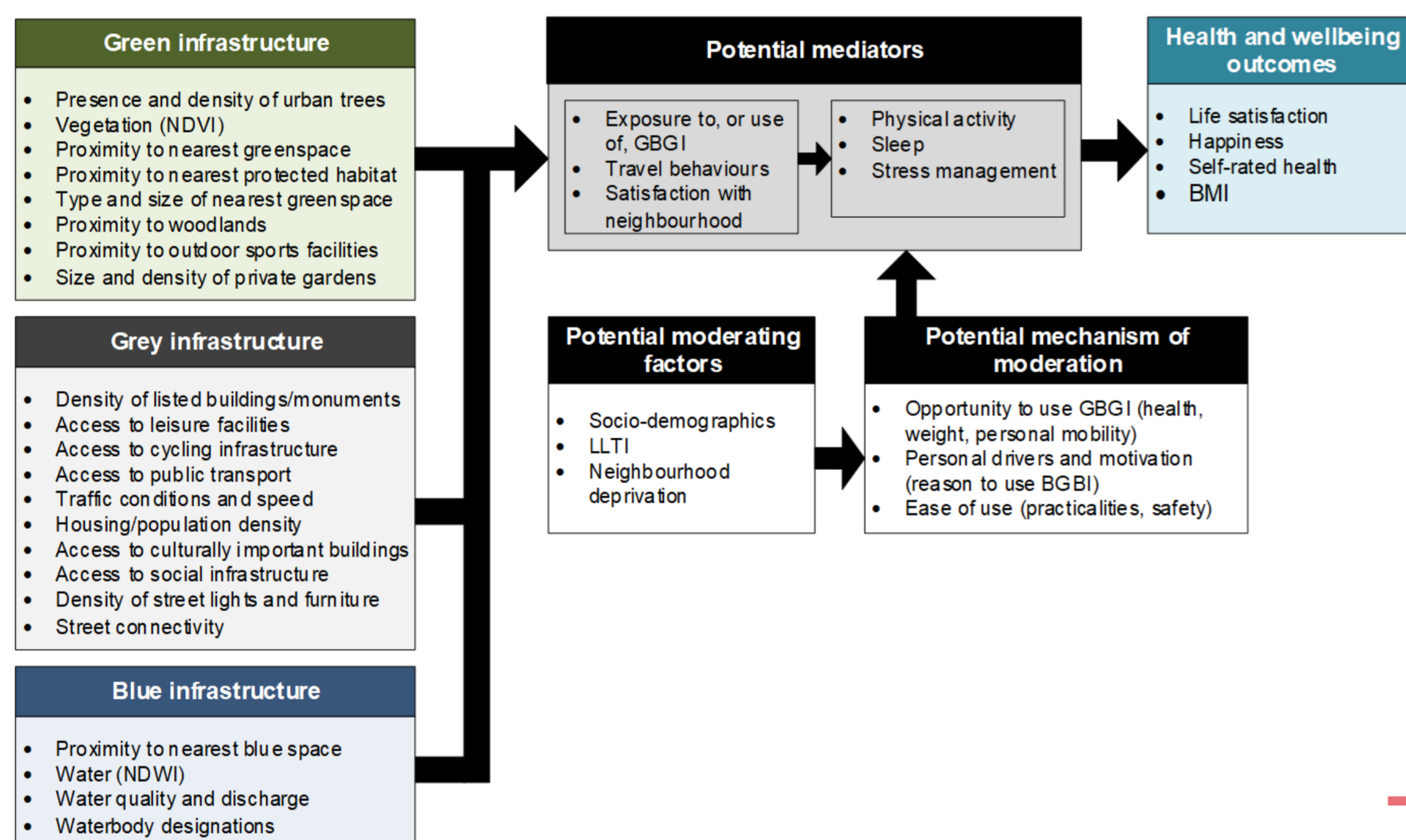


Figure 1. Conceptual model showing potential pathways between GBGI exposure and wellbeing.

Conclusion

- ❖ We investigated 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.
- ❖ Results suggest that enhancing GBGI exposure in itself is not likely to directly lead to improvements in life satisfaction and wellbeing.
- ❖ Improving the quality of and peoples experience of GBGI and their local environment is potentially important in enhancing life satisfaction and wellbeing.

Research questions

- 1 How can exposure to GBGI in urban populations be quantified using secondary data and Geographical Information Systems?
- 2 Is GBGI exposure associated with self-reported measures of wellbeing and life satisfaction in urban populations?

Methodology

Data Sets

- ❖ GBGI exposure data were compiled from a wide range of openly available sources e.g. Ordnance Survey, Bristol Open Data, Census, Natural England
- ❖ Self-reported outcomes and potential mediating variables were available from the Bristol Quality of Life Survey¹ (2011-2022)

Analysis

- ❖ Correlation was used to assess collinearity of green, blue and grey measures
- ❖ Regression was used to investigate direct and indirect relationships between GBGI and measures of wellbeing and life satisfaction

1. Bristol City Council (2023). Bristol Quality of Life Survey 2022/2023. <https://www.bristol.gov.uk/files/documents/6332-quality-of-life-2022-23-final-report-with-appendix/file>

Results

- ❖ There is limited collinearity of green, blue and grey measures
- ❖ No direct relationships were found between GBGI exposure and self-reported life satisfaction and wellbeing.
- ❖ Significant associations were found between GBGI satisfaction and frequency of use and self-reported life satisfaction and wellbeing.

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