

## International Conference on Sustainability in Energy and Buildings

### Invited Sessions

**Title of Session:**

**Design and Assessment of the Built & Natural Environment for Societal Health & Well-being (Quality of Life)**

**Name of Chair:**

Dr John Littlewood, Cardiff Metropolitan University, UK  
Dr Boris Ceranic, University of Derby, UK  
Professor George Karani, Cardiff Metropolitan University, UK

**Description:**

There are number of high priority health challenges facing existing urban and rural conurbations, or new and existing smart and resilient cities and their inhabitants. Namely the quality of its built environment (internally and external) and natural environment, such as landscape or blue spaces, and also economical, socio-cultural, governance, technological or simply life-style and work-style choices. This track focuses upon the following environments and infrastructure, to support the future of those rural and urban conurbations, including smart and resilient cities: the micro and macro around buildings, within and through neighbourhoods, in and surrounding suburbia, at the city and regional scale, and indeed at the building scale.

In each of these environments it seeks to investigate the sustainable planning and design decisions (or lack of) which maintain, enhance or can damage Societal Health & Well-being and Quality of Life. Some of the key factors include existing and future cities and rural conurbation planning and scenario based forecasting, and design on all scales from masterplanning and briefing to construction and a building; food production and organic food, sustaining food, food pollution; sustainable water production, water recycling, reuse and the energy:water nexus; biodiversity as a cultural amenity, wildlife haven, stabilising factor for buildings, or air purifier; private and public gardens.

The track aims to raise awareness, philosophical and practising principles within the broader context of the 'whole human response' to the built environment and its immediate natural environment. Where resilient cities or rural conurbations are those that are defined with ability to prepare for, absorb and recover from future shocks (economic, environmental, social & institutional). This ability (or lack of) has a direct impact on the people wellbeing and quality of life. Changing needs and aspirations of people living and working in the cities or rural conurbations as they move towards becoming 'smart' the changing nature of their interaction with the urban environment, its form and infrastructure and local governance, innovative networks and enterprises for social interaction, health and well-being. Furthermore, issues and challenges around fitness for purpose of legislative, regulatory and environmental assessment standards in terms of health and well-being.

**Website URL (if any):**

<https://surbe.org/>  
<https://www.derby.ac.uk/research/showcase/building-sustainability/>  
<http://www.cardiffmet.ac.uk/health/research/hrm/Pages/Environmental-Public-Health.aspx>

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