

Well-being and the environment – research questions & connections

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Concepts of well-being and its connection with environmental and landscape features provide a wealth of information for popular phrases including “exercising outside is better for you than going to the gym,” “having a nice view from your hospital bed will aid recovery” and “living in a greener environment will make you happier.” Providing evidence for these statements and analysing what the real relationships are is an ongoing challenge. There is a need to define what is actually meant by well-being and what methodologies are available to test impacts of environmental factors on people’s quality of life. Thinking about the different disciplinary perspectives will be important

issues such as recovery from surgery, dementia, work-related stress and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). Both the young and the elderly appear to be particularly amenable to the benefits of development and recovery using elements from the outdoors. Disciplines involved: landscape, medicine, public health, ageing studies

Ecosystem Services connected to objective well-being measures

A cross council programme on Ecosystem Services and Poverty Alleviation (ESPA) is currently active and consistently refers to human well-being within its objectives. Ecosystem Services include those that provide resources such as fuel wood; regulate systems that control the climate and air quality; support soil production and nutrient cycling; and also provide cultural and inspirational elements that define 'our sense of place.' These aspects affect every country no matter what level they are at on the socio-economic scales and issues cross between those relevant to objective well-being and those analysed by the subjective well-being framework. Disciplines involved: geography, degenegea invdnnw sgeieg (w) Tj-0.3 Tc .44 TD 1884 0.0 bs-(b) Tj-0.06 Tc 3504 Tc (s) Tj Tc () Tj-0.062ee (D) Tj84 Tc ()-01042 j-13.44 j-0.0312 Tch a4.448 (-)(n) Tjn Tj-0.3.354 Tc (