

# **The Role of Human Health in the Spatial Development Plan of a World City: A Focus on London's Response to Climate Change**

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Ultimately, the purpose of planning is to predict and protect ourselves from potential harm. One of the most fundamental indicators of harm avoidance and a symbiosis with the environment is health and well-being. It is therefore critical to consider human health among the other social, political, economic, and environmental co-benefits of planning sustainable places. There is very little research examining the role of health in spatial development plans and even less focused on health and climate change and sustainability planning. The research conducted here addresses the following question: How is the local co-benefit of human health portrayed in London's spatial development plan and, in particular, its climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies? This question is addressed through a content analysis of the City of London's 2011 Spatial Development Strategy. The prevalence of health and how it is framed is examined to determine its evidence base and to reveal needs in health and climate change research.