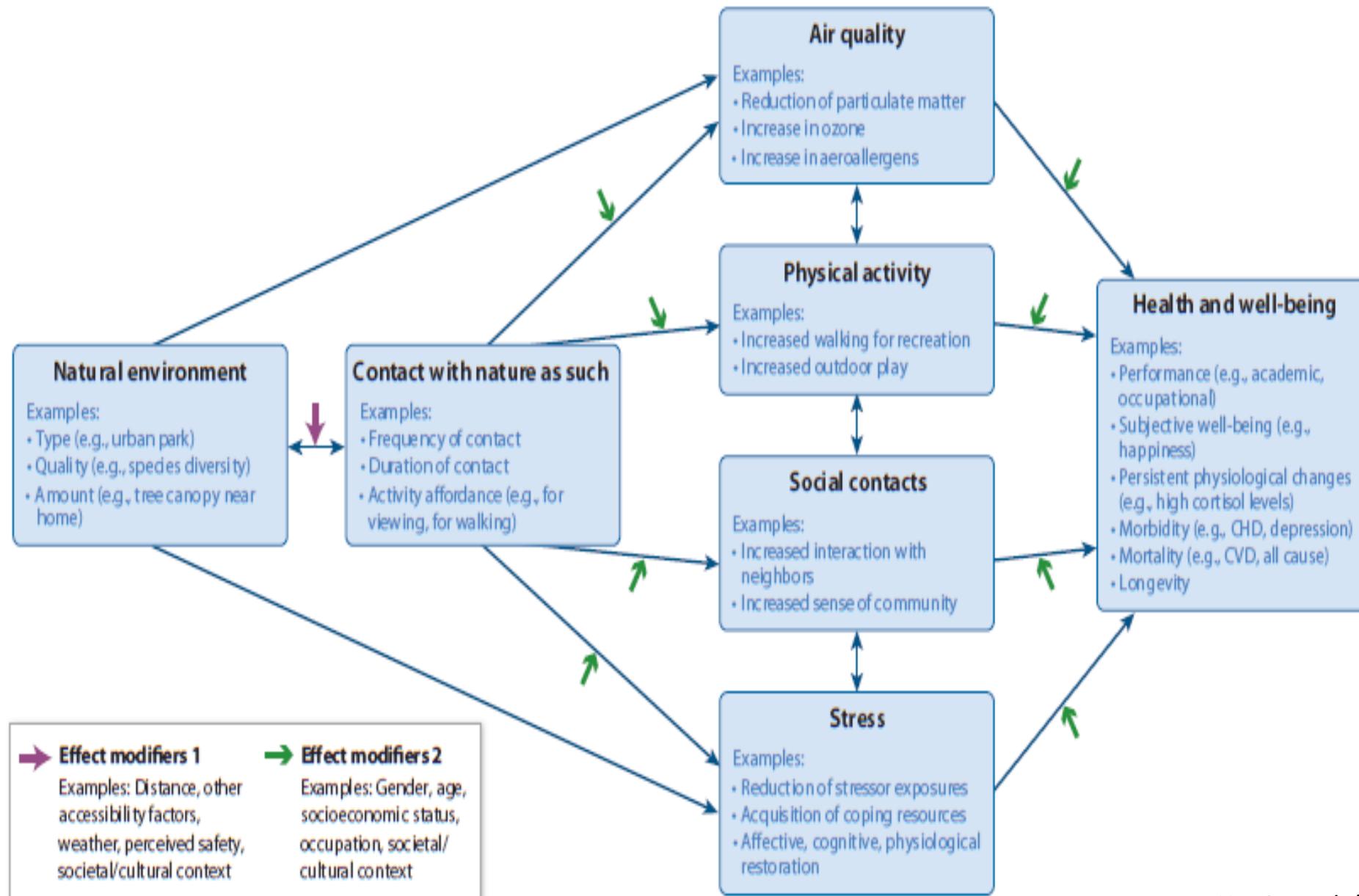


# The influence of park features on park satisfaction and park use in Bradford, UK

Hannah Roberts @hannah\_eroberts

H.E.Roberts13@leeds.ac.uk





# What are the determinants?

## User characteristics

- Inter-personal
- Intra-personal

## Park characteristics

- Structural



# We aimed to...

- Explore the influence of park **size**, **proximity** and **quality** on park **satisfaction** and park **use**
- Explore whether park **satisfaction mediated** the relationship between park features and park use
- Examine whether **ethnicity and socioeconomic status moderated** the relationship between park features and park satisfaction and park use

Domains	Items (summarised)
1. Access	Entrance points, Walking paths – amount, Walking paths – quality
2. Recreational Facilities	Playground equipment, Grass pitches, Courts, Skateboard ramp(s), Other sports or fitness facilities, Amount of open space (for informal games, play and walking), Quality of open space (for informal games, play and walking)
3. Amenities	Seating/benches, Litter bins, Dog mess bins (or equivalent), Public toilets, Cafe / kiosk, Shelter/shade - man-made, Picnic tables, Drinking fountains
4a. Aesthetics (Natural features)	Primary surface quality, Flower beds / planters / wild flowers, Other planted trees / shrubs / plants
4b. Aesthetics (Non-natural)	Water fountain (decorative), Other public art, Historic/attractive buildings/structures;
5. Incivilities	General litter, Evidence of alcohol use, Evidence of drug taking, Graffiti, Broken glass, Vandalism, Dog mess, Excessive noise, Unpleasant smells
6. Significant natural feature	% area occupied by the water ( $\geq 50\%$ ), Good view points, vistas, scenic views, % area occupied by trees ( $\geq 50\%$ )
7. Usage (suitability for...)	Sport, Informal games (football, frisby, etc.), Walking / running, Children's play, Conservation/biodiversity, Enjoying the landscape / visual qualities, Meeting, socialising with friends, neighbours, etc., Relaxing, unwinding, Cycling, Water sports, Fishing

Natural Environment  
Scoring Tool (NEST)  
(Gidlow, in review)  
N = 45

- Access
- Recreational facilities
- Amenities
- Natural features
- Significant natural features
- Non-natural features
- Incivilities
- Usability

- Park size



BiB sub-sample  
survey  
N= 620

**Park use**

**Park satisfaction** 😊

**Park proximity**

**Individual factors**

Education, financial status, marital status, ethnicity

**Area-level factors**

IMD quintile

# Findings

- **Amenities** and **usability** were positively associated with park **satisfaction** ( $\beta = .07, p = .027$ ;  $\beta = .11, p = .008$ )
- **Incivilities** negatively associated with park **satisfaction** ( $\beta = -.12, p = .000$ )
- **Incivilities** were found to negatively predict park **use** ( $\beta = -16.02, p = .046$ ).
- Ethnicity and socioeconomic status had no moderating role.
- No evidence of mediation by park satisfaction in the relationship between park features and use was found.



# Implications

- Development of environmental interventions to encourage park satisfaction and park use may be more effective than individual or community-based interventions.
- The incivilities domain was predictive of both park satisfaction and park use and, therefore, should be prioritised for intervention over other features.
- Amenities and usability were also related to park satisfaction, and therefore items within these domains should be referred to when increasing satisfaction is the objective.

# Collaborators

With thanks to:

Dr Rosie McEachan, Dr Ian Kellar, Prof Mark Nieuwenhuijsen, Prof Mark Conner, Dr Brian Kelly, Dr Christopher Gidlow

& the Born in Bradford team

@hannah\_eroberts

[H.E.Roberts13@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:H.E.Roberts13@leeds.ac.uk)

Photos: All author's own



STAFFORDSHIRE  
UNIVERSITY



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS