

DECISION MAKING CRITERIA SHEET TO ASSESS URBAN LIVABILITY

Task – Determine the livability index of a particular study site or street by using a survey sheet like the one below. Through observation, circle the rating score for each category and make an overall assessment. If you are working in groups, discuss each category and attempt to reach a general consensus.

Location:

Date:

Time of day:

CATEGORY	Features	Score	CATEGORY	Features	Score
1. Aspect in relation to sun and breezes	North	5	2. Vista	Ocean, lake or hills	5
	North east	4		Bushland or parks	4
	East	3		Similar residential	3
	West	2		Shops, transport	2
	south	1	Industrial sites	1	
3. Housing	Similar age; individual style	5	4. Allotment size	Large with spacious yards	5
	Similar age; duplication	4		Medium	4
	Variable design; good cond	3			3
	Mixed types; fair cond	2			2
	Several in poor condition	1			1
5 Road type	Cul-de-sac	5	6 Road design	Full width sealed; kerbing	5
	No through road	4		Full width sealed; no kerbing	4
	Suburban street	3		Sealed strip with; kerbing	3
	Through road (busy)	2		Sealed strip; no kerbing	2
	Arterial road	1		Unsealed	1
7. Footpath	Wide; clear; landscaped	5	8. Aesthetics (frontal appearance)	Immaculate with landscaping	5
	wide; minor obstruction	4		Clean; well-kept gardens	4
	Narrow; minor obstruction	3		Clean; tidy	3
	Uneven concrete; cluttered	2		Poorly maintained; litter	2
	Difficult to access	1		Neglected; badly littered	1
9. Privacy from neighbours or passers-by	Complete privacy	5	10. Noise (Traffic, pets, construction or other)	Non-existent; Minimum	5
	Some privacy	4		Occasional	4
	Limited privacy	3		Periodic	3
	Little privacy	2		Regular	2
	No privacy	1		Constant	1
11. Access to facilities (shops, schools, etc)	Walking distance; not beside	5	12. Public transport	A few minutes away	5
	< 500m but not immediate	4		5 – 10 mins away	4
	500m – 1 km	3		>10 mins away	3
	Short driving distance	2		Beyond walking distance	2
	Long driving distance	1		Non existent or limited	1

1. What was the total score out of a possible sixty?
2. Where would you rate your score on the continuum below?

Never live here

Satisfactory

Want to live here

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3. How many categories did you rate as 5?
 4. How many did you rate as 3+ ?
 5. Which category did you rate lowest? Why?
 6. In your opinion, what features made this street / area most liveable? Why?
 7. What changes to the planning or zoning of this area would help to improve it?