

While security can often be seen as a simple physical design inclusion of an office or building - a lock on the door, a camera in the entry - it also provides a highly underrated component of personal wellbeing.

Feeling safe, stable and secure is central to our sense of wellbeing, and the security of the places we inhabit is so often only noticeable in its absence. How safe we feel at home, and in our place of work can adversely influence our social habits, productivity and sense of freedom. When we feel safe, we find it easier to relax, to create, contribute and to focus on the work or study we need to do to help ensure our stability.

Maslow (1943, 1970) provided some of the first work to recognise security as part of his needs hierarchy theory, which has been well referenced in many subsequent studies that have focused on the strong link between fear and perception of crime and an individual's sense of wellbeing. In the recently-released Global Youth Wellbeing Index, safety and security factors were considered equally alongside five other major 'domains' that contribute to youth wellbeing. The report also found that countries that perform best in safety and security are generally those that perform best in overall rankings of youth wellbeing, highlighting the intrinsic relationship between security, safety and the human sense of wellness.

We are fortunate to operate in an era where Wellbeing has moved to the forefront of building design, and has become part of the standard for which workplaces and facilities are built to. Achieving the requirements of a WELL building are aimed at delivering benefits to the health and wellness of individuals, supporting the attraction and retention of top talent, and in driving greater engagement, productivity and satisfaction. The role that Workplace Security plays as part of this standard should not be under-estimated.

It is in this context that our team focus on the impact of buildings on human wellness, and how a well-designed security system can foster a sense of security and safety, effectively protecting the people, infrastructure and information within. Our team work hard to ensure that the solutions we design are not about ticking the box - they are firmly rooted in doing the best thing for people.

What are you doing to contribute to well beings?

WHAT DOES SECURITY HAVE TO DO WITH WELLBEING?

KYLIE MARTIN, COO

