

TRANSFORMING HOMES NEWSLETTER

The Transforming Homes consortium is an ecosystem of stakeholders working together to transform existing homes through design using biobased materials and low carbon solutions to provide better places to live for future generations.

Activities happening across our consortium

Expanding engagement and dissemination

Dr Veronica Albarran Carrillo, Research Associate, Cardiff University

A core focus of the Transforming Homes team has been engaging with stakeholders to advance our research and disseminate our ongoing work. From running workshops with housing providers across the UK supported by [Community Housing Cymru \(CHC\)](#) and the [National Housing Maintenance Forum \(NHMF\)](#) HAMMAR working groups, exploring visions for future healthy housing, to presenting at the UKRI Building a Green Future Conference in Bristol, these events have created opportunities for co-design.

The [GW4 Alliance](#) has provided platforms to reach diverse audiences. At [Y Farchnad](#) (the Marketplace) in the Welsh Senedd, Prof Jo Patterson discussed how our work can support improvements in housing quality, resident health, and energy use across Wales. At the [GW4 Innovation Showcase](#) in the House of Commons, Dr Robert Grover and Dr Lucy McFadzean spoke with policy makers, funders, civic leaders, and industry representatives about the urgency of transforming existing housing stock.

Together, these activities advance Transforming Homes' aims by broadening the reach of our research, providing opportunities continue learning from stakeholder perspectives, and demonstrate the power of strong collaboration in pushing this project forward.



Transforming Homes, Strengthening Skills

Emma Taylor, Research Associate, University of Bath



Work on the demonstration homes in Bristol began on the 1st of December following a detailed and collaborative design process. People with varying levels of construction experience and a shared interest in new approaches to home transformation have been brought together to carry out internal works, including lofts and eave insulation.

Training will continue throughout delivery, with small teams, each involving a skilled tradesperson and an apprentice, working closely together. The crew will remain on site for the full programme, ensuring continuity for residents. By embedding the local workforce, the project supports not only housing transformation but also long-term community skills development.



Transforming Homes Blogs

Transforming Homes showcased in the 'Interweaving disciplines' edition of the Environmental Scientist, September 2025



Join **Prof Jo Patterson** as she reflects on Transforming Homes colleagues' contributions to the 'Interweaving disciplines' edition of The Environmental Scientist journal. Jo explores the conditions needed for genuine interdisciplinary research to take place. Through discussions of governance, social justice and the challenges of working across disciplinary boundaries, she highlights the importance of integrated, collaborative approaches, showing how co-design, shared responsibility and sustained communication are essential for transforming the UK's housing stock.

Closing the Building Performance Gap: Why Full-Scale Measurement Matters



Dr Andy Shea, Dr Francis Moran, and Dr Neal Holcroft explore how full-scale measurement is helping to close the building performance gap. Through large-scale prototype testing at the University of Bath's Large Environmental Chamber, the team is testing building elements typical of the homes we are studying as part of the Transforming Homes project. By reconstructing walls that simulate those of our demonstration homes, their work reveals how these elements behave under changing environmental conditions. This research is generating robust evidence to validate design proposals and guide transformation strategies.

Expanding Horizons: Sharing Transforming Homes Research Internationally



Dr Louise King and Dr Lucy McFadzean reflect on how sharing Transforming Homes research internationally is broadening conversations around housing and resident co-design. Drawing on experiences from the International Social Housing Festival and the International Retrofit Conference, they explore how storytelling, interdisciplinarity, and international exchange are shaping new ways of thinking about homes, and how engaging diverse audiences can strengthen the social and cultural dimensions of retrofit.



Spotlight on...



Dr Will Hawkins

Co-investigator,
University of Bath
Transforming Homes



Dr Chenfei Liu

Research Associate,
Cardiff University,
Transforming Homes

Insights from beyond Transforming Homes

BBC

When council estates
were a dream

By Ashley John-Baptiste

Article suggested by
Steve Coombs

GW4

GW4 Innovation Showcase
and Parliamentary Reception



Video suggested by
Veronica Albarran Carrillo

indoor

ENVIRONMENTS

Resident-centric retrofits
for social housing: A
multi-solving approach

By Marianne F. Touchie

Paper suggested by
Louise King

External Events of Interest

20-21
Jan

Transforming
Homes @

**NHMF
Maintenance
Conference
2026**

NHMF Maintenance
Conference & Exhibition 2026
Stratford-upon-Avon

28
Jan



Good Homes Annual
Conference
London

26
Feb

**HEALTHY
BUILDINGS**
CONFERENCE & EXPO 2026
PRODUCTS • PEOPLE • PLANET

Healthy Buildings Annual
Conference & Expo
London

Interested in contributing our next issue? Contact Veronica
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Stay connected

