

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

On the Ground: Progress Across Transforming Homes

Dr Veronica Albarran Carrillo, Research Associate, Cardiff University

As the year continues, activity across the Transforming Homes consortium reflects both the depth and breadth of the project's work — from ongoing engagement with stakeholders to progress on demonstration homes and the development of outputs that support wider dissemination.

Research Associates have been leading a series of charrettes designed to strengthen engagement approaches while generating insights to inform the design research process. These sessions are contributing to the development of the Transforming Homes Catalogue, which aims to inspire transformation of 1920–1940 council-built homes, alongside mapping delivery models to identify scalable pathways for transformation. A recent highlight was the Forum at the [Design Museum](#), which brought together housing providers and sector stakeholders. Further charrettes took place in April, including sessions within the [Re: New Towns Symposium](#) and the [HAMMAR Southwest seminar day](#).

In parallel, work on the demonstration homes continues to advance. The Bristol demonstration homes, led by colleagues at the [University of Bath](#) and [KWMC](#), are currently undergoing transformation, while in Swansea demonstration homes, led by our partners from [Cardiff University](#) and [Swansea Council](#), works are expected to commence this summer. These homes will play a key role in refining approaches in real-world contexts, identifying challenges and opportunities to upscale transformation.

Efforts to share learning and engage wider audiences also remain a priority. Earlier this year, the team presented an exhibition within the [UK Research and Innovation](#) zone at the [Festival of Tomorrow](#) in Swindon, where they introduced families and young people to the project's exploration of bio-based materials. The recently published Transforming Homes Illustrated Storybook further communicates insights from the research journey to date.

As we enter the summer period, the project continues to build momentum, with further opportunities for collaboration and knowledge exchange, supporting the ongoing development of practical, evidence-based approaches to home transformation.



Photos 2 & 3 by Francesca Jones

Transforming Homes Blogs

Bringing Transforming Homes to life



In this blog, Professor Jo Patterson introduces the Transforming Homes Illustrated Storybook. Our research is showcased through colourful illustrations and clear text.

The storybook documents what life was like in the 1920s and 1930s, how homes have changed over time, the challenges they face today and the opportunities for transformation going forward.

Transforming Homes Webinars

The Transforming Homes Webinar Series is back!

Join us this summer to hear about our progress and the lessons learned from activities across the project including our **demonstration homes** in Bristol and Swansea, the **co-design processes** supporting our research and the **resources** being developed to inspire housing transformation.



Webinar 1: Delivering the transformation of 1920-1940 Council built homes for future living

Thursday 2nd July 2026 | 12:00 to 13:00 BST

[Learn more and register](#)



Webinar 2: Putting people at the heart of housing transformation

Thursday 9th July 2026 | 13:00 to 14:00 BST

[Learn more and register](#)



Webinar 3: Developing a Transforming Homes Design Catalogue to inspire future housing transformations

Thursday 16th July 2026 | 13:00 to 14:00 BST

[Learn more and register](#)

Spotlight on...



Dr Catherine Butler

Co-investigator,
University of Exeter,
Transforming Homes



Dr Neal Holcroft

Research Associate,
University of Bath,
Transforming Homes

Insights from beyond Transforming Homes

From design to reality: Long term performance of new build, low-carbon affordable homes



CLCBE, WSA,
Cardiff University

Report suggested by
Jo Patterson

How people think about homes has changed: here's what this means for communicators

Sophie Gordon
Principal Communications Strategist
Tamsyn Hyatt
Director of Evidence

Brief suggested by
Lucy McFadzean

2026 UK HOUSING REVIEW

Mark Stephens
John Perry
Peter Williams
Gillian Young

Chartered Institute of Housing
University of Glasgow



Review suggested by
Veronica Albarran Carrillo

External Events of Interest

25 Jun

FUTURE OBSERVATORY

Building Resilience: Demonstrators for a Changing Climate

Future Observatory: Building Resilience
London

01 Jul



Housing Cymru Conference
Cardiff

14-15 Jul

Transforming Homes @

National Tenants Conference 2026



National Tenants Conference 2026
Nottingham

Editors:
Dr Veronica Albarran Carrillo and Prof Jo Patterson

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