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

Exploring inequality at the Royal Geographical Society Annual Conference

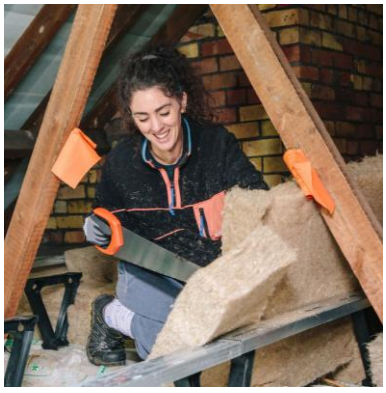
Dr Lucy McFadzean, Research Fellow, University of Exeter

From 1st to 4th September Dr Catherine Butler and I attended the RGS-IBG Conference that brought together researchers from across the world to explore pressing issues of inequality. Throughout the week, we had the opportunity to hear from a broad range of academics working in geography and home decarbonisation.

A highlight were the sessions on 'Tackling Energy Inequalities through Home Energy Advice and Retrofit', including panels and workshops on place-based retrofit in practice, equitable access to retrofit pathways, and the structural and policy challenges shaping energy advice and housing decarbonisation. In our session, we presented findings from Transforming Homes in a paper on 'Accelerating and Scaling Place-Based Retrofit', which explored how relational, community-centred approaches to housing retrofit can deliver benefits for people, place and environment, while addressing the challenges of scaling these approaches to meet the pace required for net-zero transitions.

The conference provided an excellent opportunity to share our research, fostering inspiring discussions, valuable feedback and new connections. The event highlighted the growing momentum behind place-based approaches to tackling energy inequalities and creating more sustainable homes and communities.





Credits: Ibi Feher

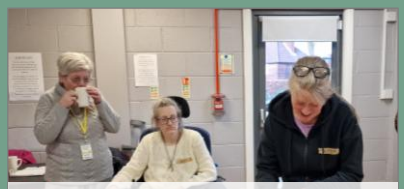
2026 Transforming Homes Webinar Series – Now Available Online

Our 2026 Transforming Homes Webinar Series showcased progress and lessons learned across the project. These are now available online via the links below.



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

Webinar 1



Putting people at the heart of housing transformation

Webinar 2



Developing a Design Catalogue to inspire future housing transformations

Webinar 3

Research and Policy: Knowledge Exchange with Welsh Government

Laura Brain, Research Associate, Cardiff University



For the past 15 years, the Centre for a Low Carbon Built Environment (CLCBE) at the Welsh School of Architecture (WSA), Cardiff University (CU), has carried out research to support the transition to a low-carbon built environment. Prof Jo Patterson, PI of Transforming Homes and Director of the CLCBE, has worked closely with Darren Hatton, Head of Housing Standards, Welsh Government (WG) to build two-way knowledge exchange between the CLCBE and WG stakeholders.

Activities to shape housing policy have been funded through the UKRI Harmonised Impact Accelerator Account Knowledge Exchange Partnership through CU. This work culminated in a series of summer workshops, entitled 'Experiencing each other's worlds: Exchanging experiences and knowledge to escalate the scale-up of high quality, affordable, low carbon housing for future generations in Wales'. Participants from CU and WG shared their work and engaged in discussions of how government and academia can collaborate to ensure that research supports policymaking.

Transforming Homes researchers discussed the co-design process and design catalogue and received feedback on how the research could be shaped to inform key government priorities. One challenge identified by WG participants was the need to stimulate uptake of retrofit in private sector housing. The workshops highlighted the importance of listening to the diverse stakeholders involved in housing transformation, ensuring that research and policy are informed by the perspectives, knowledge and priorities of those working across the sector.

Transforming Homes Blogs

Collaboration, Community and the Power of Design



Dr Katie Lidster, GW4 Research Development Manager, reflects on the *Tools for Transition* Conference. Drawing on discussions across the Green Transition Ecosystems, Katie explores how collaboration can support a fairer, people-centred transition. She highlights the role of design in bringing people together, building trust and translating research into meaningful change, highlighting how initiatives such as Transforming Homes demonstrate the value of place-based collaboration in addressing societal challenges.

Bio-based EWI Systems: Techniques and Training at Lime Green



Join Joel Cady as he explains how collaboration with industry is supporting the specification and installation of bio-based external wall insulation (EWI) systems in the Transforming Homes demonstration homes. Drawing on a recent training session led by Lime Green for Swansea Council's in-house construction team, he highlights the importance of hands-on experience in developing the skills and confidence needed to work with bio-based materials and deliver high-quality building transformations.

Spotlight on...



Dr Emmanouil (Manos) Perisoglou

Co-investigator, Cardiff University, Transforming Homes

Want to learn more about the team behind Transforming Homes?

Read more about our other spotlights in our website.

Insights from beyond Transforming Homes



Zines suggested by Veronica Albarran Carrillo



Website suggested by Ashley Lait

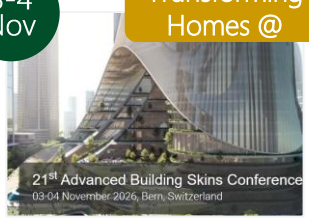


Guide suggested by Chenfei Liu

External Events of Interest

3-4 Nov

Transforming Homes @



Advanced Building Skins Conference
Bern, Switzerland

24-25 Nov



Homes UK 2026
London

25-26 Nov



Elemental LONDON
London

Editors:
Dr Veronica Albarran Carrillo and Prof Jo Patterson

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