

The CaCHE centre: providing research evidence for housing policy and practice

The UK Collaborative Centre for Housing Evidence (CaCHE) is a multidisciplinary consortium of 13 partners, led by the University of Glasgow and funded by the Economic and Social Research Council, the Joseph Rowntree Foundation and the Arts and Humanities Research Council.

Housing has risen to the top of the domestic policy agenda, with rising (and in many places prohibitive) house prices and rents, insufficient numbers of new homes, and increasing homelessness. These multiple challenges stem from a complex, interdependent housing system and too often from basing policies and practice on insufficient analysis and evidence.

Against this backdrop, the ESRC, the Arts and Humanities Research Council and the Joseph Rowntree Foundation are funding in excess of £6 million for five years for the CaCHE centre. The centre will produce evidence and new research aimed at improving housing policy and practice across the UK.

CaCHE thematic priorities

CaCHE research is organised around seven themes. Each theme has a number of academics and researchers attached to it and they will develop their own agenda but in part they will also react to the developing housing agenda.

1. **Housing and the Economy** (micro, spatial and macroeconomic questions and the two-way relationship between housing and the wider economy)
2. **Understanding the Housing Market** (tenure change, housing supply, need and demand)
3. **Housing Choices and Aspirations** (housing career and pathways, how they are modified by material circumstances and the impacts this has on households)
4. **Housing and Health, Education, Employment, Poverty and Inequality** (how the housing system interacts with other major complex social systems and what this tells us, for instance about the wider benefits of a more effective housing system)
5. **Place, Design and Neighbourhoods** (how housing design and place-making improve housing policy and how this relates to policies and processes in residential neighbourhoods)
6. **Multi-level Governance** (a cross-cutting theme about housing policy analysis across and between territories in the devolved UK)
7. **Homelessness** (a cross-cutting theme concerned with all aspects of homelessness)

CaCHE year one Exemplar Projects

International evidence review: economic impacts and incidence of housing taxation

Project lead: Jeff Matsu (RICS) and NIESR

International evidence review: policies to improve housing affordability

Project lead: Geoff Meen (Reading)

Review of housing land and speculative developer product selection

Project lead: David Adams (Glasgow) and Sarah Payne (Sheffield)

Review of housing design quality of new supply at neighbourhood level

Project lead: Flora Samuel (Reading)

Monitoring changes in the UK private rented sector

Project lead: Ken Gibb (Glasgow), Nick Bailey and Mark Livingston (UBDC)

Understanding reconfigured aspirations, expectations and choices

Project lead: John Flint and David Robinson (Sheffield)

Impact of being able to become homeowners – generation rent

Project lead: Kim McKee (St Andrews)

Evidencing the impact of welfare reform on social housing

Project lead: Paul Hickman, Kesia Reeve and Ben Pattinson (Sheffield Hallam)

Wellbeing as a tool for evaluating housing outcomes

Project lead: David Clapham (Reading) and Chris Foye (Glasgow)

What works in homelessness prevention in the UK and internationally

Project lead: Suzanne Fitzpatrick (Heriot-Watt)

Predictive analytics: measuring social housing investment impacts on residents

Project lead: Ken Gibb (Glasgow) and Chris Dibben (Edinburgh)

Good practice in international and UK lesson sharing/learning and policy transfer

Project lead: Alex Marsh (Bristol)



**UK COLLABORATIVE
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HOUSING EVIDENCE**

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The Economic and Social Research Council is the UK's leading agency for research funding and training in economic and social sciences.

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