    

**Housing Futures: Community-led alternatives for Greater Manchester**

**Events in 2018**

Housing Futures is organising a series of monthly events throughout 2018 on a range of community-led housing models. These events are aimed both at building a Greater Manchester network of people, groups and organisations interested in promoting community-led housing, but also in thinking through the potential and challenges associated with community-led housing. We are particularly interested in thinking through what it has to offer low-income neighbourhoods amidst a crisis in housing availability and affordability in certain areas. We hope that the partnership will lay the foundations for a new regional hub for support and advice on community-led housing in Greater Manchester. We would like to thank Manchester Urban Institute at the University of Manchester for their sponsorship of the Housing Futures events programme.

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| **Date** | **Event Details** |
| 26 April 18  6 - 8.30pm | **Greater Manchester housing co-operatives: past, present and future**  Co-operatives UK, Holyoake House, Hanover St, Manchester M60 0AS |
| 21 June 18  6 - 8.30pm | **Co-Housing: potential and challenges**  The Mechanics Institute (main hall), 103 Princess St, M1 6DD  Please register here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/cohousing-potential-and-challenges-tickets-46182047748?aff=erelpanelorg> |
| 19 July 18  6 - 8.30pm | **Community Land Trusts: the What, Why and How**  Room G1, Friends Meeting House, 6 Mount St, M2 5NS  Please register here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/community-land-trusts-the-what-the-why-and-the-how-tickets-46356283893?aff=erelpanelorg> |
| 20 Sept 18  6 - 8.30pm | **Alternative Models of Ownership: risks and opportunities for the community-led housing movement** - *Venue to be confirmed*  Please register here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/alternative-models-of-ownership-risks-and-opportunities-for-the-community-led-housing-movement-tickets-46357231728> |
| 1 Nov 18  6 - 8.30pm | **Lessons from the Global South for community-led housing**  *Venue to be confirmed* |
| 24 Nov 18  12 – 4pm | **Greater Manchester Community-led Housing Network Launch**  *Venue to be confirmed – Note this is a Saturday event* |

**To be added to the** **Housing Futures mailing list**, email [gmhousingfutures@gmail.com](mailto:gmhousingfutures@gmail.com) with ‘Subscribe’ in the subject line.

**For more information about *Housing Futures* please contact**: Hannah Berry, Housing Futures Steering Group Chair, at [gmhousingfutures@gmail.com](mailto:gmhousingfutures@gmail.com).

**For more information about the *Realising Just Cities* programme at the University of Sheffield please contact**: Dr Sophie King, Realising Just Cities Research Fellow, at [s.king@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:s.king@sheffield.ac.uk).

**Housing Futures: Events in 2018**

**26 April - Greater Manchester Housing Co-operatives: past, present and future**

***Speakers:***

* Hannah Berry, [Homes for Change](https://www.homesforchange.co.uk/) and [Greater Manchester Housing Action](http://www.gmhousingaction.com/)
* Stephen Naylor, [Co-operative Living Freehold Society](http://www.coopliving.net) (CLFS)

Greater Manchester has a long history of co-operative housing. There is great diversity in the sector, from small fully mutual co-ops where all members live communally in one property to Registered Providers of multiple social rent homes. What are the advantages and disadvantages of these different models? What lessons from the past can help inform the present and the future? What support is available and what needs to be in place to support existing co-ops to expand and new co-ops to flourish? These questions will be engaged with by speakers and discussion followed by focused small group discussions for members of existing housing co-operatives.

**6 – 8.30pm, 21June – Cohousing: Potential and Challenges**

***Speakers:***

* Bill Phelps – [Chapeltown Cohousing](http://chapeltowncohousing.org.uk/), Leeds
* Maria Brenton – Senior Cohousing Ambassador, UK Cohousing Network and [Older Women’s Cohousing Community](http://www.OWCH.org.uk) (OWCH), London

Cohousing initiatives are commonly understood as intentional communities created by a group of likeminded people seeking alternative ways of living together. It is relatively small scale in the UK yet existing cohousing initiatives demonstrate that cohousing has the potential to generate a wealth of positive social and sometimes economic outcomes also. Can cohousing contribute to a fairer or more inclusive housing landscape in Greater Manchester? What can we learn from existing experiments about the potential for cohousing in lower income areas of our city-region? This event will comprise a combination of speakers, Q&A, and highly participatory discussion with opportunities for networking.

**6 – 8.30pm, Community Land Trusts: The What, Why and How**

***Speakers:***

* Tom Moore, University of Liverpool (Evaluation of the [Urban Community Land Trust Project](https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/usp/research/projects/urbanclt))
* Marianne Heaslip, [URBED](file:///C:\Users\HB\Documents\Activism\GMHA\HFSG\urbed.coop), [Granby 4 Streets](http://www.granby4streetsclt.co.uk/) and [Homebaked](http://homebaked.org.uk/)
* Rebecca Winson, New Economics Foundation

A community land trust is an organisation established with the express purpose of acquiring and managing land for the social, economic, and environmental benefit of the local community. The CLT movement has grown out of rural roots in the UK but is increasingly becoming an urban phenomenon and has attracted much policy attention in relation to the potential for such initiatives to secure affordable housing in low income areas and catalyse neighbourhood revival. We will hear directly from well-known initiatives in Liverpool as well as from a recent evaluation of urban CLTs commissioned by the National CLT Network. The event will be focused on exploring some of the challenges in both setting up and sustaining CLTs over time as well as the many benefits that may result and support that may be available.

**6 – 8.30pm, 20September - Alternative Models of Ownership: Risks and opportunities**

***Speakers to be confirmed***

What does Labour’s [Alternative Models of Ownership](https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/.../Alternative-Models-of-Ownership.pdf) report and [new financing](http://www.communitylandtrusts.org.uk/about-the-network/our-campaigns/community-housing-fund) from the current Conservative administration mean for the community-led housing movement? How far do these moves signify a cross-party moment of political opportunity or is recent rhetoric likely to result, in reality, in watered down versions of community ownership and governance? How can we ensure that new agendas for greater community leadership and control remain substantive and are provided with the necessary levels of investment and support infrastructure? And which of these alternative models are most likely to sustain themselves over time and have the potential for scaling up? Come along for an evening of speakers and debate.

**6 - 8.30pm, 1November - Lessons from the Global South for community-led housing**

***Speakers:***

* Professor Diana Mitlin, [Global Development Institute](https://www.gdi.manchester.ac.uk), University of Manchester and International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)
* Activists from the [Kenyan Slum Dwellers Federation](https://www.muungano.net) on movement-based solutions to affordability and sustainability [TBC]

Recent academic debates in the areas of urban studies and planning have called for ‘thinking with elsewhere’ when trying to develop alternative pathways through highly complex challenges in cities of the Global North. ‘Thinking with elsewhere’ – and in this case, looking at experiments and developments in countries with very different histories of economic development and industrialisation – can enable radical new insights into ways to overcome stalemates and blockages in existing models of practice. Professor Diana Mitlin will play a listening role throughout the Housing Futures events programme and at this session will speak back to the critical issues and debates that have been raised from her many years of experience working with citizen-led movements for shelter and basic services across countries of the Global South. We hope members of the Kenyan Slum Dwellers Federation will also be joining us to share their experiences of building a sustainable and autonomous savings-based movement for community-led housing provision and settlement-upgrading.

**Saturday 24November 12-4pm: Greater Manchester Community-Led Housing Network Launch**

***Speakers to be confirmed***

Since November 2017, GMHA and the Housing Futures partnership have been reaching out to a wide variety of individuals, groups and organisations across Greater Manchester and nationally, to identify needs and opportunities for a local Community-led Housing Network. GMHA have also been exploring the potential for establishing a Regional Support Hub for existing and prospective CLH initiatives across the city-region. This half-day event will bring together experienced practitioners, infrastructure agencies and networks, interested stakeholders such as Housing Associations and Local Authority representatives, and most importantly people living and working across the community-led housing sector, to consolidate a CLH Network. The event will include networking fora, speakers, information sessions and stalls, and action-planning sessions focused on next steps. See you there!