**Project Title: The Changing Role of the House**

**Supervisors:**

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**Project objectives:**

* To articulate current theory on the diverse role that current houses possess involving culture, technology and economics.
* To design a small number of scenarios about the delivery and form of houses for the post-industrial city base of the West Midlands that involves new thinking/design-frames encompassing new technologies, space relations, images, meanings and metaphors that can act as stimuli of change.
* To test the acceptability and viability of these scenarios with stakeholders for the post-industrial city base in order to develop theory and to learn to create future developments.

A house is a significant part of our identity; however, housing is in crisis economically, technologically, and environmentally. Now is the time to research the changing role of the house within a post-industrial and post-modern city to see if a new conception can provide opportunities for progressive development. This recognises that it is existing conceptions of housing that locks us into problematic solutions. Housing needs to accommodate the changing nature of the family and society, acknowledging how different social and cultural groups use space differently. There are opportunities and challenges of new technological solutions particular driven by the digital world; thus, this research will bring together design, cultural and technological studies with an acute social, economic and political awareness to think differently, but collectively with housing stakeholders, about the changing role of the house.

**Partners**

Blackcountry Housing Group.

Building Alliance CIC

Matrix Housing Partnership