

MMC & Future of Housing: social science agenda

What does a social science research agenda for MMC (social & affordable) housing look like?

- 3 academic/industry interdisciplinary workshops (approx. 50 participants)
- Observations from site visits to 4 contrasting MMC factories (UK, Sweden, Denmark, France)
- ‘Tracing the flow’ of materials to MMC residential sites. Infra-labs.
- Buildings & Cities SI eds. Macrorie, R. & Karvonen, A.
- EU Consortium – 7 countries, New European Bauhaus



MMC & the UK social housing crisis paper

- A political economy appraisal
- For B&C Special Issue
- UK Social housing crisis
- Current & future agenda, recognising previous volumetric housing market failures.
- Methods:
 - Workshops, factory & site visits
 - 4 trade shows & industry conferences
 - Document review
 - Series of interviews



Policy, regulation & governance – create the external conditions for social housing, incl. by MMC



Pipeline visibility & procurement – quality & social value-led approach (not upfront cost)



Planning principles – ensure planning policies do not obstruct MMC technologies, aggregate demand



Platform-based business models – importance of shared responsibility, trust, early (digital) collaboration across system to reduce risk



People & skills – training on MMC throughout supply chain, inc. municipalities & future residents

Next...

- How will MMC for social housing play out?
- Comparative UK/EU/Aus research
- Industrialised renovation – in practice.
- Negotiating & developing brownfield sites
- Circular economy – reducing waste
- Workforce, skills & training pathways
- MMC in context of place-based regional development

