

**IFHP**

International  
Federation for  
Housing and  
Planning

# **LONDON HOUSING EVENT**

**City of Westminster, London  
International Housing Group**

**10 – 12 May 2017**



The International Federation for Housing and Planning is a worldwide network of professionals, researchers, academics and civil servants representing the broad field of housing and planning. The federation organizes a wide range of activities across the globe with the aim to foster cross-sectorial knowledge exchanges of international expertise and develop new solutions in response to the future urban development's challenges.

IFHP has been connected to UN-institutions since the early 1950s and works closely with the UN agenda on cities, especially the Sustainable Development Goal 11 and the New Urban Agenda, which is endorsed by UN Assembly as the agenda for urban development in the 21st century. IFHP acts as a worldwide implementation agent of the New Urban Agenda, by focusing on social resiliency to create Housing for All. In 2017 IFHP take this forward with its community, by designing and conducting urban labs and smaller conferences focusing on how to accommodate Housing for All and by ensuring conversations, solutions and methods IFHP contributes to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda.



The IFHP's International Housing Group is a knowledge catalyst either working in or with special interests in housing issues. The main objectives are: to provide an opportunity for dialogue on emerging policies and developing practices in relation to housing; to develop knowledge about housing and consider the implication for practice; to create a space for sharing information and experiences among international housing professionals; to monitor pilot projects and practical experiences to become a bridge between different context and relevant examples worldwide in a process of mutual learning which is core business for IFHP.

The London Event is sponsored by: [The Graham Trust.](#)

## London Housing Event

The London Housing Event will take place over 3 days in the City of Westminster, London, UK. The programme aims to explore the relationship between social and community regeneration, and physical improvements to the fabric of a defined area. The boundaries are an administrative area within Westminster and do not necessarily form a single neighbourhood. The event will look at the regeneration programme of Church Street ward: the issues to be discussed include all forms of social deprivation, as well as the current conditions and the future of housing, schools, health delivery, infrastructure, environment, transport and leisure.

### AN INCLUSIVE CITY – NEW URBAN AGENDA

Under the heading of *Housing for All*, IFHP embraces and investigates a worldwide challenge. IFHP focuses on implementing the UN Habitat New Urban Agenda<sup>1</sup>, under the 11<sup>th</sup> Sustainable Development Goal<sup>2</sup> of making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable. In this urban age, where a new urban agenda is imperative to a sustainable future, IFHP strongly believes that housing is one of the utmost important urban challenges of the century to come. For IFHP it is not just about building better homes but, making cities better for people. We advocate for people and social cohesiveness as we believe cities cannot function, thrive and innovate without diversity at all levels. The New Urban Agenda and SDG 11 provide the platform for the inclusive city.

In the context of global change and rapid urbanisation, the housing challenge takes on unprecedented dimensions probing urban policies around the globe. In this sense IFHP, together with its members and with the specific contribution of the IFHP Housing Working Group, has designed a programme of activities concentrating on developing actions that make cities that are inclusive and affordable; and housing a common right for everyone. In 2017 IFHP is placing focus on the challenges of housing, habitation and human settlements worldwide, looking at these from different angles and in different contexts, and highlighting different solutions to shared challenges.

### DELIVERING REGENERATION DOESN'T GET ANY TOUGHER THAN THIS<sup>3</sup>

Westminster is hardly synonymous with worklessness and social exclusion, poor quality housing and even poorer health outcomes. Even in one of the most expensive places to live on the planet there are areas of poverty and deprivation, right next to areas of extreme affluence.

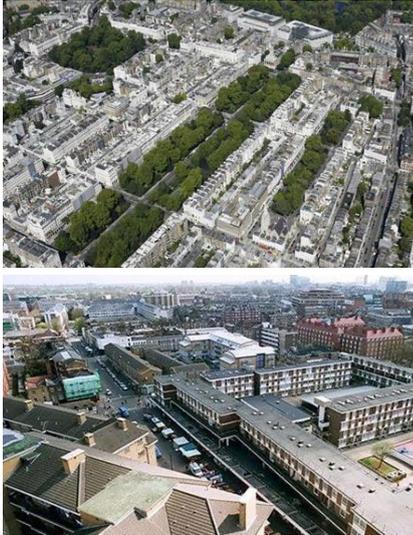
Westminster City Council has committed itself to ambitious programmes that seek to reduce worklessness and improve its homes. Church Street ward, within a kilometre of Marble Arch is an area where there is intense activity, seeking to create the most "liveable neighbourhood" in London. This means improving health outcomes as well as providing new homes, enhancing the green spaces and managing traffic. There is a thriving street market next to world class antique shops. Achieving these goals whilst protecting the interests of existing residents is the challenge accepted by the Council, which is working with its residents to develop and deliver an integrated, coherent

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<sup>1</sup> <https://habitat3.org/the-new-urban-agenda>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/cities/>

<sup>3</sup> Tony Hutchinson – co-leader of the seminar



approach to change. It is tempting to claim that this is a unique set of conditions and there is nowhere similar to it, however there is always the opportunity to share experiences and learn.

To do this, a look at all the dimensions of delivering regeneration, in possibly the second most expensive piece of real estate on the planet, will be held. The event will include looking at the neighbourhood and developing ideas to increase the impact of the investments being made, mitigate the consequences of change and learning through sharing experiences. This will be an invitation only event for around 20- 25 people from the UK and across Europe to learn about the neighbourhood and consider how their experiences relate to the challenges in Church Street, what can they contribute to the debate, and what can be applied to their own cities?

It will coincide with the conclusion of a master planning exercise carried out for Westminster City Council, and it is anticipated that one of the sessions will include a presentation by the master plan team.

If you would like to be part of this event, which is to be held in London 10-12 May 2017 please contact:

**IFHP Project Manager**

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# London Housing Event

## Programme

### Wednesday, May 10, 2017

10h00 - 12h00 **Optional Study Tour** - Guided Tour of the Houses of Parliament

### Wednesday, May 10, 2017

12h30 - 14h00 **Buffet Lunch and Networking**

Opening session – Welcome by [Stewart Shaw](#) – International Housing Group Chair, [Tony Hutchinson](#) - Regeneration Director, Westminster City Council and IFHP Board Member, [Kate Henderson](#) – CEO TCPA.

14h00 - 15h30 **Introduction and information on Church Street, Regeneration Project City of Westminster including group interventions**

Speakers:

Peter Brett Associates – Masterplanners of Church Street  
Barbara Brownlee – Director of Housing – City of Westminster  
Phil Jenkins – Asset Management and Development – City West Homes  
Tom Dacey – Chair of Futures Steering Group  
David Bowler – Chief Executive – Vital Regen

15h30 - 17h30 **Study Tour of Church Street Regeneration Project**

19h00 **SOCIAL EVENT** - Lords Cricket Ground (provisionally)

To include debate led by facilitators “which comes first, social or physical regeneration”

### Thursday, May 11, 2017

09h00 - 11h00 **Regeneration Projects** – presentations by specialist project leaders of other major regeneration projects including UK and Non-UK attendees

11h00 - 13h00 **Group Workshops** – Selection of topics and initial discussion by four working groups

13h00 - 15h00 **Area tours and onsite research by working groups**

15h15 - 16h30 **Presentation on behalf of the Graham Trust** - The role of a family trust in managing urban assets – stewardship

16h30 - 17h30 **Summary discussion** by groups leading to preparation of reports on suggested actions

19h00 **SOCIAL EVENT** (time and venue tba)

**Friday, May 12, 2017**

09h00 - 13h00

**De-brief from Day Two**

Working group concluding discussion leading to presentation on the process, analysis, findings and conclusions with regard to drafting an action plan.

**Discussion**

**Presentation and Q&A**

Group 1 – 30 minutes

Group 2 – 30 minutes

Group 3 – 30 minutes

Group 4 – 30 minutes

**Preparation of feedback to be included in event final report**

13h00 - 14h00

**Ideas for the future of the group, new events and group membership expansion**

14h00 - 15h00

**Conclusion of Events**

**Venue:** The main event will be held at (City of Westminster College)

**Study Tour:** A walking tour of the Church Street Regeneration Project to include a visit to (tbc) Community Centre and meetings with local groups (TH)

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**HWG** Housing  
WorkingGroup

# London Housing Event

## Event Plan

### Concept

The concept of our event is action based. You are not expected to sit in a row and politely listen, just the opposite.

Whilst a number of speakers will be in evidence during our three days get together, their aim is to set the scene, stimulate and provoke.

The real agenda is about team working, with attendees voicing opinions, engaging in debate and ultimately working to produce viable solutions to the challenges of the Church Street area.

The end result will be a written report framed by attendees and compiled by the International Federation of Housing and Planning. It is intended that the report will be used alongside other prescribed action plans already in place to add value to the regeneration of the Church Street area.

### Mission

At conclusion of the event a detailed final report will outline methodologies, ideas explored and importantly final conclusion, recommendations and a shadow action plan for the Church St, regeneration area.

### Approach

Our experience of the last such event was that a balance of work, fun and professional growth creates an interesting and worthwhile experience.

Whilst the event will be professionally facilitated and managed there will not be a procession of speakers. The pace, depth and level of challenge and innovation depends on attendees – that's the exciting bit.

### Attendees - "Suits and tee-shirts"

Our team will be selected by reference to achieving a balance of professional disciplines, urban agenda experience (or not), countries of origin and level of seniority (or not). We make no apologies for deliberately targeting a number of younger professionals.

Whilst informality is the order of the day the event has a serious and important mission.

### Personal Development

Being an integral part of a multinational team or urban professionals for 3 days brings outstanding rewards. New relationships are formed, team bonding achieved and professional ideas and skills expanded.

## Methodology

- Attendees to be identified by personal invitation only
- Set a clear maximum of 20 people
- Target 50 % UK and 50% other European attendees
- Request a pre-event professional abstract from each attendee
- The event to be professionally facilitated
- Event to include succinct presentation from local regeneration professionals
- Create opportunity for attendees to experience the area, undertake research and formulate ideas to be translated into action
- Facilitate open, lively debate
- Draw conclusions and recommendations for action
- Operate in a flexible, informal, attendee led environment
- Make it all worthwhile, stimulating and enjoyable

## Objective

A short summary of our event objectives is as follows:

- Formation of relationships with of other likeminded (or otherwise) urban regeneration professionals
- Share international experience
- Openly debate major urban challenges
- Research and consider the issue affecting the Church Street area
- Refine and draw conclusions in respect of potential actions and solutions

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