

# Social Innovation Systems for Building Resilient Communities

Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> June 2017 - University of Strathclyde, Glasgow

## SYMPOSIUM

DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE

# RSA

Scotland

REF UK TOP 20 RESEARCH  
INTENSIVE UNIVERSITY  
THE UK UNIVERSITY OF THE  
YEAR WINNER  
THE UK ENTREPRENEURIAL  
UNIVERSITY OF THE  
YEAR WINNER



Jamie Cooke, *RSA Scotland*  
Lee Ivett, *BAXENDALE*  
Robert Rogerson, *University of Strathclyde*  
Richard Clifford, *MAKLAB*  
(Y)our City Centre, *Austin-Smith:Lord and partners*  
Frankie Barrett, *Glasgow City Council*  
Donagh Horgan, *University of Strathclyde*  
Gemma Ginty, *Future Cities Catapult*  
Alistair Boxall, *Living Labs York*  
Ainslie Kennedy, *University of Strathclyde*  
Marc Cairns, *Pidgin Perfect*  
Katy Vanden, *Cap-a-Pie*  
Paul Tuohy, *University of Strathclyde*

with poet John Mallon

FREE EVENT



Eventbrite link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/social-innovation-systems-for-building-resilient-communities-tickets-34659437310>

## SOCIAL INNOVATION SYSTEMS FOR BUILDING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

Friday June 16th 2017  
CL102 Collins Building  
9:00 – 17:00  
University of Strathclyde  
22 Richmond St, Glasgow G1 1XU

Programme link: <http://www.oifig.org/brilliantresilient/programme2017.pdf>

Image from "Christchurch - from the Bottom Up",  
research by Donagh Horgan, University of Strathclyde

# **Social Innovation Systems for Building Resilient Communities**

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## ***Social Innovation Systems for Building Resilient Communities***

Building on similar events held over the last three years, the 2017 symposium will bring together a diverse set of academics, practitioners and social entrepreneurs to share ideas and prevailing best practice in social innovation. Social innovation is an umbrella term for a host of open and participatory approaches to social design, based on design thinking methodology - which is beginning to impact how we design more holistic and sustainable built and digital environments.

The aim of the symposium is to enable knowledge exchange between researchers and wider stakeholders around emerging systems for building resilient communities - informed by agile development and iterative planning frameworks.

The event will introduce:

- the current cultural and socio- economic context
- why there is a need for social innovation to deliver more democratic civic infrastructure
- how this is beginning to influence future planning of settlements and design of buildings.

The speakers will examine:

- the need for multi-disciplinary teams
- deeper engagement with stakeholders
- new business and economic models
- impacts of globalisation
- evolving governance practices.

The transition to new modes of production in civic life will be presented through a set of selected projects initiated by top-up collaboration between cross-sector partners. These will include grass-route movements, Living Labs, local initiatives with communities (in Glasgow), nodes and networked centres (hubs) and self-organising groups which emerge when there is a need to overcome effects of disruptive change. The role of key international knowledge sharing networks in supporting social innovation will be illustrated through case studies (from New Zealand and Brazil).

The symposium will also highlight:

- policy frameworks for empowering communities
- opportunities for supporting social innovation through devolving governance systems
- role of technological innovations in supporting social sustainability by strengthening the democratisation of decision making or increasing environmental sustainability by enabling greater efficiency of infrastructure systems
- importance of public understanding of and access to new technologies.

The symposium will conclude by outlining the challenges for architects and planners in a world of multi-stakeholder, multi-disciplinary, open-source planning, and the new horizons for flexible architecture and urban planning.

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## PROGRAMME

9:00 Registration

9:30 Welcome, Professor Ashraf Salama, Head of the Department of Architecture

### SOCIAL INNOVATION - a system for building resilient communities.

*The First panel will introduce the idea that multi-disciplinary "social" innovation is an appropriate and responsive methodology in the design and planning for resilient communities.*

#### **9:35 Social Innovation - Future tools to empower communities, Jamie Cooke, Head of RSA (Jamie Cooke, Head of RSA in Scotland)**

Our opening presentation should frame what is social innovation, and indicate the opportunities for government to facilitate a transition to resilience through frameworks and policy. In particular social innovation such as Universal Basic Income and co-operative systems for wind energy and other generation, that connects policy for social and built infrastructures into holistic-place-based solutions.

Drawing attention to the outcomes-focused coordinated actions taking place at a national level in Scotland, we will hear stories of how these are informed through prototypes, pilot projects and other test exercises working with community stakeholders and policymakers. Intended as high-level introduction to social innovation systems for policy-makers including models of devolved decision making and community ownership.

#### **9:55 Open-source and local multi-disciplinary projects in Glasgow - Lee Ivett, Baxendale (Lee Ivett, Baxendale, Glasgow)**

Within the context of the built environment, Lee has worked collaboratively with a range of artists, makers, dancers, choreographers, growers, academics and musicians to create work within the home, the public realm, the theatre and the gallery in places as diverse as Los Angeles, Preston, Nuremburg and Glasgow. He engages collaboratively across a range of creative disciplines to produce work that seeks to engage and inspire people and communities in a manner that is inherently sustainable. Current projects include a grassroots strategy for the regeneration of Beith town centre, North Ayrshire, including the adaption of a community-owned sports hall. We are also directors of the Architecture Fringe festival and Test Unit summer school programme.

What about this sort of practice that demonstrates a new way for architects? Themes may include things such as ethics and the local context, or around speculative development, how to shift the relationship between architect and developer, and the context of conflict in architecture between boutique and grass-roots. This is the part of the event where the conversation should take quite a radical turn and begin to throw out some alternative positions and ways of working.

#### **10:15 Sustainable Communities: Holistic Planning Systems - Robert Rogerson, Institute for Future Cities (Local academic speaker – Robert Rogerson, Strathclyde University, Glasgow)**

This presentation is an opportunity to focus on the need for a more holistic approach to planning that takes into consideration aspects such as health and well-being, economic opportunities and the environment when planning for development or regeneration in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Through academic examples and other case studies, we will begin to understand what other stakeholders need to be engaged through the planning process.

The desire to create places which offer high quality of life and contribute to national and global sustainable development principles has emerged over the last few decades as a focus for government policy and community action. Drawing on interdisciplinary research conducted across UK universities and with community-based groups, this book offers insights into how local initiatives can enhance sustainable development and engage people in creating better places in which to live. Robert's research illustrates imaginative, practical and accessible ways in which communities and built-environment professionals are working and learning together towards a more sustainable future.

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10:35 Panel discussion with audience

10:45 Tea / Coffee Break

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## SOCIAL INNOVATION – from Networks to Frameworks

The second panel of the day will explore the notion of social innovation, as a mechanism for connecting diverse stakeholders around a collective vision for change.

### **11:00 Collaborate to create value: Impacts and outcomes – Richard Clifford, MAKLAB** (Richard Clifford, Maklab, Scotland)

This presentation introduces the open and collaborative systems that have emerged alongside a social economy following the Great Recession. With an ever-greater pressure on resources, co-operative models of service provision and delivery have emerged to build resilience within communities.

Richard is responsible for the management and development of MAKLab across Scotland. His work allows MAKLab to continue to grow and support the needs of communities, interest groups and partners across Scotland, the UK and Europe. He has a background in architecture, and has also been involved with teaching at many design and architecture schools across the UK. As the CEO, Richard drives design and making as a tool not only for making products but as a fundamental aspect of our education, Scotland's economic growth, our cultural value and as a driver for social empowerment. In parallel with his role at MAKLab he is also a mentor with Vanilla Ink, a fellow of the RSA, a board member of Make Works and an associate of Cyclehack.

### **11:20 Multi-disciplinary planning through open frameworks – Speaker TBA, (Y)our City Centre Project** (Austin-Smith:Lord and Wave particle)

Glasgow City Council have appointed a team led by MVRDV and Austin-Smith:Lord, supported by Space Syntax and a multidisciplinary team, to embark on the design of District Regeneration Frameworks for four districts of Glasgow City Centre. These Regeneration Frameworks will look to create a clear urban structure that can fully realise Glasgow's economic, cultural and social potential.

What about this sort of practice that demonstrates a new way for architects? Themes may include things such as ethics and the local context, or around speculative development, how to shift the relationship between architect and developer, and the context of conflict in architecture between boutique and grass-roots. This is the part of the event where the conversation should take quite a radical turn and begin to throw out some alternative positions and ways of working. Locally, the (Y)our City Centre project, informing the Glasgow City Centre strategy is a good demonstrator of this new way of working.

### **11:40 Resilient Cities network and holistic design standards - Frankie Barrett, Glasgow City Council** (Local invited speaker - Frankie Barrett, Glasgow City Council Resilience Team)

This is an opportunity to demonstrate the power of networks in creating social innovation, both at a local level and among communities of practice looking to share and scale impact. In particular international networks set up to share best practice and tools to build resilience – these include Rockefeller 100 Resilient Cities network working with cities around the world, or others including the Open and Agile Smart Cities Network looking at tools and standards.

This presentation need not be technical or loaded with any sector-specific jargon, especially around technology systems. What we are looking for here is someone to give a broader global picture on partnership working between cities and how collaborative projects (funded through global challenge mechanisms) informed by open source and the commons can help us solve our collective challenges. References should be made to wicked problems in the environment and social contexts in particular, how learning and solutions can be shared and scaled across a network, including through the collaboration between Glasgow and Pittsburgh. This is an opportunity for an open conversation around the common challenges facing global cities in the local government context.

### **12:00 Christchurch: From the bottom up - Donagh Horgan, University of Strathclyde** (Local academic speaker – Donagh Horgan, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow)

This presentation will go through some high-level findings from action research conducted this year in Christchurch, New Zealand, more than five years after an earthquake brought the city to collapse. Donagh Horgan, whose research into "Social Innovation Systems for Building Resilient Communities" has informed the content of the conference forms the basis of the conference, will report from Christchurch, a city continuing to face a unique set of challenges.

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The resilient context of Christchurch and in particular the emerging models of top-up self-organisation and collaboration between cross-sector actors can impact a unified vision for the rising new city. How can grass-roots civic activism inform public decisions around planning? This research will examine the community eco-system in the city and at networks of resilience in particular, bringing in new tools knowledge from radical technology solutions and social innovation in services. The presentation will feature insights from interviews, eco-system mapping and workshops.

12:20 **Panel Discussion with audience.** Q&A dialogue facilitated by Jamie Cooke, RSA

12:40 Lunch

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## SYSTEMS FOR BUILDING – from Frameworks to Architectures

**13:10 Platforms for change in the built environment – *Future Cities Catapult***

(Invited speaker around *Future of Planning* - Gemma Ginty, *Future Cities Catapult*)

We will begin again after lunch with an exciting and engaging session that frames emerging technologies driving change in the built environment. This presentation will showcase new and alternative business models based on user-centred agile development theory, technology, Big Data etc. Where design technology and change intersect, joining the dots between architecture, service innovation and urban design. This should be an overview but also set out a vision of the future, of a more open and democratic approach to planning – facilitated through engagement, technology and innovation.

*Future Cities Catapult's Future of Planning* aims to de-risk and prove the demand for the data-driven and digitally-enabled products and services required to create a planning system fit for the 21st century. As part of this programme we researched the State of the Art innovations in planning from around the world in order to understand the leading edge technologies transforming the planning sector today. We also conducted in-depth user research to understand the most common challenges faced by those involved in the planning system as well as the opportunity areas for innovation. Who are the changemakers? - introducing social entrepreneurship, service design and holistic planning systems. This speaker will present the global picture – zooming out on the need to work collectively on mutual visions of the future that allow for multiple narratives and the participation of a diverse set of stakeholders.

**13:30 Living Lab Pilots – The York City Environment Observatory, Alistair Boxall, York University**

(Invited Local Speaker, Prof. Alistair Boxall – Living Labs York)

This presentation will showcase the York City Environment Observatory (YCEO) pilot project which is laying the groundwork for a Living Lab, in York, Northern England. The overall vision of the YCEO is to develop a world leading observatory for understanding the linkages between the quality of the environment of a city and health, well-being and the economy. The YCEO pilot is using a co-design approach to develop an observatory that employs traditional approaches for monitoring the quality of the environment with cutting edge approaches such as sensor technologies, high altitude platforms and robotics. Models of York's environment are being compiled to explore how things may change in the future.

Alistair is Professor of Environmental Science at the Environment Department, University of York. His work specialises on the transport, disposal and impacts of contaminants on human health. The York project brings together researchers working in different specialisms to collate various open data sources into a holistic evidence base on the city's social, cultural and natural environments. The outputs will support the foundation for the creation of the York City Environment Observatory, an innovative organisation that will strengthen urban governance and decision-making.

**13:50 Community Renewables and capacity - Emerging models, Paul Tuohy, University of Strathclyde**

(Dr. Paul Tuohy, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow)

This presentation should focus on the opportunities that energy independence present for communities in terms of building resilience. Innovation powered by the circular economy, smart technologies, building performance technology and management systems are allowing communities to take ownership of how they generate their power and revenue for sustainable development. How can we install democratic systems of energy governance to empower truly smart citizen?

There are two projects – both energy systems related – on which my research colleagues are working on that could be included here – or potentially resented together. The first, Major Tom is developing a framework to assess the capacity of community to establish their own energy generation systems. This project is led by Profs. Brian Garvey, Paul Tuohy, and student Russell Pepper.

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14:10 Coffee/tea break

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RESILIENT COMMUNITIES – the Architecture of Sustainability.

## 14:30 Consulting for Communities, What you want and what you need - Marc Cairns, Pidgin Perfect

*(Local Scottish speaker – Marc Cairns, Pidgin Perfect)*

*The challenge of delivering quick change for clients and long term results for communities.*

*“Sustainable”, “Grassroots”, “Codesign” are just some of the terms that have been often appropriated in the incorrect way by architects and planners for both their clients and the communities they serve. This presentation is intended to frame a conversation around how architects and planners can support people and to build more resilient communities.*

*The presentation acknowledges that Pidgin Perfect are not righteous volunteers but paid consultants who bring their expertise in using cultural and design strategies to inspire and support people to become active citizens within their communities. There will also be a discussion on the balance practitioners must find between preserving their own sensitive design aesthetic or “in-house style” whilst still providing authentic outcomes for those people involved*

*Pidgin Perfect work internationally on a wide range of development programmes and placemaking projects. From their office in Glasgow they engage diverse communities in the process of change; using design and cultural activity to create connections between people and place to build more resilient communities for everyone. Projects include developing a consultation process designed to create accessible opportunities for the residents of Sighthill for to contribute to the creation of the brief for the Community Space and enabling them to engage and learn from the project at any stage.*

## 14:50 Performance as a catalyst for dialogue - Katy Vanden, Cap-a-Pie

*(Katy Vanden, Director - Cap-a-Pie, Newcastle UK)*

*Katy is director of Cap-a-Pie, who’s project *The Town Meeting*, was winner of the Sir Peter Hall Award for Wider Engagement from The Royal Town Planning Institute. Her organisation is working with Newcastle University’s Institute for Creative Arts Practice and their Engagement Team to deliver a programme of work for theatre makers and academics to work together. *The Town Meeting* explores how communities react to external pressures and represent themselves. The production is part of ongoing research collaboration, exploring how communities react to external pressures and organise themselves. Rather than subjects we would like the audience to be co-investigators, to work with a researcher to formulate a research question through participation in a fully interactive and immersive show.*

*This presentation should lead to a wider conversation around radical examples of practice and technologies and tools for facilitating democratic process. Projects that propose solutions that are environments or digital architectures and opposed to physical space could be considered. (Development that follows Scrum methodologies in planning, open source development could be referenced.)*

## 15:10 Future impact and Scotland’s Charrette programme – Ainslie Kennedy, University of Strathclyde

*(Ainslie Kennedy, PhD Candidate - University of Strathclyde, Glasgow)*

*Ainslie Kennedy is a postgraduate architecture student currently working on a doctoral research project at the University of Strathclyde. Strathclyde is where she completed her BSc Hons and MArch in Advanced Architectural Design. Her fifth year work involved a Vertically Integrated Project in which she worked with other architecture and business students on testing a participatory design prototype. This is when I became increasingly interested in the inclusionary rhetoric around design and decision-making processes.*

*Ainslie’s research is focused on the charrette mainstreaming programme that launched in 2010, which invites councils and others to apply for charrette grants. The intention is to pilot an evaluation strategy that will provide insight into the charrette’s effectiveness in practice. The evaluation strategy first aims to characterise charrettes into case-typologies before using a four-part assessment framework to explore each charrette stage i.e. the convening, the activities, the outputs generated and outcomes. The doctoral research will conclude with reflections on the piloted evaluation strategy and recommendations based on the findings from the charrette case-studies included in the project.*

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## 15:30 Urban Poetry and the context of Resilience

*(Invited local performance poet - John Mallon, Glasgow's East End)*

To finish, we must come full circle, to consider what we mean by resilient communities, and what are the challenges that social innovation – whether in the built environment or elsewhere – needs to address?

In this regard, a local East End [poet from Glasgow will join us to share actual lived experience of regeneration, renewal and resilience. The idea is to evoke some of the themes we have been speaking about – specifically what makes for a resilient community, and the roles and structures required to design for same – presenting the community voice in a unique and blatant fashion so that it cannot be ignored or at least manipulated. Discussions are ongoing with poets to commission this piece.

- *John Mallon* - writes about life and the struggles in the East End of Glasgow

15:30 **Q&A on the afternoon session topics**, with Ainslee Kennedy, University of Strathclyde

16:00 Wrap-up and thanks, Professor Branka Dimitrijevic, University of Strathclyde

16:15 Networking

17:00 Close