Cities, Communities and Homes: Is the Urban Future Livable?

• Paper / Proposal Title:

Mass migration, housing and land use: responses to the migration crises in European cities.

• Format:

Verbal presentation

• Author(s) Name:

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• University or Company Affiliation:

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• Abstract (300 words):

While migrants seeking to escape conflict, persecution, poverty and environmental disaster have been crossing the Mediterranean by boat to seek sanctuary in Europe for a number of years, in 2015 the scale of arrivals increased beyond all expectations. The media and EU Governments described events as a migration “crisis”. Many have proclaimed it to be the greatest crisis since World War II (Parkinson 2015: 3). Turkey, Italy and particularly Greece have encountered the majority of arrivals – many of whom then continue to Germany, Sweden, and Austria to claim asylum. This paper draws on findings from a study exploring the approaches adopted by the real estate and land use industries in continental Europe to help integrate refugees into cities in a way that is inclusive and brings wide ranging benefits for all. Survey and interview data from professionals working in real estate, planning, migration policy and practice will be
presented alongside examples of innovative housing and land-use responses in order to consider how the challenges of mass movement have been addressed. We also consider the extent to which Europe can learn from the approaches adopted when seeking solutions to the current migration and housing crises. In particular the paper will discuss approaches to good urban density and affordable housing, as well as considering the opportunities that models of co-production can offer in the urban planning process.

• Author(s) Biography (200 words each):

Dr Lisa Goodson

Dr Lisa Goodson is the community and practitioner research lead for IRiS and has been at the forefront of policy research exploring resettlement experiences and the consequences of migration in the UK and continental Europe. Her research is concerned with integration and planning, poverty, social exclusion and approaches to welfare provision in an era of super-diversity.

Siân Thomas

Siân Thomas is a Teaching Fellow at the University of Birmingham and a researcher with the Institute for Research into Superdiversity (IRiS). She has a professional background in the public and voluntary sectors in fields relating to migration and transnational issues.

Professor Simon Pemberton

Professor Simon Pemberton has long-standing research interests focused around ‘new’ migration and super-diversity. Professor Pemberton’s research has provided significant new insights into: i) the politics and policies associated with managing migration; ii) the local impacts and experiences of new migration in urban and rural areas; and iii) migrant residential mobility and migrant place making.

Professor Jenny Phillimore FRSA FAcSS

Professor Phillimore is Director of the Institute for Research into Superdiversity (IRiS) and a world-leading researcher of migrant integration and access to welfare in superdiverse areas. She is the Project Lead of the multi-country UPWEB project which is using an interdisciplinary approach to examine the ways in which residents in eight superdiverse neighbourhoods act as bricoleurs to access the resources they need to address health concerns.