

# Northern Midlands Southern Housing



## Forward Features 2012

### February

#### PREVIEW: Eco Build Preview (20 – 22 March)

- Since its launch in 2005 Ecobuild has grown to become the biggest event in the world for sustainable design, construction and the built environment. We take a look ahead to this year's conference and exhibition to show you what is on offer.

#### FEATURE: Asbestos – The hidden killer

- According to the Health and Safety Executive asbestos could be present in any building that was built or refurbished before the year 2000 but working with the substance requires specialist training. Make sure you learn all you need to know about handling this hidden killer.

#### FEATURE: Social networking

- Social landlords are increasingly turning to the likes of Facebook and Twitter to connect with their tenants but are these social networking sites providing a useful tool for those hard to reach groups or could they signal the beginning of the end for face to face communication?

#### AREA PROFILES

- Merseyside
- Somerset
- Birmingham

#### GREEN FOCUS: Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI)

- The RHI came into play for domestic properties this year. Find out how it works and what benefits it can bring to social landlords.

### March

#### FEATURE: Rural communities

- According to the National Housing Federation the average rural house price in England is now more than 12 times the average salary of people living in rural areas. High prices are forcing people out of the villages where they grew up and the lack of young families is having an adverse affect on rural amenities and services. Affordable housing has an important role to play in keeping such communities alive and this feature takes a look at the small-scale developments that are making all the difference.

#### FEATURE: Greening tower blocks

- Carrying out any kind of maintenance and repair work on tower blocks can be challenging and retrofitting is no different. We take a closer look at the trials of giving high-rise buildings green makeovers.

#### FEATURE: Staff safety

- Unfortunately aggressive behaviour is all too often a fact of life for staff working with the public. We ask how social housing providers balance the need to get out and about in the communities and neighbourhoods in which they work with their duty to keep their staff safe.

#### AREA PROFILES

- Central Lancashire
- Hampshire
- Cardiff

#### GREEN FOCUS: External/internal wall insulation

- Solid walls let through twice as much heat as cavity walls so installing external or internal wall insulation can make a huge difference. Find out more about the different options available

### April

#### REVIEW: Women in Construction Awards 2012

- The results of our annual Women in Construction Awards which honours the leading ladies making their way in the traditionally male construction sector.

#### REVIEW: Housing Innovation Awards 2012

- The results of our inaugural Housing Innovation Awards which highlights the work of the individuals and companies leading the way in the social housing sector.

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### FEATURE: Green Deal

- The Government's Green Deal, launched later this year, intends to revolutionise the energy efficiency of British properties but what it will mean for social landlords?

### FEATURE: Social housing law

- We speak to specialist housing lawyers to bring you up to date on the legal issues affecting the sector.

### AREA PROFILES

- West Yorkshire
- Central London
- Shropshire

### GREEN FOCUS: Solar PV panels

- Solar PV panels are becoming increasingly popular but while their installation will bring many benefits for social housing providers there are legal complexities to look out for. We take an in-depth look at this green technology and the potential pitfalls that you should be aware of.

## May

### FEATURES: Worklessness

- Social landlords have long taken the lead on 'back to work' initiatives and with rising unemployment, particularly among the younger population they are set to have their work cut out for them. But can they really make a difference and should employment issues be within an RSL's remit?

### FEATURE: Technology/IT

- We take a look at the latest technology and processes involved in managing the world of housing, from the latest IT and handheld technology to manage repairs and maintenance, to frontline systems that help housing professionals stay in touch with their residents, through to systems intended to offer protection to workers in the field.

### FEATURE: Student living

- Most modern-day students would struggle to recognise the grotty shared digs that were home to

their predecessors, and enjoy rather more comfortable surroundings than generations past. We talk to those organisations at the forefront of providing purpose-built student accommodation about the student housing market and what lies ahead as the increased tuition fees kick in.

### AREA PROFILES

- Greater Manchester
- Surrey
- Wolverhampton

### GREEN FOCUS: Wind power

We are all familiar with large-scale wind farms but is wind power viable on a smaller scale? We take a closer look at small-scale domestic wind turbines in the UK.

## June

### REVIEW: Housing Excellence Awards

- We bring you the results of Housing magazine's prestigious celebration of the best in the sector.

### PREVIEW: Chartered Institute of Housing's annual conference and exhibition (12-14 June)

- The Chartered Institute of Housing's annual conference and exhibition will be held in Manchester for the first time in 2012. We take a look around its new home and bring you the latest on the conference programme.

### FEATURE: Finance

- The financial climate in recent years has seen many organisations left out in the cold but there have been a few brave pioneers who have dared to trial new financial models as traditional sources of funding have dried up. This feature focuses on the changing financial landscape and looks to the future of funding for social housing.

### AREA PROFILES

- North Yorkshire
- North London
- Herefordshire

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### GREEN FOCUS: Rainwater harvesting/grey water recycling

- All you need to know about water recycling systems from using bath water to supply washing machines to collecting rainwater for flushing the toilet.

### July/August

#### REVIEW: Chartered Institute of Housing's annual conference and exhibition

- The stands are packed away and the delegates have dispersed, but still the echoes of debate and discussion resonate in the mind after the first gathering in Manchester to discuss the latest issues in all things housing. We bring you a round-up of this year's CIH conference and exhibition.

#### FEATURE: Telecare

- Modern technology is increasingly being used to help offer elderly and vulnerable people support in their homes but does it really offer increased independence or is there no substitute for the human touch?

### FEATURE: Health and safety

- Health and safety is literally a life and death matter and according to the Health and Safety Executive construction is one of the UK's most dangerous industries. So what are organisations within the sector doing to provide a safe and secure workplace for their staff and how can they make sure that they keep up to date with legislation?

#### AREA PROFILES

- Tyne and Wear
- Buckinghamshire
- Staffordshire

### GREEN FOCUS: Air source heat pumps

- Air source heat pumps are becoming increasingly popular but what benefits can they bring and how complex is the installation process? Find out more with our guide.

### September

#### FEATURE: Waste management

- With landfill space running out, we take a closer look at the measures being taken by social landlords to minimise waste and re-use rubbish and find out more about zero waste to landfill policies.

#### FEATURE: Gas safety

- Landlords have a duty to make sure that all gas appliances within their homes are safe. So how should they go about doing this and what are the implications if they get it wrong?

#### PREVIEW: National Housing Federation's annual conference and social housing exhibition

- A look ahead to the programme for the National Housing Federation's annual conference and social housing exhibition at Birmingham's International Convention Centre.

### AREA PROFILES

- East Yorkshire
- Bedfordshire
- Swansea

### GREEN FOCUS: Ground source heat pumps

- A guide to the pros and cons of ground source heat pumps and their suitability for social housing.

### October

#### REVIEW: National Housing Federation Annual Conference and Social Housing Exhibition

- We bring you all the latest news from the annual event and talk through the major themes of the conference.

#### FEATURE: Anti-social behaviour

- Tackling anti-social behaviour has been high on the Government's agenda for some time but what role can social landlords play in dealing with the issue and should they be policing their tenants?

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### FEATURE: Timber in construction

- Timber frame is fast becoming a mainstream construction method and with the 2016 zero carbon target drawing ever closer its green credentials look set to make it even more popular. Find out all you need to know about this building method as we take a look at the affordable housing developments making use of it.

### AREA PROFILES

- Teeside
- Hertfordshire
- Coventry

### GREEN FOCUS: Biomass boilers

- Biomass boilers are growing in popularity but a 2011 survey revealed that many households are reducing their boilers' efficiency and putting their lives at risk through misuse. Get the facts on how to make the most of this green technology.

## November

### FEATURE: Skills/training

- Figures from CITB-ConstructionSkills show that the sector is facing a skills vacuum with around one in six workers due to retire within 10 years and the number of young people in the industry more than halving since the start of the recession. So how can we ensure a skilled workforce for the future and what role can RSLs play in supporting young people into the industry?

### FEATURE: Meeting the zero carbon homes target for 2016

- How is the social housing sector responding to the challenges of meeting the zero carbon homes target for 2016? Housing investigates.

### FEATURE: Crime prevention

- A closer look at how social landlords are helping their tenants to stay safe and secure in their homes from in-built security features to educational campaigns.

### AREA PROFILES

- South Yorkshire
- South London
- Gloucestershire

### GREEN FOCUS: Water saving measures

- From low flush toilets to flow control taps we take a closer look at the water saving measures on the market.

## December

### FEATURE: Review of the Year

- A look back over the year that was and the events that shaped the sector.

### FEATURE: Housing people with special needs

- We talk to RSLs about the challenges of providing appropriate, affordable housing for tenants with special needs and focus on some recent successful projects.

### AREA PROFILES

- East Lancashire
- Cambridgeshire
- Warwickshire

### GREEN FOCUS: Green roofs

- Green roofs boast many benefits from providing insulation and absorbing rainwater to helping to lower urban air temperatures but are they suitable for mass installation by social landlords? Housing investigates.