The Centre for Housing Research (CHR) is the largest housing research centre in Scotland and one of the leading centres in the UK. The established strengths of CHR are in the fields of analysing housing systems (including housing choices, residential mobility and migration) across all tenures and at different geographic scales, assessing the impact of housing outcomes on wider systems, such as the economy and the environment, as well as understanding implications for housing affordability, homelessness and housing wealth. Our interests in the different spatial scales of operation as well as connections to other social and political systems means that we also have considerable strength and growing interest in connecting housing to wider social science interests in sustainable development, resilience, wellbeing, inequality and justice.

We are committed to policy evaluation at national and international levels and inter-disciplinary and inter-sectorial working in the interests of furthering our contributions to the housing research agenda.   We aim to connect policy and practice issues to more strategic debates about the role of housing and housing policies through the application of our interests in inter-disciplinary research which includes Business Management, Economics, Law, Demography, Social Policy, Sociology, Psychology, and Health as well as drawing out the connections between the built environment, natural and social sciences.

Housing provides a distinct link to a range of other research interests. Through housing we draw out the interdependencies between local and global geographies, public and private markets, investment and consumption activities, social and environmental considerations, demographic changes and intergenerational justice. How, why and where housing is accessed, wealth is accumulated and re-distributed is influenced by cultural and social systems, policy processes and market forces. Exploring demographic changes, financial resources, institutional regimes, motivations and behaviour become important components in identifying and understanding the risks as well as the rewards of housing systems.

The centre has a series of research projects and initiatives that build on a strong foundation of recording and analysing administrative data; this has included the Continuous Recording of Lettings system (CORE) in England and the Scottish equivalent (SCORE). The Centre currently maintains the Supporting People Client Records and Outcomes system.   The research expertise in CHR spans a series of existing and developing themes around:

i) **Housing markets and systems analysis:** This theme embraces the interdependencies between global housing and financial markets and national economies on the one hand, and public, private and not-for-profit sector provision of housing on the other.   It is also interested in the blurring boundaries of traditional tenure divides/functions with changes in housing support/allowances, housing finance, flexible tenures, wider roles of providers (e.g. community support and employability schemes). We will also explore the interconnection of housing and business, labour and migration.

ii) **Housing wealth and intergenerational justice:** Housing has long been recognised as an investment – a store of wealth that is built up over the longer term. More recently housing wealth has become a potential resource accessible across the life course. As competing demands are placed on housing wealth, this raises new dilemmas for those with resources to share, creating tensions within household and cohorts, and across generations. This theme embraces these changes and considers how access to home ownership has implications not only for those relying on this wealth resource, but importantly for the life chances of those who do not have access to this central tenant of asset-based welfare.

iii) **Community and environmental resilience:** this theme aims to increase understanding of resilience, adaptation and change in relation to housing systems as well as the linkages to and interactions with non-housing systems and outcomes. Such outcomes might include: creating attractive residential environments; fostering balanced local communities; providing affordable accommodation; enabling residential mobility and migration; and creating healthy and energy-efficient dwellings. This theme links to issues of governance and embraces broad scales of resiliency from community assets to national infrastructure.

iv) **Diversity and outcomes:** The widespread migratory movements of peoples into, and across, Europe have contributed to its growing and increasing population diversity in terms of household composition and life styles. Due to the economic crisis and the fast ageing process, housing of the youth and elderly, and the role of housing wealth, has emerged as an area of policy and research interest. This theme aims to further our understanding of the various relationships between housing and demographic change in respect of ageing societies and migration.

v) **Scales of Governance**: This theme is interested in the scales of governance and authority at which policy is made, economic development is stimulated and housing and social welfare needs are met. This is important in the context of constitutional change and independence in Scotland, which may alter the scale at which fiscal decisions are made and policy is designed. In different ways scale (community, neighbourhood, national and international) is significant in analysis of the current and future organisation, delivery and funding of housing, as well as in related areas of city policy, public service delivery, welfare policy, environmental change, regeneration and poverty alleviation.

The centre comprises:
Directorial Team: Duncan Maclennan (Director, and Professor of Geography); Alison Sandeman (Director of Projects); Beverley Searle (Acting Director); Jane Banham (PA to Prof Maclennan, Centre Administrator)
Tenured Faculty Associated with CHR: Donald Houston; Kim McKee; Darja Reuschke; David McCollum, Maarten van Ham
Research Fellows and Assistants: Julie (Tian) Miao; Adriana Soaita; Albert Sabater; Rosen Chowdhury; Tom Moore; Stephan Köppe; Keith Maynard, Norman Stewart
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