Housing and Communities is an important arena for current policy and practice challenges in relation to welfare reform, public expenditure reductions, homelessness, housing supply shortages, financial inclusion, anti-social behaviour, worklessness, Localism, the ‘Big Society’ and the role of third sector in service delivery. Research and knowledge transfer on these topics plays a key role in the University’s civic engagement agenda.

Housing and Communities has long been a key area of interest of research and teaching at The University of Birmingham in the School of Social Policy, and building on the 40 year tradition of housing research in the Centre for Urban and Regional Studies. Housing and Communities are central to the research agendas of the Third Sector Research Centre (TSRC), the Centre for Household Assets and Savings Management (CHASM), the Institute for Research into Superdiversity (IRiS) in the School of Social Policy and to the Public Management Academy. Interest in housing and communities is also a key theme for Geography and Earth Sciences, History, Local Government Studies, Law and Public Health.

The aims of this research network are to:
- improve links and build an active research community
- improve awareness of interests of researchers on housing and communities across the University and partners in the West Midlands
- provide a stimulus for new research partnerships, collaborative writing and joint funding proposals.


Seminar No 7
Tuesday 25th February 2014, 16.15-17.30
Housing, Race, Community and Conflict 50 Years On
Dr Ricky Joseph and Professor Alan Murie

Please book on line to ensure your place at www.birmingham.ac.uk/housing-race-community-hcrn7
Programme

15.45 Tea and Coffee available

16.15 Introduction and Welcome - David Mullins

16.20 Housing, Race, Community and Conflict 50 Years On - Dr Ricky Joseph and Professor Alan Murie

17.00 Questions and Discussion

17.30 Bar and networking

Abstract

It is nearly 50 years since John Rex and Robert Moore published their seminal work – *Race, Community and Conflict: A Study of Sparkbrook*. The book is widely regarded as one of the most influential sociological studies of the housing experiences of migrants in Western Europe. Following the death of John Rex in December 2011 and discussions with Robert Moore, Emeritus Professor of Sociology at the University of Liverpool, a small editorial team based at the University of Birmingham have assembled contributors from the world of academia, policy and practice to re-visit the themes and issues raised in the book by extending the focus on wider developments in Birmingham as a global city.

Ricky Joseph and Alan Murie will share their reflections on key developments around different lenses that can be used to understand and analyse population change that extend beyond the work’s focus on ‘race’ and ‘housing classes’ and ‘sociology of the zone of transition’ to incorporate emerging ideas around Superdiversity. The presenters will also reflect on the unfolding story around housing and urban renewal agendas and the possible implications of this for Birmingham’s diverse population, inner city neighbourhoods and debates around housing tenure, housing class and improved housing conditions.