

HAMMAR Southwest Technical Briefing Day

Date: Monday 29 June 2026
Venue: Eden Project, : Bedelva, Cornwall, PL24 2SG.



<https://www.edenproject.com/>

Organiser: HAMMAR Southwest Committee* *with support from the NHMF & M3 Housing.*
 (*Julian Ransom, Stephanie Lloyd-Foxe, Steven Coles, Phil Bristow).

Technical Seminar Programme:	
09.30 – 10:00	Arrival and Refreshments.
10.00-10.10	Welcome/ Housekeeping. Julian + Stephanie - HAMMAR Southwest Committee.
10.10 – 10.40	<p>Extreme Heat in the UK: From research evidence to adaptation.</p> <p>This session will present findings and recommendations from the recent joint CIH and University of East London research paper, 'From Building Codes to Behaviour: Strengthening Extreme Heat Adaptation Policy in the UK' (Dr Mehri Khosravi & Dr Matthew Scott). The session will explore rising overheating risks in UK homes, behavioural and building-level adaptation challenges, and practical pathways for strengthening heat resilience across housing, public health, and policy systems. It will also reflect on recent policy engagement activities, including the Westminster overheating roundtable.</p> <p>Extreme heat is putting vulnerable people at growing risk University of East London</p> <p>Dr Mehri Khosravi - Energy and Carbon Senior Research Fellow, Sustainability Research Institute (SRI), University of East London.</p>
10.40 – 10.55	Comfort + Refreshments Break.



10.55 – 11.40	<p>‘Beyond the Repair: Awaab's Law, Decency and Learning from Good Practice’.</p> <p>Awaab's Law has shifted the legal landscape, but compliance with timescales is only one element. This session considers emerging good practice & recent sector evidence to explore practical approaches to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > triage and root cause > connections between Awaab's Law and the wider Decent Homes agenda > what asset teams can take away. <p>Will include some European examples, and Eve will be sharing her policy and practice work on damp and mould, including contributions toward an eagerly anticipated ‘The Damp & Mould practice guide’ (a collaboration with significant sector partners), and wider work the CIH have conducted around access (research piece with HQN and wider partners) and how they are approaching good practice around triage.</p> <p>Dr Eve Blezard – Policy Lead, Chartered Institute of Housing</p>
11.40 – 12.25	<p>Post Retrofit Resident Engagement/ Energy Advice.</p> <p>Rand Associates (Rory Henderson, Head of Net Zero) will provide a fascinating insight into the relevance and importance of engaging practically with our tenants following carbon reduction/ net zero/ retrofit works including practical energy advice, tackling outstanding debt, appropriate tariffs, and associated aspects. Local case study will include Homes in Somerset.</p> <p>Rory Henderson – Head of Net Zero, Rand Associates Patrick Diskin-Barr – Retrofit Assessor, Energy Advisor, Rand Associates</p>
12.25 – 13.25	<p>Lunch, Networking and Eden Project Geo-Thermal System tour</p>
12:25 – 13:25	<p>TOUR: Eden Project Geo-Thermal System tour. Packed lunch provided at 12:35. <i>If attending the tour, see map + details appended.</i></p>
13.25 – 13.55	<p>High fossil fuel prices: what they mean practically for energy in buildings.</p> <p>The real consequences for UK housing and an informed view upon the way forward. Richard Lowes from the Regulatory Assistance Project @RAP is one of the UK's most respected voices on clean heating, gas transitions and energy policy. He has given evidence to multiple UK parliamentary select committees, contributed to the Climate Assembly UK and worked with the National Audit Office on the Renewable Heat Incentive.</p> <p>For social housing professionals grappling with the very real challenges of decarbonising homes, reducing energy costs for residents and navigating an evolving policy landscape, the opportunity to hear from and engage directly with Richard is not one to miss.</p> <p>Dr Richard Lowes – Senior Associate and Global Lead, Heat & Buildings at RAP.</p>
13:55 – 14.40	<p>Energy Regulation for the Housing Sector – have you registered yet?</p> <p>In January 2026, Ofgem became the UK's Heat Network Regulator. If you have communal or district heating then you must register with Ofgem in the next 7 months – but what does that mean for your organisation, what information do you need and who needs to be involved? It's proving more complex than many expected, which is why we're delighted to be joined by Chirpy Heat who'll break it down into simple steps to make sure you stay on the right side of compliance.</p> <p>Harry Selley – Heat Network Consultant, Chirpy Heat.</p>

14:40 – 15.25	<p>Smart homes: where they fit into today’s legislative landscape.</p> <p>Aico come with significant sector credentials in respect to the provision and management of smart home sensors, part of an integrated property management portfolio. This presentation will feature case study partner - Poplar HARCA, an East London Housing Association who own and manage over 10,000 Homes. Poplar HARCA have implemented Aico smart home technology into over 80% of their property portfolio.</p> <p>Will Collier – Relationship Manager, Smart Homes, Aico. Lea Hampton O’Neil – Lead Product Manager – Smart Homes, Aico.</p>
15.25 – 15.35	<p>Open Floor: Future Topics & Themes Closing Address: HAMMAR Southwest Committee.</p> <hr/> <p>Complete/ hand in feedback forms. <i>Safe return travels.</i></p>



Venue: The Eden Project
Bodelva, Cornwall, PL24 2SG

How to find the venue

Eden Project, Bodelva, St Austell, Cornwall, PL24 2SG

Eden is just outside St Austell on the south coast of mid Cornwall, and is well signposted with brown tourist signs from the A30 (Exeter direction) and the A391/A390 (Plymouth direction).

If you're travelling from outside Cornwall, take the M5 southbound to Exeter, then the A30, exiting at the Innis Downs junction (A391) and following the signs for Eden.

Use postcode PL24 2SG for your satnav and follow the signs to the car parks. Please note: some sat navs route traffic along narrow roads — for example, westbound traffic from the A390 via St Blazey and Cornhill Road. We don't recommend this; please continue to the A391 and follow the signs to Eden from there.

By public transport: the nearest railway station is St Austell, on the main line from London Paddington, with regular buses running between the station and Eden. Transport for Cornwall's number 28 and 31 services also run directly to the Eden Project.

Car parking

There is ample free visitor parking on site. From the car parks you can either walk down to the visitor entrance and ticket desks, or take the free park and ride bus, which operates during peak times.

Electric vehicle charging points are available in the Banana car park.

Accessible parking is available in three designated car parks — Apple 1, Apple 2 and Banana — for Blue Badge holders and anyone with mobility needs. If you have any questions about accessible parking, please contact the Access Eden helpline on 01726 818558 (or 01726 811911 for the main switchboard) ahead of your visit.



Feedback

This time, feedback will be collected through online forms only — QR codes will be available in the room for you to scan and complete.

Lunch and Geothermal tour

We've booked a tour of the Geothermal site for you. A packed lunch will be provided at 12:35 for you to take with you and enjoy during the tour. The Geothermal site is located near the North Gate, just a short drive from the Visitor Centre (less than 5 minutes) — please see the map on following page. Delegates will need to make their own way there, so please allow around 5 minutes to get up to the site. To make sure there's ample space for cars at the Geothermal site, we kindly ask that delegates car share where possible.

Eden Project – car parks, gates and Visitor Centre

