

Housing@RMIT Network Quarterly Newsletter

April 2025

Who are we?

Housing@RMIT is an interdisciplinary network of 250+ researchers across 13 disciplines and 18 schools, working to address Australia's housing challenges.

We focus on housing supply, sustainability, affordability, and equity—collaborating with government, industry, and communities to create real-world impact.

Check our [LinkedIn](#) and [website](#) for more details.

To become a member, reach out to Karien Dekker (karien.dekker@rmit.edu.au)

Upcoming Event

• Learning from Research and Policy – Delivering Affordable Retrofit

Join us for an insightful session on delivering affordable retrofits, where experts from research and policy backgrounds will share their knowledge and experiences.

Event Details:

Date: May 1, 2025

Time: 5pm-6:30pm AEST

Location: The Kaleide Theatre

Register for event [here!](#)

Don't miss this opportunity to engage with professionals and academics dedicated to advancing affordable and sustainable housing solutions.

• **2025 Melbourne Doctoral Degrees Graduation Ceremony** is happening on May 14, 2025

Venue: Storey Hall, 336/348 Swanston Street, RMIT City campus

Meet the Team Member!

Professor Karien Dekker leads the Housing@RMIT network and co-convenes the Housing Theme within RMIT's Post-Carbon Research Centre. An urban geographer in the School of Property, Construction and Project Management (PCPM), her research centres on inclusive communities and equitable, affordable housing solutions.



Karien's work spans social infrastructure, temporary migration, and housing insecurity, combining deep qualitative insight with big-picture data to influence policy and practice.

Beyond the university, she brings a grounded, holistic mindset to her work—supported by a 200-hour Yoga Teacher Training and a daily meditation practice.

"Housing is not just shelter—it's a social contract, a reflection of equity, and a foundation for thriving communities."

— Professor Karien Dekker

Karien warmly invites all ECRs and HDRs working on housing-related themes to join hands through the Housing@RMIT network—collaborating, learning, and leading together for real-world impact.

Someone said Opportunities?

Have you published (or had a paper accepted) this year?

The Post-Carbon Research Centre is offering a \$500 cash prize for the best journal paper led by an ECR or HDR in 2025.

Fill [this form to apply by Friday, 31 October 2025.](#)

Achievements from the Network

- One of our team members, **Somaieh Ebrahimi**, just completed her PhD in Urban Sociology.
- One of our team members, **Sadaf Dalirazar** has been awarded AHURI's top-up scholarship for her PhD project.
- Team members **David Kelly**, **Priya Kunjan**, and **Libby Porter** published *"The impossibility of 'housing rights'"* in *Overland* ([read the article here](#)), examining the legal and political challenges to housing rights in Victoria.

Newsletter designed by Muzna Anam, Doctoral Researcher, Housing@RMIT