



# The Urban Institute: Researching smart urbanism in Sheffield.

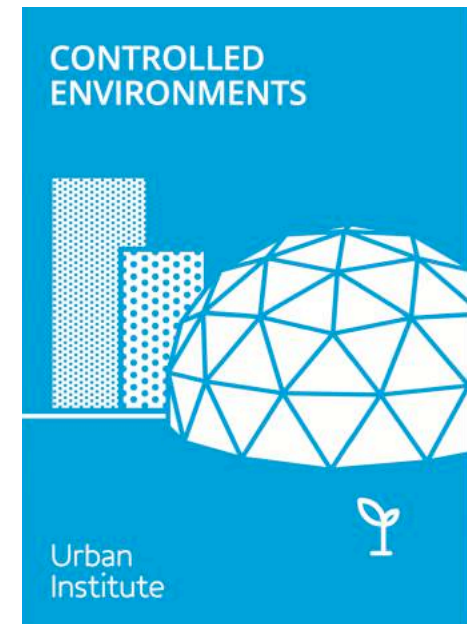
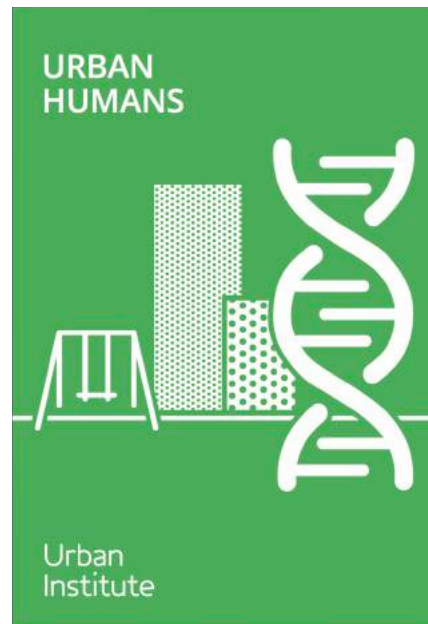
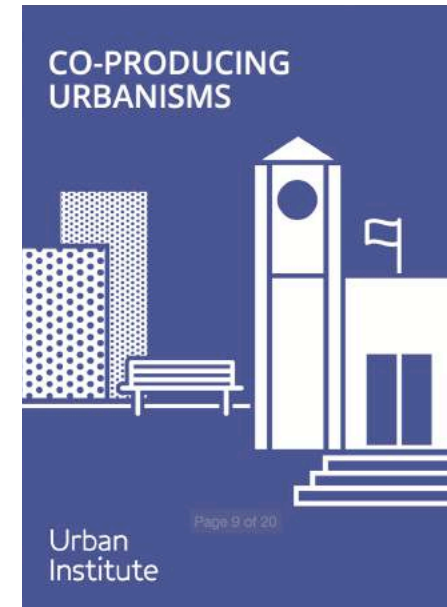
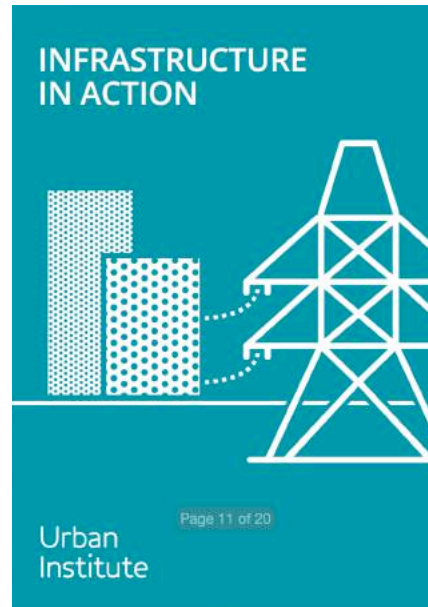
Drs. Rachel Macrorie & Aidan While  
SmartSheffield event, 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2016.

[urbaninstitutegroup.sheffield.ac.uk](http://urbaninstitutegroup.sheffield.ac.uk)  
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# What is the Urban Institute?

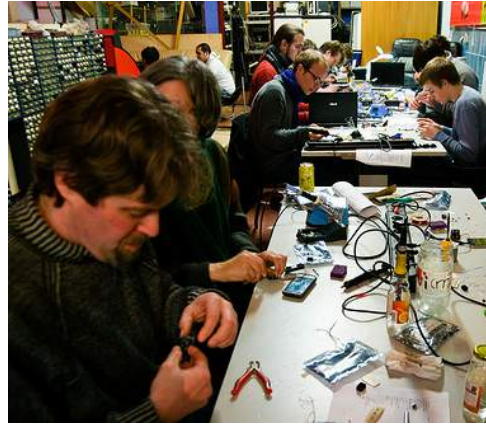
- International research centre at University of Sheffield.
  - Launched: September 2016.
  - Director: Prof. Simon Marvin; Co-Director: Dr. Aidan While.
  - Core team of 13 researchers + visiting fellows.
- Critical social science expertise.
  - Multi-disciplinary & cross-sectoral knowledges.
  - Engage with policy-makers, practitioners & community.
- Examine how cities are responding to intensive urbanisation, technological innovation, & resource constraint.
  - Research local, national, Global North & South contexts.
  - Aim to support sustainable & just urban change.

# 5 themes





# Urban automation



# UA: International networks

## 1. ...on Urban Low Carbon Transitions: **INCUT**

- Funder: ESRC; Partners: 25 members from the UK, US, Australia, Sweden, Germany, France, Hong Kong and others.
- Held final meeting/infralab on smart & sustainability (Sept 2016, UI).

## 2. **ARL** Academic working gp on smart grids/cities

- Funder: German Academy for Spatial Research and Planning (ARL)
- Duration: 3 yrs, from July 2016.

## 3. 2.5-day **UA wkshop/infra-lab**:

- Funder: UoS FoSS; Co-Led by UI & Amsterdam Urban Studies; with international invitees.
- Meeting in Sheffield Sept 2017; Amsterdam Sept 2018
- Edited collection

## 4. Ongoing dev: **Future Cities Catapult; Sheffield Robotics.**

# ‘Knowing’ smart urbanism project

**KNOW**ledge politics of experiment**ING** in smart urbanism.

- Funder: ESRC Open Research Area; 3 yrs from Oct, 2016.
- Compare 8 EU cities: Sheffield, Barcelona, Berlin, Hamburg, Eindhoven, Amsterdam, Lyon, Paris & Japanese cities.
- Considers formal/informal/hybrid smart city experiments.
- Mapping UA landscape & case studies in Sheffield.

## **Opportunities to get involved - table discussion!**

- Outputs will include: publications, conferences, 8 case-study reports, policy/practitioner workshop in Brussels.





Urban  
Institute

# IMAGINING & TRANSFORMING CITIES

Urban Institute Launch

November 9th 2016

6:00pm to 7:30pm

Upper Chapel, 45 Surrey Street  
Sheffield, S1 2LG

Twitter

@Urban\_Inst  
#ESRCFestival

Image Credit

Mitchell Joachim  
Terreform ONE

By 2050, the earth's population will exceed 9 billion, and 70% of people will live in urban areas. Urbanisation, technical innovation, and ecological change create new opportunities to imagine and transform our cities. Visions of the future raise questions about how urban areas might be designed and engineered to sustain and enrich our lives now and in years to come.

Discussion is led by **Professor Simon Marvin**, UI Director, and **Professor Maarten Hajer**, Urban Futures Studio at Utrecht University (NL) and former Director of NL Environmental Assessment Agency.

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<http://urbaninstitutegroup.shef.ac.uk>

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