



Λ 1.1

INTRODUCTION

The greatest barrier to social mobility in the UK is housing. Instead of housing acting as a barrier, The Holding Project (THP) sees housing as having the potential to be an enabler to social mobility. Similarly, we hope to foster discourse and changes in public opinion in Northern Ireland regarding the future of housing in a shared society.

THP seeks to build 20 compact, eco-friendly micro homes in Belfast for young people. As the millennial generation become trapped in private rented accommodation for the long term, the project hopes to offer an alternative form of housing as a mechanism towards enabling social mobility. It also provides high quality, affordable and sustainable housing - which is currently under supplied in Belfast - and can utilise vital sites across the city which are currently vacant. The meanwhile use will provide new life to spaces previously neglected due to the cities historical troubles.

Single people are those under the greatest housing stress in Northern Ireland.

- Northern Ireland Housing Executive

FOR THOSE WITHOUT A BUFFER

Millennials in the UK will spend **£53,000** on rent before the age of 30.

- Resolution Foundation

FOR THOSE WITHOUT THE BANK OF 'MUM & DAD'

£667 million spent each year on housing support in Northern Ireland.

- Northern Ireland Housing Executive

Λ 1.2

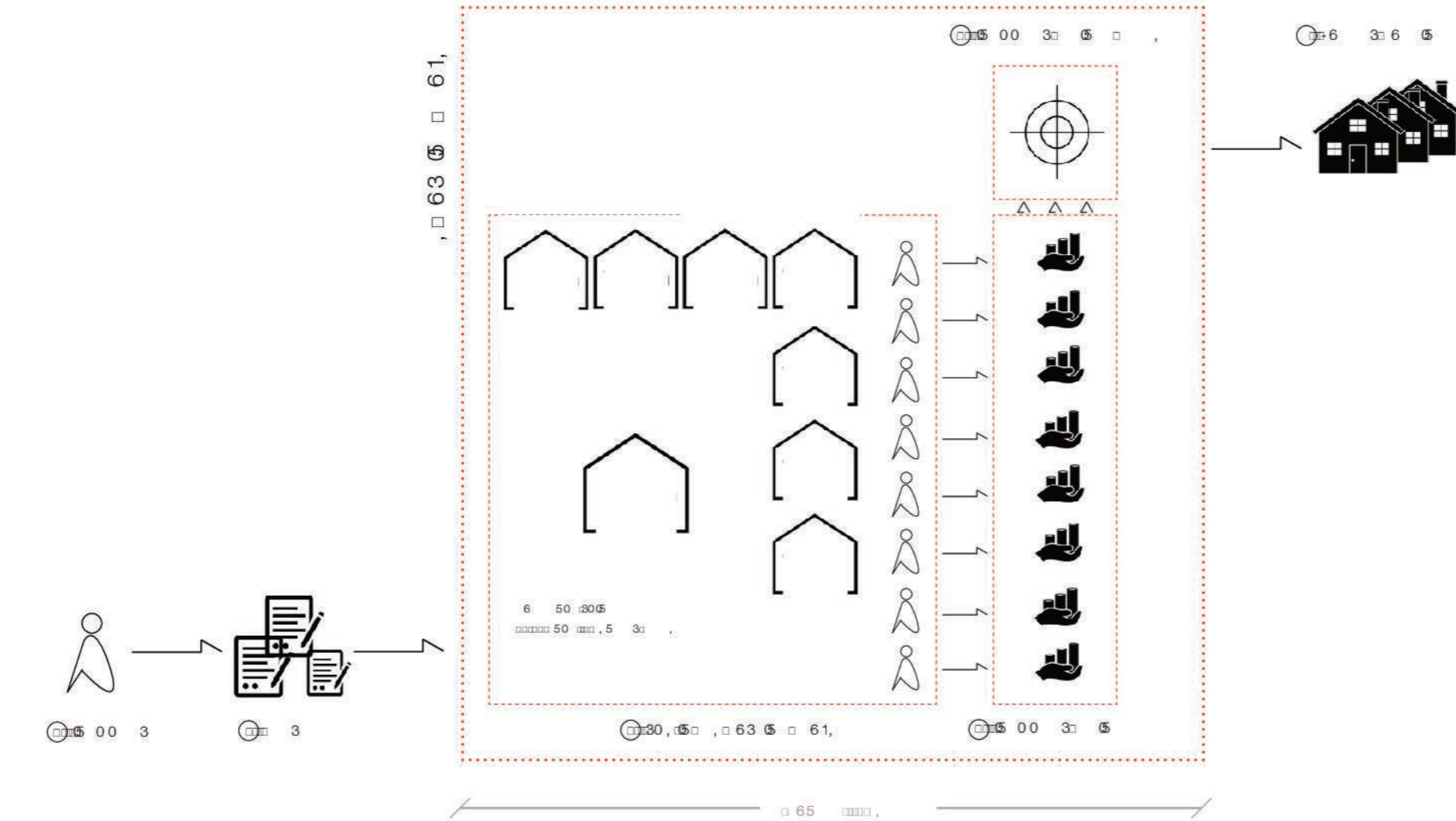
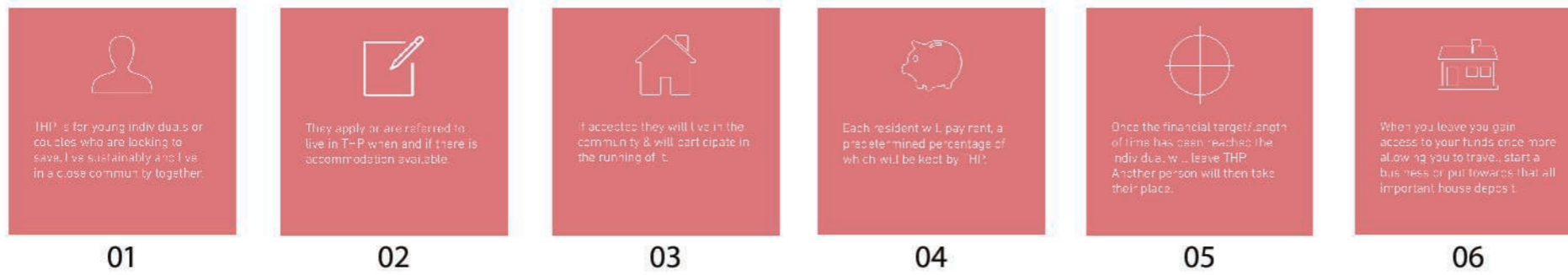


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theholdingprojectteam@gmail.com
@holdingproject

Housing to allow young people to become socially and economically mobile.

2.1 >



SOCIAL & FINANCIAL MODEL

Individuals apply to be part of the project, paying a monthly rent for a unit - this can be for people working or receiving housing benefits from the government. The rent covers the running and maintenance of the project – including the units and site. But, an agreed percentage of each month's rent is held by THP for the duration an individual remains a resident. Once an agreed savings target has been reached, the individual leaves and is replaced by another applicant. This process allows the impact to reach as many people as possible.

The money saved through the process is intended to allow residents to either formally enter the housing market, start a business, undertake education/training or to travel. The targeted user group for THP is young individuals who are in the greatest housing stress because of the points based system for allocating social housing.

It is not our intention to make this type of living the new norm, but to allow it to act as a mechanism through which young people can become upwardly mobile - socially and economically.

2.1 > Model of THP

2.2 > Workshops and seminars held by THP to investigate the requirements of potential user groups.

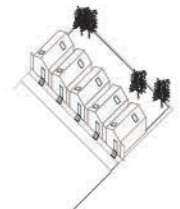
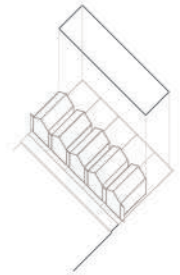
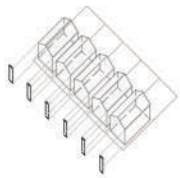
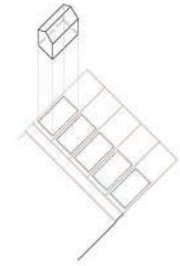
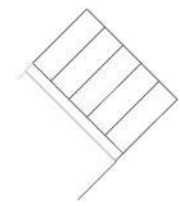
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3.2



3.3

CONTEXT & URBAN INCLUSIVITY

- 3.1 >
 1. The units are designed to fit onto the footprint of former terrace houses - common throughout Belfast and Northern Ireland. As a result, the units could either use existing services or utilities on vacant sites, or lay down services for the plot which may be used once permanent development is sought - potentially for self-builds.
 2. The units are laid within each of these plots on jack-pad foundations allowing for the units to be transportable if permanent development is sought on the site.
 3. This layout allows The Holding Project to have a street presence which resembles the existing built fabric.
 4. A common garden space breaks the plot boundaries between each of the units. The communal space is cared for by all residents and encourages community building.
 5. Doorways enter off the street, providing continued vibrancy to the street and community. It is important that the project is not introverted and contributes to the urban fabric and develops social cohesion.
 6. Space at the front of each unit, for benches and planters, are provided in order to interact, animate and beautify the street.

3.2 > Belfast is known for its red brick terraces. In recent years the urban fabric of the city has been demolished to make way for new, mostly semi-detached, housing with significant paving around it - creating roads, not streets. We hope to restore the urban fabric through the module based on the footprint of a traditional terrace house - 5 meters by 8 meters.

3.3 > The Village is an example of an area where traditional terrace houses, as seen on the right, have made way for semi-detached properties, on left. The photo is taken from a former street - note the street lights. It provides the framework for the project to begin to occupy these underused spaces.

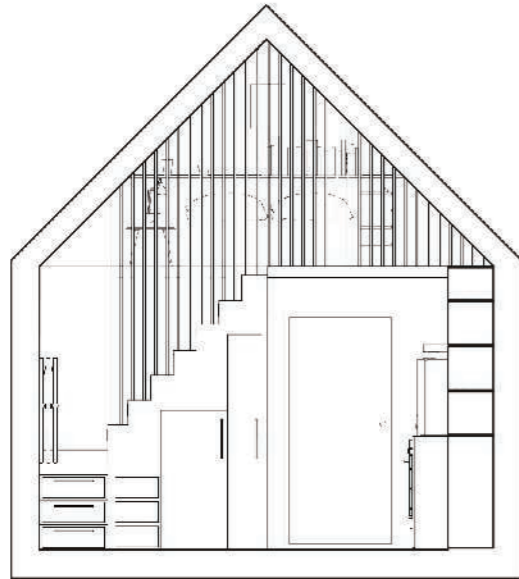
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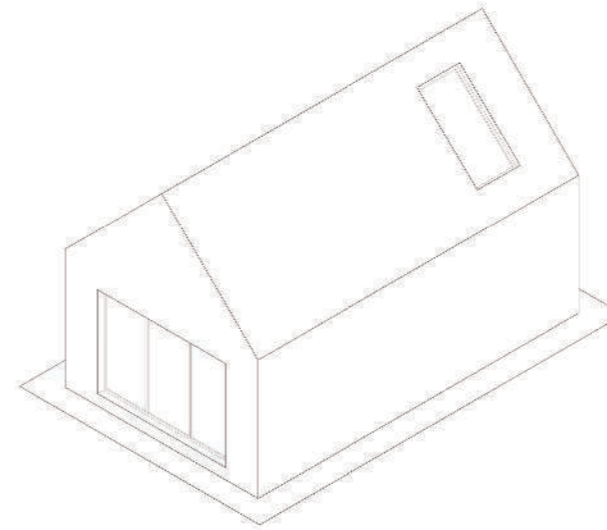
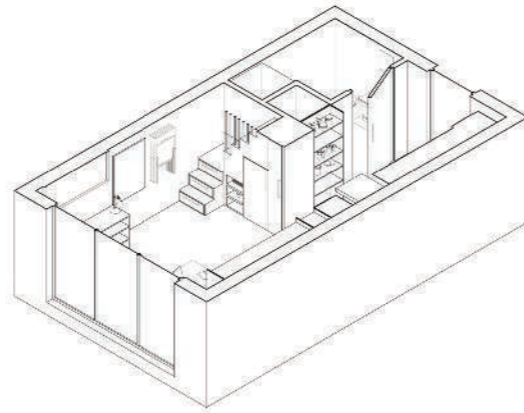
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4.1 >



DESIGN

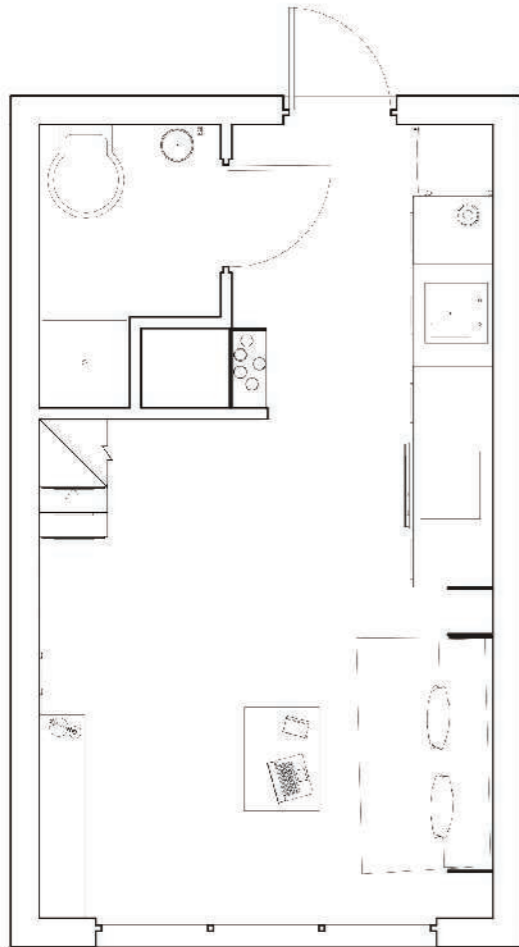
The units are a single, compact space offering all basic amenities with a sleeping deck to provide as much living space as possible. Other iterations of the design allows for sleeping arrangements on ground level for those with mobility issues.

A central focus of the project is to develop and create value through the creation of young communities with no direct tie to the identity which is so divisive in Northern Ireland. In order to do this, the units facilitate the creation of that community.

When permanent development is desirable and economically viable, the units can be moved to another vacant site in the city. This way it benefits as many communities as possible throughout the lifespan of the unit.

The high performance of the envelope is aimed at reducing running costs of units. As fuel poverty is becoming a greater concern as fuel prices rise, creating highly insulative buildings is key. This not only reduces carbon emissions but brings significant savings to the residents as well.

As the units are mobile and prefabricated, they can be built in a few weeks and brought to site nearly complete. This allows for housing to be extremely responsive to needs.



4.2 >



4.3 >

4.1 > Form and layout

4.2 > Plan & Section of units

4.3 > Internal perspective



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