

Backfields House Roof



Roof top plan level 1

Homes on the Roof

There are 15 homes overall made up of:

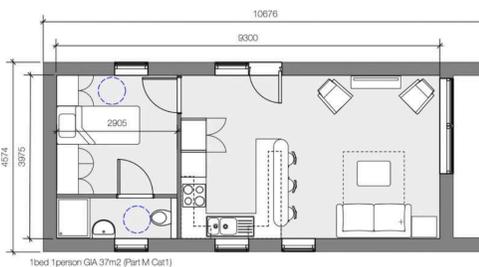
- 11 one bedroom two storey homes
- 3 two bedroom single storey homes
- 1 one bedroom single storey home

They share a rooftop landscape and access through Backfields House.

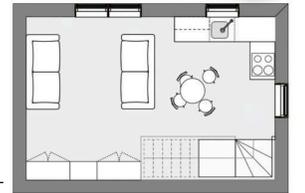
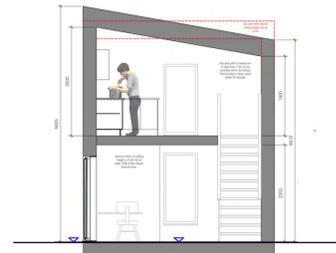
Homes shaded blue are two storeys tall.



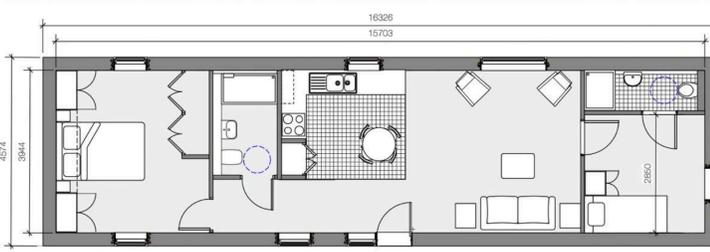
Roof top plan level 0



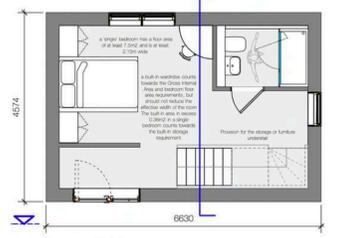
1bed 1person GIA:37m2 (Part M Cat1)



1st Floor 23.6m2



2bed 3person GIA:61m2 (Part M cat1)



Ground Floor 23.6m2

Introduction

Backfields House is located in the heart of St Pauls and is the home of Emmaus Bristol.

The need for affordable homes, particularly in the city centre, is higher than it has ever been and the opportunity to deliver them is getting harder to do. This innovative development utilises free land 'hidden in plain sight' on the roof of Backfields House. This approach allows Emmaus Bristol to transform how it can support people in housing need

Affordable Homes

This is a community-led affordable homes project and is Emmaus Bristol's response to Companion's need for move-on homes within a community setting. The project is supported by Homes England and creates an exemplar for appropriate affordable housing development in the city centre. It will complement and extend the existing Emmaus community, providing people ready to move on from supported housing with their own home. Some homes will be available to rent to local people not from Emmaus.

Design

The scheme is made up of 15 individual homes laid out on an engineered 'table' that spans over the existing roof-scape. Rather than implement an apartment type development with long internal and soulless corridors, the homes frame a rooftop landscape. This approach creates the opportunity for a shared community space where neighbours can meet and relax in a series of interlocking, rooftop courtyard gardens. Access to the roof is secure and through the existing Backfields House, ensuring that only residents and invited guests are able to enter.

In a Post COVID-19 world, the ability for people to have access to green, outside space, is essential to their health and well being. The courtyard gardens are laid out to include accessible,

micro-allotment planters that provide places to sit either alone, or to gather safely with friends and neighbours. Residents will have places and spaces where they can cultivate flowers, fruit and vegetables as well have the opportunity to sit and read in the sun. The scheme as whole creates a dynamic and varied roofline that maintains and enhances the character of this part of St Pauls.

The homes themselves are spacious, light, airy, safe and secure. Each home has views into the courtyard spaces as well as over the city and beyond. Connections with people, shared spaces and the wider cityscape are both intimate and expansive, providing people with a place to live that not only meets their housing need, but also nurtures their sense of community.

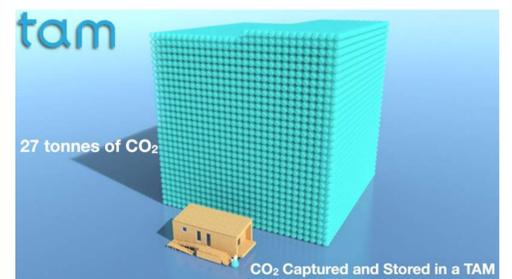
Sustainability

The homes are low-carbon, triple-glazed, airtight and super-insulated. Their design reduce, heating, lighting and ventilation costs to a minimum. The risk of people falling into fuel poverty is eradicated and CO₂ emissions are minimised. The homes are made using Modern Methods of Construction and are prefabricated using natural and renewable, carbon capturing materials. Prefabricated panels will be craned onto the roof and each home assembled on the roof. Consequently, the development has a very low carbon footprint, both in terms of embodied carbon as well as operational CO₂ emissions. The natural and renewable materials used to make the homes have captured the equivalent of 539 tonnes of atmospheric CO₂. The courtyard gardens will provide a city centre oasis and will help re-establish and increase biodiversity.

The development is car free and secure cycle racks are provided both at ground level and on the roof. The Bristol Car Club parking space is nearby, reduced car dependency is an important objective for the project.



Interior of a One bedroom home



Built using natural and renewable carbon capturing materials



A One bedroom home



View from Backfields



View from Upper York Street



Homes on the Roof

An innovative rooftop development of community-led low carbon affordable homes

