

How cost-based decision-making impacts what is designed & built.



Why?

The imperative to achieve urban growth that is ‘sustainable’ is more significant than ever

(Sneddon, Howarth, & Norgaard, 2006) •

Growing pains

Globally the pace of urban growth is unprecedented and the cities that will accommodate this growth will cover only two% of the earth’s surface, they will consume 75% of all its resources and produce 75% of all its waste (Roy, 2009).

Could do better

Research continues to highlight a lack of awareness, a lack of action and the limited capacity of the property development industry to adapt, to establish a more prolific habit of sustainable urban development (Hurlimann, Warren-Myers, & Browne, 2019).

Follow the money

Over the last 10 years in particular the financial sector has exercised significant influence “and to a certain extent determines the conditions for construction, development and refurbishment projects due to the conditions for finance and insurance” (Lützkendorf et al., 2011).

Typically, these value judgements determining investment are taken at arm’s length, often in advance and away from the design and urban development process. They are made in the current and past development paradigm, removed from an understanding of the future city.

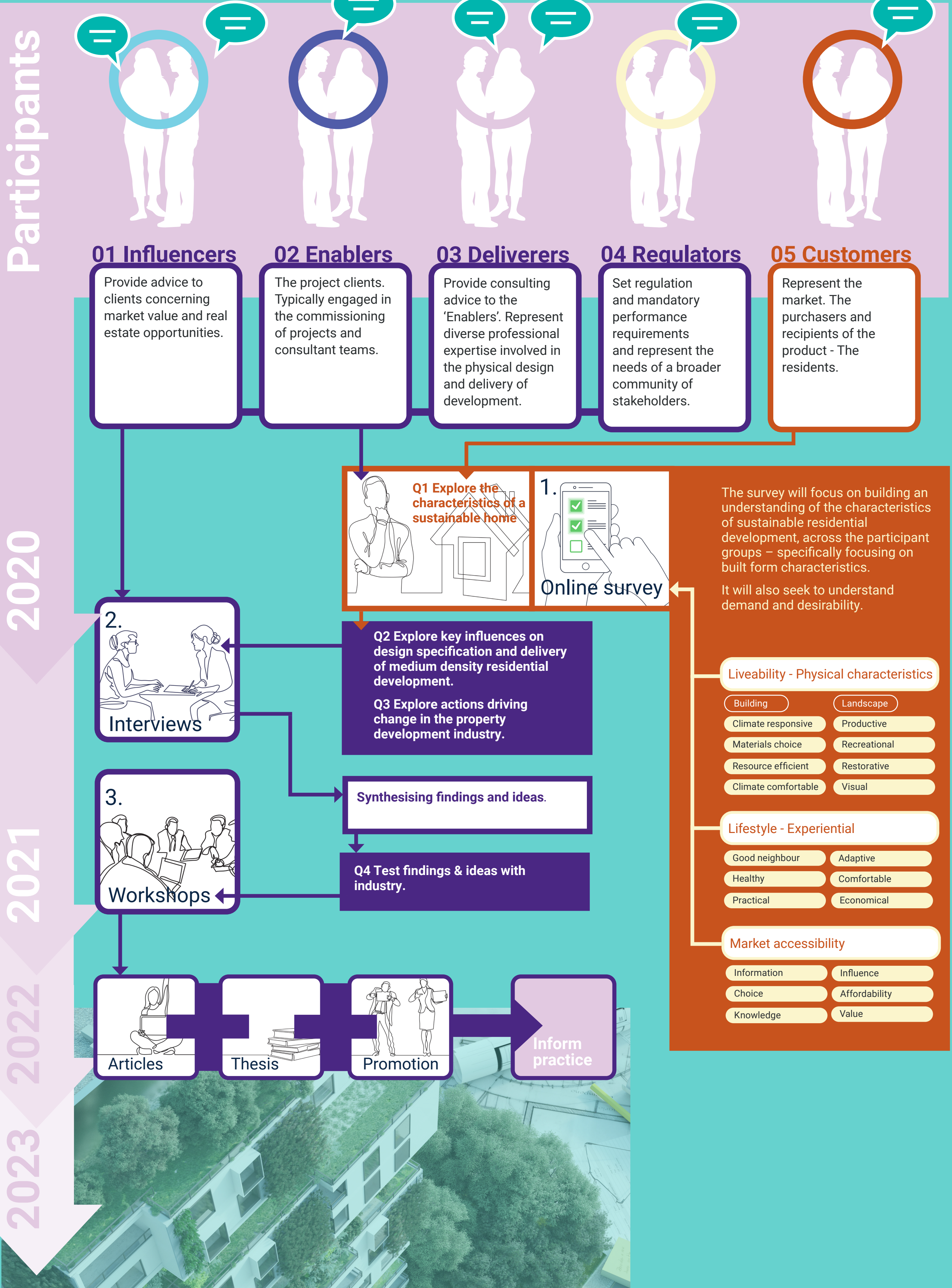
What? Research objectives

- Explore the barriers to delivering design adaptation in medium density residential property.
- Understand the processes and decision making required to catalyse change in development design and procurement, with a specific focus on the influence of financial or value considerations.
- Understand the potential role of cost-based decisions embedded within the early stages of the design and development process to deliver more sustainable built product.

How?

Participants invited to take part to understand complex relationships, levels of influence, values, knowledge, skills and experiences of the design, development and delivery process.

Research method



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