



# Gateshead Innovation Village

**EQUANS led the development of the Gateshead Innovation Village, a live research project looking at the future of house building.**

The £7.1million project examined different ways to construct houses, from modular homes entirely built-in factories to homes built in sections and put together on site.

EQUANS started work on this project in August 2019, working with Home Group to identify new construction solutions to solve the lack of house building across the country - the results of which will be shared within the industry to increase sector confidence of new approaches.

The project consisted of 41 homes - 16 modular houses, 19 made from modern construction methods, and six traditionally built houses - to better compare the process behind each construction and the challenges or opportunities each method presents.

The village has proved to be the ideal setting for testing a number of energy saving developments, including the use of Ground Source and Air Source heat pumps as a means of efficiently - and cheaply - heating homes, as well as the use of photovoltaic solar panels to provide electricity and heating and hot water.

It has also received numerous awards, with the project winning regional and national Constructing Excellence Awards and at the RICS Social Impact North East Awards.

