



Boat Blocks, Birmingham

Over three years, EQUANS worked in partnership with Birmingham City Council and Wates Living Space to give four outdated tower blocks a new lease of life, making them energy efficient and warmer for residents.

The four 12-storey residential tower blocks date back to 1950s post-War Birmingham, when the city began to redevelop some of its heavily bombed areas.

Built in an X-shape design and known as Queens Tower, High Tower, Home Tower and South Tower, the blocks were opened in February 1954.

In 2018, the Council's Capital Investment team set out to transform the blocks to improve the lives of those living there. EQUANS and Wates Living Space were tasked with not only improving the quality of the blocks, but also putting energy efficiency measures in place which would benefit the residents for years to come and contribute towards the council's zero carbon ambitions.

Key Features

Partners: Birmingham City Council and Wates Living Space

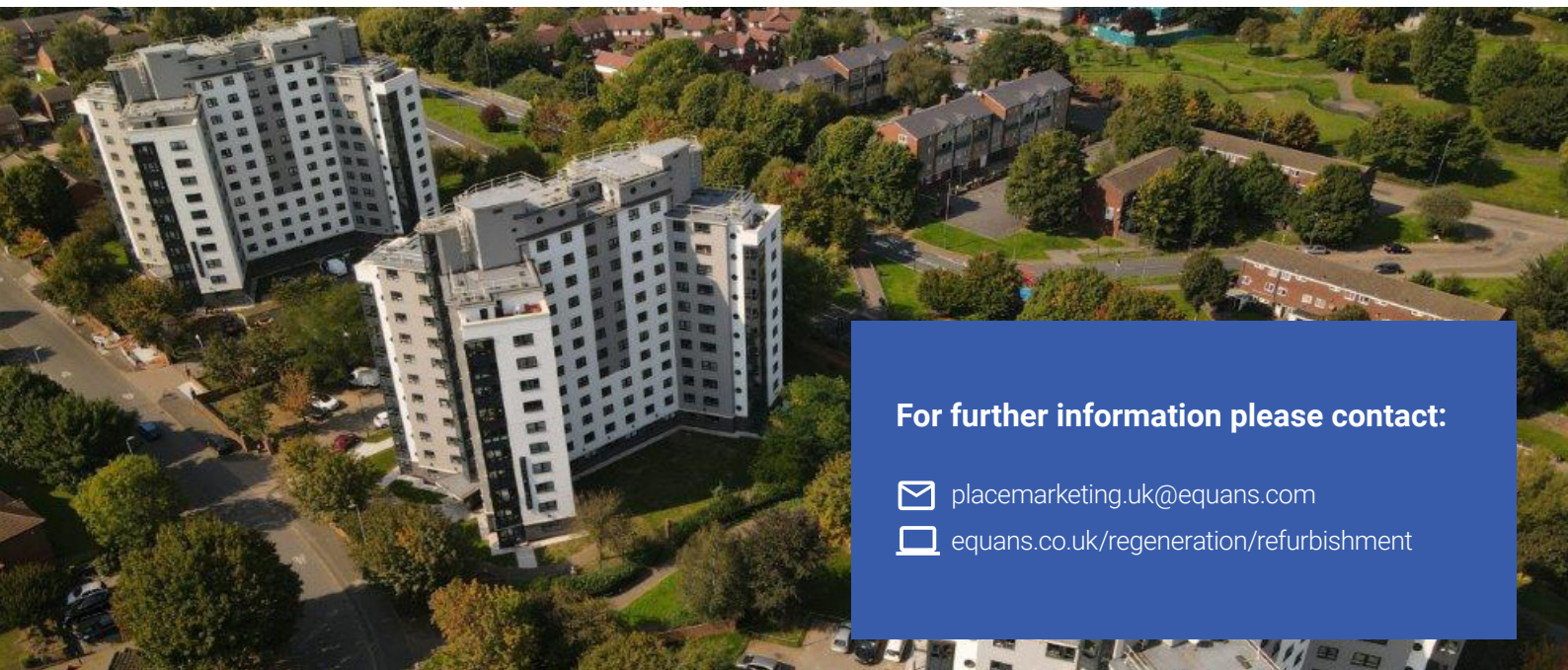
Contract: Start date - March 2018
Completion date - April 2021

The improvements

- Full structural investigations and associated repair / stabilisation work
- Replacement roof
- External wall insulation, including aluminium feature flashings and circular window pods in keeping with the building's original boat features
- Fire resistant cladding
- New windows and doors
- Positive Input Ventilation (PIV) to prevent damp and mould issues
- New balcony enclosures
- New curtain walling
- Fire suppression system
- Replacement lightning protection system
- Refreshed communal areas
- Refurbished front entrance and walkways
- Extra car parking
- New recycling room

Outcomes

- 264 homes improved
- 50% reduction in annual running costs
- 611kg carbon saving per flat
- 264 sprinklers installed



For further information please contact:

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 equans.co.uk/regeneration/refurbishment