



Jess Dowsing



Richard Hemmings



Rachael Sherratt



Gavin Bridge



Victor da Cunha



Ros Trotman

Reach scheme in central Bristol which we acquired out of receivership at the end of the last recession. We acquired the [former fire station] site across the road from Finzels Reach 12 months ago, we have secured approval to deliver more homes and office space and will be starting on site later this month.

"I was proud to learn recently that one of our schemes is now on a tea towel – with Castle Bridge featured! I am also proud of the property industry working to help young homeless people. We launched LandAid in the South West just over 12 months ago and I am the first chair. We delivered one our first schemes and welcomed our first resident into a property in Bedminster recently.

"I am really keen to engage with a different audience through the planning process. Bristol has been going through a lot of change, for example in places such as Bedminster. As applicants I feel we need to change the way we consult too because objectors tend to be a certain demographic and age. We've got to find a way through technology to engage a broader demographic. I think people in their 20s are more open to change."

■ **ROS TROTMAN**  
**chair of Women in Property South West and associate at Thrings**

"I am proud how Thrings has set up its own equality think tank to look at what the company is doing well and could do better and that has led to number of changes around maternity policies, back-to-work support and flexible working policies. With my Women in Property hat on, I am very proud that in the past year we trained 70 people to be part of our mentoring programme.

"I would like to see local authorities using their compulsory purchase powers more to tackle redundant sites to kick start some of those crucial projects to improve their local areas.

"It is also important that local authorities take a flexible approach to schemes coming forward and are pragmatic with future flexibility so that, for example, uses on the ground such as high street elements have the flexibility to change. Ensuring perhaps if you have a build-to-rent scheme where a lot of money has been put into communal spaces not taking too strict an approach on national space standards." ■