Domestic Heating

Case Study

3 Bed Social Housing Refurb June 2011 Making a World of Difference



Housing Association must improve heating efficiency

Keen to improve the heating efficiency in it's homes, Cottsway Housing Association in Oxford were looking for an advanced heating system to suit.

They needed to find an efficient system that provides a good alternative to replace existing gas boilers, storage heaters and open fires. Their main objectives were to save money on energy bills, meet legislation and lessen the impact on the environment.

This three bedroomed terrace home, built in 1970, was amongst the first to be considered for refurbishment. Previously heated by a combination of inefficient, ineffective storage heaters and an open fire, the fuel and electricity bills were spiralling out of control. This home would benefit significantly from an improved means of heating.



Air Conditioning | Commercial Heating Domestic Heating | Photovoltaics



Renewable Heating Technology

Domestic Heating



Installation Summary

1970 3 bed terraced house

Mains gas supply available

Originally heated by storage heaters and open fire, replaced with 8.5kW Ecodan

180 litre indirect unvented cylinder

Radiators with TRV fitted throughout

Installation took 2 days

Running costs reduced by over 50%

Carbon emissions reduced by 65%

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Alternative heating such as wood, solar power and biomass were discounted for being either insufficient or too high maintenance. A better solution was sought.

Using free energy from the outside air to provide central heating and hot water, the advanced efficiency* of Ecodan provides the perfect alternative for Cottsway Housing Association.

Before the new heating system the Pearce family who live in the mid-terraced home spent £1,137 a year on household electricity bills and solid fuel. With the new system, costs have been slashed to £384.

Changing to Ecodan has also cut this homes carbon footprint from 9 tonnes of CO_2 per annum, to just over 3 tonnes - that's a massive 65% welcome reduction! Able to use much less energy, the Ecodan perfectly matches the heat load, whilst significantly reducing energy bills and CO_2 emissions. Cottsway Housing Association are delighted with the savings delivered by the improved energy performance levels that Ecodan provides.

The Pearce family are all quick to agree: "No one relishes paying a large bill for heating and hot water. But you do want a reliable system to provide heat when you need it. We love it – and since it relies on a neat box situated outside the home it even takes up less space than a boiler or storage heaters. We've kept the fire, but really just for show – it's the heat pump that keeps us warm!"

* For every 1kW of electricity fed into the outdoor unit of an Ecodan heating system you could get at least 3kW of heating energy. The overall system efficiency and energy savings will depend on how it compares to the heating system it replaced, satisfactory system design and installation, the operational settings and how the heating system is used.



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