CASE STUDY

Longfield, Mells - 3-Bed 1920's Terrace





This case study can be found online here

Lighting systems & electricals appliances Renewables: heat

'Big' insulation works Lifestyle change

The residents have lived in their 1920s solid stone walled terraced house for five years. The house did already have double glazing, but thermal efficiency was not good and there was insufficient loft insulation.

They wanted a greener house with a more environmentally friendly way of keeping warm. They took professional advice and benefited from grant funding to make the changes affordable.

Insulation: Loft insulation was added.

Ventilation: A dehumidifier was used.

Air Source Hat Pump: The old oil-fueled heating system was replaced with an air source heat pump, paired with Sunamp heat batteries for hot water. Funded through the Green Homes Grant, with a relatively small contribution from the household.

Smart Controls: Smart heating controls were added.

Solar PV: Six solar panels and battery storage were installed under the HUG (Home Upgrade Grant) scheme, fully grant-funded. The panels have made a big difference during summer, and surplus electricity is sold back to the grid through Octopus. The battery can be charged at night on an off-peak tariff.

Electric Vehicle: Yes – charged cheaply at night with Octopus Go Intelligent tariff.

Learning: Improvements were made possible through the Green Homes Grant and Home Upgrade Grant. However, these grant schemes restricted which contractors could be used and information provided was often unclear. There were many problems with the installation, and contractors had to come back several times to fix problems.