

Issue

Upgrading large portfolios of housing stock to achieve Net Zero Carbon standards is a complex challenge. A deep retrofit programme of this type and magnitude has never been undertaken and everyone is on a steep learning curve to develop the green technology and create an efficient, accountable delivery model.

Solution

The Greater London Authority (GLA) have created an 'Innovation Partnership', a procurement vehicle which brings the GLA together with social housing providers, contractors, and suppliers to research, develop and deliver the optimum low carbon retrofit solutions.

Osborne work with preselected clients to craft a performance assured Energiesprong standard Net Zero whole house retrofit solution delivered at an economic price point.

The solution will include enhanced insulation alongside the replacement of gas boilers typically with air source heat pumps, powered wherever possible by PV panels.

During this phase tranches of schemes will be released to verify, learn, and refine the processes.

Outcome

One of the first pilot schemes for Osborne is combining retrofit external/internal insulation with the replacement of kitchens and bathrooms. This 'complete' whole house approach generates greater efficiency and consolidates the impact on residents. They receive a tangible home improvement alongside improved energy performance.

GLA's Innovation Partnership connects housing providers with green technology experts in a vital first step to drive the innovative solutions needed to meet the Net Zero commitments.

The current front-end research and development phase provides a mechanism to understand, innovate and resolve the issues and move ahead of the game on production and processes so that everyone can benefit. It is an opportunity for social housing providers to better understand the implications and to influence the outcomes in advance of a National Framework Award in 2023.

