

# National Energy Foundation

## Impact Report - September 2014

The National Energy Foundation is an independent, national charity and has been at the forefront of improving the use of energy in buildings since it was formed 25 years ago. We aim to give people, organisations and government the knowledge, support and inspiration they need to understand and improve the use of energy in buildings.

### **We do this through:**

- Providing practical experience and technical expertise, gained from a broad range of real-life challenges.
- Developing insights into closing the gap between expected and actual energy performance.
- Connecting stakeholders and creating forums to drive forward the frontiers of good practice.
- Conceiving, establishing and mainstreaming capacity-building initiatives.
- Helping people and organisations to succeed through the provision of impartial, comprehensive advice.

**Specific impacts of our work over the last year include**



Affordable Warmth Network



**Helping vulnerable householders to identify energy efficiency improvements**

We advised over 8,300 people at 232 outreach events and via our Affordable Warmth helpline.

**Helping householders to make energy efficiency improvements to their homes**

We facilitated the installation of over 850 energy efficiency measures including: cavity wall insulations, loft insulations, boiler replacements and double glazing installations.



**Supporting local authorities to identify energy efficiency opportunities**

We worked with 26 local councils to identify energy efficiency opportunities, including: HECA reports, training, building performance evaluation, energy management, project management, community engagement and greenhouse gas emissions reporting.



**Empowering people to improve the use of energy in buildings they either own or occupy**

Online, over 350,000 users visited our websites and our videos attracted 63,000 views. We presented at nearly 30 sector conferences and exhibitions and our articles in the printed media had a potential audience of over 250,000.



**Advancing knowledge and understanding**

We participated in 10 research and development projects, with a total combined value of over £2.7 million, aimed at advancing knowledge in understanding and improving the energy performance of new and existing buildings.



**Developing tools to help building owners and occupiers**

We worked with partners to develop tools to measure and improve building energy performance and aid refurbishment decision making. Our current tools include those for stock modelling, to facilitate Voluntary Display Energy Certificates and an SME Retrofit Opportunities Identifier.

**Informing and influencing government policy**

We provided responses to seven specific consultations and assisted the government on policy development through working groups and significant support on the Green Deal, the Community Energy strategy and the development of operational energy data for the UK Green Construction Board.



**Supporting SMEs to take advantage of the local renewables economy**

We worked with 750 SMEs and Gas Safe installers to help them take advantage of the business opportunities of providing energy efficiency improvements and renewable energy technologies to their customers, and provided business opportunity guidance to 150 SMEs through 15 workshops and training events.

**Providing volunteer and career experience**

We helped develop the careers of 13 volunteers, including European, UK doctoral and post-doctoral interns. Collectively, they spent nearly 3,000 hours with us over a combined 102 weeks, working on projects of benefit to themselves and helping to fulfil the charitable work of the Foundation.



**Providing inspiration and enabling people to see energy efficiency in action**

10,000 people took advantage of the SuperHomes Open Homes programme by visiting some of the 185 accredited SuperHomes inspiring them to improve their own homes and providing practical reassurance. We also supported 10 community groups to undertake thermal imaging of 500 residential properties.

In delivering these impacts the National Energy Foundation has, over the last three years, invested **over £480,000** alongside partner funding in **supporting the development of policy, strategy and standards** in the UK and internationally; **inspiring and informing individuals** and companies ranging from householders to energy managers of major corporates; supporting individual projects in and with communities and carrying out **research and development** into the many factors that conspire to **improve the use of energy in buildings**.



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