

Transition Bristol Home Energy Auditing Training

Follow up – 29/03/10

Hi Everyone

One week on from our training day at CREATE and here are the follow up notes as promised. As mentioned on the day some documents have been posted on the Transition Montpellier website but I am keen to see a separate Bristol-wide web- group form to manage this topic in the future.

There's a lot here but I would like to draw your immediate attention to two meetings; One tonight (Monday) on developing the Home Energy Auditing Checklist (see below) and the other on Thursday which is for neighbourhoods to discuss the Bristol Green Doors project (see below too!)

I think it was a great session with everybody and the feedback from yourselves has been extremely positive. I will post a summary on the Transition Bristol website which will also allow others to register their interest for future training. Thanks to all who have contributed to this and who are already bringing it forward. I think Bev enjoyed it too and here is a comment from her.

Thank you for coming along to the Green Communities training on Monday. It was great to meet such an enthusiastic, passionate group of people who are working on such worthy projects. I said I would send further information out to you to help your projects to progress and just for general info so please see below and attached and do let us know if there is any further information you would like. Thank to you all for your input on the day and for sharing your thoughts and ideas. Good luck with your projects and campaigns - we look forward to hearing how they progress.

Best wishes, Bev

Names and addresses. A spreadsheet is attached with this email.

Home energy audit checklist

- a) A few people are available to tailor the **home energy audit checklist** (those who volunteered on Monday). We are provisionally going to meet at **7:30pm on Monday 29th March** in the Thali cafe in Easton. I've got Morgan at CSE helping us out on this as well as two trained energy assessors. **Paul Easton Energy**
- b) And from Bev ...* Audit checklist – It's great that you're putting together your own audit checklist. Attached is an electronic copy of the community building checklist that you may wish to refer to. Also, other organisations (eg: National Energy Action) have their own audit checklists that you could use, which are usually downloadable from the internet. Also, Energy Saving Trust have their own home energy check which you can do online, which would give you some further ideas:

<http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/proxy/view/full/165/homeenergycheck>

Household Energy Service. Leading the way on [Community Energy Efficiency Projects!](#)

Cavity wall insulation – As discussed, the National Insulation Association have a very informative website for you to look through. <http://www.nationalinsulationassociation.org.uk/> I have also attached a document with their response to the BBC's 'The One Show' programme, which featured a fairly negative article on cavity wall insulation and its links to damp problems.

No / low cost measures – As mentioned, there is an abundance of this material available, including some great tips on the Energy Saving Trust's website:
<http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/Easy-ways-to-stop-wasting-energy>

Programming Central heating – As mentioned on the day, I (Bev) am attaching a very general document on programming your central heating. I agree that focussing on heating controls would be a very worthwhile part of your project. (This is posted on Trans Mont Website)

Bang goes the Theory - This was the tv programme that we were referring to, which showed a 'typical' family living in a house that was powered by 100 cyclists:
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b00p8469>. Unfortunately it doesn't seem to be available to view on i-player anymore, but you may be able to track down some footage on the internet.

Secondary window film From Matt [secondary window film](#) the info/link on what you install with a hair dryer. "I know you can buy it at Wilkinsons but I can't find it on their website. I can also forward photos of it installed at my house, but it might be tricky to see as it is really see through! I'd be happy to give anyone any advice as to how best to do it." Matt

Monitors. The council are providing all Transition Neighbourhood people training with [Owl wireless micro Electricity monitors](#). The contact is graham.starmer@bristol.gov.uk

Matt also mentioned Brenda Boardman at the [Oxford Centre for Climate Change Institute](#). There is a lot of great stuff happening there right now, not least the work which has been supporting setting up the Bristol Green Doors! [Home Truths Report](#). If Matt can direct us directly to the tool for breaking down consumption, that would be handy.

Useful book. [How to live a low carbon life](#) is the book Maddy mentioned

Another useful book mentioned by James 'Easy Eco Auditing' by Donnachadh McCarthy, published by www.octopusbooks.co.uk. His website is : www.3acorns.co.uk

Bristol Green Doors. For anyone in Bristol who wants to see first hand how homes can be made fit for the future. There will be an online map showing homes with reduced energy consumption through a range of retrofits, renewable installations, water management systems and good examples of sustainable construction. **Then on September 11th** (a [Heritage Open Day](#)) there will be an open day which will run alongside and compliment Bristol Doors Open .

The aims of the project are to:

- Normalise , encourage and accelerate retrofitting homes for energy efficiency
- Present good practice to contractors, self-builders and DIY and develop skills and knowledge
- Aid the development of Transition Bristol neighbourhood groups of all stages
- Stimulate the green, low-carbon economy
- Reduce dependence on fossil fuels and cut CO2 emissions
- Celebrate people and homes making Bristol more sustainable

Green Doors can provide a stimulating, visual and localised context for each neighbourhood's work and that of many "partner" organisations with whom the project has been discussed. They include BCC's Sustainability team and BETs, The Architecture Centre, CREATE, CSE, Ecomotive, Forum for the Future / Refit West, Green Register and Knowle West Media Centre. Their response has been superb.

Bristol Green Doors has a steering group and an embryonic and fast growing team of Transition Bristol Neighbourhood personnel and Architecture, Environment and Energy MSc students ready to deliver the project. A [Google Group](#) has been set up too.