



FACT SHEET | RETROFIT

WHAT IS RETROFIT? ABOUT HOME ENERGY UPGRADES

Retrofit. You may have heard the word, but you may not know what it means. For Repowering London, it means making home energy upgrades that ensure homes are more energy efficient and potentially cheaper to run. This includes improvements that:

- make it easier to heat homes and for them to retain that heat for longer - usually by improving the "fabric" of the building, such as the walls, roof, windows and other external-facing parts of the home
- make sure home ventilation systems work effectively so that clean air enters the home and stale air leaves it
- fixing any problem areas within homes, for instance damp, condensation and mould
- improving the efficiency of heating systems and/or adding renewable technologies, such as solar panels or heat pumps.

Retrofit: key benefits



Can bring lower energy bills to householders, helping fight fuel poverty



Reduces our reliance on fossil fuels and the carbon emissions that they create, bringing the UK nearer to its net-zero goals



Can bring substantial health benefits to householders by reducing the risk of damp, mould and other dangers



Combined with energy education, it can bring people together to build clean, local energy systems that are people-centred and locally owned

Why do we need to improve our homes?

The UK has some of the worst-performing homes in Western Europe when it comes to energy efficiency. Our homes are colder, suffer more from damp and mould, are more expensive to run (energy bills are higher). We need to improve our homes and living spaces to fix this and make our housing warmer, safer and more comfortable.

What's more, our homes and buildings are responsible for nearly 40% of the UK's CO₂ emissions and are major contributors to climate change. That's why Repowering London is expanding its work to include low-carbon heating



and energy efficiency updates. These include projects to research better ways to fund and deliver home improvements, tackling the complexity of updating blocks of flats, and making sure that people are supported through what can be a confusing and disruptive journey.

Common retrofit measures - examples of climate-friendly home updates



- **Wall insulation** – this can be put inside wall cavities or be applied to a solid wall inside or outside a home
- **Double or triple glazing** – replacing old single-glazed windows reduces heat loss, brings energy bills down and cuts carbon emissions
- **Ventilation** – ensures correct air flow to combat mould, damp and other indoor health hazards
- **Floor insulation** – this can be installed on ground and upper floors
- **Solar panels** – can be a pathway to generating your own clean energy and cutting energy bills
- **Air source heat pumps** – an alternative to gas-fired boilers that use outdoor air to heat and cool a home, and are a low-carbon, cost-effective solution for reducing energy bills

A process that works for everyone

Repowering London is shaping our work on home energy updates so that people's experiences are at the centre. We are designing and delivering options that help households get trusted support. We do this by bringing together technical expertise and community engagement, to ensure residents are informed, involved and supported across their entire retrofit journey.



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