



An Outline of the Group

SURE is a well-established community group working in Otley and Lower Wharfedale, West Yorkshire. This group encourages local residents and businesses to save money on their fuel bills by reducing their energy consumption.

SURE is committed to working in the community to help to reduce fuel poverty and encourage lower carbon emissions. We've attracted some very warm letters of support for our work and our community energy ambitions. See www.sure-energy.org.uk/support

It does this by highlighting local case studies and putting on 'Energy Day' exhibitions. This is supported a series of by talks, films, trade fairs and technology showcases, energy auditing training and a regular newsletter. A full calendar of the SURE events can be found here www.SURE-energy.org.uk/calendar

One of the projects supported by SURE is a whole house refurbishment. A key goal in this work is to significantly increase the energy efficiency of the Victorian terrace house property. The unfolding story can now be viewed on YouTube in the form of a video diary. This includes interviews with the owner and her architect and some detailed examination of the problems to be overcome and the proposed refurbishment work. See www.SURE-energy.org.uk/video

Through the work of SURE a pilot scheme was introduced in Otley library to loan out an energy monitor for a week. It is anticipated that this scheme will be rolled out across the whole of Leeds.

Current Work

SURE now offers free energy audits of community buildings in the lower Wharfedale area. Some ten of these have now been completed. These involve an inspection visit by typically two of our Auditing Team which lasts around two hours. Careful analysis is then made of the previous few years' fuel bills which then become part of a detailed report and a presentation made to the management group. See attached examples.

These audits have given SURE an opportunity to reach out to new members of the community and help them reduce their carbon emissions. It is our intention to continue these in 2010 with the hope of developing some beacon projects which should further encourage the local community to reduce the energy use in their own homes.

The **10:10** campaign is being promoted as an achievable target for both families and businesses in 2010.

Social Enterprise Company – a future ambition

This is envisaged as a specialist construction / contracting company providing services directly aimed at improving the energy efficiency of domestic properties, community buildings and commercial premises.

There would be three main elements to the business:

- Energy Auditing
- Energy Efficiency Construction Services
- Sale of Specialist Energy Efficiency Equipment

The workforce could comprise of a core group of individuals / tradespeople with additional, periodic assistance from other specialists. It could be possible to take on young people / volunteers to train up. More description can be found in the attached summary document. It is hoped that encouragement and support may be available from Leeds City Council.

Andy Walker (Nb More background information about Andy Walker can be found here: www.ridgetop.co.uk/about)
Chair and Founder, SURE (Sustainable and Renewable energy in Wharfedale)
e: Chair@SURE-energy.org.uk
w: www.SURE-energy.org.uk
t: 07736 35 21 24