

Decarbonisation Conference

19 October 2021

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Tuesday 19th October

Climate change is an ever increasing priority. The Welsh Government declared a climate emergency in June 2019 stating that ‘climate change threatens Wales’ health, economy, infrastructure, and natural environment.’

A year later, the Climate Change Committee’s advice to set a net-zero target for Wales by 2050 was set in law by the Welsh Government.

This year the Welsh Government established a new Ministry for Climate Change, the IPCC released a stark climate change report, and in November we will see the UK host the 26th UN Climate Change Congere of the Parties (COP26).

Homes in Wales are responsible for 27% of all energy consumed and 15% of all demand-side greenhouse gas emissions, giving homes a key part to play in tackling climate change. The Better Homes, Better Wales, Better World report has recommended that the social sector commence a 10-year programme to retrofit homes to EPC A, and building regulations will require new build homes to be low carbon.

This October, CHC will be holding its Decarbonisation Conference which will look to understand the reasons for decarbonising, how the foundational economy can be supported, how and why tenants should be engaged with, and how innovation can support the transition to a low-carbon society.

The coronavirus pandemic has demonstrated that our homes have never before been more important. These homes should be of good quality, affordable and energy efficient, where tenants feel safe and warm.

Decarbonisation represents an opportunity to boost the local economy post-covid by creating jobs, developing training programmes and supporting supply chains.

Housing associations in Wales are ambitious to decarbonise. To decarbonise not just homes but businesses, services, and communities too. This conference will engage, support and motivate attendees to scale up and undertake decarbonisation in the most effective, sustainable way.

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Main Session

Break & Networking

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Tuesday 19th October 2021

9.00am	Registration, networking and exhibition viewing
9.30am	Welcome and scene setting Conference Chair: Jane Davidson @JaneBryngwyn
9.45am	Tackling the climate emergency Luke Murphy, Head of Environmental Justice Commission, IPPR @LukeSMurphy <p>Luke Murphy heads IPPR's Environmental Justice Commission and leads the Energy, Climate, Housing and Infrastructure team. Before joining IPPR in 2016, Luke worked in parliament, the voluntary sector and the private sector. He has worked for the Labour party as a policy and political adviser for a shadow secretary of state and successive shadow housing ministers leading their work on housing, and working on local government and devolution. He has worked on policy and advocacy projects for the Living Wage Foundation and a leading housing association. Luke also has significant experience in communications and campaigning.</p> <p>Responding to the climate and nature crisis will require changes that will affect people's everyday lives. The transition to a green economy presents many risks, but also a huge number of opportunities. In this session Luke will set the scene, give his perspective on the very real impacts of the climate crisis and demonstrate how housing is part of a huge global movement contributing to the solution.</p>
10.30am	Main Session: Lee Waters MS, Deputy Minister for Climate Change, Welsh Government @Amanwy <p>The new climate change ministry established by the Welsh Government includes housing. In this session Lee Waters MS will outline the Welsh Government's vision for climate change and how housing associations play a part in reaching ambitious net-zero targets.</p>
11.00am	Chance for a cuppa & chat

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11.15am	A series of workshops:
	<p>Monitoring domestic energy performance to provide evidence for retrofitting Dr Jo Patterson, Senior Research Fellow, Welsh School of Architecture @JoPatterson74</p> <p>Dr Patterson will speak about insights from the research that the Low Carbon Built Environment team have undertaken with a range of local authorities and social housing organisations across Wales to implement whole house, whole energy system retrofit projects. The work has involved close collaboration with residents, local authority and social housing staff and supply chains to successfully deliver low carbon, low energy and high-quality homes for the future whilst changing practices for future improvements to both existing and new build homes.</p>
	<p>Energy as a Service Edmund Hunt, Design Team Lead, Energy Systems Catapult @EnergySysCat</p> <p>This session will look at what role energy as a service could play in supporting housing associations with decarbonisation ambitions. Heat as a Service is a new model for how businesses sell heating. Consumers who buy Heat as a Service choose how much to spend on the experience they want – feeling warm and comfortable when and where they want in their homes – instead of paying for kilowatt hours of energy. Once a service provider understands a consumer, the service provider can help them pick the best low carbon system for their situation, and help them prepare their home, so it is easy to install when they want to replace their existing system.</p> <p>In this session Ed will guide us through what energy as a service is, how it works, how it can benefit tenants, and how it can present an opportunity to social landlords.</p>

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	<p>Tenant Engagement Laura Holt, Project Manager, Active Building Centre @BuildingActive</p> <p>Laura's workshop will introduce us to the work of the Active Building Centre, and focus on :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The benefits of low carbon living for residents. • Best practice for zero carbon resident engagement. • The social impact of retrofit.
	<p>12.0 Claire Snook, Managing Director, Samkat @clairesamkat Victoria Slade, Group Chief Executive, Cynon Taf Community Housing Group @CynonTafHousing</p> <p>In late 2020 Cynon Taf Community Housing group board committed time and resources to investigating a carbon reduction strategy including a land-based drawdown of CO₂ plan.</p> <p>This has developed into a project looking at decarbonisation through land-based drawdown of CO₂ – in simple terms; using land to reduce the carbon in the atmosphere. This project is called “Down to Zero”.</p> <p>Victoria and Claire will share with delegates the progress of the project, the journey they have been on and their learnings so far.</p>
12.15pm	Lunch and networking
1.00pm	A series of workshops:

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	<p>Down to Zero - decarbonisation through land-based drawdown of CO2 Claire Snook, Managing Director, Samkat @clairesamkat Victoria Slade, Group Chief Executive, Cynon Taf Community Housing Group @CynonTafHousing</p> <p>In late 2020 Cynon Taf Community Housing group board committed time and resources to investigating a carbon reduction strategy including a land-based drawdown of CO₂ plan.</p> <p>This has developed into a project looking at decarbonisation through land-based drawdown of CO₂ – in simple terms; using land to reduce the carbon in the atmosphere. This project is called “Down to Zero”.</p> <p>Victoria and Claire will share with delegates the progress of the project, the journey they have been on and their learnings so far.</p>
	<p>Introduction to Decarbonising Homes: Technologies, Impacts and Solutions Dr Paul Rogers, National Energy Action (NEA) @NEA_UKCharity</p> <p>The need to reduce carbon emissions is becoming more urgent with the impact of Climate Change becoming more evident. Carbon emissions from the residential sector have remained stubbornly high. It is important in this shift to net-zero that the poorest in society are not left behind and technologies installed are appropriate for the property and household.</p> <p>NEA has recently released an NCFE accredited Level 4 course on Decarbonising Homes: technologies, impacts and solutions. Based on many years of experience working with technologies in fuel poor homes, the course can assist decision makers, energy managers and front-line workers understand the wide range of technologies which can be installed and issues which can occur during an installation programme. The workshop will consider some of the challenges with decarbonising homes and provide examples and case studies from the course.</p>

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	<p>Financing decarbonisation Donal Brown, Sustainability Director, Sustainable Design Collective @BrownSdc (This session will be pre-recorded)</p> <p>In this session delegates will hear the financing challenges and opportunities of net zero, what this public and private finance could look like, and how we can ensure investors and bankers recognise the need to support decarbonisation and climate action.</p>	
2.00pm	A chance for a coffee and chat	
2.15pm	<p>Scottish Government's approach to decarbonisation David Hawkey, Scottish Government </p> <p>In this session we will hear about the Scottish Government's approach to decarbonisation and the support that they are giving housing associations, as well as their role in COP26.</p>	
2.45pm	A chance for a coffee and chat	
3.00pm	<p>Sustainable Design Professor Yewande Akinola MBE, Award-winning Design Engineer, Innovator and Clean Growth Champion @YeWanDae</p> <p>Professor Yewande Akinola MBE is a chartered engineer, an innovator, a dreamer and speaker with passion for the role of innovation, creativity and engineering in our world today. Yewande is an ambassador for clean growth and infrastructure at Innovate UK.</p> <p>In our final session today, Yewande will inform and inspire delegates speaking about her work on sustainability, innovation, and diversity, and how these can and should be applied in the housing sector to tackle climate change</p>	

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3.45pm	Conference Reflections and Close
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