London-Loughborough Centre for doctoral research in energy demand



Energy efficiency refurbishment in UK owneroccupied dwellings: The householders' perspective

Kate Simpson 3rd Year PhD, Loughborough University Supervised by: Victoria Haines and David Allinson

Aim:

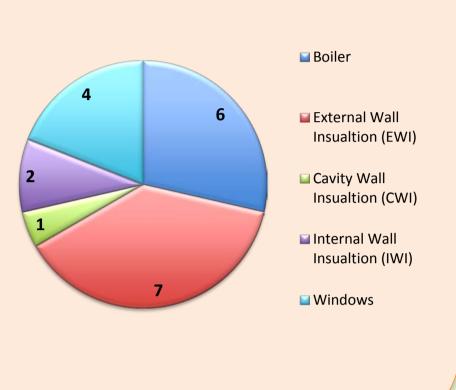
To identify whether energy efficient refurbishments are successful from the householders' perspective.

Research questions:

- 1. What are the occupant expectations of an energy efficiency installation and what do they actually get?
- 2. Do the occupants perceive an internal environment improvement?
- 3. Do the householders actually save money, energy and carbon?

Case studies and planned measures:

Case	Work planned	Funding
E	Boiler	Private
L	Boiler	Private
G	CWI + Boiler	Private
С	EWI	Private/ ECO
D	EWI	Private/ G D
Н	EWI	Private
K	EWI + Boiler	Private
F	EWI + Passivhaus	Private
ı	EWI + Windows	Private/ ECO
Α	EWI + Windows	Private
M	IWI + Boiler	Peak District
N	IWI + Boiler	IIPF/ ECO
В	Windows	Private/ ECO
J	Windows	Private



Data collection: Building energy performance Measured energy consumption Occupant environment experiences Comfort assessments Householder perception

Main reasons to install: add baby comfort condensation control demand energy floor improve maintenance money prepare reduce repair save space temperature thermal

Finding installers:

"There's actually **very few cavity wall insulation companies who will accept private clients**... They'll only deal with over 70's and the grant schemes, they don't want to take on any additional work.... I said you must be really busy and he [installer] said **they're actually all going out of business**. He said a year ago we'd have got a grant for the property but they closed it."

Securing funding:

"I was advised to wait until this Green Deal came out and now that it's come out it doesn't look as good as we thought it might be... we'll still look into getting it [EWI] done through some sort of subsidy scheme or something like that but that's taken a while."

Trusting advice:

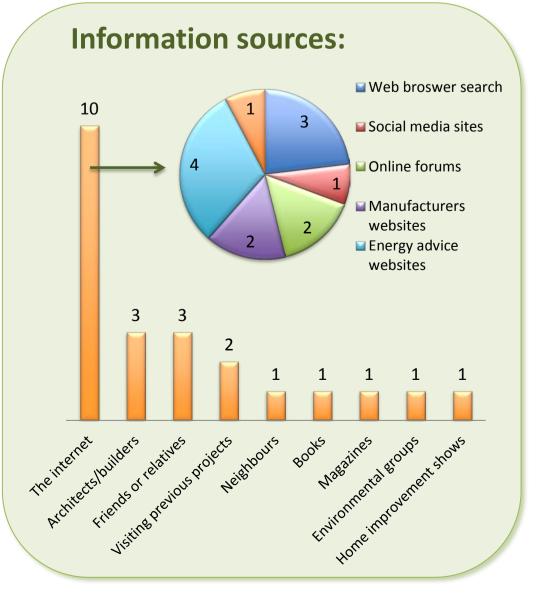
"They end up giving contrary advice about damp and all that kind of thing... Yeah the internal insulation, there's all different advice about that, whether it's good or bad."

Motivation:

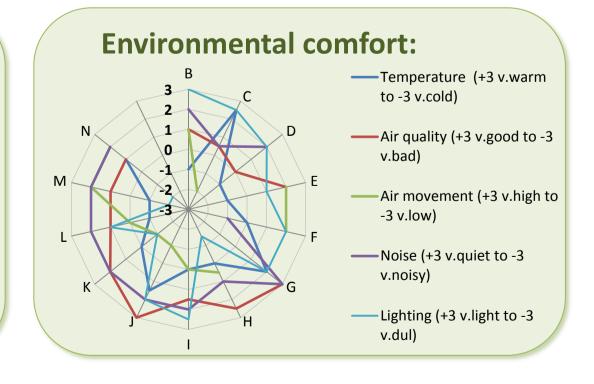
"It feels like it's something we ought to do, but it's a chore!"

"It's definitely worth the risk!"

"Only because we're extremely motivated and geeks!"







Key literature:

- Holm, M. G. (2000). Service quality and product quality in housing refurbishment. Sweden: International Journal of Quality & Reliability Management.
- Johnston, D., Lowe, R., & Bell, M. (2005). An exploration of the technical feasibility of achieving CO2 emission reductions in excess of 60% within the UK housing stock by the year 2050. Energy Policy, 1643–1659.
- Vadodaria, K., Loveday, D., Haines, V., Mitchell, V., Mallaband, B. & Bayer, S. (2010). UK solid walled dwellings thermal comfort, energy efficiency refurbishment and the user perspective some preliminary analysis from the CALEBRE project. NCEUB Windsor Conference: Adapting to Change: New Thinking on Comfort.
- Stiess, I. & Dunkelberg, E. (2012). Objectives, barriers and occasions for energy efficiency refurbishment by private homeowners. Journal of Cleaner Production.
- TSB (nd) Retrofit Revealed: The Retrofit for the Future Projects data analysis report. Available from: http://www.retrofitanalysis.org/
 Wilson, C., Chryssochoidis, G. and Pettifor, H. (n.d) Understanding Homeowners' Renovation Decisions: Findings of the VERD Project. UKERC. Available from: http://tyndall.ac.uk/sites/default/files/verd_summary_report_oct13.pdf



