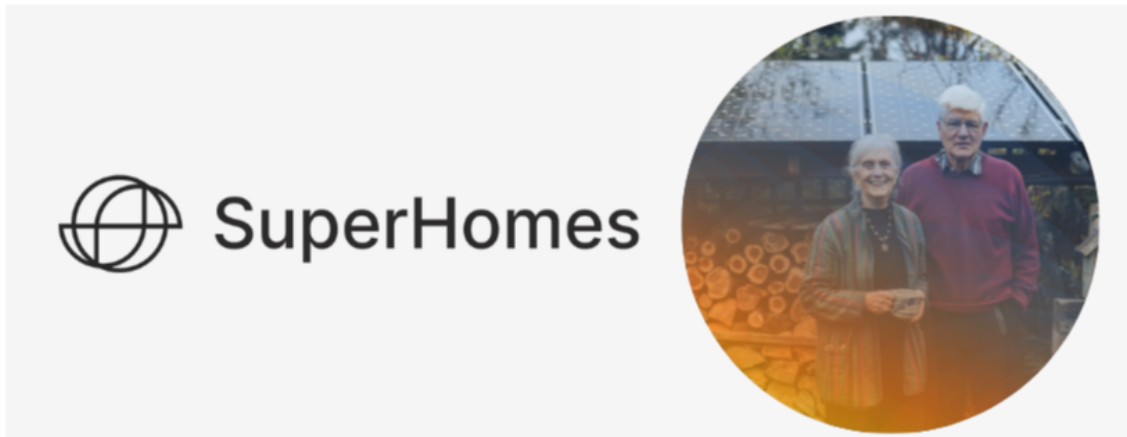


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**Welcome to your SuperHomes newsletter. This is brought to you by the SuperHomes Team and the National Energy Foundation.**

If you have any news, views or ideas please do get in touch with us at [jo.williamson@nef.org.uk](mailto:jo.williamson@nef.org.uk)

Join the SuperHomes network!

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## **Energy Security Strategy: re-think on fuel poverty?**



The government is said to be “reconsidering” the impact of its energy efficiency strategy, released last month, on the estimated 40% of households likely to be in fuel poverty after the next fuel price rise, due in October. The voices for action are growing louder and stronger:

### Universal Credit.

- The boss of Scottish Power, Keith Anderson, has warned that millions of customers face an horrific winter unless there is a major government intervention in energy firms. He suggests a £10bn tariff reduction fund could be paid for by adding £40 annually to all household energy bills for the next decade.
- Tesco Chairman John Allan has added his voice, saying "It's harder for people to mitigate energy than it is with food, and I think there's an overwhelming case for a windfall tax on profits from those energy producers to be fed back to those most in need of help with energy prices."

However, the SuperHomes Team think that it's time to insulate our poorly-performing homes.

The government had said in the strategy that it would not "impose" measures to improve energy efficiency in existing homes as "British people are no-nonsense pragmatists who can make [their own] decisions. We thought you would like to know what the SuperHomes team thinks about insulation:

#### **What can we do?**

While most UK homes now have loft and cavity wall insulation installed - what do you do if you have a solid wall property? Our refurbishment expert, Paul Ciniglio, says it is still possible to improve these properties by fitting internal or external wall insulation. "Internal wall insulation is generally cheaper to fit than external, although it can be disruptive and reduces floor area slightly, the homeowner or their designer will need to ensure that any damp issues are resolved first, that the new insulation will not create what is known as interstitial condensation and cold bridging points such as where partitions about the external wall and the voids in intermediate floors are eliminated" he says. The benefits of improved comfort will be significant and you can expect savings in the region of £100-350 per year, according to Which the average cost of internal wall insulation stands at £7,400 and £13,000 for external walls, according to [government research](#). Solid wall insulation is ideally combined with replacing existing windows and doors with upgraded energy efficient fenestration meaning that thermal bridging at reveals can be effectively addressed simultaneously.

**Join here!**

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## end of the year



With the EU's announcement of a complete ban on Russian oil imports by the end of the year, experts have warned of price rises there. Aside from fuel poverty issues, how does this impact energy efficiency?

In September last year, the European Trade Convention (EUTC) warned that more than 2.7 million people in Europe could not afford to keep their homes reasonably warm, even though they had jobs. Germany responded to this by cutting its tax on renewable energy, accounting for one fifth of German consumers' bills, by a third.

In the Netherlands, the EnergieSprong technology is being used to improve the energy efficiency of existing homes with initial funding through the government.

France is a massive producer of nuclear power, which is a low-carbon technology.

A 2020 study by Home climate management company Tado on over 80,000 UK homes showed UK homes lose heat much faster than our European neighbours. Compared to homes in Germany and Sweden, UK homes are losing heat three times faster. The study revealed a home with an indoor temperature of 20°C and an outside temperature of 0°C the average UK home loses on average 3°C after five hours.

Climate also plays its part, with the UK consuming 182 kWh of energy per

Index designed to assess the thermal efficiency of nations' accommodation. Many dwellings are old and of relatively poor construction quality, which makes them expensive to heat. "The UK has the oldest housing stock in Europe, and most likely in the world," according to the BRE.

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## New SuperHomes event series: Ask A SuperHomer!



On May 11<sup>th</sup> we held our first **ask a SuperHomer event** where two pioneer SuperHomers gave their take on their whole-house eco-refurbishment. A big thank you to our Pioneer SuperHomer speakers, Jurgen Huber and Gil Schalom, for their presentations.

Jurgen has given other presentations about energy efficiency if you would like to [find out more](#).

The event was recorded for those unable to attend – we will make the recording available to our Aspiring SuperHomers.

Our next event will be on 13<sup>th</sup> June (4:30pm – 6pm) and will be on solar PV, battery storage and EV charging. An email containing the registration link will



about, or if you would like to [join the network](#) to attend these events then please let us know by emailing [superhomes@nef.org.uk](mailto:superhomes@nef.org.uk).

## Our upcoming events

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### **Our next SuperHomes event for organisations: Hard to Treat Flats**



An open event focusing on the retrofit of hard-to-treat flats All flats are Hard-to-treat and present constraints over the retrofit options. We will examine a range of issues including: what are the low-carbon solutions to heating flats? Fire safety and retrofit. How can we deal with mixed tenure?

If you would like to join us for this event and lots of others as an organisation, please get in touch with Jo ([jo.williamson@neforg.uk](mailto:jo.williamson@neforg.uk)) or check out our website:

[SuperHomes website](#)

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## Join the SuperHomes network!



Find out how we're helping homes assess the performance of their retrofit and how you can get involved -

**Join the SuperHomes network!**



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**Our mailing address is:**  
[superhomes@nef.org.uk](mailto:superhomes@nef.org.uk)

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