

Welcome!

Welcome to the first edition of the Low Energy Apartment Futures (LEAF) newsletter. The newsletter will be used to provide regular project updates as well as information of past and upcoming events. The LEAF project aims to develop tools to help improve the energy efficiency of apartment blocks. The project is based around case study buildings which will be used to pilot LEAF tools and processes, so each newsletter will include a case-study spotlight.

Partners met on the 7-8th October 2013 at the second project meeting in Visby, a historic town on the island of Gotland off the east coast of Sweden. Good progress had been made in identifying case studies and toolkit development was discussed as the next major task to be completed.



Several milestones have now been reached in the LEAF project, including the launch of the website (www.lowenergyapartments.eu) where you can find out more about the project background, project updates as well as what the different partners are doing. The project was also launched officially at the end of November (see adjoining section) at a very successful event in Edinburgh held jointly with the Scottish Government.

We are busy working on case studies, engaging with owners and tenants and obtaining Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs) to base energy efficiency recommendations on. Next steps include engagement and technical toolkit development, and look out for our toolkit recommendations report coming soon on the website!

LEAF project launched!

The LEAF project was officially launched on the 29th November 2013 at the well-attended Energy Efficiency in Tenements Event in Victoria Quay (Edinburgh) held jointly with Scottish Government.



Speakers included Tessa Clark and Stuart Hay from Changeworks, Georgi Georgiev from the Fraunhofer Institute and two external speakers: Carsten Hermann from Historic Scotland and Matt Bridgestock from Gilbert Architects in Glasgow.



Case study spotlight: William Street, Edinburgh

The case study in William Street in Edinburgh is part of the Edinburgh World Heritage site. Edinburgh World Heritage is collaborating with Changeworks and the LEAF project to help ensure that any energy efficiency works are designed to maintain the character and heritage values of the building.



The building is fairly typical of Edinburgh's New Town; built in 1824/5 it has solid stone walls and large, single glazed windows. The ground floor has commercial space and there is also a basement level which has been converted to dwellings.

The property is 'B' listed and located within a conservation area so energy efficiency improvements which modify the appearance of the building will be limited. However, there are likely to be a number of potential measures such as internal wall insulation and secondary glazing which could be suggested. The building's ground floor shops add a further challenge to working with multiple private owners and landlords and developing common improvement plans to benefit everyone.

Further reading:

Background report
www.lowenergyapartments.eu > about leaf > background

LEAF launch presentations will be added here by 17/01
www.lowenergyapartments.eu > news&events > events

Upcoming events:

Partner meeting,
Stuttgart (03-04/04/2014)