



SHARE

Social Housing Action to
Reduce Energy Consumption



Case Study 16



This unique social housing development incorporates features that reduce energy consumption by 60% below current building standards. The houses have been designed along Passive Solar guidelines but they are also designed to blend in with the existing village of Lombardstown.

The houses are designed to be southerly facing with the majority of glazing on the south.

The other key feature taken to maximise passive heating is that the southern face of the house actually lies behind a glass layer, thus creating a conservatory on both floors of each house. This area traps most of the heat required by the house and heats the main living space which is located face on the south of the house.

The lower occupancy rooms such as the bathroom, kitchen and storage and utility room are located on the north side of the buildings

A sustainable approach to Social Housing in Lombardstown, Co. Cork.

Other features of the house include:

- Air source heat pumps provide additional heating in winter
- Super insulated building fabric achieving U values of 60% less than building standards
- Houses have been built in terraces which reduces energy losses
- Houses have been designed to minimise exterior surface areas to reduce heat loss through fabric

SHARE is an Intelligent Energy Europe Project working in eight European areas to develop energy efficiency and low carbon technologies in social housing. For more information about the SHARE project and for other case studies see the project website:

www.socialhousingaction.com

To install systems that will use alternative energy sources means making an initial investment at the time of construction.

The total capital cost for Baile Glas compared with the capital cost of another housing scheme similar in scale and in location for Cork County Council indicates an estimated 9.5% increase for the low energy design. However this extra 9.5% investment will be recouped in the energy savings provided by these houses



The SHARE forum will facilitate discussions about the feasibility of implementing similar initiatives in Tipperary where appropriate sites exist.

It will also look at how Passive Solar Design could be incorporated into future social housing.



The Vision for the Baile Glas Sustainable Housing Project

This unique project was initiated by the Blackwater Resource Development and will be of immense benefit to the North Cork area in many ways.

By developing a functional sustainable settlement the Blackwater valley becomes recognised as an area of environmental excellence.

The construction of 12 homes provides an example for training in sustainable building techniques for Local Authorities, trades people and service providers. This will facilitate the replication of this project both in private and social houses in North Cork and in the rest of Ireland.

The residents of this social and affordable housing scheme will benefit by living in a healthy home to the highest environmental standards and by reduced energy, water and waste bills.

The SHARE forum facilitated a presentation about the Baile Glas development by the facilitator of this project, the architect and Blackwater Resource Development, to stimulate ideas around sustainable housing developments in Tipperary...

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