



Spreading RelishTM

July 2010:

Climate change engagement: galvanising people power

RelishTM has been invited to speak at this HCA (Homes and Communities Agency) sponsored event on 22 September 2010.

Conference - aims and objectives

Sustainable Homes are proud to be working with the Homes and Communities Agency to deliver a one day conference for housing providers and residents aimed at kickstarting a drive to improve resident engagement in the climate change agenda.

Social housing providers are improving homes. Do residents know how to use them? Are we engaging in a way that works? Do we have resident support? The benefits for the environment and for residents will be amplified if we can get these questions right.

By galvanising behaviour change we can make investments go further. Good resident involvement improves community buy-in and social cohesion. On climate change projects it can also improve carbon savings. The conference aims to improve resident engagement on climate change. The day brings together external experts in behavioural responses to climate change with leading housing providers to present case studies and workshops.

Spreading even further!

The RelishTM programme has been mentioned at recent presentations by PRP Architects, as well as Barbara Thorndike, CEO of West Kent Housing – the latter at the 2010 CIH conference in Harrogate.

The RelishTM team have also been approached by M3 Housing, as well as the University of Salford, who wish to learn more about the project.

RelishTM is a simple but powerful idea

The RelishTM programme has been designed by Worthing Homes in collaboration with key partners specifically to benefit residents and for registered providers to draw upon. The programme is designed to demonstrate proven strategies that bring real benefits, including supporting families in fuel poverty and helping to meet the UK's Climate Change Act.

Our six month results from the pilot programme phase 1, show that by implementing a RelishTM programme, a 20% reduction in carbon emissions over and above 'decent home' works can be achieved, which represents a 63% reduction from 1990 RdSAP levels.

The initial Relish™ pilot will be completed this year and we will bring lessons learned into the larger phase 2, where we will be refurbishing 160 occupied homes. The Relish™ pilot phase 2 begins with planning in July 2010, with the actual programme scheduled to start in the homes in January 2011.

For more information on the climate change engagement – galvanising people power event go to http://www.sustainablehomes.co.uk/resident_engagement_conference.aspx