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**London  
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# Living and Sustainability: An Environmental Critique of Design and Building Practices, Locally and Globally

## 1. Paper / Proposal Title:

The future of 'Whole House' energy efficiency measures on the retrofit market in the UK

## 2. Format:

Verbal presentation

## 3. Author(s) Name:

First Author:

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Second Author:

Dr Martin Field, Honorary Associate, Centre for Comparative Housing Research, De Montfort University

## 4. University or Company Affiliation:

## **5. Abstract (300 words):**

Understanding the context for encouraging new retrofit practices to domestic housing in the UK is of crucial importance to any consideration of what could impact on energy reduction, fuel poverty and domestic housing costs.

This paper will draw from current research to review supply-chain initiatives that could expand whole-house retrofit opportunities into the UK and their responses to persistent changes in UK energy reduction policies, legislation and associated funding mechanisms. It will focus on the influence of PassivHaus standard in the UK housing market following its implementation in the EU/USA and on Enerphit, its whole-house standard for retrofit, in order to examine:

- the current impact of Enerphit/Passivhaus standards upon the UK construction industry and upon governmental policies;
- whether such standards and methods could constitute a greater assurance in dealing with the increasing issue of fuel poverty within low income households;
- how the current UK housing retrofit market and supply chain networks could be transformed to increase the adoption of Enerphit/Passivhaus standards

The paper will finally make some tentative conclusions on how an eventual combination of Enerphit standard with UK off-site construction processes could have a lasting effect on how UK retrofit supply chains and legislation might catch up with other EU counterparts and contemporary European practice.

## **6. Author(s) Biography (200 words each):**

First Author: Georgia is a RIBA II architectural assistant with an MA in Sustainability and Design. Currently, she is on the second year of a PhD research in the University of Northampton with the aim to explore macro-scale interventions that could stimulate a sustainable growth in the UK housing retrofit industry with a particular examination of the potential impact from supply-chain innovations in “whole house” improvements. Since 2009 she has been working in the field of retrofit design and taken part in a number of research projects regarding energy reduction in the build environment.

Second Author: Martin Field has recently been appointed as an Honorary Associate of CCHR. Prior to this he held senior posts in the local authority and regional sectors in the East Midlands, covering a range of operational housing responsibilities along with other

strategic planning and investment roles, and for five years was a Senior Researcher at the University of Northampton.