#### **EXEMPLAR RETROFITS** What role can open homes play?







### Who am I?

- Bristol Green Doors Founder, Householder & Director
- Ex Record Marketing and **Promotions Manager**
- Ex Design and Technology **Teacher**



- Parent and Community Activist
- MSC Architecture, Environment and Energy CAT



## Today

- Aim Discuss the role of open homes events to encourage exemplar retrofit
- Breakdown
  - Green Open Homes events
  - Bristol Green Doors
  - Green Open Homes network
  - The challenges
  - The role
  - Moving forwards
- What we want to see







### **Green Open Homes**

- Real people show visitors their green/greened home
- Generally drop in & free
  of charge
- Brighton, Norfolk, Oxford, London, Superhomes, etc.
- Trusted, peer group, speaking honestly
- Popular and enjoyable
- Big Society? Hard work!





## Bristol Green Doors – conception

- Dan's retrofit
  - IWI, windows, solar thermal, draught proofing, floor ins' etc
- Transition group meeting
  - Confirmation
- MSC
  - Brighton Ecohomes
  - Assignment
- Previous attempts in Bristol





## **Bristol Green Doors – birth**

- C4 Great British Refurb winner
- Refit West: 10 homes 2010 1000 2011
- Ashley Vale self build
- BCC: Climate Change & Energy Security Framework
- A Transition City Peak Oil Report etc
- Green Capital Momentum Group
- CAT AEES MSc students
- CSE, Green Register, => Steering group
- Green building trades and solar companies



### **Bristol Green Doors – aims**

- "Normalise retrofitting"
- Big biggest! (Size matters!)
- Marketing: Presentation; Market segmentation; Change the cultural narrative; etc
- Sponsorship & trade involvement
- Replicability and to support others



## **Bristol Green Doors – facts**

- 5 events since 2010
- Over different 100 homes
- 5,000+ visits
- 30,000 website users
- 1,000+ Twitter followers
- 20 sponsors & advertisers
- DECC EWI Terrace project
- National and local publicity
- £ Referrals to LA GD pilot
- Smartphone app

ING ENERGY HOME



# Why Successful?

- Doors Open Day and Art Trails
- Local Authority support
- Partners
- Community links
- Trade support
- General local interest
- Momentum
- Time
- Enthusiasm
- Expertise incl' pro bono
- Personnel







- A network supporting low-carbon open homes events across the country through free resources and advice
- Funded by DECC
- Delivered by the Centre for Sustainable Energy in partnership with Bristol Green Doors.
- Advisory support from Forum for the Future, the National Trust, Transition Network and AECB.



## **GOHN outcomes 2014**

- 26 local groups established
- 39 events took place
- 600+ homes opened
- 10,000+ visits made
- 71% intend to install energy saving measures in next 5 years
- Homebuilding and Renovation show - NEC
- Range of successes





#### Challenges

INDIVIDUALS & REFURBS	BOTTOM UP ORG'S	TOP DOWN ORG'S	GENERAL
Hard work	Sustainability	Slow, sticky	LA cuts
Expensive	Hard work	Bureaucratic	Economy
Confusing	Funding	Not in touch	Messages on CC & GW change
Superstar only?	Impact	Political	Dots not always there to join
	Limit to visitors		



## Moving forwards

- Green Capital 2015
- Digital formats
- Energy Literacy
- More £ support for GOHN
- Green Deal Cashback etc
- Real investment?





#### The Role of Open Homes Events

- Normalise low carbon retrofit and building
  - Publicity
  - Make it real
  - Demonstrate best practice
- Inspire and stimulate
  - Public (usual suspects?)
  - Trades
- Facilitate
  - Connections
- Combine community, trade, Local Authority & affiliates
- Build locally
- Expose weaknesses
- Part of the mix









#### THANK YOU

#### Our next event September 13-14<sup>th</sup> Could you be an event steward?

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