

# Housing Association addresses fuel poverty with carbon reducing measures



A Midlands based Housing Association is tackling the fuel poverty crisis with a range of environmental measures to reduce tenants' fuel bills and lower its carbon emissions.

Accord Housing Association has a long standing history of considering its environmental impact, becoming one of the first Housing Associations to start measuring carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions back in 2005. Since then it has achieved a 25% reduction of reduction CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per property through the installation of solar panels, energy efficient boilers, windows, doors and insulation into new and existing homes. Â

Through these changes Accord has reduced tenants' fuel bills by over Â£550,000 per year.

Carl Taylor, Assistant Director of New Business at Accord said: âWe are serious about addressing the challenge of climate change for ourselves as an organisation, but most importantly for our tenants affected by increasing fuel poverty. We continue to make positive changes to reduce our carbon footprint and assist our tenants by making our homes more affordable to heat and powerâ.

Accord is also leading the way with reducing plastic consumption by building a development of virtually plastic free homes â the first project of its kind in the UK.

Carl added: âWe have been investing in low carbon housing solutions for many years. Our aim is to develop a low carbon, low plastic model for providing affordable homes on a large scale. We are proud to implement changes that reduce our tenant's bills and reduce our impact on the environment.â

The plastic free scheme has received Â£1.2m EU funding from the INTERREG North West Europe funding partnership, allowing Accord to research the reduction and removal of plastic in a real world large scale project; paving the way for a future of plastic free construction.