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Future-Proofing my Fuel Bills

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Aberystwyth University Arts centre & Dance School extensions: Specifications



BCT & RSPB
RIBA Publishing
1st & 2nd editions
BRM Wrote 50%
of book
10 Future proof
construction
methods
3D cutaways
2D Sections
Details and
Specifications
Product Critique

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11/05/23



GRC ::::



Brian Murphy

ONC & HNC Construction
 BSc Degree Architecture (Honours)
 PG Diploma Architecture (Distinction)

Technician and Architect by training

15 years in education
 11 years building carbon calculators

Environmentalist by action Educator by calling Carbon Counter by necessity

23 years in environmental

Specification Writer by choice (e.g. British Library)

Building Tour Guide for Fun (E.g. British Library)
45 Years of experience in construction

· 39 years in specification (£2420m specified, not earned!)

Pensioned off but not finished (50 more calculators planned)





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with an expert by your side

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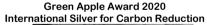
20% off any service
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1st Freelance commission

Contract Specification writing

11/05/23 8 years



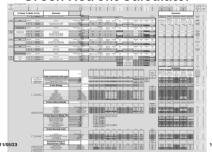




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Green Retrofit Calculator



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Sustainable Environmental Eco Green

Violet Violent **Violate**

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GBC:::: **Fuel Poverty:**

- Fuel Poverty Exists: It goes hand in hand with Food Poverty, Rent Poverty, let alone Bed Poverty, etc.
- Government pays winter heating allowance every year · Grannies pay for Christmas presents and still go cold
- · A better approach is to insulate well once, no more bills, no more annual pay outs
- ECO Energy Company Obligations insulate the poorest homes.
- cheaply with incompetent external insulation installations
- Green Deal came to nothing
- · Recent funding was withdrawn before it got started
- Industry started mobilising, impatient greedy Government
 Current policies with take 100 years to meet carbon targets we had 10 years left a few years ago
- Current policies with take 300 years to wipe out fuel poverty

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Fuel Costs:

- · Prices are going up: Brexit? Putler war with Ukraine, Greedy Shareholders, Inept Government
- · Becoming unaffordable for many
- Electric is highest and Renewable Energy from PV or wind should be lowest
- · Government pay homeowners to pay energy providers to pay shareholders, pay taxes and their lobbying bills and bribes to keep letting prices rise
- · Will the Government pay homeowners every year to pay energy providers?
- Unlikely? 11/05/23

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One Planet Lifestyle

- · We need to aspire to a one planet lifestyle
- An Average UK & EU Citizen lives a three Planet Lifestyle
- · We lived a one planet lifestyle in 1972 Star wars, 1973 Tubular bells, 1976 Heatwave,
- · No computers, no laptops, no mobile phone no smart pad, no flat screen TV (CRT TV)
- · No Jacuzzis, Hot tubs, saunas, Power Showers, patio heaters
- One car families

11/05/23 No Microwaves

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80-90% Reduction Is Easy

- · Carbon Savings + Energy Savings + Cost savings
 - (not in equivalent percentages)
- · New build is easy but not enough,
- · Retrofit can be more difficult or expensive
- ½ 50% reduction in energy demands = 50% (this is easy & cheap)
- ½ 25% increase in efficiency = 75% (better controls)
- ½ 12.5% carbon reduction in supply = 87.5% (expensive kit)
- 1/2 6.25% let the school kids run the country = 93.75% (free)

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Voltage Optimisation

- troughs by the varying levels of input and output in the mains these are non-
- cyclical peaks and troughs.

 Anything above the demand of the appliances on the circuit is wasted.
- They cost you money
- VO can be fitted on the incoming mains before the meters/consumer unit You do not pay for the peaks that no longer reach your system. You can also do VO at the 13 amp socket

- It's a bit like spike protection devices on 13 amp sockets

 VO works for Fridges and Freezers (one of the biggest long term background consumptions in a house) VO works on Air conditioning (Big energy demand and bad for the planet)
- Most other kit needing VO has it own built in VO
 Some speculative housing developers fit VO as standard

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Stop Any Damp raising your bills

- · Wet construction takes energy to evapourate water
 - Condensation of moisture vapour
 - · Surface or interstitial
 - Water from the ground
 - Leaking services
- Leaking rainwater
- · IRT Infrared thermography surveys will detect thermal bridges and damp anomalies

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Stop The Air & Heat Leakage

- · Weather stripping at windows
- · Weather stripping at external doors
- Weather porches or internal lobbies at doors
- Conservatory
 - (80% are heated at night and in winter)
- Òpen tap squandering heat · Retreat to a cosy building
- · Include doors or windows between house and conservatory
- · Insulated and closed doors back to house
- · SunSpace, Solar heat gains, winter additional
- 11/05/23 out side space, preheat your house



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Reduce Heat Losses

- Move radiators from external walls to internal partitions
- Move radiators away from below air leaky windows
- · Improve window performances
- Insulate domestic hot water pipes and Insulate heating pipes in all cavities and where accessible and where not accessible
- Insulate hot water cylinders very well and all pipes to and from them

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Improve Heat Inputs

- · Thermostatic radiator valves
- Fans on top of radiators that direct the heat flow and dilute the heat gradient in the room
- Ceiling Fans that stir up the heat flow and dilute the heat gradient in the room
- Push heat down from high spaces to warm the people at the floor

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Approaches: Heat

- · Heat the sky
- (no insulation and windows open v expensive)
- · Heat the building
- (expensive)
- · Heat the rooms
- (less expensive and some risks)
- · Heat the person
- (challenging to change lifestyles)

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Approaches: Insulate

- · Insulate the building
- (insulation, thermal bridges + bypass, air tightness)
- · Insulate the rooms
 - (easier but we only have acoustic regulations between some rooms)
- Better to insulate all internal floors and internal walls
- to control where overheating can move to
- Also allows anybody to keep their room at their preferred temperature.
- · Insulate the person

- (clothes = lifestyle, challenging to change lifestyles)

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Strive For Thermal Comfort In The Building

- Most Insulation reduces heat loss to varying degrees
- Gappy insulation fails miserably and exacerbates condensation mould rot frost damage
- Wrong insulation can exacerbate overheating
- Internal Surfaces temperatures
- Glazing Internal surface temperatures
 Glazing and surfaces temperatures to be as close as possible
- Or you reach for the thermostat
- Triple glazing is about thermal comfort

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Performance Of Existing Building Fabric:

- · Deliberately air leaky construction:
- · Deliberate ventilation to all rooms and voids
- Ventilated cavity behind wattle and daub independent lining, from below ground floor to attic (Scotland)
- Occupants heated by radient heat from open fires
- · Radient heat from Cooking hearth

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- Thick Brick walls 215 mm and thicker
- Thick Stone walls 200 mm down south-east to 800 mm up northwest
- Lime Plaster on the hard
- Lath and lime plaster Drylining on ventilation cavity behind
- Airbricks in every room
 Suspended timber floors on honeycomb sleeper walls.
- perimeter air bricks and cross ventilation
- Suspended timber floors embedded in external walls
 Softwood timber roofs eaves ventilation, with and without bitumen roofing underlay (England) or softwood sarking boards
- (Scotland)

 External Toilet, Back boiler for hot water

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Previous Interventions:

- · Fitted bathrooms and Kitchens
- Domestic hot and cold water,
- Insulated hot water cylinder (in sufficient insulation)
- Uninsulated pipes in construction cavities
- Central heating with radiators on external walls,
- pipes buried in screeds and uninsulated floors

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Risk Of Choice Of Additional Incompatible Materials

- · Foamed Plastic thermal insulation:
- · Incompatible with timber framing
- (Moisture impermeable, forces moisture through timber
- Incompatible with masonry walls
 (Maisture impermeable, trans moisture behind insulation)
- Glass or Stone wool thermal insulation:
- incompatible with timber framing
- (Moisture permeable, Hydrophobic places moisture at timbers)
- · incompatible with timber and slate roofing
- No solar heat gain resistance, conductivity
- resistance traps heat, exacerbates overheating

 incompatible with moisture permeable masonry walls

 (insulation potentially kept damp and ineffective)



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Performance Of Existing Windows:

- · Deliberately Air leaky
- Top and bottom passive ventilation
- · High windows good daylight penetration
- · Single glazed: thermal discomfort
- Improvement In Performance By **Upgrading In Steps**
- Conservation Officer permitting

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Vertical Sliding Sash Single Glazed:

- Joinery repairs
- · Weather stripping
- · Double Glazing (thin profile, Vacuum glazing)
- Blinds
- · Reflective Blinds
- · Thick Curtains
- · Secondary Glazing
- · Timber Shutters

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Upgrading Victorian windows/glazing

Historic Sash window improvements	U value of Glass	reduction in heat loss of glazing only	Temperature of inner most surface degrees C	U value of whole window	reduction in heat loss	Air leakage	Comments
Window as found	5.30	-	12.00	4.30	-	183	
Joinery repaired	5.30	-	12.00	4.30	-	120	Reduced air infiltration by 34%
Joinary repaired and insitu weatherproofing	5.30	-	12.00	4.30		26	
Heavy Curtain	3.30	39%	21.00	2.50	41%	-	
Well-fitting Shutters	2.00	65%	17.00	1.70	58%	-	
Plain Roller Blind	3.4	37%	18	2.7	38%	-	tighttly fitted, U- value fell by about 0.3
Reflective roller blind	1.8	66%	19	1.9		-	Refective side facing outwards
Insulating Honeycomb Blind	2.10	60%	20.00	2.10	51%	-	Attended from secondary system with spring balances
L 1.1805/23 _y Secondary glazing	2.00	63%	19.00	1.80	58%	8	With Both g32ng and shutters closed





Shower Heat Recovery

- · Preheat shower water with heat extracted from shower waste
- · Water under pressure and waste water under gravity keeps the water flowing and heat transferring
- · Concurrent supply and demand
- · In floor and under shower and internal or external adjacent to shower installations
- · One of the most effective ways of saving energy

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Cheap Or Free Energy For Hot Water:

- · Off peak cheap or free energy
- · Internet of tanks, Mixergy (at the GDL London '23 show) domestic Hot water
- · DHW cylinders usually have immersion heater at bottom make a lot of warm water that rises to top and
- Immersion heater at top, heat builds up at top and gradually hot water body increases in size, works its way
- Natural Boundary layer between hot and cold water
- · You demand hot water from the hot top and not from warm
- Internet connection waits for off peak prices of electricity to fall to low or negative prices
- Takes energy overnight and off peak to heat water





Cheap Or Free Energy For Other Uses To Balance Mains Demands:

- · Numerous Service Providers
- · Sign you up to a variable price service
- · You are encouraged to allow stuff to be turned off automatically in peak times
- · Turn the freezer off for short periods during peak times and back on again shortly after
- · Sufficient thermal mass in Fridge and Freezer that no food and your health is at risk
- · Top up EV Electric Vehicle off peak overnight (but should be from RE, PV via Battery Pack)

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Coefficient Of Performance (COP) Energy

- · Add electricity from mains or renewable to a service that generate more energy output than input.
- Heat Pumps
- · Air, Ground or Water sources
- · Risk of Thermal Pollution
- Risk of changing something that works · Subsoil over a meter down is constant 11 degrees (In UK) all year round night and day,
- · Use electricity to make that 11 degrees hotter = free heat . Use heat immediately or store the heat in Energy stores
- · Low grade heat for hot water and for low temperature radiators

Turn off in peak periods
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Choice Of Fuel

- · If a room is served by more than one fuel (e.g. electric fire and gas central heating)
- · Choose the cheaper fuel: Gas over Electricity
- · Choose the lower carbon fuel,
- · Gas and Electricity on par at the moment,
- · electric was worst,
- · electric will get better

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Gas is complicated in multi-storey housing,

- · Post-Grenfell problems highlighted,
- · Gas pipes up escape stairs fire compartment
- · Fuel choice for New Houses is being taken away
- · by Government's move towards Low carbon Electric Grid
- · No more new gas
- · Move towards ASHP Air Source Heat Pump
- · Essential to Insulate Building well to be effective

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Renewable Energy:

- · Includes:
- · Wind turbines.
- (bigger better return on investment)
- (on shore prevented by Government)
- · On shore discouraged by CPRE Centre Protection of Rural England
- · On shore discouraged by NIMBY public
- (Offshore complicated to install and maintain)
- · Photovoltaic Solar panels
- Wave

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Renewable Green Tariff service

- · Is possible, to encourage more investment in renewables
- Community based renewables:
- · Villages buy their own wind turbine or Solar farm PV installation
- · After initial investment free or very low cost electricity
- · Consider a low voltage circuit around the house for USB changing points for IT

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PV To Electric Vehicle or Hybrid Car

- In preference to from mains electricity
- · Mains has significant % of carbon in the mix
- PV has little or no Carbon during operation
- · Less fuel costs not having to pay for petrol or
- · Uninterrupted power back-up in a mains brown out.
- · Need two cars one changing one in use?

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