

## **SaveEnergy Update for The Climate Partnership August 2023**

**Background:** SaveEnergy CBS Ltd is a new Community Benefit Society established to address the decarbonisation of homes. SaveEnergy will: act as the vehicle to provide low-cost domestic thermal energy loss surveys; offer advice and expertise to customers to make energy efficiency improvements to their homes; signpost customers to trustworthy and appropriate suppliers to conduct these improvements; and in the case of roof and loft insulation, undertake the works itself.

SaveEnergy's mission is to help every member of the community that we serve to reduce their energy consumption and contribute to the lowering of carbon emissions, no matter their circumstance or ability to pay.

We will enable individuals to identify the steps that they can take to reduce their energy consumption and therefore carbon impact, and then support them to take those steps.

Thermal surveys can be the first step on a road toward heat efficiency and energy saving – informing the need for targeted solutions ranging from DIY draught busting to full roof, wall and floor insulation. Improving a home's efficiency has a two-fold benefit: reducing energy consumption leads to cheaper energy bills; and reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions has a positive impact on climate change. Although our focus will be on domestic homes, we will support SMEs and other building users where it makes sense and we can add value.

Where we identify and can meet a need for relatively easy/quick interventions that deliver high levels of energy saving and fast payback we will offer a service ourselves, for example we intend to offer loft insulation. We will also work with and learn from other organisations working in this sector and intend to create a network of trustworthy and reputable installers to accelerate retrofit solutions in our community.

**Progress:** We have registered SaveEnergy as a CBS, established a board of directors and agreed our business plan. We will commence recruitment for a General Manager in September 2023 and hope to recruit our first surveyor in the coming months.

**Delivery:** There needs to be a significant difference between outside and inside temperatures of the buildings that we will be surveying, therefore we have a short (22-26 week) window for surveys each year (although we can extend this window where it is possible to heat homes to 8-10 degrees above ambient temperature).

The scope of our operations will be within a ten-mile radius of Maidenhead, covering approximately 265,000 residential properties.

### **SaveEnergy Year one operating objectives**

- Recruit a full/part time General Manager to design and build every aspect of the marketing and operations of the organisation, early in the Autumn of 2023
- Recruit one FTE surveyor(s) (possibly on a self-employed basis), to start early in the Autumn of 2023 and a further FTE surveyor to start in January 2024
- Deliver at least 110 surveys in 2023/24 winter season
- Recruit and appoint an experienced tradesperson on a self-employed basis to deliver retrofit solutions for customers from the Spring of 2023 onwards
- Secure grant funding to enable at least 22 surveys to be delivered free of charge
- Deliver at least 20 roof/attic insulation installations and 40 “DIY plus” jobs to customers (with or without having had a survey first)
- Develop at least three working partnerships, contribute to TCP retrofit/save action teams, create list of trusted traders for customer referrals

**Funding:** The initial funding (repayable subject to criteria being met) for the startup costs of SaveEnergy has been provided by The Climate Partnership CIC (TCP), together with a grant to fund an initial tranche of free surveys.

We anticipate achieving breakeven in year one and then a growing operating profit as we expand our operations to maximise the reach and penetration across the operating area. We will seek to be entrepreneurial and innovative in our approach, willing to try new ideas to accelerate the pace of energy efficiency installations, build local green skills for the future and overall, benefit the community that we serve.

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