

## Press Information

18 May 2009

### **Passivhaus design advice for new care homes will provide a business edge, says Inbuilt**

Care home managers, owners and developers will learn how to maximise the financial, environmental and business benefits of sustainable and energy efficient design at a one-day workshop next month being run by sustainability consultancy Inbuilt and specialist training body Sustainable Homes.

Advice will focus on how new care homes can be designed to save up to 90% on heating costs, while also attracting faster investment and planning permission because of their environmental credentials and delivering highly marketable, healthy and comfortable accommodation for the elderly and infirm.

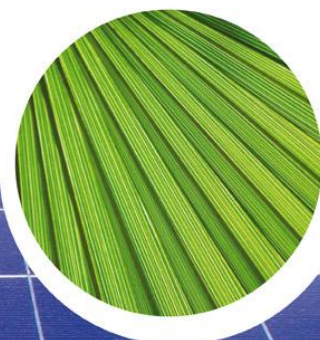
Susan Schnadhorst, care homes consultant at Inbuilt, says: "The care homes sector is starting to become very interested in the benefits of sustainability. Our workshop will show managers how they can deliver care homes with the highest levels of inclusive, adaptable design with the lowest running costs. It is also about giving them a competitive and marketing edge that will ensure future care homes exceed the industry average."

Speaking at the workshop will be Justin Bere of bere:architects who is building the UK's first ultra low energy care home, designed to Passivhaus standards, at Lound Hall, Suffolk.

Andrew Eagles, managing director of Sustainable Homes, will also explain to delegates about the legislative and policy issues on the horizon which will require all new care homes and similar accommodation to be 'zero carbon' by 2019.

Inbuilt associate director Sam Kimmins will talk about the practical issues of achieving genuine sustainability in the design, construction and management of care homes.

The event takes place at Inbuilt's low energy headquarters, Beaufort Court, Kings Langley, Hertfordshire on Wednesday 3 June, 9.30am-3.45pm. Tickets cost £80, inclusive of lunch and a tour of the award-winning Beaufort Court. To book places at the workshop, register at [www.sustainablehomes.co.uk/carehomes](http://www.sustainablehomes.co.uk/carehomes)



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Issued on behalf of Inbuilt Ltd by Liz Male Consulting Ltd.

### Contact details

Susan Schnadhorst  
Inbuilt [susan.schnadhorst@inbuilt.co.uk](mailto:susan.schnadhorst@inbuilt.co.uk)  
01923 277090

Liz Male  
Liz Male Consulting [liz@lizmale.co.uk](mailto:liz@lizmale.co.uk)  
01908 551976 / 07778 778361

### About Inbuilt

Inbuilt is the UK's first major consultancy specialising exclusively in sustainable buildings, communities and construction. Launched in December 2007, Inbuilt is a young and innovative company providing technical and consulting excellence in the research, planning, design and delivery of sustainable built environments. It aims to ensure that sustainability becomes 'inbuilt', by providing integrated solutions. Drawing inspiration from nature and natural systems, Inbuilt's objective is to 'design out' technical complexity and cost, by continuously rethinking, challenging and improving accepted practices. Working in partnership with its clients, Inbuilt delivers spaces, places and buildings which are genuinely sustainable - healthy, safe, productive and inspiring - fit both for people and the environment. It is part of the RES Group, one of the world's leading renewable energy companies.

[www.inbuilt.co.uk](http://www.inbuilt.co.uk)

### About Sustainable Homes

Sustainable Homes Ltd is a leading training and advisory consultancy operating in the field of sustainable housing. It is part of Hastoe Group.

[www.sustainablehomes.co.uk](http://www.sustainablehomes.co.uk)

### About Passivhaus

Passivhaus is a way of creating energy efficient buildings that is very popular in Germany and Austria and that is now growing in influence across the world. The Inbuilt Passivhaus design, consultancy and certification service delivers healthy, comfortable, ultra low-energy buildings. Not just new homes and refurbishment projects, but also schools, offices, prisons, sports centres, student accommodation and care homes. Inbuilt is a leading adviser in the use of the Passivhaus Planning Package (PHPP), resulting in buildings that:

- Need little or no energy use for heating or cooling
- Have excellent thermal comfort and ventilation
- Have low primary energy use
- Achieve high quality construction standards

Inbuilt also supplements this design methodology with additional expertise to ensure health, comfort and genuine sustainability are guaranteed. A property is deemed to meet Passivhaus standards provided it has a space heating demand below 15kWh/m<sup>2</sup>/year and primary energy does not exceed 120kWh/m<sup>2</sup>/year.

