



# CASE STUDY

**Decarbonising Cambridge's Social Housing** 

#### **WORKS DELIVERED BY ARAN**

- External wall insulation
- Loft insulation and ventilation upgrades
- Windows and doors replacement
- Structural repairs (roofing, extensions, main buildings)
- Recycling of removed materials
- Swift boxes installed to enhance biodiversity

#### **CLIENT TESTIMONIAL**

"We have worked with Aran on several projects, the most recent being funded by the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund. Aran, as principal contractor, developed a strong local supply to deliver works at a high standard & on time. Their experience in PAS projects assisted onsite works & project admin. I would be happy to use Aran on future projects based on their current performance."

- A. Taylor LICWCI, Clerk of Works, Cambridge City Council

#### **CLIENT: CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL**

# PROJECT: SOCIAL HOUSING DECARBONISATION FUND (SHDF) WAVE 2.1

## PROJECT LIFECYCLE: INITIATED JUNE 2023, ALL WORKS COMPLETED BY FEBRUARY 2025

#### **OVERVIEW**

In partnership with Cambridge City Council, Aran delivered a transformative energy efficiency project funded by the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF) Wave 2.1. The initiative was part of a wider £800 million UK Government scheme, designed to improve the energy performance of social housing across England.

Cambridge City Council secured £2.3 million in SHDF funding and entrusted Aran to lead as principal contractor, improving 185 social homes to reach an EPC rating of C or above. The total project spend reached £7.6 million, co-funded with support from the Council.

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#### **KEY OUTCOMES**

185 homes upgraded through SHDF funding, and 218 homes in total received external wall insulation

- 🗹 All properties achieved an EPC C or above
- Setimated 30% reduction in heating bills

Created healthier, warmer and homes that are cheaper to heat

Supported Cambridgeshire's local economy: over 80% of the delivery team lived within 20 miles of Cambridgeshire

Zero landfill policy: All replaced window frames and glazing were recycled

Enhanced biodiversity with the installation of swift boxes

 Over 71% of residents scored us a maximum of 10 across all customer satisfaction areas

Resident feedback comments included: "Most excellent, very satisfied, would recommend to everyone"

"Everyone was lovely and helpful"

"Results of work are really good, heat retention in the house is far better!"

#### **DELIVERING REAL IMPACT**

Resident feedback conducted by Aran found that bill-payers are noticing significant savings.

One resident reported paying just over £2.00 per day for their heating and hot water during the coldest months - even with 24/7 heating at 20°C.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

Alongside our partners Asset Fineline, we ensured that sustainable practices were implemented using closed-loop recycling systems to reduce waste and reliance on virgin materials. First-generation PVCu windows and doors were replaced, with the removed frames collected and recycled into new PVCu extrusions. These materials were then used to manufacture new frames, significantly lowering waste and embodied carbon.



This project also included the recycling of original insulating glass units (IGUs). The old glass was processed into high-performance float glass, which can be reused in new sealed units - further minimising environmental impact and supporting circular economy principles.

### PARTNER WITH ARAN TO DELIVER IMPACTFUL, SUSTAINABLE RETROFIT SOLUTIONS

At Aran, we pride ourselves in delivering high-quality, PAS-compliant energy efficiency upgrades that transform homes, reduce carbon emissions and enhance resident wellbeing. Our hands-on experience with large-scale government-funded programmes, such as SHDF Wave 2.1, makes us the trusted partner for councils and housing providers looking to maximise the impact of retrofit funding.

- Projects delivered on time and budget
  Deep understanding of SHDF and compliance frameworks
   Strong local supply chain engagement
- Sustainability-first approach

Exceptional resident satisfaction and measurable energy savings



Want to know more? Let's work together to make your housing stock warmer, greener and future-ready.

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