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Sustainable Housing in England - Lessons from Scotland

In Scotland, 90% of new homes use timber frame, meeting higher energy and carbon standards than in England.

We'd like to invite you for a practical learning opportunity for regional developers to explore how the housing sector delivers sustainable houses in Scotland. This is a rare chance to see the timber supply chain, MMC and net zero carbon homes built in volume where you can learn, question, and decide what is right for your business.

Why are we under taking this learning journey? The Future Homes Standard, coming into effect in 2026, will require all new homes in England to be much more energy-efficient, with low-carbon materials and heating, renewable technologies, improved building fabric, and gas free homes to support the UK's net-zero goals.

Our Sustainable Homes Learning Journey will give you insight into how Scotland is tackling housing challenges, building more sustainably and how similar approaches can help SME developers in England get ready for the Future Homes Standard.

See first hand how you can build more homes, more sustainably. The technologies we will be looking at are **timber supply chain, timber MMC fabric solutions, heat pumps, solar panels, sustainability labelling, sustainable urban drainage systems and bio diversity net gain.**

Timber frame construction offer a fast, efficient, and lower-carbon building method.

Details: Evening 20th (Inverness) -22nd October (Aberdeen). Starting in Inverness and departing from Aberdeen late afternoon of the 22nd of October. All accommodation and meals are included, you are only responsible for travel to Inverness and departure from Aberdeen.

Time to explore how you build.

Learning Outcomes & What to Expect

DAY 1 - 21 October - Timber Supply Chain

Forest Visit (Forestry and Land Scotland)

- Carbon savings and renewability of timber (seed to harvest)
- Sustainable forest stewardship and certification
- Role of forests in achieving Biodiversity Net Gain

Sawmill Tour (JW Gordon)

- Processing logs into construction-grade timber
- Grading, drying, and waste reduction
- Chain of custody and the future of homegrown timber

OSB Mill (West Fraser)

- Manufacturing OSB and product benefits
- Carbon savings of UK-made panel boards
- Applications in SME housing

I-Joist Factory (James Jones)

- Engineered wood products and technical performance
- Design support and carbon compliance
- Contribution to meeting regulations

Day 2 - 22 October - Sustainable Housing Delivery

Timber Frame Factory (Kirkwood Timber Frame)

- Design, manufacture, and assembly of timber frames
- Open vs closed panel systems (MMC Category 2)
- DfMA, safety, and Future Homes Standard readiness
- Supply chain engagement and practical design advice

Housing Development Exemplars (Kirkwood Homes and Bancon Homes)

- Heat pumps, renewables, and timber fabric-first design and build solutions
- Sustainability labelling, SUDS, and BNG examples
- Build process - mitigating weather and skills, improving quality
- Addressing common myths with real examples
- Real-world experience from housebuilder technical, site managers and aftercare teams

If you're looking to build smarter, quicker and more sustainably, join us in Inverness to see how timber frame could be the right fit for your business.

