

Zero emission homes: Bedzed, London

Bedzed's an eco-village in South London, uh, there are about a hundred homes here and some offices and workspace, and we try to look at, um, not just saving energy in the homes.

So, Bedzed stands for Beddington, which is the area in London where we are, um, and zed stands for zero-fossil brackets-energy development, um, so, we try to reduce energy demand, so we had a zero carbon strategy, and what we did was we aimed to reduce down the amount of energy that we used, so we've got insulation, low-energy appliances, you know, low-energy light bulbs, all of that sort of thing, and also, um, supply the remaining energy that we need from renewables, so they're photovoltaic panels, which supply about sixteen percent of the energy that we use, the electricity we use, and we have an onsite combined-heat-and-power plant, uh, and we're using all the, those tree surgery wastes, we need about a thousand tons a year to power this development, um, and that, generates electricity from the woodchip, and the waste heat is used to heat hot water, which is delivered around the site.

And we also have a wind-driven ventilation system, so those, um, brightly-colored, uh, things you see on the roof, that's actually because it's so well-insulated, you need to change the air, and you don't really want to open up windows and let all the warmth out, so it's a way of actually ventilating the homes without using a lot of energy, and just using the energy of the wind.

We've got fifty-six percent cut in our carbon emissions compared to another new home. So, um, I think what we've shown through what we've done here is that it is possible to actually live a nicer life, I mean, you see it's a nice place to live, it's nice and warm and cozy, it's all very convenient. And people here say, um, that the thing they like most about Bedzed is the sense of community and the quality of life.

YouTube (1.53mn)