

For immediate release



Eco Homes Direct, part of Economic Forestry Group Ltd. (EFG)

July 17, 2023

ecohomesdirect.co.uk

Eco Homes Direct adds energy comparisons to pioneering Cost Calculator

CARDIFF, UK: Eco Homes Direct, a supplier of affordable, low energy engineered timber homes, is adding energy cost savings projections to its pioneering Cost Calculator for self-builders, developers and architects.

The launch on August 1 coincides with an anticipated surge in demand for houses with high energy performance ratings, after the UK tightened building regulations to reduce carbon emissions from new homes from June 15.

The free-to-use, newly designed Cost Calculator offers a quick way to work out the cost of a build, and how much can be saved in energy bills by using Eco Homes Direct's whole house timber frame system with its integrated focus on insulation, airtightness and controlled ventilation.

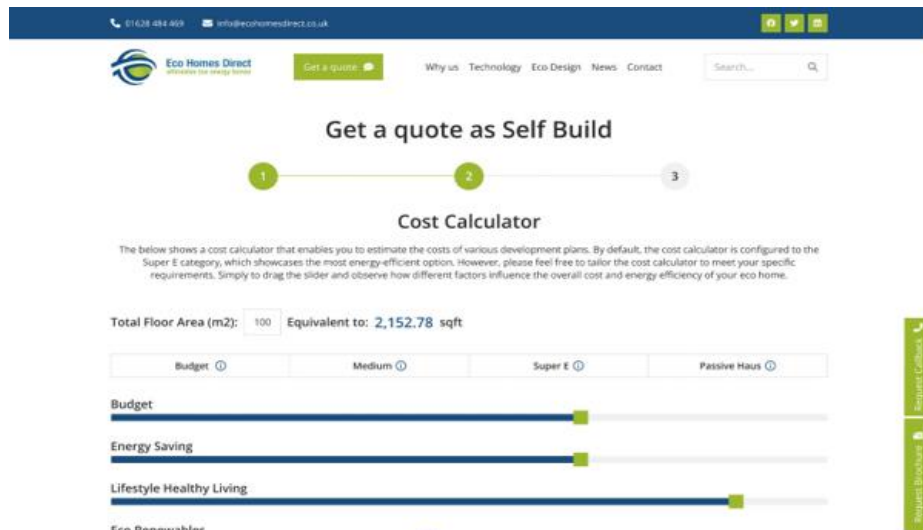
"As pioneers of the online Cost Calculator tool, we're very proud to bring this new functionality to the market," said director Ian Campbell.

"Whether you're a self-builder, developer or architect, we're not only providing a way for you to quickly to find the turnkey, ready-to-move-in price of building your own home, we are also supplying information regarding the energy savings that this build concept will bring you."

Eco Homes Direct offers access to Super E, a low-energy timber quality build system originally developed in Canada and refined over decades of collaboration with architects, engineers and

builders. Super E homes reduce heat loss by up to 50%, offer a cheaper build cost than a passive house equivalent, and typically use 20-30 % less energy than traditional construction methods.

The new, improved Cost Calculator offers self-builders, developers and architects the opportunity to tailor costs according to their particular needs. Self-builders may want to compare energy savings over the lifetime of an Eco Home with those of a brick and block house, or the cost of a budget build through to Super E and full Passive House-equivalent specifications. Developers may be more interested in benefits such as labour



cost savings and reduced build time on site, while architects may focus on how Eco Homes meet and exceed new building regulations limiting greenhouse gas emissions from new builds.

Included within the the Cost Calculator is an option to request a more detailed quote and full cost breakdown, as well as guidance and support on sourcing land and securing finance and planning permission.

Whether you're doing a full build, or want to construct an energy-efficient extension, you can type in the floor area and get a price immediately, either for the supply of a weathertight kit or a full turnkey solution including internal finishing and construction costs. There is also an option to request a more detailed quote that provides a breakdown of everything, from groundworks and landscaping, the timber kit, the roof, electrics plumbing and internal finishes right through to the point where you can unlock the front door and walk into your new home.

With the potential to offer significant savings over its life, an Eco Home is also the responsible environmental choice. To reduce the levels of CO2 in construction, which account for around 25% of the UK's greenhouse gas emissions, the Environmental Audit Committee last year called for efficient and more effective use of low-carbon building materials and recognised the potential of timber as a low-carbon construction material.¹

In response, from June 15, 2023, the UK Building Regulations Part L were tightened, requiring all new homes to produce 31% less carbon emissions and increasing demand for houses with high energy performance ratings.

"Timber frame systems are faster and safer to build than traditional brick and block, which translates into significant cost savings and quality advantages on site," said Campbell. "Eco Homes have a highly insulated build fabric, as well as features such as mechanical ventilation and heat retention systems, all of which go towards significantly reducing running costs for the homeowner."

"If you have eco aspirations, we can guide you to the optimal solution that provides the best value for money."

The Cost Calculator tool can be accessed at ecohomesdirect.co.uk.

¹ UK Parliament: 'Emissions must be reduced in the construction of buildings if the UK is to meet net zero, MPs warn', May 26, 2022.

About Eco Homes Direct

Eco Homes Direct Ltd. designs, supplies and builds eco-friendly precision-engineered low energy timber framed homes for self-build and property developers. Prefabricating most of the house in factory conditions ensures accuracy, reduces labour and waste on site and improves efficiency to keep costs low without compromising on quality. The system's unique fully integrated closed panel timber engineered wall system exceeds UK building regulation specifications, yet an Eco Home can be erected in just one day, offering an affordable passive house solution to all. ecohomesdirect.co.uk.



Ian Campbell, Director

"We're very proud to bring this new functionality to the market"



About Canadian Super E®

Eco Homes Direct is the UK's gateway to the Canadian Super E® build concept, incorporating a sound approach to 'fabric first' principles and an integrated focus on insulation, airtightness and controlled ventilation to deliver truly affordable, low energy, healthier homes for all. Canada is the birthplace of the original passive house concept, which was developed in 1976 by engineer Harold Orr. Since the first passive house was built in Saskatchewan in 1977, the technology and build concept has been adopted worldwide, promoted by the Canadian government's Super E® team. Hundreds of Super-E homes have been built in the UK in recent years.

About Economic Forestry Group Ltd. (EFG)

Eco Homes Direct is part of the Economic Forestry Group Ltd. (EFG), which spans the entire timber supply chain from forest to family home. Through its timber sourcing company Titan Timber Ltd., EFG supplies structural timber and wood products from well-managed, sustainable forests that adhere to strict environmental governance and are certified to Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) standards.

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