





# Study on hard to fill cavity walls in domestic dwellings in Great Britain

# DECC ref: CESA EE0211

# **Undertaken by Inbuilt Ltd & Davis Langdon**

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#### Contents

1	Exec	utive Summary	9
	1.1	Objectives	9
	1.2	Key findings	9
	1.3	Recommendations	11
2	Met	hodology	13
3	Stak	eholders and discussions	15
	3.1	Private householders	15
	3.2	Local Authorities, ALMOs and Housing Associations	16
	3.3	Issues for stakeholders	16
	3.4	Discussions with stakeholders – Funding	18
	3.5	Discussions with stakeholders – Cancellations	19
	3.6	Discussion with stakeholders - Technical Issues	20
	3.7	Discussion with stakeholders - Costs of ancillary work required	22
	3.8	Discussion with stakeholders - Extraction of existing insulation	23
	3.9	Discussion with stakeholders - Insurance and Certification	24
4	Cate	gorisation of Cavities	27
	4.1	Examples of Hard to Fill Cavities	28
	4.2	Assumptions	30
5	Tech	inical solutions	35
	5.1	Pro-forma for ranking outline technical solutions	35
6	Кеу	issues in filling wall cavities in existing dwellings	41
	6.1	Survey	41
	6.1.	L Essential requirements	42
	6.2	Insulation options	42
	6.3	Full fill cavity wall insulation injected from the outside	42 42
	6.3.	2 Disadvantages	42
	6.4	Full fill cavity wall insulation injected from the inside	43
	6.4.	L Advantages	43
	6.4.	2 Disadvantages	43
	0.5	Comparison with internal or external insulation	43
	ь.ь 6.6.:	Externally applied wall insulation system L Advantages	44 44
D	avis	Langdon (C) DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 3 of 168	់លែbuilt

Davis Langdon O DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 3 of 168

C	avis	Langdon 🔿 DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 4 of 168	່ເກbuilt
	7.9.1 7.9.2	Pros Cons	55 56
	7.9	Perlite Beads	55
	7.8.6	Scope of Works-internal installation	55
	7.8.5	Survey Considerations-internal installation	54
	7.8.4	Scope of Works-external installation	54
	7.8.3	Survey Considerations-external installation	53
	7.8.2	Cons	53
	7.8 7.8 1	Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) Beads (nigh and low pressure installations) Pros	53
	70	Expanded Polyctyrone (EDS) Peads (high and low processes installations)	53
	7.7.3	Scope of Works - Internal Installation	52
	1./.1 רדד	Pros	52 ED
	7.7	Cellulose Loose Fill (e.g. 'Warmcel')	52
	7.0.2		51
	7.6.1 762	Survey Considerations Scone of Works	51
	7.6	Internal Installation – Rock Wool (low pressure blown installation)	51
	7.5.2	Scope of Works - External Installation	51
	7.5.1	Survey Considerations	50
	7.5	Blown Mineral Wool	50
	7.4.2	Cons	50
	7.4.1	Pros	50
	7.4	Blown Mineral Wool - Rockwool	50
	7.3.2	Cons	50
	7.3.1	Pros	49
	7.3	Blown Mineral Wool – Glass wool	49
	7.2	Installation Methods	49
	Materia	ls include:	49
	7.1	Materials	49
1	Juill	nary of Cavicy wait insulation (Cwv) materials in the OK/GD	49
7	C	nary of Cavity Wall Insulation (CWI) materials in the UK/CP	40
	6.10.	4 Narrow Cavities	48
	6.10.	3 Party Walls	40
	6.10.	2 Further inspection	46 46
	6.10	"Unfillable" Cavities	46
	6.9	Summary	45
	0.8.2		45
	6.8.1	Advantages	45
	6.8	Internally applied dry lining using an insulated plasterboard system	45
	6.7.2	Disadvantages	44
	6.7.1	Advantages	44
	6.7	Internally applied dry lining incorporating timber battens, Thermo-Foil or si	milar and plasterboard 44
	6.6.2	Disadvantages	44

	7.9.3	Scope of Works- External Installation	56
	7.10	Exfoliated Vermiculite Pellets	56
	7.10.1	. Pros	56
	7.10.2	Cons	56
	7.10.3	Scope of Works	57
	7.11	Polyurethane (PUR) Foam	57
	7.11.1	Pros	57
	7.11.2	Cons	58
	7.11.3	Survey Considerations- External installation, (Pressure injection installation)	58
	7.11.4	Scope of Works- External Installation	58
	7.11.5	Survey Considerations – Internal installation (Pressure Injection Installation)	58
	7.11.6	Scope of Works – Internal Installation (Pressure Injection Installation)	59
	7.12	Urea-Formaldehyde (UF) Foam	59
	7.12.1	Pros	59
	7.12.2	Cons	60
	7.12.5	Survey Considerations	60
	7.12.4	Scope of works - External Installation	60
	7.13	Nanogel (Silica product)	61
	7.13.1	Pros	61
	7.13.2	Cons Company Considerations	61
	7.13.5	Survey Considerations	61
	7.13.4	Scope of works	01
8	Risk a	nd Opportunities Assessment	63
9	CO2 P	otential Savings	67
	9.1.1	CO2 Savings – Terrace Dwellings	71
	9.1.2	CO2 Savings – House Dwellings	72
	9.1.3	CO2 Savings – Bungalow Dwellings	73
	9.1.4	CO2 Savings – Low Rise-Flat Dwellings	74
	9.1.5	CO2 Savings – High Rise Dwellings	75
	9.1.6	CO2 Savings – Partial Fill Walls	76
10	Indica	tive Costs of Hard to Fill Cavities	77
-	10.1	Cavity wall insulation costs for key dwelling types	77
-	10.2	ndicative costs of filling Hard to Fill cavities in Great Britain	78
11	Sumn	nary	81
12	Appe	ndix A: Case Studies of Hard to Fill Cavity Wall Types	83
	12.1	Case Study – Low Rise. Variable Cavity	84
-	12.1.1	City of Edinburgh District Council – Non traditional 3-storey housing	84
	12.2	Case Study - Hiah Rise Dwellinas	85
-	12.2.1	City of Edinburgh District Council – Kirkgate House. Leith	85
	12.2.2	LB Camden – Laystall Court, London	86
	12.3	Case Study – Steel Framed House, System build, Exposed Site	87



Davis Langdon O DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 5 of 168

	12.3.1	Semi-detached house, Tarrant Way, Moulton, Northampton	87
	12.4 Ca	se Study - Concrete Cavity	<i>88</i>
	12.4.1	Rochdale Borough Council – 3 blocks of Hi-Rise Flats at College Bank Flats, Rochdale	88
	12.5 Ca	se Study -Timber Frame Cavity	90
13	B Append	ix B: Technical Solutions	91
	13.1 Na	rrow Cavity Wall (Masonry) 1/2	<i>92</i>
	13.1.1	NCW-1	92
	13.1.2	NCW-2	92
	13.2 Na	rrow Cavity Wall (Masonry) 2/2	<i>93</i>
	13.2.1	NCW-3	93
	13.3 Pa	rtial Fill Cavity Wall (Masonry) 1/2	<i>94</i>
	13.3.1	PFCW-1	94
	13.3.2	PFCW-2	94
	<i>13.4 Pa</i>	rtial Fill Cavity Wall (Masonry) 2/2	<i>95</i>
	13.4.1	PFCW-3	95
	13.5 Ra	ndom Stone Cavity Wall 1/2	<i>96</i>
	13.5.1	RSCW – 1	96
	13.5.2	RSCW – 2	96
	13.6 Ra	ndom Stone Cavity Wall 2/2	<i>97</i>
	13.6.1	RSCW – 3	97
	13.6.2	RSCW – 4	97
	13.7 Tin	nber Frame Cavity Wall	<i>98</i>
	13.7.1	TFCW-1	98
	13.7.2	TFCW-2	98
	13.8 In .	Situ Concrete Cavity Wall 1/1	<i>99</i>
	13.8.1	ICCW-1	99
	13.8.2	ICCW-2	99
	13.9 Ca	vity Wall with Exposed Re-inforced Concrete Floor Structure in High Rise Building 1/2	<i>100</i>
	13.9.1	ERCFCW-1	100
	13.9.2	ERCFCW-2	100
	<i>13.10</i>	Cavity Wall with Exposed Re-inforced Concrete Floor Structure in High Rise Building 2/2	<i>101</i>
	13.10.1	ERCFCW-3	101
	<i>13.11</i>	In-situ Concrete Cavity Wall with Masonry Outer Leaf 1/2	<i>102</i>
	13.11.1	ICCWM-1	102
	13.11.2	ICCWM-2	102
	<i>13.12</i>	In-situ Concrete Cavity Wall with Masonry Outer Leaf 2/2	<i>103</i>
	13.12.1	ICCWM-3	103
	13.13	Cavity Wall with Continual External Cladding & Internal Concrete Floor in High Rise Buildir. 104	ng 1/1
	13.13.1	IFRCCW-1	104
	13.13.2	IFRCCW-2	104

14 Appendix C: House type examples for hard to fill cavity walls

Davis Langdon O DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 6 of 168



15	Арре	endix D: SAP and U value calculations for technical solutions and standard house types	109	
16	Арре	endix E: English House Condition Survey (SS6.4)	113	
17	Арре	endix F: Key issues in filling wall cavities in existing dwellings	115	
18	Арре	endix G: Summary of Access Solutions	123	
Dav	is Lan	don Technical Note:	124	
1	<i>8.1</i> 18.1 18.1	High rise solutions1Gondola system electronically operated2Abseil access	<i>124</i> 124 125	
1	<i>8.2</i> 18.2 18.2	Low rise up to five storeys1Scaffold over four storeys2Mobile elevation working platforms	<i>125</i> 125 125	
1	8.3	Assumptions	125	
1	8.4	Internal access solution	126	
1	8.5	Internal Installation – Costs to Make Good	126	
1	<i>8.6</i> 18.6 18.6	Examples1Flat with One External Elevation Wall2Flat with Two External Elevation Walls	<i>127</i> 127 128	
19	Арре	endix H: Effect of CWI on Non-traditional Construction types	129	
1	9.1	Reinforced Concrete	130	
1	9.2	Timber Frame Non Traditional Construction BRE Digest T282	131	
1	9.3	Steel Frame BR113	132	
1	9.4	Summary	132	
20	Арре	endix I: Cavity Wall cancellation survey: InstaFibre Consortium	135	
21	Арре	endix J: Assessment of CWI market: BRUFMA	139	
22	Арре	endix K: Risk Workshop attendees	143	
23	23 Appendix L: Risk Workshop presentations: 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2010 145			
24	Арре	endix M: Glossary of terms	163	
25	Арре	endix N: Stakeholders	165	
2	5.1	Advisory Group	166	



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#### **Executive Summary** 1

This study was undertaken jointly by Inbuilt with Davis Langdon in fulfilment of DECC project ref CESA EE0211, "Study on hard to fill cavity walls in domestic dwellings in Great Britain".

#### 1.1 **Objectives**

The objectives of this study were:

- To stimulate discussion amongst stakeholders on how to address hard to fill cavities for the future in Great Britain
- To engage with stakeholders and identify their issues in hard to fill cavities •
- To assess the technical challenges in filling problematic cavities, how these might be overcome and likely costs.
- To assess the risk involved to dwelling owners due to taking on board liabilities directly where not covered by building insurance, warranties and/or guarantees.
- To estimate the carbon dioxide (CO2) savings for Great Britain from filling these problematic cavities
- To identify examples of situations where problematic cavities have already been filled and report on these

#### 1.2 Key findings

Key findings were that:

- Technologies are mature and further innovative technologies are slowly emerging that will be useful to overcome the complex treatment issues hard to fill wall cavities.
- The potential CO2 savings for Great Britain were in the range of 271,000 to 407,000 tonnes CO2 per year assuming a take up of 20%, 1,356,000 to 2,034,000 tonnes CO2 per year for full 100% take-up and 678,000 to 1,017,000 if CERT underperformance and comfort factors are applied and if 100% of potential population of cavities are filled. These predictions based on SAP 2005 exclude the potential effects of underperforming party-wall cavities.

Dwelling Type (Excluding partial fill)	Population	Annual CO2 saving - allowing for 20% application of solutions (Tonnes/annum)	Annual CO2 saving - allowing for 100% application of solutions (Tonnes/annum)	Annual CERT CO2 saving – If CERT underperformance & comfort factors are applied and if 100% of potential is filled. (Tonnes/annum)
Total Number of	3.9 million –	271,000 - 407,000	1,356,000 -	678,000 -1,017,000
Hard to Fill Cavities	5.8 million		2,034,000	
House Type	1.9 million –	103,000 - 154,000	515,000 -	257,000 - 386,000
Dwellings	2.9 million		772,000	
Terrace Type	0.9 million -	70,000 - 106,000	352,000 -	176,000 - 264,000
Dwellings	1.4 million		528,000	
Bungalow Type	0.4 million -	22,000 - 32,000	108,000 -	54,000 - 81,000
Dwellings	0.7 million		162,000	
Davis Langdon () DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 9 of 168				

Davis Langdon 🔿 DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 9 of 168

Low Rise Flat	0.5 million to 0.8 million	55,000 - 83,000	276,000 - 414,000	138,000 - 207,000
High Rise Flat	90,000 - 140,000	21,000 - 31,000	105,000 - 157,000	52,000 - 79,000

In addition there is a category of walls that the English House Condition Survey describes as "filled" but that have a remaining cavity. There are in the order of 1.6 to 2.4m such "partially filled" cavities in Great Britain. The potential annual CO2 savings in filling these are in the range of 22,000 to 33,000 tonnes/annum assuming a take up of 20%, 109,000 to 163,000 tonnes/annum for full 100% take up and 54,000 to 81,000 tonnes/annum if CERT underperformance and comfort factors are applied and if 100% of potential population of cavities are filled.

Other Dwellings (Partial fill only)	Population	Annual CO2 saving - allowing for 20% application of solutions (Tonnes/annum)	Annual CO2 saving - allowing for 100% application of solutions (Tonnes/annum)	Annual CERT CO2 saving – If CERT underperformance & comfort factors are applied and if 100% of potential is filled. (Tonnes/annum)
Partial Fill	1.6 million - 2.4 million	22,000 - 33,000	109,000 - 163,000	54,000 - 82,000

- There was significant interest in dealing with hard to fill cavities amongst potential stakeholders. Of the forty one organisations contacted, thirty six replied (88%) and engaged actively in the study. A number were also able to provide evidence of work undertaken in filling hard-to-fill cavities. Stakeholders included, Government (DECC), Local Authorities and Arms Length Management Organisations, Academics, CERT managers, Energy Efficiency Partnership for Housing, Energy Action Scotland, Energy Saving Trust, Homes and Communities Agency, SHESP, Manufacturers, British Board of Agrément, Installers, Main Contractor, CIGA and Trade Associations.
- There were significant cost barriers in dealing with hard to fill cavities due to: associated building works, public disinterest/cancellations, variability of costs of nonstandard works, lack of funding mechanisms or subsidy for addressing non-standard cavities as hard-to-fill cavities fall outside of the cost effectiveness criteria set by the market for CO2 savings per £ invested.
- The estimated costs of filling both categories of wall cavities (excluding filling of party wall cavities) at current (mid 2010) prices are as follows:

	Dwellings	20% uptake	100% uptake*
	No.	£m	£m
Hard to Fill	3.9-5.8m	£1,103-1,660	£5,530-8,300
Partial Fill	1.6-2.4m	£450-680	£2,265-3,400



\* Full (i.e. 100% take up) is not practically possible – for example, some dwellings are in exposed locations that make them unsuited to retrofitted cavity wall fill; others, because of their built form and construction technology, pose particular access and technical difficulties.

Our estimate is "broad brush' and relies heavily on a range of assumptions covering how the work will be procured, the condition and location of the affected housing stock, the extent of ancillary work required in particular circumstances, and other matters. Further details are provided in section 11 below. A more detailed study has recently been launched by the ETI to predict the distribution of costs associated with undertaking the works to upgrade UK housing stock on different scales across the UK. The context being the achievement of an 80% CO2 saving with wall insulation, new technologies and skills. Results are expected to be available in 2012.

- That the overall outlook was pessimistic in being able to secure funding for such works as well as for funding for conventional cavities in the near future. There was limited reference made by stakeholders to PAYS as a potential funding mechanism.
- A perceived lack of benefit by individual members of the public hampers the uptake of such measures, potentially mitigated through having guaranteed performance benefits.
- Key technical challenges included: overcoming the low quality of preliminary surveys to assess scope for insulation, the lack of standards relating to quality of remedial works to walls in advance of cavity filling, lack of recognised technical guidance in filling hard to fill cavities including guidance on the detailed design to mitigate coldbridges.
- However, full cavity fill insulation is usually the most cost effective option where the cavity wall is confirmed as being in good overall condition, where the local exposure factors confirm its suitability for use and where external or internal access is not highly costly or otherwise problematic. In instances where the existing wall finish or cladding is life expired or in need of major refurbishment on a highly exposed site where an appearance change can be tolerated, external wall insulation should be considered. In the case of a building where there are complications affecting the condition of the cavity wall on a site too exposed for cavity fill insulation where an appearance change cannot be tolerated, internal insulated dry lining should be considered with the Thermo-Foil type variant minimising the loss of room volume.

#### 1.3 Recommendations

Key recommendations are to:

- Develop a transparent process (e.g. a standard industry approach) to deal with Hard to Fill Cavities through: Survey, Design, Remediation, Installation, Warranty and Pricing.
- Develop a QA scheme to ensure standards are maintained for remedial work to walls that would allow filling and permit warranties to be offered and facilitate subsequent cover by building insurance.



Davis Langdon O DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 11 of 168

- Explore a means to accelerate take-up and acknowledge innovation
- Identify funding streams specifically for dealing with such hard-to-fill cavities particularly for local authorities
- Address the private householder and low level of uptake by:
  - Raising public awareness and interest, potentially through a national publicity scheme as has proved successful in the past
  - Provision and promotion of quality assured work for Hard to Fill Cavities
  - Provision of quality assured surveys and remedial building works through an independent system of pre-assessments using experienced surveyors and experienced works managers during works phase
  - Reducing financial shock of undertaking remedial building works, which can typically be many times the cost of the insulation works.
  - Encouraging the development or bringing to market of insulation systems suitable for hard-to-fill cavities and independently verified to be "fit for purpose"
  - o Identify funding mechanisms for covering the costs

Inbuilt together with Davis Langdon would like to express their thanks to all those stakeholders contacted and also those who were able to engage more actively and in contributing to the workshop and study.



### 2 Methodology

The study on Hard to Fill Cavity Walls in Domestic Dwellings in Great Britain was undertaken by Inbuilt in conjunction with Davis Langdon in response to DECC project reference CESA EE0211. It was further developed following concatenation of the bids and upon discussion with the advisory group at the outset of the programme. The study was reviewed at stages through the programme with regular meetings. Stakeholder engagement was undertaken in a phased manner culminating in a stakeholder workshop. A significant level of communication was undertaken to address the novel requirements of dealing with Hard to Fill Cavities in Great Britain. The output of the workshop informed the risk and opportunity assessment. The study predicted the potential annual CO2 savings for Great Britain for a range of dwelling constructions e.g. Narrow cavity, random stone, timber frame, system built etc and different dwelling types e.g. terraced dwelling, bungalows, houses, low rise and high rise.

The following stages were adopted for the study:

- 1. Formalise scope of work
- 2. Identification and engagement with stakeholders
- 3. Categorisation of hard to fill cavities and discussion with technical stakeholders
- 4. Identification of main technical solutions, assessment of likely costs and undertaking an initial risk assessment
- 5. Confirm filled solutions
- 6. Identification of previous filling of problem cavities
- 7. Confirm results/risk assessment
- 8. Calculate carbon dioxide savings
- 9. Report

By understanding the types of constructions and associated risks it would be possible to identify the range of solutions and issues associated with filling non traditional cavities.

The proposed technical solutions are indicative and need to be tested for suitability for particular buildings. The calculation of CO2 savings was based on SAP2006. It is envisaged that SAP 2009, when fully available, will be able to account for losses associated with cavity party walls. The populations of dwelling types and corresponding range of constructions have been extrapolated from the English House Condition Survey (2007) and any assumptions made have been stated. The figures for CO2 savings have been presented in the form of ranges to facilitate a discussion about the relative issues between construction types as they relate to particular dwelling types. The CO2 savings refer to the whole of Great Britain extrapolated from the English House Condition Survey. The CO2 potential savings for



Davis Langdon O DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 13 of 168

particular regions or localities would need to be determined from a study of the particular mixes of ages and constructions found there.

The CO2 savings in this report include those based on the CERT savings methodology for conventional cavities, which include an underperformance factor of 35% and a comfort factor of 15%<sup>1</sup>. This is due to the following factors:

- Areas that cannot be filled (e.g. behind conservatories, tile or timber panelling, or cladding.
- Adventitious voids
- Slumping or settling of insulation, leading to voids under eaves & windows
- Variations in the compactness of insulation
- Wetting of insulation.
- Thermal bridging (especially by lintels & jambs)

U values for wall improvements have been calculated per technical solution an average value was agreed<sup>2</sup> to be used for calculating the overall dwelling improvement on the basis that more problematic cavities are inherently likely to perform worse when upgraded than conventional cavities when upgraded.

A variety of sources of information were used including web based sources including government, public and private as well as research publications. The study drew on the experience of Inbuilt as consultants in low and zero carbon building design (New and Refurbishment) including the preparation of EST publications CE97 "Advanced insulation in existing housing" and CE57, "Refurbishing cavity walled dwellings" together with Passivhaus certification and Davis Langdon in Surveying (Quantity and Building) together with its Risk Management Surveying groups and the use of industry standard tools such as "@Risk".



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The estimated savings from insulation, as calculated by BREDEM 12, are subject to two corrections. The first is a correction for underperformance and is -35%. The second is a correction for comfort taking, which is applied after the underperformance correction, and is -23%. The overall correction is therefore  $(100\%-35\%)^*(100\%-23\%) = 50\%$ . Note that, if there were no underperformance, the correction factor for comfort taking would be 15% of the estimated BREDEM saving from insulation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> DECC July 2010

#### 3 Stakeholders and discussions

The principal stakeholders for the study were identified as: Trade Organisations, NIA, BRUFMA; InstaFibre Consortium; Warranty providers (CIGA), Insurers British Federation of Insurers); Insulation Installers; Insulation Manufacturers; Insulation Accreditation systems (BBA); Local Authorities; ALMO's; Housing Associations; Academics, Energy Agencies, EST as well as regulators (Ofgem), CERT managers and government represented by DECC.

Approximately 42 different stakeholders were contacted throughout the study. A significant number were responsive and additionally attended the risk workshop that was run as part of the study.

The importance of the householder group became apparent during the course of the study after one organisation InstaFibre consortium (insulation design/installers and scheme managers) undertook an analysis of market take-up in response to this study.

It is hoped that future studies would allow for canvassing comments directly from those householders with an interest in having their cavity walls filled. We would envisage contacting those taking up the recently launched: PAYS scheme; Technology Strategy Board's, Retrofit for the Future project as well as general householders and those with a specific interest in environmental issues such as those belonging to the AECB.

Our study revealed two distinct approaches to cavity wall insulation - the first by private house-owners and the second by public organisations.

#### 3.1 Private householders

Over the last thirty years the private householder interest in cavity wall insulation has been low, averaging three thousand enquiries a month to installation companies. There have been some periods of higher interest, but more recently, due to economic conditions, demand has been dropping.

There are many ways of tapping into the private householder market. Private householders have responded to marketing activities by installation companies, in particular from telephone canvassing associated with funding campaigns. This is a reflection of the fact that cavity wall insulation is a service rather than a product based market. Interest has been increased by governmental campaigns; in particular, the Prime Minister's speech in September 2008 with Local Authority endorsements was particularly successful. The reported level of interest rose three times, from 3,000 to 10,000 enquiries per month for the following 6 months. As an example of the impact of the CERT scheme<sup>3</sup>, 1m cavities were installed in 2 years and its predecessor EEC2 insulated 1.76 m in 3 years.

http://www.ofgem.gov.uk/Sustainability/Environment/EnergyEff/PrevSchemes/Documents1/A nnual%20Report%202008%20Final.pdf



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> OFGEM report on effectiveness of CERT scheme and previous schemes:

http://www.ofgem.gov.uk/Sustainability/Environment/EnergyEff/CU/Documents1/CERT%20 Q8%20Update%20FINAL.pdf ,

There are a number of ways in which the public seeks such services and they include contacting installers directly, the EST, Local Authorities, utility companies and others. The installers have found direct telephone canvassing effective whilst the benefit of press, leafleting has been low – newspaper advertising has been dropped by most installers and leafleting has only a 1% response. Awareness through shopping channels is low though some DIY chains have had promotions for third party installers - the materials used in cavity fill are only available through specialist channels and not via DIY routes. Cavity installation always requires specialist equipment to apply specific types of insulation that in turn are available from a relatively small number of distributors.

#### 3.2 Local Authorities, ALMOs and Housing Associations

Local Authorities, Housing Associations and ALMO's are not under the same commercial/time pressure to survive as installers and have more time to seek funding and use different options to address fuel poverty, heat loss and carbon reductions for their tenants. They can be considered to be the early adopters in this field<sup>4</sup>. However, there is still the issue of being able to raise the funds in the first place.

As an example, LB Camden has developed techniques to address hard to fill cavities. In addition, it uses an internal technical team rather than being reliant on framework contractual arrangement to develop specifications and tenders and then manage the process. There is a significant variation in the way different LA's and ALMO's procure their services. As this is a relatively new area of activity, there is a risk that poor practice in procurement at the beginning could potentially jeopardise the success of future CO2 savings.

Amongst the ALMO's contacted<sup>5</sup>, some considered the ability to address the remaining stock of housing important as it had not attracted CERT funding to date and would help improve the overall stock SAP profile. This would address Fuel Poverty issues and address the new requirement to make "Warmer Homes Greener Homes" post Decent Homes funding initiatives.<sup>6</sup>

#### 3.3 Issues for stakeholders

Cavity wall installations are carried out for two principal client sectors i.e. Private householders/businesses and Public landlords



Davis Langdon 🔿 DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 16 of 168

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Kirklees BC, Correspondence 28May2010 "looking at new technologies to deal with this"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> National Federation of ALMOs

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Kensington & Chelsea TMO, Correspondence 25May2010

Installations of conventional cavities are generally funded through grants and obligations including CERT, Warm Front etc. Additionally, funds have been previously been available to public landlords or private householders from discretionary local authority funds. The CERT scheme arises from the obligation that Ofgem, the regulator, imposes on utilities to reach carbon saving targets, which they do at their own cost. Each supplier must reach a carbon saving target, and does so by measures such as insulation or lighting. Ofgem administers the scheme, in the sense that each supplier gives figures for the numbers of measures (insulation / lightbulbs/fridges etc) subsidised, and Ofgem gives a score for each. The scheme has strict criteria on the cost-effectiveness of measures undertaken by those being offered. As a result, this generally precludes addressing more expensive walls such as hard to fill cavities. More recently, insulation works for affordable housing have been funded under the Social Housing Energy Saving Programme (SHESP) running since summer 2009. Further funds are likely to be available to local authorities via the new EU funding stream in compliance with the revised limitation permitted by changes in conditions set by ERDF

In addition public funding has been limited to undertake certain building improvements under obligations set on registered housing landlords (social housing sic.) through the Decent Homes scheme. The opportunity cost of additionally dealing with window and loft insulation upgrades at the same time were borne by local authorities. In addition, local authorities are responsible for ensuring that housing within their local areas conforms to the minimum cost of heating standards set by Affordable Warmth criteria. These criteria apply to both its own and privately owned housing.

Grants are available but do not address Hard to Fill Cavities because they either:

- 1) Require interventions that are more expensive than standard cavities by dint of being "hard to fill cavities" or are
- 2) Specifically excluded by the compliance conditions imposed by grant funding streams, originally set up to prioritise "easy hanging fruit" i.e. filling standard cavities.

There is currently no established market for filling hard-to-fill cavities.

The demand for cavity fill is in response to two drivers:

- 1) Legal duties placed on publicly funded bodies as described above and
- In response to marketing activities undertaken by private installation companies seeking to promote the uptake of subsidised work. (The installers promote their work to private house owners and alert them to the availability of subsidies that cover part of the cost of installation)

Installers of standard cavity insulation in the "able to pay" private household sector are currently dependent on households paying in the region of a hundred pounds or so with the balance of the costs of £200-300 being paid by subsidy. In the case of "priority groups" full subsidy is available. Where householders have disposable income, the cost of energy alone may not be a sufficient driver to encourage a householder to prioritise an expenditure on cavity insulation, particularly where there are additional remedial works required. The newly introduced PAYS scheme, where loans for energy efficiency improvements are tied to a property, should reduce the impact of capital costs by having the energy savings cover the cost of insulation measures.



Davis Langdon 🔿 DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 17 of 168

However, in response to the dramatic fall-off in demand from private house owners, due to the design of the CERT and Warm Front schemes trade associations are lobbying government for a continuity and enlargement of funds to avoid shrinkage of the market. Trade organisation such as the NIA and others are reporting high rates of disbanding of installer teams. A number of manufacturers were also of the view that the UK cavity wall insulation sector will cease to be a profitable market within five years. This is likely to be as a result of conventional cavities being filled and of the 17-18m cavity dwellings there are estimates<sup>7</sup> that there will be only 5.3m unfilled but fillable cavities left by 2011 with a resultant small market.

To date, installer companies have been geared to addressing the needs of providing lowest tendered cost for insulation fills available. This tendering criterion adopted prevents hard to fill cavities from being addressed in practice. Furthermore, there is evidence of severe competition in this market as a comparison of standard costings based on meterage and typical costs charged show. This may affect the ability and reserves of a company to respond to any changing funding mechanisms or new markets such as Hard to Fill. Installer companies would need to take a commercial view on how they deal with the transition from dealing with standard cavities to those of a future that includes hard to treat cavities.

There is a concern amongst installers also that if the CERT scheme is not extended this summer that there will be little capacity in the installer base. The CERT scheme is perceived by some installers as supporting electrical savings rather than heating bills through the widespread provision of electrically efficient CFL lighting.

A number of organisations would suggest that the terms of CERT be amended to encourage the side walls of a house to be insulated as they currently fall under the compliance criterion set by CERT of being under 75% of the exposed wall and yet are probably the more accessible walls on any given house.

The importance of addressing consumer behaviour was voiced at the risk workshop where Knauf Insulation stated<sup>8</sup> – "Currently the cavity wall insulation industry generally avoids treating anything other than straightforward masonry cavity walls with the exception of the Local Authority and RSL sector where the impact on the properties saleability is not a concern. The issue of saleability is seen as more important to the private market than the potential saving of energy." It remains to be seen how authorities can address the need to encourage private customers to invest in energy efficiency within their home. A system that rewards consumers for energy saving measures may be more effective in creating a culture of energy saving amongst home owners that is more stable in the long term than individual home owners buying energy efficiency measures and then squandering the heat and carbon savings against additional appliances and electrical equipment.

#### 3.4 Discussions with stakeholders – Funding



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> DECC Correspondence 20Jul2010

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Awaiting confirmation

The issue of a lack of funds for such insulation measures is echoed widely by both local authorities and installers<sup>9</sup>. It is highlighted by the significantly different levels of funding available through different channels by government or regulators in the pursuit of carbon reduction. As an example, the funding available via CERT and SHESP are lower than what had been available for standard cavity wall insulation where carbon dioxide is valued at only £17 per tonne<sup>10</sup>. The disparity between funding and actual costs is a significant issue for local authorities including LB Camden, LB Merton, Darwen Borough Council and many others who are active in pursuing hard to fill cavities. This is echoed by insulation companies who are regularly approached by local authorities but are thwarted in the conversion of quotations into purchases through funding constraints.

Where there are experienced internal resources available to the local authority such as with LB Camden, it has been possible to develop innovative solutions that reduce the capital cost. These savings have been estimated as having a direct benefit of £1m in access costs to high-rise dwellings across the borough from the adoption of abseiling teams to install insulation.

The urgency with which reductions in ancillary costs need to be achieved is that a significant number of stock owners i.e. LA's, ALMO's and Housing Associations will have addressed their standard cavities within the next 5 years.

#### 3.5 **Discussions with stakeholders – Cancellations**

A significant factor emerged following discussions with stakeholders is that whilst technical reasons were recorded as reasons for cancellation; they were outnumbered by a ratio of 4:1 by customer cancellations. Only 1.5% of all cancellations were due to the walls considered as "hard to treat" with 4.3% of cancellations being due to the need for cavity wall remedial work. The most significant technical reason at 12.3 % was that the walls were solid rather than having a cavity (an issue of quality of the initial business lead survey that established the type of wall, rather than of the quality of the detailed inspection required for the work method to be established) whilst overall 47% were due to reduced interest by householders. The remaining cancellations being due to poor management i.e. a social property being mistaken for private; the effect of landlord refusal and the type of insulation needed not attracting funding. The following table analyses the reasons for cancellation and provided by Instafibre in support of the study

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> LB Camden





<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Darwen Borough Council, BRUFMA

CWI Cancellation Reason	No of	% of
	JODS	Jobs
Cavity too narrow	103	1.4%
Cracks in the Render	2	0.0%
Damp problem	93	1.2%
Metal Frame	16	0.2%
No Access	385	5.1%
Property is random stone	27	0.4%
Rubble in Cavity	53	0.7%
Scaffolding Required	50	0.7%
Solid Walls	933	12.3%
Timber Framed	131	1.7%
Ventilation requirements not met: Customer refused to have vent	96	1 1%
	00 1970	10.8%
	200/	Note 1
% CWI Cancellations	2070	NULE I
Customer Cancellation Reason	No of	
	Jobs	
Client – Cost	314	4.1%
Client has missed several appointments	273	3.6%
Client no longer interested	3568	47.0%
No response from client	3436	45.3%
Total	7591	80.2%
% Customer Cancellations	80%	Note 2
Total Cancelled Jobs	9470	Note 3
Note 1 Originally 9% - Awaiting confirmation		
Note 2- Originally 35% - Awaiting confirmation		
Note 3 - Originally 2192 – Awaiting confirmation		

We would recommend that further work be undertaken to understand these factors better and to determine whether this is representative of other trade organisations across GB.

#### 3.6 Discussion with stakeholders - Technical Issues

The technical issues associated with different cavities are described in brief in the table below:

Type of cavity	Issue
Narrow cavities	Traditional cavity walls typically constructed 1920's to 1950's designed to have free cavities. During injection of insulation the insulation can hang up on points of narrowness in the cavity where mortar had been left protruding internally during brick-laying



Partial filled	Where insulation had previously been installed to a fraction of the cavity width by design or otherwise and may have even sloped away from its intended location on the inner face of the cavity over time. Any newly introduced insulation material would need to be able to fully fill the remaining spaces without unintentionally becoming a cause of unpredictable locations of damp penetration e.g. where condensation builds up after running down the sloping insulation
System build	Prefabricated construction systems with varying material combinations which may have specific aging or deterioration characteristics peculiar to their type. Spanning a wide range of constructions from dense panelised concrete to lightweight timber structures.
Random Stone	Natural stone rectangular blockwork of varying thickness resulting in widely varying internal cavity widths between blocks. The variation in width and potential difficulties in selecting suitable access points for injecting insulation and the possibility of water penetration.
Timber frame	Typically referring to lightweight timber constructions (as distinct from Solid Timber constructions that are typically insulated with external insulation when newly built) that can range from panelled timber frames sheathed in thick plywood on both sides of a cavity through to lighter weight constructions. Typically lacking moisture control barrier layers or having moisture barrier layers located in positions that may precipitate the formation of interstitial condensation when any subsequent insulation is installed leading to premature degradation of the structure.
Exposed locations	Subject to high wind/ driving rain and where the ability to reduce or stop water migration to the inner leaf is an important consideration in the selection of an insulation material or the suitability of the property for insulation.

Very few stakeholders considered technical issues associated with hard to fill cavities as being insurmountable<sup>11</sup>. The general view was that mature technologies were available to successfully fill all but the most problematic cases of hard to treat cavity walls.

In initial discussions with stakeholders, technical issues were generally considered as ones of installation, material selection and access issues alone. In subsequent discussions including those at the Risk Workshop it became apparent that additional technical issues of survey and achieving quality assurance would also be important.

The choice of insulation materials is important to the overall quality of performance in practice and materials, in addition to their standardised performance are additionally assessed and promoted on the basis of their fitness for purpose. There is therefore likely to be some overlap between certified performance of existing insulation materials and particular combinations of wall construction and the tighter requirements set by the hard-to-fill categories identified by this study. It would therefore be necessary to determine what additional tests, if any, would be required to address any new requirements for Hard to Fill



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Knauf and additionally Risk Workshop attendees

cavities described in this study. As an example, test equipment may need to be modified. One of the stakeholders of the risk workshop stated that the certification scheme used by one of the industry guarantee schemes (CIGA) had been set up to deal with novel insulation systems<sup>12</sup>. It would be necessary to investigate this aspect further.

In addition to specific technical issues associated with the insulation materials themselves, as part of the technical solution, hard to fill cavity walls do require higher levels of preparatory work. These preparatory works and potentially additional remedial work to the building fabric, incur further plant and access costs. It could be argued that deterioration of the building fabric within which the insulation would be held is the primary issue to address. Consequently a significant proportion of costs of a hard to fill cavity is associated with the repair and remedial works rather than the material costs of the insulation itself.

The attendant problems associated with hard to treat cavity walls naturally inflate the average cost of treatment above a standard cavity wall. The issue is how to control these costs and maintain installer viability.

Interestingly the stakeholders regularly address such technical installation issues but are less familiar with techniques of cold bridge analysis that would need to be undertaken during the design of the specific technical solutions. Such techniques when used before insulation, combined with post construction thermographs could potentially be part of the supporting documentation required by mortgage applications and subsequent applications for building insurance. These would be additional costs.

#### 3.7 Discussion with stakeholders - Costs of ancillary work required

The costs of ancillary works frustrate many installer companies who offer technical solutions but are hampered by the lack of resources available to local authorities and would need to spend a significant time in seeking such funds for such work.

An example was voiced by Dyson Insulations (contractor,) "The biggest problem we have encountered, time and time again, is having to walk away from these non-standard properties on both social housing and private sector schemes, and although various solutions can be offered, the client (local authority/housing association) or domestic homeowner have insufficient monies to pay for these higher cost solutions.

"A small proportion, 9% of InstaFibre's<sup>13</sup> jobs, are cancelled due to technical reasons – narrow cavities, cracks in render, damp problem, metal frame, no access (20%,) property is random stone, timber frame, rubble in cavity, scaffolding required, property not surveyed properly and discovers solid walls once work crews arrive (50%)." Instafibre

Typical costs incurred:

• Installation of external insulation to avoid treating narrow cavities:

#### <sup>12</sup> BBA Ltd

<sup>13</sup> A system designer, installer and scheme manager



Davis Langdon 🔿 DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 22 of 168

- Up to £8,000
- Cleaning dirty cavities:
  - Between £1000 £3000
- Cost to a high rise tenant excessively high:
  - Between £3000-5000 per dwelling
- Render repair:
  - Between £2000-£5000
- Defective Damp Proof Course (DPC):
  - Between £2000 £4000
- Removal of existing defective cavity insulation:
  - Between £100 £1200 per one bedroom flat within a repeating high rise building of minimum 50 flats. Actual cost can be higher.
- Scaffolding to overcome conservatories/single storey drilling/access issues:
  - Between £100 £1,500.

Costs are generally variable due to:

- 1) A standardised costing approach that is only geared towards costing of standard cavity filling and not designed to accommodate the very specific remedial work being carried out
- 2) Lack of "cost norms' for hard to fill cavities
- 3) Latent defects such as structural damage due to prior ingress of water that preclude low insurance rates

In many cases, the additional costs of dealing with obstructions such as conservatories means that access issues define whether a cavity is hard to fill or not. "In practice, scaffolding is too expensive for the customer or energy supplier to fund"<sup>14</sup>. Furthermore many installers feel that most properties can be filled in accordance with BBA standards and requirements.

#### 3.8 Discussion with stakeholders - Extraction of existing insulation



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Mark Group - Installer

In addition, there may be a need to extract existing cavity insulation. CIGA estimates that at best there are probably between 500 and 1,000 extractions per year, of which 10 were to address specific technical issues, often associated with underlying building defects that could not have been identified when the installation took place. It estimates the cost of such extractions in the region of £2000-£3000. This is many times the cost of filling a standard cavity. In some cases the extraction of existing insulation could potentially address issues of deterioration or low quality of existing cavity insulation. LB Camden<sup>15</sup> estimates that 500-1000 properties could be improved upon this way if the costs of extraction were reduced to £1000 or so.

#### 3.9 Discussion with stakeholders - Insurance and Certification

The current method of achieving quality in cavity installations is through works complying with CIGA requirements or the British Urethane Foam Contractors Association (BUFCA) or of an insurance company. The CIGA warranty scheme applies to cavity constructions retrofitted with materials according to the requirements of the BBA accredited insulation systems and fitness for purpose. Whilst there are many established test laboratories certifying insulation materials to technical standards, there are few providers of assessments of fitness for purpose. The scope of a BBA product accreditation is defined by the intended application or ambition of any manufacturer to address the hard to fill market.

Where the CIGA scheme is not used then manufacturers and installers would rely on alternative warranties provided by commercial companies such as Zurich etc. In some cases, insulation manufacturers may offer their own warranties. At the time of the study, the costs of these routes were not available and it had not been possible to identify the scope of such cover.

The BBA is also active in approving the competence of installers and has approved all 260 installers operating in the UK on conventional cavities

The question of insulation durability was one of the issues raised by stakeholders and is currently being addressed in certification circles. However, any changes to international technical standards take a long time (>5 years) and the significance of the current work to establish a methodology for derating initial performance ratings due to deterioration in performance over time would need to be investigated further.

One of the areas not covered by guarantees was of cavities in Timber Frame dwellings as these are not considered a traditional construction, a prerequisite of guarantee schemes as offered by CIGA. In principle, there should be plenty of materials available for timber framed constructions including cellulose based insulation materials<sup>16</sup> from across UK and the Continent. However there are likely to be detailed constructional reasons due to control of vapour diffusion (or lack of) in certain types of construction that make this more problematic and requiring very specific solutions. Examples of such reasons would include "wet



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Daniel White, LB Camden

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Warmcell, Isofloc etc

situations' as in the cavity behind a masonry outer leaf that would lead to the saturation of the cellulose.

The risks associated with installations are described in more detail in the technical section but in practice, where an application falls outside the criteria of either a technical standard or an accreditation system, the dwelling owner takes on the liabilities directly. As dwelling owners, local authorities have more flexibility in how they address and take on potential risks.

Manufacturers of insulation materials would need to see an increase in demand for dealing with such cavities and a marketing advantage in having their products assessed for such applications. A number have achieved this and include nanogel and bead type materials for narrow cavities. Furthermore, if manufacturers were interested in having products deemed suitable for particular combinations of "hard-to-treat" cavities and dwelling types then any test equipment, comprising test cavities and measuring equipment, used by certifying/assessment companies would need to revised.

Any changes in certification/product assessment/insurance work would need to be accompanied by changes in how such cavities are dealt with on a daily basis. This is likely to include the way in which surveys are undertaken, how materials are selected then installed, then having work warranted and subsequently being eligible for building insurance. One respondent considered that advanced methodologies for surveying and installation that would meet the more demanding requirements of hard to fill applications have not been developed or certified<sup>17</sup>.

There are some specific issues relating to constructional warranties provided on new homes constructed in the last 10 years. Any attempt to modify a cavity, say by fully filling a partially filled cavity, would potentially invalidate the 10 year NHBC warranty if applied to new homes in that time frame.

In terms of buildings insurance there are also likely to be interest in how to mitigate the effect of climate change and how insulation materials would perform under adverse conditions during water saturation and during dry-out. There is a limited number of studies available relating to how hard to fill cavity constructions would behave due to the rarity of being filled. A recent study sponsored by the Ecclesiastical Insurance Society<sup>18</sup> predicts the relatively higher susceptibility of cavity constructions compared with solid constructions during accelerated drying conditions. The predictive techniques closely matched the measured performance and may help in the design of suitable test and certification methodologies for hard to fill cavities.



<sup>17</sup> Knauf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Engineering Historic Futures - UCL Centre for Sustainable Heritage

Study on hard to fill cavity walls in domestic dwellings in GB



#### 4 Categorisation of Cavities

There are a number of methods of categorising cavities. One such proposed by the BRE for Social Housing Energy Saving Programme was of:

Category 1: Standard fillable

Category 2: Non-standard fillable - less problematic

Category 3: Non-standard fillable - more problematic

Category 4: Unfillable

However, it became apparent from discussions with stakeholders including installers, commissioning clients and quantity surveyors that such a categorisation system was not readily transferable to this study. In the light of the tendency of the market to blanket price core work and charge variably for remedial works, that it was important to adopt a different categorisation to be able to assess in detail the risks, costs for specific building types and constructions.

In contrast, stakeholders readily identified a "hard to treat cavity wall" as broadly overlapping the BBA definition:

- 1. System build properties
- 2. Partially treated properties (Existing foam or mineral fibre batts)
- 3. Random stone walls
- 4. Narrow cavities (less than 50mm)
- 5. Timber frame
- 6. Properties in geographic areas subject to very severe exposure to wind-driven rain

These are shown in the table overleaf together with issues associated with survey and misidentification of wall constructions.



Davis Langdon O DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 27 of 168

#### 4.1 Examples of Hard to Fill Cavities

Ten Built Proceety	Pro insulated cavities		Unsuitable - Timber framed	
System built house	Partially filled cavities	Random stone	Timber framed	Exposed location –
(dyson insulation)	(existing foam or batts) (dyson insulation)	(Isothane Ltd)	(dyson insulation)	Moisture test and inspection of retro insulated steel frame
				(CIGA)





#### Examples of Hard to Fill Cavities (cont'd)

	SOLDWALL SOLDWALL Ligebrowid bladot bricks)	Hange from Anti-Wall Bin Dial Anti-Wall Bin Dial Anti-Wall Bin Dial Anti-Wall Bin Dial	DAMPLE LA IBREA RES	
Additional cost of scaffolding required to overcome access issues	Presence of brick headers (ends of bricks) reveals that this is a solid rather than cavity wall	Early form of cavity construction using brick ties	Brick ties instead of wire ties (rat trap bond)	Steel frame (hidden behind cavity like brick work – horizontal stretcher bond without headers)





#### 4.2 Assumptions

The following assumptions were used in predicting the CO2 savings in GB and are based on the English House Survey 2007<sup>19</sup> except where stated:

There is limited definitive data on the numbers of hard to fill cavities. These have been variously estimated by, Hard to Treat Homes Sub-Group, EEPH, Centre for Sustainable Energy, National Energy Action and BRUFMA and we estimate that there are currently approximately 3.9 to 5.8 million properties with hard to fill cavities in GB.

These can be broken down by wall types as below:

- Narrow Cavity, a cavity with width less than 50mm
- Random Stone Property, a stone build with a variable width cavity
- Timber Frame, including steel frame
- Concrete Frame, sub divided into insitu and Rainscreen

In addition that there are 1.6 to 2.4 million properties with

- Partial Fill Cavities, as common post 1995

**Narrow Cavity** – From the early 1920s up to the start of the Second World War the two common types of construction used were solid wall construction and narrow cavity construction (P Dicks/CIGA; Refurbishing cavity-walled dwellings, Energy Efficiency Best Practice in Housing). At the beginning of this period the vast majority of walls were known to be of the solid wall type with the minority being Narrow Cavity. By the end of this period this trend had been reversed with narrow cavity construction being the most common. Using this knowledge, the assumption that the majority of unfilled cavities as reported in EHCS 2007 are narrow cavities and our estimates for the types of building construction during this period. We estimate that the number of narrow cavities in the UK is 2.1 million.

**Random Stone Properties**: Evidence is very scarce however we based our calculations on current sales data which suggested that 20% of housing for sale in rural locations is of Random Stone construction. We combine this with information regarding the total number of rural dwellings from EHCS 2007 to give an approximate value of 404,000 Random Stone dwellings in the UK. (This would include over 100,000 properties with cavities as identified by three Local Authorities in West Yorkshire in response to this study).

**Timber and Concrete Frame**: Our main point of reference is BRE Client Report: (216-568 March 2004). This report suggests that there are approximately 700,000 timber frame cavities in the UK, the majority built in the period between 1965 to the present. This report also gives separate values for the number of timber frame houses built in Scotland, England, Wales and Northern Island for a portion of this period. We have assumed that these proportions remain constant where actual data is missing. We combine this with knowledge from EHCS 2007 which gives the number of non-cavity walls; as the number of solid walls

Davis Langdon 🔗 DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 30 of 168

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> See Appendix for extract of English House Condition Survey 2007

built during this period was minimal we assume that this value gives an indication of the combined number of timber and concrete frame buildings in the current English housing stock.

Data suggests that the number of timber frame buildings and solid wall construction from 1945 - 1965 still in the housing stock is negligible therefore the EHCS 2007 values for non cavity walls give an indication purely for the number of concrete frame structures built in this period. Consequentially, we assume that the number of timber frame buildings in the UK is 0.8 million and the number of concrete frame buildings is 1.2 million. Due to lack of data for further subdivision between insitu and rainscreen type frame we assume an equal split between the two types.

**Partial Fill** – Wide scale use of partial fill cavities was the result of building regulation changes in 1990 and 1995 which gave requirements for U Values in residential dwellings. Some up take occurred prior to 1995, particularly within social housing, however after 1995 it rapidly became the standard method of building. Using data from EHCS 2007 for the number of buildings built during this period and our estimations for the number alternative forms of frame and cavity used. We have modelled the number of partial fill cavities in the UK to be 2 million.

These estimates for each wall type were further split into the various buildings types. The building types considered were:

- Terrace (End and Mid)
- Bungalow (Semi detached and detached)
- Semi-Detached House
- Detached House
- Low Rise Flats (two/three external walls)
- High Rise Flats (two/three external walls)

Our method for sub-division between the various building types was based upon current sales figures, data from EHCS 2007 and expert advice. The statistical device used was in apportioning the known number each building type built during a specific time period to the known (see above) fraction of each wall type built in the same period. Additional factors were used based on additional assumptions. These additional assumptions are described in more detail below:

- Terrace (End and Mid): Current sales figures suggest there is a national split of approximately 1:3, End-terrace to Mid-terrace. We assume this is representative. We assume that Terraces may be constructed using any wall type but we have included a 50% correction factor against use of concrete construction from expert advice.
- Bungalow (Detached and Semi-Detached): Current sales figures suggest there is a national split of approximately 1:3, detached to semi-detached. We assume this is representative. We assume that any wall type apart from concrete frames may be used for Bungalow construction.
- Semi-Detached House: We assume that any wall type apart from concrete frames may be used for Semi-Detached House construction.
- Detached House: We assume that any wall type apart from Concrete Frame may be used for Detached House construction.



Davis Langdon O DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 31 of 168

- Low Rise Flats: Due to lack of specific figures, we assume the split between two and three external wall type flats is equal. We assume that any wall type apart from Random Stone may be used for Low Rise Flat construction.
- High Rise Flat: Due to lack of specific figures, we assume the split between two and three external wall type flats is equal. We assume that any wall type apart from Random Stone or Timber Frame may be used for High Rise Flat construction.

In the light of the range of populations of particular building constructions certain assumptions were made to facilitate the prediction of CO2 reductions from addressing hard to fill cavities. Furthermore, as the hard to fill cavities represent only one element amongst a number of interventions that could potentially be adopted (e.g. double glazed windows, loft insulation as well as party-wall insulation, renewable energy, efficient lighting etc.) and in the light of the likely errors in building populations, the potential impact of cold-bridges and the significant impact of variability in take-up rates, that an average U-value figure for an improved wall was adopted.

The following tables summarise how cavity construction and insulation levels have changed over the years. These date and construction ranges have been used to determine the annual CO2 savings associated with different construction systems for different house types.



#### Timeline of cavity wall constructions

LINGE SECUR SILVER	Solid walls	Cavity wall construction	General cavity width (Scotland greater)	Cavity ground floor solid first floor	Building regs requirement for U value for new construction	Brick & brick	Brick & block	Brick & thermal block	Brick and high thermal block	Partial & full fill during construction	Retoff CWI insulation (major type)	Atternative CWI	Thermal requirements for new build walls	New build roof	Thickness of glass wool in roof	SAP rating	Notes
	Almost	isolated							1.1				None				
	Most.	examples			-			-					None	1	-		
Los .			1		-				1	1			None		1		
					-			1	1.1			1					
-	Many	Some		Some		Y	- V	-	-				None		-		1
	Faw	Manu		Many		Y Y	V	-	-				None		-		
8	Few	Most		Many		Ŷ	Y	1					None				
Ē		1							1.0								
	Very few	Most		Some		Ŷ	Y						None				
	Almost	Most	50mm	1.1		Y -	Y	Y	1				None		1		
. E	itoito	Most		Almost none		Y.	Y	Y	1	-		1	None	1		1	1
101		Almost universal	-			γ	Ŷ	Y	1			1	None				
		Universal	1 - 1		1.65	Y	Y	Y	1	1.1	UF foam	Mineral wool	1.56	1.47			Local Byelaws replaced by Building Regulations 1965
		Universal	65mm			Almost none	Y	γ		Isolated examples	UF foam	Mineral wool					
61.N2		Universal			1.70	None	Y	Y		Some	UF foam	Mineral wool & eps	1.00	0.60	60 mm		Energy crisis and thermal regulations insulation valu of external walls set
		Universal					Y	Y	1	Y	UF foam + Mineral wool	epa	1.00	0.60	11.		
	÷ - 6	Universal		1	0.60		Y	Y	1.4	Y	Mineral wool	ерз	0.60 (1982)	0.35 (1982)	100		
		Universal			0.45		Y	Y	Y	Ŷ	Mineral wool	еря	0.45	0.25	150 mm	60 or less	
6/10		Universal	75mm				Y	Y	Y	Y	Mineral wool	eps	0.45	0.20	200 mm	60 or over	Proportional method came in where joists and studs had to be taken into consideration
		Universal	100mm		35			Y	Y	γ	Mineral wool	aba	0,35	Ú 16	250 →27 0		
		Almost all Many Few Few Almost none	Almost isolated examples Many Some Few Many Few Many Few Most Very Most Very Most Very Most Universal Universal Universal Universal Universal Universal Universal Universal	Almost isolated examples Many Some Few Many Few Most Very Most Very Most Very Most Very Most Universal Universal Universal Universal Universal Universal Universal Universal Universal Universal Universal Common	Many     Some       Many     Some       May     Some       Mast     Some       Few     Most       Very     Most       Very     Most       Very     Most       Universal       Universal	Many         Some         Some           Many         Some         -           Many         Some         -           Few         Most         -           Very         Most         Some           Very         Most         Some           Nost         Some         -           Very         Most         Some           Very         Most         Some           Universal         65mm         -           Universal         0.60         0.60           Universal         0.60         0.60           Universal         0.60         0.40           Universal         0.60         0.40	Siles         Opposite         Upposite         Upposite <thupposite< th="">         Upposite         <th< td=""><td>Siles pice         Source         Y&lt;</td><td>Sile         Some         Y         Y           Manet         Some         Y         Y           Mast         Some         Y         Y           Mast         Some         Y         Y           Few         Many         Y         Y           Most         Some         Y         Y           Few         Most         Some         Y         Y           Most         Some         Y         Y         Y           Most         Some         Y         Y         Y           Many         Many         Y         Y         Y           Most         Some         Y         Y         Y           Universal         Some         Y         Y         Y           Universal         Somm         Y         Y         Y           Universal         Somm         Y         Y         Y           Universal         Somin         0.60         Y</td><td>Almost         isolated all         year         year</td><td>Sign (p)         None         No         None         &lt;</td><td>Normalization         Normalization         Normalistion         Normalization         Normaliza</td><td>No.         No.         No.</td></th<><td>None         None         None         None         None           Mary         Some         -         -         -         -         -         None           Mary         Some         -         -         -         -         -         None           Mary         Some         -         -         -         -         -         -         None           Mary         Some         -         -         -         -         -         -         None           Mary         Some         -         -         -         -         -         -         None           Mary         Some         -         -         -         -         -         None         None           Mary         Some         -         Y         Y         -         -         -         None           Mary         Some         Y         Y         Y         -         -         -         None           Mary         Mary         Mary         Mary         Y         Y         Y         -         -         None           Most         Mary         Some         Y         Y         Y</td><td>No.         No.         No.         No.           No.         No.         Y         <td< td=""><td>Bige Product         Some         V</td><td><math display="block"> \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2} + 1</math></td></td<></td></thupposite<>	Siles pice         Source         Y<	Sile         Some         Y         Y           Manet         Some         Y         Y           Mast         Some         Y         Y           Mast         Some         Y         Y           Few         Many         Y         Y           Most         Some         Y         Y           Few         Most         Some         Y         Y           Most         Some         Y         Y         Y           Most         Some         Y         Y         Y           Many         Many         Y         Y         Y           Most         Some         Y         Y         Y           Universal         Some         Y         Y         Y           Universal         Somm         Y         Y         Y           Universal         Somm         Y         Y         Y           Universal         Somin         0.60         Y	Almost         isolated all         year         year	Sign (p)         None         No         None         <	Normalization         Normalistion         Normalization         Normaliza	No.         No.	None         None         None         None         None           Mary         Some         -         -         -         -         -         None           Mary         Some         -         -         -         -         -         None           Mary         Some         -         -         -         -         -         -         None           Mary         Some         -         -         -         -         -         -         None           Mary         Some         -         -         -         -         -         -         None           Mary         Some         -         -         -         -         -         None         None           Mary         Some         -         Y         Y         -         -         -         None           Mary         Some         Y         Y         Y         -         -         -         None           Mary         Mary         Mary         Mary         Y         Y         Y         -         -         None           Most         Mary         Some         Y         Y         Y	No.         No.         No.         No.           No.         No.         Y <td< td=""><td>Bige Product         Some         V</td><td><math display="block"> \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2} + 1</math></td></td<>	Bige Product         Some         V	$ \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2} + 1$





Split between house types	(EHCS 2007)
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Dwelling Type	Pre 1919	1919 to 1944*	1945 to 1964	1965 to 1979	1980 to 1990	1990 to 2007
Mid Terrace	1873	765	647	779	228	388
End Terrace	624	255	216	260	76	129
Semi-Detached House	764	1871	1780	1030	243	414
Detached House	586	440	453	922	582	990
Bungalow	48	164	455	542	136	231
Semi-Bungalow	16	55	152	181	45	77
Low Rise	187	235	502	935	310	528
High Rise	22	10	107	151	10	17

Numbers of each wall type built in each time band.

Date	pre-1919	1919 to 1944	1945 to 1964	1965 to 1980	1981 to 1990	1990 to 2007
Narrow Cavity	0	2,145,721	0	0	0	0
Partial	0	0	0	0	0	1,990,310
Timber frame**	0	0	0	290,000	283,000	240,429
Random stone***	0	0	159,377	176,281	68,879	0
Concrete (all types)	0	0	765,638	387,538	15,590	58,140

\*A negligible number of buildings were constructed between 1939 and 1944 due to the Second World War

\*\* Timber Frame including Steel Frame

\*\* Random stone cavity constructions shown. Assumes solid before 1945 i.e. late adoption of cavity construction and partial fill construction after 1990





#### 5 Technical solutions

There are a large number of potential technical options available to fill cavities. In order to easily identify risks and opportunities to specific house types, we have adopted a coding methodology to identify particular combinations of construction and dwelling type and potential technical solutions. This methodology also allows costs to be estimated for such elemental interventions. The following chapters will further describe: the key processes currently associated with treating those hard to fill cavities, the typical filling insulation materials used and identify the typical problems arising specifically from treating system built housing.

#### 5.1 Pro-forma for ranking outline technical solutions

The following hard to fill cavity construction types have been identified for Great Britain: Narrow Cavity, Random Stone, Reinforced Concrete In-Situ Frames, Timber Frames, Rainscreen cladding systems and Non-Traditional System constructions as well as Partial Fill Cavities. These constructions have been used to a greater or lesser extent in dwellings in Great Britain. The dwelling types include: Terraced (Mid and End), Bungalows (Semidetached and Detached), Houses (Semi-detached and Detached), Low rise Flats (2 external Walls and 3 External Walls) and High Rise Flats (2 External Walls and 3 External Walls). In each of the following technical solutions the incidence of occurrence may be limited to a few properties only. In others, the particular combination of technical solution and construction type is unlikely to be applied in practice. In such cases the code is Not Applicable (N/A).

Mineral fibre filled cavity <sup>20</sup> (e.g. Rockwool etc).	Blown fibre cavity (e.g. Mineral wool; Rockwool etc, Cellulose fibre; Warmcel, Isofloc etc)	Foam filled cavity (e.g. PUR; isothane etc)	Bead filled cavity (e.g. Polypearl etc)

There are a number of installation methods that differ between materials:

Low pressure/blowing machinery is suited to:

Fibre pellets, EPS (virgin or granulated)

<sup>20</sup> EST GPG 26

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Davis Langdon O DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 35 of 168

Foam injection is suited to:

Polyurethane

Urea formaldehyde

As a result of machinery and access requirements, the installation costs vary:

Approximate costs per method of Cavity Wall Insulation

Low pressure/ blowing machinery

Fibre pellets Average £ 7.00 psm

Polystyrene beads Average £ 7.25 psm

Granular beads - Not currently available in the UK

Foam injection

Polyurethane Average £ 33.50 psm (£15-£20<sup>21</sup> psm)

Urea formaldehyde – Currently not widely available in the UK

For detailed estimates of overall costs see Section 10. An example of one particular combination of constructions and potential solutions is shown below. These are described in fuller detail with cross-sectional details and elemental costs in Appendix B

<sup>21</sup> BUFCA average






Note that further consideration should also be given to the combination of construction methods that may be present on any given building that may require a combination of insulation installation solutions. In some cases requiring localised mix of internal and/or external insulation to avoid cold bridges.



Categorisation of Co	onstructions against Dwelling	Types and Potential Technical Solu	utions
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Cavity category:	Category 2/3	Category 2/3	Category 3	Category 3	Category 3	Category 3	Category 3
> Dwelling type: v	Narrow Cavity	Partial Fill/ cavity obstructions	RC insitu Frame	Timber Frame	Rainscreen/ Cladding materials	Random Stone	Non Traditional / System Built
Mid-terrace*	NCW 1 – NCW 3 NCW 2	PFCW 1 – PFCW 3 PFCW 2 –	ICCW1 – ICCW2	TFCW1 – TFCW2 -	ERCFCW1 – ERCFCW2 – ERCFCW3 –	RSCW1 – RSCW3 RSCW2 – RSCW4	Covered generally under RC Frame and Timber Frame
End-terrace*	NCW 1 – NCW 3 NCW 2	PFCW 1 – PFCW 3 PFCW 2 –	ICCW1 – ICCW2	TFCW1 – TFCW2 -	ERCFCW1 – ERCFCW2 – ERCFCW3 –	RSCW1 – RSCW3 RSCW2 – RSCW4	Covered generally under RC Frame and Timber Frame
Semi-detached bungalow*	NCW 1 – NCW 2	PFCW 1 – PFCW 2 –	Not Applicable	TFCW1 – TFCW2 -	Not Applicable	RSCW1 – RSCW3 RSCW2 – RSCW4	Covered generally under RC Frame and Timber Frame
Detached bungalow**	NCW 1 – NCW 2	PFCW 1 – PFCW 2 –	Not Applicable	TFCW1 – TFCW2 -	Not Applicable	RSCW1 – RSCW3 RSCW2 – RSCW4	Covered generally under RC Frame and Timber Frame
Semi-detached house*	NCW 1 – NCW 3 NCW 2	PFCW 1 – PFCW 3 PFCW 2 –	ICCWM1 – ICCWM2 ICCWM3 – ICCW1 – ICCW2	TFCW1 – TFCW2 -	Not Applicable	RSCW1 – RSCW3 RSCW2 – RSCW4	Covered generally under RC Frame and Timber Frame
Detached house**	NCW 1 – NCW 3 NCW 2	PFCW 1 – PFCW 3 PFCW 2 –	Not Applicable	TFCW1 – TFCW2 -	Not Applicable	RSCW1 – RSCW3 RSCW2 – RSCW4	Covered generally under RC Frame and Timber Frame
Low Rise Flat with 2 external walls*	NCW 1 – NCW 3 NCW 2	PFCW 1 – PFCW 3 PFCW 2 –	ICCWM1 – ICCWM2 ICCWM3 – ICCW1 – ICCW2	TFCW1 – TFCW2 -	ERCFCW1 – ERCFCW2 – ERCFCW3 –	Not Applicable	Not possible to examine all systems. IFRCCW1-2 See also Rainscreen Cladding (ERCFCW1-3)





Cavity category:	Category 2/3	Category 2/3	Category 3	Category 3	Category 3	Category 3	Category 3
> Dwelling type: v	Narrow Cavity	Partial Fill/ cavity obstructions	RC insitu Frame	Timber Frame	Rainscreen/ Cladding materials	Random Stone	Non Traditional / System Built
Low Rise Flat with 3 external walls*	NCW 1 – NCW 3 NCW 2	PFCW 1 – PFCW 3 PFCW 2 –	ICCWM1 – ICCWM2 ICCWM3 – ICCW1 – ICCW2	TFCW1 – TFCW2 -	ERCFCW1 – ERCFCW2 – ERCFCW3 –	Not Applicable	Not possible to examine all systems. IFRCCW1-2 See also Rainscreen Cladding (ERCFCW1-3)
High Rise Flat with 2 external walls*	NCW 1 – NCW 3 NCW 2	PFCW 1 – PFCW 3 PFCW 2 –	ICCWM1 – ICCWM2 ICCWM3 – ICCW1 – ICCW2	Not Applicable	ERCFCW1 – ERCFCW2 – ERCFCW3 –	Not Applicable	Not possible to examine all systems. IFRCCW1-2 See also Rainscreen Cladding (ERCFCW1-3)
High Rise Flat with 3 external walls*	NCW 1 – NCW 3 NCW 2	PFCW 1 – PFCW 3 PFCW 2 –	ICCWM1 – ICCWM2 ICCWM3 – ICCW1 – ICCW2	Not Applicable	ERCFCW1 – ERCFCW2 – ERCFCW3 –	Not Applicable	Not possible to examine all systems. IFRCCW1-2 See also Rainscreen Cladding (ERCFCW1-3)

Overall variables – site topography / exposure zone, potential climate change, condition of cavity wall and party wall issues
 Overall variables – site topography / exposure zone, potential climate change and condition of cavity wall

Category 1 – standard fillable Category 2 – Non-standard fillable (less problematic) Category 3 - Non-standard fillable (more problematic) –

Category 4 – Unfillable

(Category references taken from BRE guide prepared for Homes and Communities Agency)



Study on hard to fill cavity walls in domestic dwellings in GB

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# 6 Key issues in filling wall cavities in existing dwellings

The following sections identify and describe the issues associated with Survey and Installation of insulation in Hard to Fill Cavities.

# 6.1 Survey

The level of detail that a full survey would need to include to establish beyond reasonable doubt the issues that would need to be addressed in taking up hard to fill cavities. It is clear from inspection, that this would be a significant additional cost compared with current practice, requiring a significantly greater precision than currently seen, where over 50% of cancellations on technical grounds alone (933 out of the 1879<sup>22</sup>) were due to misidentification of solid walls as cavity constructions. Part of this may be due to the first stage, "the assessment" being undertaken as part of a general "energy efficiency" inspection as compared with the second stage "the technical assessment" being undertaken in more detail.

A cavity wall survey by boroscope and a roof void inspection (if relevant) should be carried out to determine:

- a. Type(s) and extent of wall construction
- b. Storey heights where insulation is contemplated and ease of access to the elevations
- c. Type, condition and effectiveness of external protection or cladding (render, tile hanging, decorative/protective coating, rainscreen cladding etc.
- d. Type and condition of the wall finishes and decorative finishes on the inside faces of the external cavity walls together with the degree of obstruction by fixtures and fittings
- e. Width of cavity
- f. Presence, type frequency and condition of cavity wall ties
- g. Condition of mortar joints
- h. Presence of weep holes, frequency and degree of obstruction
- i. DPC's and cavity trays are fitted and stop-ends present
- j. Presence or not of debris in the cavity
- k. Whether all ducts or pipes have sleeves or collars
- I. The wind driven rain exposure zone (1-4) for the subject property(s) though in practice most insulation products are certified for use in all four zones
- m. The location of the wall and its exposure to wind driven rain based on orientation, height above ground level and local site topography
- n. The presence or otherwise of overhangs, parapets or other construction detailing that influences the protection or exposure of the wall

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Assuming InstaFibre survey can be extrapolated – see Appendix for analysis



o. Cavity barriers are in position and there is sufficient masonry thickness between chimney (where present) and insulation

# 6.1.1 Essential requirements

Only when this information has been verified, can a well informed decision be made on the most cost effective strategy to be employed to insulate the walls defined as "Hard to Treat" Cavities.

If structural problems are identified by the cavity wall survey e.g. absent or defective cavity wall ties, cavity blockages or unsound masonry construction, these matters should be the subject of suitable remedial works before insulation whichever type of insulation strategy is adopted.

# 6.2 Insulation options

Broadly, with retro-fit insulation to external cavity walls, the following options should be considered:

- a. Full fill cavity wall insulation injected from the outside
- b. Full fill cavity wall insulation injected from the inside
- c. External wall insulation system
- d. Internal dry-lining incorporating timber battens, Thermo-Foil or similar and plasterboard
- e. Internal dry-lining using an insulated plasterboard system

These will be discussed in turn.

# 6.3 Full fill cavity wall insulation injected from the outside

#### 6.3.1 Advantages

- a. No or minimal disruption to the interior of the property or occupants
- b. Fast to install
- c. Minimal impact on the external appearance of the building

#### 6.3.2 Disadvantages

- a. Relies on cavity being clear of debris and requires detailed checks to be carried out on other aspects of cavity wall condition/construction and remedied if necessary prior to installation
- b. Access costs can become very high where works above four storeys are to carried out or where lean-to buildings or other obstructions affect lower levels



Davis Langdon O DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 42 of 168

- c. Leaves a pattern of made good drill holes in the façade of the building, lowest cost when in facing brickwork, higher costs when in masonry painted render and the like.
- d. External making good may be impossible to conceal sufficiently on listed or other sensitive buildings
- e. Very careful consideration needs to be taken of maximum recommended exposure zones and areas at risk of flooding for insulated masonry walls of this type.
- f. Increased risk of frost damage to the outer leaf/finish of the wall. Note that most damage to existing brickwork is by sulphates.
- g. Increased risk of creating localised cold bridge condensation.
- h. Risk that climate change will increase the exposure zone value of the site over time, potentially leading to water penetration where none previously occurred

# 6.4 Full fill cavity wall insulation injected from the inside

#### 6.4.1 Advantages

- a. Often avoids the need for an external scaffold with arising cost savings
- b. No external drill holes to be made good
- c. Fast to install

#### 6.4.2 Disadvantages

- a. Disruption to the internal finishes and decorations inside the building which would require making good
- b. Disruption to building occupants
- c. Increased risk of frost damage to the outer leaf/finish of the wall. Note that most damage to existing brickwork is by sulphates.
- d. Increased risk of creating localised cold bridge condensation
- e. Risk that climate change will increase the exposure zone value of the site over time, potentially leading to water penetration where none previously occurred.

# 6.5 Comparison with internal or external insulation

In order to make a comparison with the alternatives to filling hard to fill cavities the following notes are included to identify the pros and cons of applying either internal or external retro insulation.



# 6.6 Externally applied wall insulation system

#### 6.6.1 Advantages

- a. No need to address issues of cavity debris, sleeves, cavity tray DPC's etc but wall would need to be structurally sound.
- b. The wall finish is replaced at the same time as the wall is insulated an advantage when the original wall finish is in very poor condition
- c. Virtual elimination of the possibility of cold bridge condensation
- d. Suitable for use on high exposure sites where the use of full fill cavity insulation is not recommended assuming the external finish is water resistant
- e. Minimal disruption to the interior or occupiers
- f. No loss of internal room volume

# 6.6.2 Disadvantages

- a. High unit cost
- b. Requires access scaffold
- c. Often entraps window and door frames
- d. Modifications usually required to window cills, external soffits, rainwater goods, soil, waste and service pipes
- e. Results in a substantial change in the appearance of the building which may or may not be desirable

# 6.7 Internally applied dry lining incorporating timber battens, Thermo-Foil or similar and plasterboard

# 6.7.1 Advantages

- a. No need to address issues of cavity debris, sleeves, cavity tray DPC's etc but wall would need to be structurally sound.
- b. Suitable for use on high exposure sites where the use of full fill cavity insulation is not recommended
- c. Does not change the external appearance of the building

# 6.7.2 Disadvantages

- a. High unit cost
- b. Replacement cost of the internal wall finishes and decoration together with associated electrical work and second fix joinery.



- c. Disruption to the occupiers
- d. Small loss of room volume
- e. Criticality of vapour barrier in minimising the risk of interstitial condensation
- f. Risk of localised cold bridging and condensation at junctions with internal walls, around window openings etc.

# 6.8 Internally applied dry lining using an insulated plasterboard system

#### 6.8.1 Advantages

- a. No need to address issues of cavity debris, sleeves, cavity tray DPC's etc but wall would need to be structurally sound.
- b. Suitable for use on high exposure sites where the use of full fill cavity insulation is not recommended
- c. Does not change the external appearance of the building

#### 6.8.2 Disadvantages

- a. High unit cost
- b. Replacement cost of the internal wall finishes and decoration together with associated electrical work, second fix joinery and re-plumbing of central heating radiators.
- c. Disruption to the occupiers
- d. Noticeable loss of room volume
- e. Criticality of vapour barrier in minimising the risk of interstitial condensation
- f. Risk of localised cold bridging and condensation at junctions with internal walls, around window openings etc.

#### 6.9 Summary

In summary, full cavity fill insulation is usually the most cost effective option where the cavity wall is confirmed as being in good overall condition, where the local exposure factors confirm its suitability for use and where external or internal access is not highly costly or otherwise problematic. In instances where the existing wall finish or cladding is life expired or in need of major refurbishment on a highly exposed site where an appearance change can be tolerated, external wall insulation should be considered. In the case of a building where there are complications affecting the condition of the cavity wall on a site too exposed for cavity fill insulation where an appearance change cannot be tolerated, internal insulated dry lining should be considered with the Thermo-Foil type variant minimising the loss of room volume.



#### 6.10 "Unfillable" Cavities

#### 6.10.1 Preliminary Survey

A site survey using a boroscope, localised exposure or opening up of the wall structure should be carried out to confirm that there are either insufficient or no mortar joints that can be drilled to enable the insertion of the injector nozzle for the cavity fill insulation. Matters to be determined are:

- a. Whether one or both leafs of the cavity wall contains sufficient mortar joints to enable cavity fill insulation to be injected
- b. The ability or otherwise of both leafs to effectively contain the cavity fill insulation

#### 6.10.2 Further inspection

If this preliminary inspection indicates that the building has a potentially fillable cavity, contrary to initial opinion, the following further checks should be carried out to determine:

- a. Storey heights where insulation is contemplated and ease of access to the elevations
- b. Type, condition and effectiveness of external protection or cladding (render, tile hanging, decorative/protective coating, rainscreen cladding etc.
- c. Type and condition of the wall finishes and decorative finishes on the inside faces of the external cavity walls together with the degree of obstruction by fixtures and fittings
- d. Width of cavity
- e. Presence, type frequency and condition of cavity wall ties
- f. Condition of mortar joints
- g. Presence of weep holes, frequency and degree of obstruction
- h. DPC's and cavity trays are fitted and stop-ends present
- i. Presence or not of debris in the cavity
- j. Whether all ducts or pipes have sleeves or collars
- k. The wind driven rain exposure zone (1-4) for the subject property(s)
- I. The location of the wall and its exposure to wind driven rain based on orientation, height above ground level and local site topography
- m. The presence or otherwise of overhangs, parapets or other construction detailing that influences the protection or exposure of the wall
- n. Cavity barriers are in position and there is sufficient masonry thickness between chimney (where present) and insulation



When this survey has been completed, the same process of consideration should be applied as set out in paragraphs 6.1.1 inclusive.

In the event of this investigation confirming either that no or insufficient mortar joints are present or that the wall is of steel or timber framed construction, the insulation options set out under paragraphs 6.6, 6.7 and 6.8 should be considered.

# 6.10.3 Party Walls

3.1.1 The party wall should be surveyed involving the use of a boroscope and may also require localised exposure of masonry or opening up. A roof void inspection should be undertaken where relevant. This inspection should determine:

- a. Type(s) and extent of wall construction
- b. Type and condition of the wall finishes and decorative finishes on the inside faces of the party wall together with the degree of obstruction by fixtures and fittings to assist installation, and making good.
- c. Width of cavity
- d. Presence, type frequency and condition of cavity wall ties
- e. Condition of mortar joints
- f. Presence of DPC. The cavity condition will change as a result of insulation application and lack of DPC may therefore attract moisture through the structure, particularly adjacent to chimney breasts.
- g. Presence or not of debris in the cavity to identify issues of fillability. Cavity may still be subject to moisture ingress which enable debris to transfer moisture (see (i) below).
- h. Whether any ducts or pipes are present and that they have sleeves or collars
- i. The wind driven rain exposure zone (1-4) for the subject property(s) if any significant section of the party wall is external e.g. steps and staggers in terraces.
- j. The location of the wall and its exposure to wind driven rain based on orientation, height above ground level and local site topography if any section of the party wall is external
- k. The presence or otherwise of overhangs, parapets or other construction detailing that influences the protection or exposure of the wall if any significant section of the wall is external
- I. Cavity barriers are in position and there is sufficient masonry thickness between chimney flue (where present) and insulation
- m. The presence and integrity of a firebreak wall in any roof void
- n. Points at which the cavity fill insulation requires containment to prevent "overspill'



Davis Langdon O DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 47 of 168

o. The level of acoustic isolation - this may have relevance where apartments in multi occupancy dwellings are to be acoustically treated in order to establish best value solution where a choice of insulation materials fulfil a number of performance criteria.

If no part of the party wall is external, exposure zone values are not relevant and can be disregarded. Consideration should be made of noise transmission to achieve the required level of acoustic isolation and fire spread properties of any insulation selected for use, together with the method that would keep disruption of the internal finishes and decoration and building occupants to a minimum.

#### 6.10.4 Narrow Cavities

The narrower a cavity becomes, the lower the maximum recommended exposure zone value becomes for full fill cavity insulation in any given location. For example, a 50mm wide cavity filled injected with non UF foam insulation into facing brickwork with tooled flush joints has a maximum recommended exposure zone of 2, whereas the same insulation material would have a recommended exposure zone of 3 in the same wall construction but with a 75mm cavity. Clearly, full fill cavity insulation cannot be used as widely in walls with narrow cavities as in walls with wider cavities and for sites with above average exposure, external or internal insulation options should be considered. The width of the cavity in every building considered for full fill cavity insulation should be determined by measurement or localised opening up. If a narrow cavity is only encountered to a small proportion of the total wall area, this does not necessarily preclude the use of full fill cavity insulation and consideration should be given to a localised solution to narrow cavity width.



# 7 Summary of Cavity Wall Insulation (CWI) materials in the UK/GB

There is a wide range of materials available in the UK to undertake cavity wall insulation. In determining their suitability for particular situations, the methods of application have to be taken into account as they have different limitations imposed by the method of application and have some differences in thermal characteristic that may or may not be significant in the context of a whole building energy calculation. The technical characteristics are summarised below. Note that where there is reference to BBA certification of a product this refers to a product carrying a BBA mark. The suitability of a particular product for a particular building needs to be checked to ensure that the product is being used within its defined parameters e.g. in buildings below 25m. Use of materials outside of such parameters may require that superior assessment may be required and/or alternative assurances are sought. This may include any mix of the following to suit any legal obligations carried by the building owner and to suit the level of risk that the building owner is prepared to carry. Mitigation measures may include assessment certificates for a complete building (BBA etc), installer warranties, professional warranties, or others to suit. Further information on materials is available in the Appendix B.

# 7.1 Materials

Materials include:

Blown mineral wool - glass wool/rockwool granulates

Expanded Polystyrene (EPS Beads)

Granular Vermiculite/ Perlite Beads (plus variations)

Polyurethane (PUR) Foam

Cellulose Loose Fill

Urea Formaldehyde (UF) Foam

# 7.2 Installation Methods

There are two main methods of installation:

Blown in an air stream

Injection

# 7.3 Blown Mineral Wool – Glass wool

Thermal Conductivity ( $\lambda$  value) = 0.040 Wm<sup>-1</sup>K<sup>-1</sup>

# 7.3.1 Pros

a. Fire resistant

Davis Langdon O DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 49 of 168



- b. Vapour permeable
- c. BBA Certified
- d. Can be CIGA guaranteed

#### 7.3.2 Cons

- a. 12m maximum recommended height of installation above ground level but can apply for a relaxation up to 25m
- Installed to manufacturers guidance the insulation should perform as intended.
   However, where defects in the cavity have not been fully investigated, the defect may influence insulation performance.
- c. Potential to retain water and wick water across cavities.
- d. Mineral wool manufacturers advise against installation of this product above 12m.

# 7.4 Blown Mineral Wool - Rockwool

Thermal Conductivity ( $\lambda$  value) = 0.039 Wm<sup>-1</sup>K<sup>-1</sup>

#### 7.4.1 Pros

- a. Fire resistant can act as a cavity barrier between adjoining buildings at party wall line
- b. Vapour permeable
- c. Can be used up to 25m above ground level subject to survey
- d. BBA Certified
- e. Can be CIGA guaranteed

#### 7.4.2 Cons

- Installed to manufacturers guidance the insulation should perform as intended. However, where defects in the cavity have not been fully investigated, the defect may influence insulation performance.
- b. Potential to retain water and wick water across cavities.
- c. Mineral wool manufacturers advise against installation of this product above 12m.

# 7.5 Blown Mineral Wool

# 7.5.1 Survey Considerations

- a. The installation must be carried out in accordance with a current BBA Certificate.
- b. Carry out a pre-installation survey to assess the suitability of the property and its exposure consideration to the temperate climate - A boroscope survey should also be carried out in high and low rise premises to assess the position of firebreaks etc. located within the cavity and to assess the condition of materials used to form the cavity.



# 7.5.2 Scope of Works - External Installation

- a. Check all ventilation openings and flues within the cavity wall and ensure adequate sleeves or cavity closures are in place to prevent migration of insulation, prior to any installation of insulant.
- b. For semi detached and terraced properties, it is necessary to insert a nylon brush into the cavity at the party wall line in order to contain the insulation and prevent it spreading to the adjacent property. The brush is to be inserted at the top of the wall and dropped down and is to remain in place permanently.
- c. Drill injection holes of 22mm or 25mm diameter into outer leaf at predetermined centres (centres depend on individual BBA certificate).
- d. Blow mineral wool into the cavity via a flexible hose fitted with an injection nozzle, using an approved blowing machine.
- e. Make good to all injection holes.
- f. Carry out checks on all air vents, flues and appliances to ensure they are not compromised by the insulation.

#### 7.6 Internal Installation – Rock Wool (low pressure blown installation)

#### 7.6.1 Survey Considerations

- a. The installation must be carried out in accordance with a current BBA Certificate.
- b. Carry out a pre-installation survey to assess the suitability of the property and its exposure consideration to the temperate climate - A boroscope survey should also be carried out in high and low rise premises to assess the position of firebreaks etc. located within the cavity and to assess conditions of materials used to form the cavity.

#### 7.6.2 Scope of Works

- a. All walls should be inspected prior to installation works taking place to assess their suitability. All defects and dampness penetration problems must be addressed before starting the work.
- b. Check all ventilation openings and flues within the cavity wall and ensure adequate sleeves or cavity closures are in place to prevent blockage from the insulation, prior to any installation works taking place.
- c. Include for removal where necessary of all floor and wall coverings including desks, chairs, other furniture, shelving, book racks, pinboards etc. Ensure that removed items are protected from damage, dirt & debris.
- d. Include for disconnection and temporary removal of all kitchen and bathroom units and sanitary ware where required.
- e. Adequately protect any floors, walls, ceilings and items that fall within or adjacent to the working area and are not to be removed or modified for the duration of the works.



- f. Drill injection holes into inner leaf at predetermined centres (hole dimensions and centres depend on individual BBA certificate).
- g. Blow mineral wool into the cavity via a flexible hose fitted with an injection nozzle, using an approved blowing machine.
- h. Make good to all injection holes in plaster and allow for redecoration/repapering/retiling where required.
- i. Allow for repositioning/replacing all previously removed carpets, furniture, shelving etc.
- j. Carry out checks on all air vents and flues to ensure they are not obstructed by the insulation.

# 7.7 Cellulose Loose Fill (e.g. "Warmcel')

Thermal Conductivity ( $\lambda$  value) = 0.40 Wm<sup>-1</sup>K<sup>-1</sup>

#### 7.7.1 Pros

- a. High recycled content
- b. Low embodied energy
- c. Safe to handle and install
- d. Can be manufactured to be fire and moisture resistant
- e. Vapour permeable
- f. Non-toxic, non-irritant
- g. Recyclable if kept dry
- h. Biodegradable
- i. Durable so long as kept away from moisture and water
- j. Resistant to biological and fungal attack

#### 7.7.2 Cons

- a. May contain very low levels of formaldehyde from ink residues. Government should seek confirmation from HSE that there is not a health risk before encouraging widespread use.
- b. Can wick moisture across cavity materials
- c. Can still be susceptible to mould and fungal attack if untreated
- d. Strength and resistance to compression is very low
- e. Cavity barrier required between adjoining buildings at party wall line

Davis Langdon O DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 52 of 168

- f. Not currently covered by CIGA Guarantee
- g. BBA certified for timber framed buildings only



# 7.7.3 Scope of Works - Internal Installation

- a. All stud/ nogging locations are identified by drawings or stud locators and holes marked out in either the sheathing board or plasterboard lining to ensure all cavities are filled.
- b. Injection is made through a 25 mm diameter hole made using a hole-cutter and the core is retained for making the hole good, using silicone sealant or gypsum-based adhesive as appropriate. For a normal 2.4 m high wall with studs at 0.6 m centres, three holes are required at heights of 0.2 m, 1.2 m and 2.2 m from the floor.
- c. The upper holes are temporarily blocked to prevent fibre escape, the nozzle inserted into the lower hole and insulation blown until the machine stalls.
- d. When accessing cavities lined with a gypsum fibreboard, a single circular piece is cut near the top of the cavity large enough to accept the 50 mm diameter hose and 106 mm diameter Turbofill gun and cut at 45 degrees with a jigsaw to facilitate its reinstatement with a suitable gypsum-based adhesive. The hose is inserted into the cavity to within 200 mm of the bottom and filling proceeds until the fibre flow rate slows. The hose is withdrawn about 200 mm until the flow rate slows again; the process continues until the cavity is full.
- e. Any damage to a breather or control layer must be made good.

# 7.8 Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) Beads (high and low pressure installations)

Thermal Conductivity ( $\lambda$  value) = 0.033 to 0.040 Wm<sup>-1</sup>K<sup>-1</sup>

# 7.8.1 Pros

- a. Safe to handle and install
- b. Moisture resistant
- c. Closed cell product
- d. Vapour permeable
- e. Typically, injection holes to upper part of wall only and below windows and lintels
- f. BBA Certified
- g. Can be CIGA guaranteed
- h. Recoverable

# 7.8.2 Cons

- a. Cavity barrier required between adjoining buildings at party wall line
- b. If not installed in line with manufacturer guidance "static cling' could lead to uninsulated pockets within cavity.
- c. Made from fossil fuels
- d. Top of cavity must be capped



- e. Excess material in roof space must be removed (if fire risk)
- f. 12m maximum recommended height of installation above ground level unless specific relaxation obtained from BBA.
- g. If not installed with manufacturers guidance and bonding agent omitted discharge can occur when holes are made in the cavity e.g. installing new openings or vents

# 7.8.3 Survey Considerations-external installation

- Carry out a pre-installation survey to assess the suitability of the property and its exposure - A boroscope survey should also be carried out in high and low rise premises to assess the position of firebreaks etc. located within the cavity and to assess conditions of materials used to form the cavity.

- Survey required to determine whether walls are "closed' around openings to allow future replacement of windows and doors.

#### 7.8.4 Scope of Works-external installation

- a. The installation must be carried out in accordance with the relevant BBA Certificate, their surveillance scheme, the System Suppliers installation Manual and all CIGA guides to best practice.
- b. Where a semi-detached or terraced property is to be treated, the insulant is contained within cavity by a cavity barrier. This is positioned at the party wall line dividing the properties and consists of a synthetic brush which remains in place when the installation is completed.
- c. Internal and external checks are carried out by the Technician prior to installation. Injection holes (ca 22mm diameter) are drilled in the external wall of the cavity as specified by the relevant BBA Certificate and System Suppliers manual e.g. around the upper part of the building only and below windows and lintels or as specified.
- d. The polystyrene beads are then injected into the cavity via an injection gun together with an adhesive in a specified sequence to ensure a complete fill of the cavity.
- e. Make good to all injection holes.
- f. Carry out post installation checks on all fuel-burning appliances, their flues and source of air supply to confirm their effectiveness.

#### 7.8.5 Survey Considerations-internal installation

- a. Carry out a pre-installation survey to assess the suitability of the property and its exposure consideration to the temperate climate
- b. A boroscope survey should also be carried out in high and low rise premises to assess the position of firebreaks etc. located within the cavity and to assess conditions of materials used to form the cavity.
- c. Survey required to determine whether walls are "closed' around openings to allow furure replacement of windows and doors.



Davis Langdon O DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 54 of 168

# 7.8.6 Scope of Works-internal installation

- a. The installation must be carried out in accordance with the relevant BBA Certificate, their surveillance scheme, the System Suppliers installation Manual and all CIGA guides to best practice.
- b. Where a semi-detached or terraced property is to be treated, the insulation is contained within the cavity with a cavity barrier. This is positioned at the party wall line dividing the properties and consists of a synthetic brush which remains in place when the installation is completed.
- c. Ensure prior removal where necessary of all desks, chairs, other furniture, shelving, book racks, pinboards etc. Ensure that removed items are protected from damage, dirt & debris.
- d. Include for disconnection and temporary removal of all kitchen and bathroom units and sanitary ware where required to gain access for the installation.
- e. Adequately protect any floors, walls, ceilings and items that fall within or adjacent to the working area and are not to be removed or modified for the duration of the works.
- f. Internal and external checks are carried out by the Technician prior to installation. Injection holes of 22mm diameter are drilled in the internal wall of the cavity as specified by the relevant BBA Certificate and System Suppliers manual. Typically holes are drilled around the upper sections of walls only and below windows and lintels.
- g. The polystyrene beads are then injected into the cavity via an injection gun together with an adhesive in a specified sequence to ensure a complete fill of the cavity.
- h. Make good to all injection holes in plaster and allow for decoration / repapering / retiling where required.
- i. Allow for repositioning/replacing all previously removed carpets, furniture, shelving etc.
- j. Carry out post installation checks on all fuel-burning appliances and their flues or source of air supply to confirm their effectiveness.

# 7.9 Perlite Beads

Thermal Conductivity ( $\lambda$  value) = 0.045 Wm<sup>-1</sup>K<sup>-1</sup>

# 7.9.1 Pros

- a. Reclaimable
- b. Relatively high natural content
- c. Safe to handle and install
- d. Fire and moisture resistant
- e. Free flowing good void filler
- f. Inorganic, rot, vermin and insect resistant
- g. Non settling and supports its own weight



h. Covered by BSEN standard

#### 7.9.2 Cons

- a. Rarely used in retrofit applications in UK
- b. Made from fossil fuels
- c. Raw materials obtained through mining
- d. Must be installed in sealed spaces
- e. Not BBA Certified
- f. Not currently covered by CIGA Guarantee
- g. Use above 9m above ground level uncommon in UK

# 7.9.3 Scope of Works- External Installation

- The insulation material must be a product of a member of the Perlite Institute, Inc

- All holes and openings in the wall through which insulation can escape shall be permanently sealed or caulked prior to installation of the insulation. Copper, galvanized steel, or fibre glass screening should be used in all weep holes.

- The insulation should be poured via a hopper in the top of the wall at any convenient interval (not in excess of 20 ft [6 m]) and underneath window openings, allow for removal of individual bricks to facilitate pouring of the Perlite and for reinstatement afterwards.

# 7.10 Exfoliated Vermiculite Pellets

Thermal Conductivity ( $\lambda$  value) = 0.045 Wm<sup>-1</sup>K<sup>-1</sup>

# 7.10.1 Pros

- a. Reclaimable
- b. Relatively high natural content
- c. Safe to handle and install
- d. Fire and moisture resistant

# 7.10.2 Cons

- a. Rarely used for retrofit
- b. Made from fossil fuels
- c. Raw materials obtained through mining
- d. Must only be installed in sealed spaces
- e. Not BBA Certified
- f. Not currently covered by CIGA Guarantee



- g. Not recommended for use in EXTERNAL wall cavities (indicating internal party wall use only)
- h. Source may contain asbestos depending on country of origin

#### 7.10.3 Scope of Works

See perlite beads for methodology

# 7.11 Polyurethane (PUR) Foam

Thermal Conductivity ( $\lambda$  value) = 0.022 – 0.028 Wm<sup>-1</sup>K<sup>-1</sup>

#### 7.11.1 Pros

- a. Moisture resistant
- b. Vapour permeable
- c. Strong bonding properties strengthens structure
- d. Suitable for use on high rise buildings
- e. Suitable for use in narrow cavities
- f. Self supporting within the cavity
- g. Resistant to attack by rot, fungi and vermin
- h. Inert and non hazardous once installed
- i. Only requires 12mm diameter drill holes
- j. Can be easily removed in localised areas for alterations or repairs e.g. creating new openings
- k. BBA Certified
- I. Covered by BUFCA Guarantee
- m. Suitable for use in non-traditional construction
- n. Good thermal performance low thermal conductivity of 0.022 0.028 Wm<sup>-1</sup>K<sup>-1</sup>
- o. Continuous layer of insulation minimises thermal bridging and reduces heat losses associated through air leakage by increasing air tightness
- p. Suitable for random stone wall construction
- q. Recyclable through grinding down and adding to new sheeting.
- r. Can be used in situations where the wall ties have begun to corrode to bond the two leaves of the cavity together. This may reduce the need for replacement of wall ties



# 7.11.2 Cons

- a. Made from fossil fuels
- b. Cost per installation medium-high
- c. Careful selection of grade of insulation required to ensure its dimensional characteristics are compatible with the structural strength of the cavity forming materials
- d. Extraction probably not possible without dissembling part of wall.

# 7.11.3 Survey Considerations- External installation, (Pressure injection installation)

- a. Install in accordance with the BBA surveillance scheme
- b. Carry out a pre-installation survey to assess the suitability of the property and its exposure
- c. A boroscope survey should also be carried out in high and low rise premises to assess the position of firebreaks etc. located within the cavity and to assess conditions of materials used to form the cavity.

# 7.11.4 Scope of Works- External Installation

- a. Check all ventilation openings and flues within the cavity wall and ensure adequate sleeves or cavity closures are in place to prevent blockage from the insulation, prior to any installation works taking place. Ensure all gaps and cracks in the inner and outer leaf and tops of uncapped cavities are sealed where possible to limit the escape of any material.
- b. Drill injection holes of 12mm diameter into outer leaf at the intersections of mortar joints. A staggered pattern should be used with holes approximately 0.65m apart horizontally and 0.45m apart vertically. By drilling a series of vertical sight holes, the flow of foam may be permitted to set in a vertical line at any party wall line.
- c. Remove and replace air bricks with cavity sleeves where necessary.
- d. The foam is injected through the holes in a specified sequence, in order to ensure a complete fill of the cavity. Where the property has a party wall, these holes are injected first.
- e. Make good to all injection holes.
- f. Carry out checks on all air bricks and flues etc. to ensure they are not obstructed by the insulation. The interior of the building should also be checked for the presence of surplus material. If this has occurred in inhabited parts of the building, it must be removed.

# 7.11.5 Survey Considerations – Internal installation (Pressure Injection Installation)

- a. Install in accordance with the BBA surveillance scheme
- b. Carry out a pre-installation survey to assess the suitability of the property and consideration to its exposure in different parts of the country.



c. A boroscope survey should also be carried out in high and low rise premises to assess the position of firebreaks etc. located within the cavity and to assess conditions of materials used to form the cavity.

#### 7.11.6 Scope of Works – Internal installation (Pressure Injection Installation)

- a. Check all ventilation openings and flues within the cavity wall and ensure adequate sleeves or cavity closures are in place to prevent blockage from the insulation, prior to any installation works taking place. Ensure all gaps and cracks in the inner and outer leaf and tops of uncapped cavities are sealed where possible to limit the escape of any material.
- b. Include for removal where necessary of all desks, chairs, other furniture, shelving, book racks, pinboards etc. Ensure that removed items are protected from damage, dirt & debris.
- c. Include for disconnection and temporary removal of all kitchen and bathroom units and sanitary ware where required.
- d. Adequately protect any floors, walls, ceilings and items that fall within or adjacent to the working area and are not to be removed or modified for the duration of the works.
- e. Drill injection holes of 12mm diameter into outer leaf at the intersections of mortar joints. A staggered pattern should be used with holes approximately 0.65m apart horizontally and 0.45m apart vertically. By drilling a series of sight holes, the flow of foam may be stopped to set in a vertical line at any party wall.
- f. Remove and replace air bricks with cavity sleeves where necessary.
- g. The chemicals that generate the foam are injected through the holes in a specified sequence, in order to ensure a complete fill of the cavity. Where the property has a party wall, these holes are injected first.
- h. Make good to all injection holes in plaster and allow for decoration / repapering / retiling where required.
- i. Allow for repositioning/replacing all previously removed carpets, furniture, shelving etc.
- j. Carry out checks on all air bricks and flues etc. to ensure they are not obstructed by the insulation. The interior of the building should also be checked for the presence of surplus material. If this has occurred in inhabited parts of the building, it must be removed.

# 7.12 Urea-Formaldehyde (UF) Foam

Thermal Conductivity ( $\lambda$  value) = 0.40 Wm<sup>-1</sup>K<sup>-1</sup>

# 7.12.1 Pros

- a. Fire and moisture resistant
- b. Self supporting in the cavity

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Davis Langdon 🕜 DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 59 of 168

- c. Resistant to attack by rot, fungi and vermin
- d. Vapour permeable
- e. Can be easily removed in localised areas for alterations or repairs
- f. Can be CIGA guaranteed

#### 7.12.2 Cons

- a. Potentially hazardous material whose manufacture and installation<sup>23</sup> are controlled by Part D of the Building Regulations and three British Standards.
- b. Inner leaf of cavity wall must be masonry (bricks or blocks)
- c. Cannot be used in high exposure zones of the UK
- d. Some evidence that UF foam may accelerate corrosion in galvanized steel wall ties, in particular the thin galvanized "butterfly" ties.
- e. Not suitable for high rise, unless the wall is protected by over-cladding
- f. The Health & Safety Executive advises against the use of Urea Formaldehyde Foam Insulation where the internal leaf of the wall is of porous material or where there are unsealed construction holes or gaps in the structure. It also warns against its use with concrete or steel constructions with vapour permeable plasterboard or insulation board as the decorative internal surface.

#### 7.12.3 Survey Considerations

- - Carry out a pre-installation survey to assess the suitability of the property and its exposure consideration to the temperate climate - A boroscope survey should also be carried out in high and low rise premises to assess the position of firebreaks etc. located within the cavity and to assess conditions of materials used to form the cavity.

#### 7.12.4 Scope of Works - External Installation

- a. Install in accordance with BS 5618 (1978). Installer must hold or operate under a current BSI Certificate of Registration of Assessed Capability
- b. Check all ventilation openings and flues within the cavity wall and ensure adequate sleeves or cavity closures are in place to prevent blockage of any required ventilation paths from the insulation product, prior to any installation works taking place.
- c. Drill injection holes of 19mm diameter into outer leaf at no more than 1m centres. By drilling a series of vertical sight holes, the flow of foam may be permitted to set in a vertical line at any party wall line.
- d. The foam is injected through the holes in a specified sequence, in order to ensure a complete fill of the cavity.
- e. Make good to all injection holes.



f. Carry out checks on all air bricks and flues etc. to ensure they are not obstructed by the insulation. The interior of the building should also be checked for the presence of surplus material. If this has occurred in inhabited parts of the building, it must be removed.

# 7.13 Nanogel (Silica product)

Thermal Conductivity ( $\lambda$  value) = 0.15 Wm<sup>-1</sup>K<sup>-1</sup>

#### 7.13.1 Pros

- a. Ultra low thermal conductivity as low as 0.015 Wm<sup>-1</sup>K<sup>-1</sup> gives thermal efficiency that is 2 to 4 times greater than traditional materials such as polystyrene, mineral wool, and cellulose
- b. Hydrophobicity repels water
- c. Non-combustible
- d. Resists settling
- e. Can be easily removed in localised areas for alterations or repairs
- f. Superior acoustic insulation
- g. Long life span
- h. Suitable for narrow cavity installation
- i. Non toxic source

#### 7.13.2 Cons

- a. Not recognised by the BRE/BBA
- b. Expensive
- c. Relatively untested in the UK construction industry

#### 7.13.3 Survey Considerations

- a. Carry out a pre-installation survey to assess the suitability of the property and its exposure consideration to the temperate climate - A boroscope survey should also be carried out in high and low rise premises to assess the position of firebreaks etc. located within the cavity and to assess conditions of materials used to form the cavity.
- b. Survey required to obtain window positions within the cavity (may prevent future installation of new windows)

# 7.13.4 Scope of Works

a. The installation must be carried out in accordance with the relevant manufacturer product warranty, their surveillance scheme, the System Suppliers installation Manual and all guides to best practice.



- b. Where a semi-detached or terraced property is to be treated, the insulant is contained within a sealed cavity with a suitable cavity barrier. This is positioned at the party wall line dividing the properties.
- c. Internal and external checks are carried out by the Technician prior to installation. Injection holes of 22mm diameter are drilled in the external wall of the cavity as specified by the relevant System Suppliers manual. Typically holes are drilled around the upper part of the building only and below windows and lintels.
- d. The beads are then poured through a hopper or injected into the cavity via an injection gun under low or high pressure in a specified sequence to ensure a complete fill of the cavity.
- e. Make good to all injection holes.
- f. Carry out post installation checks on all fuel-burning appliances and their flues or source of air supply to confirm their effectiveness.



#### 8 Risk and Opportunities Assessment

The risk workshop held by Davis Langdon with Inbuilt and DECC engaged stakeholders in identifying more precisely the issues that needed to be addressed in hard to fill cavities. Stakeholders were keen to identify the specific opportunities of how hard to fill cavities could be overcome and to identify the interrelationships.

The resulting table identifies that the issues are generally high risk in the case of: Dependency on Grants including certification requirements, Low innovation, Insufficient interest by publicly funded landlords, Condition of buildings, Difficulties in access, Exposure of buildings, Health risks to installers, Damage to interior, Poor performance (CO2 savings) in practice, Deterioration of insulation materials with time (currently the subject of new international standards work) and escape of insulation from cavities. The risk was identified as medium for a single category: that the cost of insulation material would be significant due to high embodied energy of manufacture.



# **Risk and Opportunity Register**

		Risk Identification		-	Ri	sk Anal	ysis	Risk Management			
1	4	5	6	8		14	15	18	19	20	
No	Risk Title/ Category	Risk Description	Consequence	Likelihood	Max Impact	Rating	Risk Status	Response Actions Planned	Action Owner	Date By	
1	Procedural/ Market	Grant application failure <u>Causes</u> 1. Cavity Wall Insulation system not approved/ certified 2. Number of different grant systems is confusing 3. Products do not meet CIGA or alternative body criteria 4. No financial incentive to innovate 5. Accessory costs 6. BBA cost barrier to achieve certification	1. No take up of scheme (No CO2 reduction)	н	VH	12000	RED	<ol> <li>Ensure policing of the BBA approval process</li> <li>Certification criteria is to be enhanced to cover hard to fill cavities</li> <li>Training and awareness</li> <li>Consider a hard to fill cavity survey fee</li> </ol>			
2		Lack of product innovation/ choice <u>Causes</u> 1. Highly price sensitive market with no incentive for innovation 2. Difficult scenarios not addressed 3. Standards are variable across the UK and Europe 4. Methodology for thermal testing to ensure the performance of products is not standardised 5. Bespoke solutions are often required 6. Limited transfer of knowledge	Shrinkage of the market	н	VH	12000	RED	<ol> <li>Develop standardised test methodology</li> <li>Realism required in terms of prices and the market size</li> </ol>			
3		Insufficient client (Commercial, Private, Local Authority and Housing Association) interest <u>Causes</u> 1. Lack of awareness of technical solutions 2. Perceived as costly 3. Additional construction cost risk borne by the client 4. Perception of the market 5. Clients are unable to afford to proceed 6. Some Local Authorities are resistant to cavity fill in exposed areas	No take up of scheme (No CO2 reduction)	н	VH	12000	Tar:	<ol> <li>Remove barriers to provide more funding</li> <li>Positive publicity</li> <li>Change perceived view of grant funding i.e. that cavity fill should be free</li> <li>Improved information available to enable a more informed choice</li> </ol>			

Davis Langdon 🔿 DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 64 of 168



í		Risk Identification			Ri	sk Anal	ysis	Risk Management			
1	4	5	6	8		14	15	18	19	20	
No	Risk Title/ Category	Risk Description	Consequence	Likelihood	Max Impact	Rating	Risk Status	Response Actions Planned	Action Owner	Date By	
4	Product / Installation	Physical constraints of construction type limits installation methods <u>Causes</u> 1. Poor quality of workmanship and product 2. Condition and type of construction 3. Some building systems unable to achieve BBA certification	No / low take up of scheme (No / low CO2 reduction)	н	н	6000	RED.	<ol> <li>Innovation incentives are required to be identified</li> <li>Produce technical guidance to improve choice of material</li> <li>Tighter control over survey data</li> </ol>			
5		Physical constraints of building / dwelling type limits installation <u>Causes</u> 1. Building shape 2. Degree of modification required 3. Partial installation in difficult to fill situations 4. New Part L works will focus on cold bridging	No / low take up of scheme (No / low CO2 reduction)	н	н	6000	neo	Collaborative approach to develop installation solution (more difficult to achieve in the private sector)     Centres of excellence     Develop solutions with larger public landlords/ clients and share knowledge within the industry			
6		Location / climate (exposure and flooding) conditions limit installation <u>Causes</u> <u>1.</u> Location and specific exposure rating 2. Products may not be suitable in certain areas 3. Incorrect specifications being used 4. Variance by Local Authorities in terms of requirements	No / low take up Poor performance in use	н	н	6000	R(ED)	<ol> <li>Product suitability and recoverability</li> <li>Education of mortgage lenders</li> <li>Produce technical guidance</li> </ol>			
7		Health risks to occupants resulting from hazardous materials <u>Causes</u> Product manufacture, compliance with accepted standards	Expensive installation costs Residual hazard performance in use	н	н	6000	neo	<ol> <li>BBA are to ensure hazardous material are not used</li> <li>Share knowledge within the Industry to produce technical guidance</li> </ol>			
8		Product is costly resulting from high embodied energy together with high CO2 of product <u>Causes</u> Manufacturing process	Reduced (net) CO2 performance	м	н	4000	ORANGE	<ol> <li>Measure Primary not Embodied Co2</li> <li>Production of technical guidance to ensure choice of suitable material</li> <li>Promote other benefits linked to cavity forming materials</li> </ol>			
9		Damage to building fabric / interior <u>Causes</u> 1. Poor workmanship 2. Condition of cavity. 3. Inadequate survey data	<ol> <li>No / low take up</li> <li>Cost of mitigation</li> <li>Risk of remedial in high risk situations may not be covered under insurance warranty</li> </ol>	н	н	6000	RED	1. Innovate installation approach 2. Accuracy/ rigour of survey procedure			

Davis Langdon 🔗 DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 65 of 168



		Risk Identification			Ri	sk Anal	ysis	Risk Manage	ment	
11	4	5	6	8		14	15	18	19	20
No	Risk Title/ Category	Risk Description	Consequence	Likelihood	Max Impact	Rating	Risk Status	Response Actions Planned	Action Owner	Date By
10	Performance in Use	Poor thermal performance (inadequate heat retention) <u>Causes</u> 1. Inappropriate product for construction type 2. Poor condition of cavity 3. Inadequate survey, etc. 4. Adequacy of fill 5. Type of dwelling construction 6. Performance of the product	Reduction in energy savings Energy cost and expected CO2 reduction	н	н	6000	πen	<ol> <li>Develop standardised test methodology</li> <li>Realism required in terms of prices and the market size</li> <li>Improved training and marketing of products to ensure suitable solutions are chosen</li> </ol>		
11		Deterioration in cavity forming materials <u>Causes</u> 1, Rain penetration / wick across cavity 2. Change in dew point position within cavity 3. Seasonal affect of cavity once filled 4. Wall tie issues 5. Pointing type	<ol> <li>Damp penetration problems</li> <li>Corrosion/ failure of structural elements from interstitial condensation</li> </ol>	H	н	6000	RED	<ol> <li>Undertake a durability assessment</li> <li>More rigour within the survey process</li> <li>Improved training and marketing of products to ensure suitable solutions are chosen</li> </ol>		
12		Escape of insulant from cavity <u>Causes</u> Unauthorised modifications to fabric (e.g. new windows)	Reduction in energy savings, etc. Cold bridging	н	н	6000	RED	1. Undertake a durability assessment 2. More rigour within the survey process 3. Make warranty information available to future contractors		





# 9 CO2 Potential Savings

The potential annual savings for retrofitting hard to fill cavities in GB are estimated to be in the order of 286,000-429,000 and 1,437,000-2,156,000 tonnes CO2/year depending on the assumptions for take up rates. These take-up rates are estimated to lie between 20% and 100%. In addition, the efficacy of the fill is likely to be less than 100% and occupants are also likely to take some additional benefit through a higher temperature setting than assumed in SAP 2005. One way of accounting for this combined effect on CO2 savings in practice is through the application of CERT's derating factor as used for conventional cavities. A CERT factor of  $0.50^{24}$  was used and the annual savings estimated in the order of 719,000 and 1,078,000 tonnes CO2/year.

The savings were calculated for a range of housing types and technical options for insulation. Hard to fill cavities include: narrow, system framed, timber framed, random stone as well as rainscreen clad dwellings. In addition partial fill cavities, ones which were considered by the English House Condition Survey as having insulation but with a remaining cavity were also assessed.

In presenting the figures it is important to be aware of the limitations in precision due to the certain assumptions that have to be made and in the limitations of the assessment methodology used i.e. SAP 2005 to permit comparison with previous statistics. It is envisaged that SAP 2009, when available for regular use, will identify additional energy losses through cavity party walls, currently not assessed by SAP 2005. The potential benefit of applying party wall insulation to existing dwellings could then be quantified.

The savings are based on improving external wall U-values due to the adoption of different technical options for different types of dwellings that include: terraced, bungalow, houses, low and high rise blocks.

Determining the likely annual CO2 savings is dependent on a range of factors that include both technical and non-technical ones.

Technical factors include:

- The precision with which the population of different house types can be established
- The range of U-value improvements due to the properties of different insulation materials
- The effect of reduced impact of insulation when insulating narrower than normal cavities
- The impact of existing cold bridges
- The effect of other energy efficiency improvements already made

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Effectiveness of CO2 measures was calculated as =  $(1-0.35)^*(1-0.23) = 0.65^*0.77 = 0.50$  per DECC Jul 2010: For the purposes of CERT, the underperformance factor is 35%, and the comfort factor, which is applied after the underperformance, is 23%; this is equivalent to a comfort factor of 15% of an uninsulated cavity wall.



Non-technical factors include:

- The level of interest of landlords/occupants to having insulation installed
- The willingness to pay the additional costs associated with access, remediation of walls for structural, water penetration or thermal reasons
- The level of applicability in practice.

The effect of these two non-technical issues is represented in the tables as derating factors of 20% and 100% to indicate the width of the spread of likely annual CO2 savings in practice.

The derating factor of 20% was based on the current low level of take-up by homeowners as experienced by the Instafibre group. This group represents the largest number of installers in the UK who carry out mineral wool installations. The data is based upon a recent analysis of its market data provided by the Instafibre group in response to our enquiries as part of the study. The analysis is described in the Appendix I.

This derating factor has been used as a proxy to estimate the likely take-up of hard to fill cavities, if they were targeted by government and associated agencies. It has been assumed that without a change in occupant behaviour that this low level will continue to apply regardless of the technical challenges or opportunities presented by different insulation systems and developments in insulation systems.

The upper figure of 100% would be dependent on the suitability of the technical solutions proposed for particular combinations of dwelling and construction types. The risks and opportunities in achieving this higher set of figures is described in detail in the risk and opportunities register that was developed at a later stage in the study with the aid of interactive workshop attended by stakeholders. From separate work carried out by Inbuilt staff, it will also be important to assess the impact on numbers that could be addressed due to risks including cold-bridges arising from any non-homogeneity of insulated cavities. These would need to be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Whilst the impact on overall energy and hence carbon savings may not necessarily be high (in the context of the medium levels of energy efficiency improvement envisioned through filling cavities and in the simplifying assumptions inherent in the SAP calculator) they may be potential sources of condensation risk to either structure or to occupants. In the former case the risk would materialise as deterioration in the structure (e.g. wood rot) or as a health risk through mould growth on internal wall surfaces. The level of additional performance required of products, professional and practical skills is described in more detail elsewhere in the study.

For the purpose of predicting the potential CO2 savings, it was necessary to establish the numbers of dwellings in Great Britain for the different building types and construction systems. Whilst data sources such as the English House Survey could potentially be extrapolated to provide figures for the whole of Great Britain, they do not have sufficiently granularity to permit the calculation of costs of additional measures over and above those expected for "standard cavities". The additional costs would be associated with the additional works of access and other remedial works and would need to based on a meterage quantum rather than on a building unit basis as there have been relatively few "hard to fill cavity"



programmes undertaken to date and therefore "average" costs mask the wide range of costs that can be expected.

To permit transfer of data between the cost study and the SAP calculations it was important to identify the dimensions of the different dwelling types. As these are not readily available, they were based on typical real dwellings from the library of surveys undertaken by Davis Langdon. Inbuilt processed these so that they were compatible with SAP data entry requirements. These "real dwellings" allowed standardised costings and CO2 emissions to be developed in a systematic manner. (For details of the dimensions used for QS purposes and SAP input data refer to Appendix D). This level of detail allowed a judgement to be made on the level of impact from the selection of different materials on the overall dwelling performance as distinct from its impact on a specific wall in isolation.

By differentiating between different configurations of dwellings (i.e. end of terrace, 2 exposed walls, 3 exposed walls) it was possible to identify the range of overall costs due to installation methods as well as due to materials. An initial analysis of the CO2 savings in GB revealed that the greatest uncertainty was due to the imprecision in numbers of dwellings constructed. Where there was confidence in the numbers e.g. system built houses (but without an allowance for demolition<sup>25</sup> these were factored upwards to represent the whole of Great Britain.

The baseline performance of the wall constructions being considered in this study are shown below and their U-value ranges from 0.464W/m2K to 2.457W/m2K. The value of 0.464W/m2K for partial fill assumes that it has been installed ideally i.e. retained permanently against the inner leaf of a cavity and in a continuous manner with no gaps in insulation. If the installation were poorer in practice then the predicted savings shown for retro-fitting partial fill cavities would be higher than described below.

Baseline Wall (uninsulated)	Description	U-value (calculated) W/m2K
ERCFCW0	Exposed reinforced concrete floor cavity wall	1.427
ICCW0	Internal concrete floor cavity wall	2.457
NCW0	Narrow Cavity Wall	1.037
PFCW0	Partial Fill Cavity Wall	0.464
RSCW0	Random Stone Cavity Wall	1.083
TFCW0	Timber Frame Cavity	1.129

Figure: Baseline U-values of uninsulated walls

Davis Langdon O DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 69 of 168

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> BRE Non Traditional Housing 1919-1975

The tables that follow summarise the potential savings for each of these dwelling types that are likely to have "Hard to Fill Cavities".

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		Terraced Typ	e Dwellings		0	0							
9.1.1	CO2 Savings –	Dwelling type	Çategory	Technical Option	Average Treated U- value (W/m <sup>‡</sup> K) after insulation	kg CO <sub>2</sub> Saving/Year per dwelling treated	No. in the UK	Factor F1 (to allow For 20% application of Lechnical options)	Z CO <sub>2</sub> GB total (Tonnes/Year) 20% takeup Factor	Factor F2 (to allow For 100% application of rechnical options)	Σ CO <sub>2</sub> GB total (Tonnes/Year) 100% takeup Factor	Factor F3 CERT Factor	2 CO2 GB total (Tonnes/Year) CERI Std Cavity
	Terrace			NCW1	0.475	289	98400 - 147600	0.2	5700 - 8500	1	28400 - 42700	0.5	14200 - 21300
	Dwollings		Category 2/3 Narrow -	NCW2	0.579	236	98400 - 147600	0.2	4600 - 7000	1	23200 - 34800	0.5	11600 17400
	Dwennigs		Cavity	NCW3	0.579	236	98400 - 147600	0.2	4500 - 7000	1	23200 - 34800	0.5	11600 - 17400
Inhuil	t I td		Category 3 RC	ICCW1	0.698	879	52800 - 79200	0.2	9300 - 13900	1	46400 - 69600	0.5	23200 - 34800
mbun			insituFrame	ICCW2	0.536	963	52800 - 79200	0.2	10200 - 15300	1	50800 - 76300	0.5	25400 - 38100
		Mid-terrace	Category 3	TFCW1	0.383	383	41600 - 62400	0.2	3200 - 4800	1	15900 - 23900	0.5	8000 - 11900
			TimberFrame	TFCW2	0.383	383	41600 - 62400	0.2	3200 - 4800	1	15900 - 23900	0.5	8000 - 11900
			Category 3	ERCFCW1	0.418	516	39200 - 58800	0.2	4000 - 6100	1	20200 - 30300	0.5	10100 - 15200
			Rainscreen/Cladding	ERCFCW2	0.639	403	39200 - 58800	0.2	3200 - 4700	1	15800 - 23700	0.5	7900 - 11800
			materials	ERCFCW3	0,596	425	39200 - 58800	0.2	3300 - 5000	1	16700 - 25000	0.5	8300 - 12500
			N	RSCW1	0.739	176	40000 - 60000	0.2	1400 - 2100	1	7000 - 10600	0.5	3500 - 5300
			Category 3 Random	R5CW2	0.855	117	40000 - 60000	0.2	900 - 1400	1	4700 - 7000	0.5	2300 - 3500
			Stone	RSCW3	0.855	117	40000 - 60000	0.2	900 - 1400	1	4700 - 7000	0.5	2300 - 3500
			RSCW4	0.839	125	40000 - 60000	0.2	1000 - 1500	1	5000 - 7500	0.5	2500 - 3800	
		Category 2/3	NCW1	0.475	230	32800 - 49200	0.2	1500 - 2300	1	7500 - 11300	0.5	3800 - 5700	
			Category 2/3	NCW2	0.579	188	32800 - 49200	0.2	1200 - 1800	1	6200 - 9200	0.5	3100 - 4600
			NarrowCavity	NCW3	0.579	188	32800 - 49200	0.2	1200 - 1800	1	6200 - 9200	0.5	3100 - 4600
			Category 3 RC	ICCW1	0.698	714	17600 - 26400	0.2	2500 - 3800	1	12600 - 18800	0.5	6300 - 9400
		End torsard	InsituFrame	ICCW2	0.536	781	17600 - 26400	0.2	2700 - 4100	1	13700 - 20600	0.5	6900 - 10300
			Category 3	TFCW1	0.383	305	13600 - 20400	0.2	800 - 1200	1	4100 - 6200	0.5	2100 - 3100
			TimberFrame	TFCW2	0.383	305	13600 - 20400	0.2	800 - 1200	1	4100 - 6200	0.5	2100 - 3100
	End-terrace -	Category 3	ERCFCW1	0.418	413	12800 - 19200	0.2	1100 - 1600	1	5300 - 7900	0.5	2600 - 4000	
			Rainscreen/Cladding	ERCFCW2	0.639	323	12800 - 19200	0.2	800 - 1200	1	4100 - 6200	0.5	2100 - 3100
			materials	ERCFCW3	0.596	341	12800 - 19200	0.2	900 - 1300	1	4400 - 6500	0.5	2200 - 3300
				RSCW1	0.739	141	13600 - 20400	0.2	400 - 600	1	1900 - 2900	0.5	1000 - 1400
			Category 3 Random	RSCW2	0.855	94	13600 - 20400	0.2	300 - 400	1	1300 - 1900	0.5	600 - 1000
			Stone	RSCW3	0.855	94	13600 - 20400	0.2	300 - 400	1	1300 - 1900	0.5	600 - 1000
				RSCW4	0.839	100	13600 - 20400	0.2	300 - 400	1	1400 - 2000	0.5	700 - 1000
						Sub-total number of applicable terraced dwellings in GB (1000s)	900 - 1400	Total GB emissions saved due to insulating Hard to Fill cavity walls (tonnes):	70000 - 106000	Total GB emissions saved due to insulating Hard to. Fill cavity walls (tonnes):	352000 - 528000	Total GB emissions saved due to insulating Hard to Fill cavity walls (tonnes):	176000 - 264000
						Total number of suitable dwellings in GB (000s)	3.900 - 5.800	Total GB emissions saved due to insulating hard to fill cavity walls (tonnes):	339,000 - 509,000	Total GB emissions saved due to insulating hard to fill cavity walls (tonnes):	1.356.000 - 2.034.000	Total GB emissions saved due to insulating hard to fill cavity walls (tonnes):	678.000 - 1.017.000

(100%-underperformance)\*(100%-comfort) where underperformance =35% and where comfort =23% (where comfort of an insulated wall is 15%). "CERT factor" = (100%-35%)\*(100%-23%) = (0.65)\*(0.77) = 0.50



		House Type I	Dwellings	_									
2	CO2 Savings –	Owelling type	Category	Technical Option	Average Treated U- value (W/m²K) after insulation	kg CO, Saving/Year per dwelling treated	No. in the UK	Factor F1 (to allow for 20% application of technical options)	I CO, GB total (Tonnes/Yeat) 20% takeup Factor	Factor F2 (to allow for 100% application of technical options)	Σ CO <sub>3</sub> GB total (Tonnes/Year) 100% takeup Factor	Factor F3 CERT Factor	Σ CD2 GB total (Tonnes/Year) CER Std Cavity
	nouse			NCW1	0.475	230	332800 - 499200	0.2	15300 - 23000	1	76500 - 114800	0.5	38300 - 57400
	Dwollings		Category 2/3	NCW2	0.579	186	332800 - 499200	0.2	12400 - 18600	1	61900 - 92900	0.5	31000 - 46400
I	Dwennigs		NarrowCavity	NCW3	0.579	186	332800 - 499200	0.2	12400 - 18600	1	61900 - 92900	0.5	31000 - 46400
.:14 1	ta		Category 3 RC	ICCW1	0.698	N/A							
	LU		insituFrame	ICCW2	0.536	N/A						1	
		Semi-detached	Category 3	TFCW1	0.383	306	67200 - 100800	0.2	4100 - 6200	1	20600 - 30800	0.5	10300 - 15400
			TimberFrame	TFCW2	0.383	306	67200 - 100800	0.2	4100 - 6200	1	20600 - 30800	0.5	10300 - 15400
		house	Category 3	ERCFCW1	0.418	N/A							
			Rainscreen/Cladding	ERCFCW2	0.639	N/A				1			
		1.	materials	ERCFCW3	0.596	N/A					1 The sector 1		
			The same same	RSCW1	0.739	139	69600 - 104400	0.2	1900 - 2900	1	9700 - 14500	0.5	4800 - 7300
			Category 3 Random	RSCW2	0.855	92	69600 - 104400	0.2	1300 - 1900	1	6400 - 9600	0.5	3200 - 4800
			Stone	RSCW3	0.855	92	69600 - 104400	0.2	1300 - 1900	-1	6400 - 9600	0.5	3200 - 4800
				RSCW4	0.839	98	59600 - 104400	02	1400 - 2000	1	6800 - 10200	0.5	3400 - 5100
			Category 2/3	NCW1	0.475	453	70400 - 105600	0.7	6400 - 9600	T	31900 - 47800	0.5	15900 - 23900
				NCW/2	0.579	370	70400 - 105600	0.2	5200 - 7800	1	26000 - 39100	0.5	13000 - 19500
			NarrowCavity	NCW3	0.579	370	70400 - 105600	0.2	5200 - 7800	1	26000 - 39100	0.5	13000 - 19500
			Category 3 RC	ICCW1	0.698	N/A	70400 - 105000		1200 - 1000		20000-33200	0.5	13000 - 13500
			insituErame	ICCW/2	0.535	N/A			-	1	-	-	-
		Detached house	Category 3	TECWI	0.383	600	104800 - 157200	0.7	12600 - 18900	T	62900 - 94300	0.5	31400 - 47700
			TimborEramo	TECW2	0.383	600	104800 - 157200	0.2	12600 - 18900	1	62900 - 94300	0.5	31400 - 47200
			Category 3	FR/FCW1	0.418	N/A	104000 15/200	0.1	11000 10000		02500 54500	0.5	31400 47200
			Rainscreen/Cladding	ERCECW2	0.639	N/A			-				
			materials	ERCECW2	0.595	N/A			-				
			Category 3 Random Stone	RSCW1	0.330	278	40800 - 61200	0.7	7200 : 2400	1	11300 - 17000	0.5	5700 . 8500
				PSCW2	0.755	194	40800 - 61200	0.2	1500 - 3200	1	7500 - 11200	0.5	2900 - 5600
		1.000		DCCW2	0.000	104	40800 - 61200	0.2	1500 - 2300	1	7500 - 11300	0.5	3800 - 3600
				RSCW3	0.835	104	40800 - 61200	0.2	1500 - 2300	1	8000 12100	0.5	4000 - 5000
				NJC W4	0.833	197	40800-01200	0.2	1000-2400	1	8000 - 12100	0.3	4000 - 0000
						Sub-total number of applicable house type dwellings in GB (1000s)	1900 - 2900	Total GB emissions saved due to insulating Hard to Fill cavity walls (tonnes):	103000 - 154000	Total GB emissions saved due to insulating Hard to Fill cavity walls (tonnes):	515000 - 772000	Total GB emissions saved due to insulating Hard to Fill cavity walls (tonnes):	257000 - 386000
						Total number of suitable dwellings In GB (000s)	3,900 - 5,800	Total GB emissions saved due to insulating hard to fill cavity walls (tonnes):	339,000 - 509,000	Total GB emissions sayed due to insulating hard to fill cavity walls (tonnes):	1,356,000 - 2,034,000	Total GB emissions saved due to insulating hard to fill cavity walls (tonnes):	678,000 - 1,017,00

(100%-underperformance)\*(100%-comfort) where underperformance =35% and where comfort =23% (where comfort of an insulated wall is 15%). "CERT factor" = (100%-35%)\*(100%-23%) = (0.65)\*(0.77) = 0.50


		bungatow Ty	pe Dwennigs		1		1		1	1		1	
.3	CO2 Savings –	Owelling type	Category	Technical Option	Average Treated U- value (W/m²K) after insulation	kg CO <sub>2</sub> Saving/Year per dwelling treated	No. in the UK	Factor F1 (to allow for 20% application of technical options)	∑ CO, GB total (Tonnes/Year) 20% takeup Factor	Factor F2 (to allow for 100% application of technical options)	Σ CO <sub>2</sub> GB total (Tonnes/Year) 100% takeup Factor	Factor F3 CERT Factor	Σ CD2 GB total (Tonnes/Year) CER Std Cavity
	Dungalow		and the failed of	NCW1	0.475	230	10400 - 15600	0.2	500 - 700	1	2400 - 3600	0.5	1200 - 1800
	Dwollings		Category 2/3	NCW2	0.579	186	10400 - 15600	0.2	400 - 600	1	1900 - 2900	0.5	1000 - 1500
	Divenings		NarrowCavity	NCW3	0.579	186	10400 - 15600	0.2	400 - 600	1	1900 - 2900	0.5	1000 - 1500
uilt I	l td		Category 3 RC	ICCW1	0.698	N/A			1		-	+	
unt	Liu		insituFrame	ICCW2	0.536	N/A					and the second sec		and a second
			Category 3	TFCW1	0.383	383	13600 - 20400	0.2	1000 - 1600	1	5200 - 7800	0.5	2600 - 3900
		Semi-detached	TimberFrame	TFCW2	0.383	383	13600 - 20400	0.2	1000 - 1600	1	5200 - 7800	0.5	2600 - 3900
		bungalow	Category 3	ERCFCW1	0.418	N/A						1	-
			Rainscreen/Cladding	ERCFCW2	0.639	N/A						1	
			materials	ERCFCW3	0.596	N/A							
			the second second	RSCW1	0.739	176	6400 - 9600	0.2	200 - 300	1	1100 - 1700	0,5	600 - 800
			Category 3 Random	RSCW2	0.855	117	6400 - 9600	0.2	100 - 200	1	700 - 1100	0.5	400 - 600
			Stone	RSCW3	0.855	117	6400 - 9600	0.2	100 - 200	1	700 - 1100	0.5	400 - 600
				RSCW4	0.839	125	6400 - 9600	0.2	200 - 200	1	800 - 1200	0.5	400 - 600
				NCW1	0.475	257	48000 - 72000	0.2	2500 - 3700	1	12300 - 18500	0.5	6200 - 9300
			Category 2/3	NCW2	0.579	209	48000 - 72000	0.2	2000 - 3000	1	10000 - 15000	0.5	5000 - 7500
			NarrowCavity	NCW3	0.579	209	48000 - 72000	0.2	2000 - 3000	1	10000 - 15000	0.5	5000 - 7500
			Category 3 RC	ICCW1	0.698	N/A						1	
		1	insituFrame	ICCW2	0.536	N/A							
			Category 3 TimberFrame Category 3 Rainscreen/Cladding materials Category 3 Random Stone	TFCW1	0.383	341	60800 - 91200	0.2	4100 - 6200	1	20700 - 31100	0.5	10400 - 15500
		Detached bungalow		TFCW2	0.383	341	60800 - 91200	0.2	4100 - 6200	1	20700 - 31100	0.5	10400 - 15500
				ERCFCW1	0.418	N/A	0-0						
				ERCFCW2	0.639	N/A	0-0					1	
				ERCFCW3	0.596	N/A	0-0						
				RSCW1	0,739	156	29600 - 44400	0.2	900 - 1400	1	4600 - 6900	0.5	2300 - 3500
				RSCW2	0.855	103	29600 - 44400	0.2	600 - 900	1	3000 - 4600	0.5	1500 - 2300
				RSCW3	0.855	103	29600 - 44400	0.2	600 - 900	1	3000 - 4600	0.5	1500 - 2300
		1.0.0.0.0.0	1.1212	RSCW4	0.839	111	29600 - 44400	0.2	700 - 1000	1	3300 - 4900	0.5	1600 - 2500
							1						
						Sub-total number of applicable bungalow type dwellings in GB (1000s)	400 - 700	Total GB emissions saved due to insulating Hard to Fill cavity walls (tonnes):	22000 - 32000	saved due to insulating Hard to Fill cavity walls (tonnes):	108000 - 162000	saved due to insulating Hard to Fill cavity walls (tonnes):	54000 - 81000
						Total number of suitable dwellings in GB (000s)	3,900 - 5,800	Total GB emissions saved due to insulating hard to fill cavity walls (tonnes):	339,000 - 509,000	Total GB emissions saved due to insulating hard to fill cavity walls (tonnes):	1,356,000 - 2,034,000	Total GB emissions saved due to insulating hard to fill cavity walls (tonnes):	678,000 - 1,017,0

(100%-underperformance)\*(100%-comfort) where underperformance =35% and where comfort =23% (where comfort of an insulated wall is 15%). "CERT factor" = (100%-35%)\*(100%-23%) = (0.65)\*(0.77) = 0.50





Study on hard to fill cavity walls in domestic dwellings in GB

		Low Rise Type	e Dwellings	_			1	1		1		1	
.1.4	CO2 Savings –	Owelling type	Category	Technical Option	Average Treated U- value (W/m²K) after Insulation	kg CO <sub>2</sub> Saving/Year per dwelling treated	No. in the UK	Factor F1 (to allow for 20% application of technical options)	Σ CO <sub>2</sub> GB total (Tonnes/Year) 20% takeup Factor	Factor F2 (to allow for 100% application of technical options)	Σ CO <sub>3</sub> GB total (Tonnes/Year) 100% takeup Factor	Factor F3 CERT Factor	Σ CO2 GB total (Tonnes/Year) CEF Std Cavity
	LOW RISE-		Conservator	NCW1	0.475	285	12800 - 19200	0.2	700 - 1100	1	3600 - 5500	0.5	1800 - 2700
	Flat		Category 2/3	NCW2	0.579	230	12800 - 19200	0.2	600 - 900	1	2900 - 4400	0.5	1500 - 2200
	-		Narrowcavity	NCW3	0.579	230	12800 - 19200	0.2	600 - 900	1	2900 - 4400	0.5	1500 - 2200
	Dwellings		Category 3 RC	ICCW1	0.698	844	42400 - 63600	0.2	7200 - 10700	1	35800 - 53700	0.5	17900 - 26800
	U		insituFrame	ICCW2	0.536	927	42400 - 63600	0.2	7900 - 11800	1	39300 - 59000	0.5	19700 - 29500
built	Ltd	Low Rise Flat	Category 3	TFCW1	0.383	379	23200 - 34800	0.2	1800 - 2600	1	8800 - 13200	0.5	4400 - 6600
		with 7 external	TimberFrame	TFCW2	Q.383	379	23200 - 34800	0.2	1800 - 2600	1	8800 - 13200	0.5	4400 - 6600
		walls	Category 3	ERCFCW1	0.418	503	31200 - 46800	0.2	3100 - 4700	1	15700 - 23500	0.5	7800 - 11800
		wans	Rainscreen/Cladding	ERCFCW2	0.639	391	31200 - 46800	0.2	2400 - 3700	1	12200 - 18300	0.5	6100 - 9100
			materials	ERCFCW3	0.596	414	31200 - 46800	0.2	2600 - 3900	1	12900 - 19400	0.5	6500 - 9700
			1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1	RSCW1	0.739	N/A			and here and here		I See a see a see a see		
			Category 3 Random	RSCW2	0.855	N/A							
			Stone	RSCW3	0.855	N/A						0	
				RSCW4	0.839	N/A				-			
			Catogani 3/2	NCW1	0.475	268	12800 - 19200	0.2	700 - 1000	1	3400 - 5100	0.5	1700 - 2600
			Lategory 2/3	NCW2	0.579	217	12800 - 19200	0.2	600 - 800	1	2800 - 4200	0,5	1400 - 2100
			Narrowcavity	NCW3	0.579	217	12800 - 19200	0.2	600 - 800	1	2800 - 4200	- 5100 0.5 - 4200 0.5 - 4200 0.5 - 49500 0.5 - 54500 0.5 - 12400 0.5 - 12400 0.5	1400 - 2100
			Category 3 RC	ICCW1	0.698	779	42400 - 63600	0.2	6600 - 9900	1	33000 - 49500	0.5	16500 - 2480
			InsituFrame	ICCW2	0.536	857	42400 - 63600	0.2	7300 - 10900	1	36300 - 54500	0.5	18200 - 2730
			Category 3	TFCW1	0.383	356	23200 - 34800	0.2	1700 - 2500	1	8300 - 12400	0.5	4100 - 6200
		with 3 external walls	l TimberFrame Category 3 Rainscreen/Cladding materials	TFCW2	0.383	356	23200 - 34800	0.2	1700 - 2500	1	8300 - 12400	0.5	4100 - 6200
				ERCFCW1	0.418	474	31200 - 46800	0.2	3000 - 4400	1	14800 - 22200	0.5	7400 - 11100
				ERCFCW2	0.639	367	31200 - 46800	0.2	2300 - 3400	1	11500 - 17200	0.5	5700 - 8600
				ERCFCW3	0.596	387	31200 - 46800	0.2	2400 - 3600	1	12100 - 18100	0.5	6000 - 9100
				RSCW1	0.739	N/A							
			Category 3 Random	RSCW2	0.855	N/A				1			
			Stone	RSCW3	0.855	N/A							
				RSCW4	0.839	N/A							
						Sub-total number of	Í.	Total GB emissions	1	Total GB emissions		Total GB emissions	
						applicable low rise dwellings in GB (1000s)	500 800	saved due to insulating Hard to Fill cavity walls (tonnes):	55000 - 83000	saved due to insulating Hard to Fill cavity walls (tonnes):	276000 - 414000	saved due to insulating Hard to Fill cavity walls (tonnes):	138000 - 207000
						Total number of suitable dwellings in GB (000s)	3,900 - 5,800	Total GB emissions saved due to insulating hard to fill cavity walls (tonnes):	339,000 - 509,000	Total GB emissions saved due to insulating hard to fill cavity walls (tonnes):	1,356,000 - 2,034,000	Total GB emissions saved due to insulating hard to fill cavity walls (tonnes):	678,000 - 1,017,





2 vin	gs – Pico	Dwelling type	Category	Technical Option	Average Treated U- value (W/in?K) after Insulation	kg CO <sub>2</sub> Saving/Year per dwelling treated	No. in the UK	Factor F1 (to allow for 20% application of technical options)	Σ CO, GB total (Tonnes/Year) 20% takeup Factor	Factor F2 (to allow for 100% application of technical options)	Σ CO <sub>3</sub> GB total (Tonnes/Year) 100% takeup Factor	Factor F3 CERT Factor	Σ CO2 GB total (Tonnes/Year) CER Std Cav(Ly
JII	RISE		and the second	NCW1	0.475	492	0-0	0.2	0 - 0	1	0-0	0.5	0-0
ell	inas		Category 2/3	NCW2	0.579	399	0-0	0.2	0 + 0	1	0-0	0.5	0-0
0	ingo		NarrowCavity	NCW3	0.579	399	0-0	0.2	0-0	1	0-0	0.5	0-0
			Category 3 RC	ICCW1	0.698	1390	11200 - 16800	0.2	3100 - 4700	1	15600 - 23400	0,5	7800 - 11700
			insituFrame	ICCW2	0.536	1534	11200 - 16800	0.2	3400 - 5200	1	17200 - 25800	0.5	8600 - 12900
		the other the	Category 3	TFCW1	0.383	N/A			1		2 - 100 - 10 - 10 - 10 - 10 - 10 - 10 -		
		High Kise Flat	TimberFrame	TFCW2	0.383	N/A							
		with 2 external	Category 3	ERCFCW1	0.418	866	8000 - 12000	0.2	1400 - 2100	1	6900 - 10400	0.5	3500 - 5200
		waiis	Rainscreen/Cladding	ERCFCW2	0.639	667	8000 - 12000	0.2	1100 - 1600	1	5300 - 8000	0.5	2700 - 4000
		1.1	materials	ERCFCW3	0.596	706	8000 - 12000	0.2	1100 - 1700	I	5600 - 8500	0.5	2800 - 4200
				RSCW1	0.739	N/A			the Apple and the		The second s		
		1 A A	Category 3 Random	RSCW2	0.855	N/A							
			Stone	RSCW3	0.855	N/A			-			D	
				RSCW4	0.839	N/A					-		
			a de la contra de la	NCW1	0.475	491	0-0	0.2	0-0	1	0-0	0.5	0-0
			Category 2/3	NCW2	0.579	400	0-0	0.2	0-0	1	0 - 0	0.5	0-0
			NarrowCavity	NCW3	0.579	400	0 - 0	0.2	0 - 0	1	0-0	0.5	0-0
High Rise Flat with 3 external walls		Category 3 RC	ICCW1	0.698	1533	11200 - 16800	0.2	3400 - 5200	1	17200 - 25800	0.5	8600 - 12900	
	InsituFrame	ICCW2	0.536	1676	11200 - 16800	0.2	3800 - 5600	1	18800 - 28200	0.5	9400 - 14100		
	t Category 3 TimberFrame	TFCW1	0.383	N/A			The second second		and the second se		and the second second		
		TFCW2	0.383	N/A					I Committee of the last	1	and the second se		
	with 3 external walls	Category 3 Rainscreen/Cladding	ERCFCW1	0.418	881	8000 - 12000	0.2	1400 - 2100	1	7000 - 10600	0.5	3500 - 5300	
			ERCECW2	0.639	687	8000 - 12000	0.2	1100 - 1600	1	5500 - 8200	0.5	2700 - 4100	
			materials Category 3 Random Stone	ERCFCW3	0.596	725	8000 - 12000	0.2	1200 - 1700	1	5800 - 8700	0.5	2900 - 4400
				RSCW1	0.739	N/A							
				RSCW2	0.855	N/A		-		-		-	
				RSCW3	0.855	N/A							
		1.0		RSCW4	0.839	N/A			-	-	-	1	r
			11	HOLTH-	0.033			le contra	k				
						Sub-total number of applicable high rise dwellings in GB (1000s)	90 - 140	Total GB emissions saved due to insulating Hard to Fill cavity walls (tonnes):	21000 - 31000	Total GB emissions saved due to insulating Hard to Fill cavity walls (tonnes):	105000 - 157000	Total GB emissions saved due to insulating Hard to Fill cavity walls (tonnes):	52000 - 79000
						Total number of suitable dwellings in GB (000s)	3,900 - 5,800	Total GB emissions saved due to insulating hard to fill cavity walls (tonnes):	339,000 - 509,000	Total GB emissions saved due to insulating hard to fill cavity walls (tonnes):	1,356,000 - 2,034,000	Total GB emissions saved due to insulating hard to fill cavity walls (tonnes):	678,000 - 1,017,0

(100%-underperformance)\*(100%-comfort) where underperformance =35% and where comfort =23% (where comfort of an insulated wall is 15%). "CERT factor" = (100%-35%)\*(100%-23%) = (0.65)\*(0.77) = 0.50



(	02				Average Treated U-			Factor F1 (to allow	Σ CO, GB total	Factor F2 (to allow	Σ CO, GB total		Z CO2 GB tota
a	avings –	Dwelling type	Category	Option	value (W/m²K) after insulation	kg CO, Saving/Year per dwelling treated	No. in the UK	for 20% application of technical options)	(Tonnes/Year) 20% (akeup Factor	for 100% application of technical options)	(Tonnes/Year) 100% takeup Factor	Factor F3 CERT Factor	(Tonnes/Year Std Cavity
a	artial Fill		Category 1/2 Partial	PFCW1	0.373	47	67200 - 100800	0.2	600 - 900	1	3200 - 4700	0.5	1600 - 2400
1	alle	Mid Terrace	Fill/cavity	PFCW2	0.318	75	67200 - 100800	0.2	1000 - 1500	1	5000 - 7600	0.5	2500 - 3800
	ans	and the second second	obstructions	PFCW3	0.36	53	67200 - 100800	0.2	700-1100	1	3600 + 5300	0.5	1800 - 2700
4			Category 1/2 Partial	PFCW1	0.373	36	22400 - 33600	0.2	200 - 200	1	800 - 1200	0.5	400 - 500
J		End Terrace	Fill/cavity	PFCW2	0.318	58	22400 - 33600	0.2	300 - 400	1	1300 - 1900	0.5	600 - 1000
			obstructions	PFCW3	0.36	42	22400 - 33600	0.2	200 - 300	1	900 - 1400	0.5	500 - 700
		Marin Marrieland	Category 1/2 Partial	PFCW1	0,373	39	19200 - 28800	0.2	100 - 200	1	700 - 1100	0.5	400 - 600
		Semi-Detached	Fill/cavity	PFCW2	0.318	62	19200 - 28800	0.2	200 - 400	1	1200 - 1800	0.5	600 - 900
		Bungalow	obstructions	PFCW3	0.318	62	19200 - 28800	0.2	200 - 400	1	1200 - 1800	0.5	600 - 900
		12.50 87	Category 1/2 Partial	PFCW1	0.373	39	29600 - 44400	0.2	200 - 300	1	1200 - 1700	0.5	600 - 900
		Detached	Fill/cavity	PFCW2	0.318	62	29600 - 44400	0.2	400 - 600	1	1800 - 2800	0.5	900 - 1400
		Bungalow	obstructions	PFCW3	0.318	62	29600 - 44400	0.2	400 - 600	1	1800 - 2800	0.5	900 - 1400
		Committee and a ball	Category 1/2 Partial	PFCW1	0.373	39	99200 - 148800	0.2	800 - 1200	1	3900 - 5800	0.5	1900 - 2900
		Semi-Detached	Fill/cavity	PFCW2	0.318	62	99200 - 148800	0.2	1200 - 1800	1	6200 - 9200	0.5	3100 - 4600
		House	obstructions	PECW3	0.36	44	99200 - 148800	0.2	900 - 1300	1	4400 - 6500	0.5	2200 - 3300
		1.	Category 1/2 Partial	PFCW1	0.373	72	213600 - 320400	0.2	3100 - 4600	1	15400 - 23100	0.5	7700 - 1150
		Detached House	Fill/cavity	PECW2	0.318	116	213600 - 320400	0.2	5000 - 7400	1	24800 - 37200	0.5	12400 - 186
		a share a share	ed House Fill/cavity PF obstructions PF category 1/2 Partial PF	PECW3	0.36	83	213600 - 320400	0.2	3500 - 5300	1	17700 - 26600	0.5	8900 - 1330
		1	Category 1/2 Partial	PFCW1	0.373	48	38400 - 57600	0.2	400 - 600	1	1800 - 2800	0.5	900 - 1400
1.0 2	Low Rise Flat with 2 external walls	Fill/cavity obstructions	PECW3	0.36	55	38400 - 57600	0.2	400 - 600	1	2100 - 3200	0.5	1100 - 1600	
			PFCW2	0.318	77	38400 - 57600	0.2	600 - 900	1	3000 - 4400	0.5	1500 - 2200	
		Low Rise Flat with	Category 1/2 Partial Fill/cavity obstructions Category 1/2 Partial Fill/cavity	PECWI	0.373	44	38400 - 57600	0.2	300 - 500	1	1700 - 2500	0.5	800 - 1300
				PECW3	0.36	51	38400 - 57600	0.2	400 - 600	1	2000 - 2900	0.5	1000 - 1500
		3 external walls		PFCW2	0.318	71	38400 - 57600	0.2	500 - 800	1	2700 - 4100	0.5	1400 - 2000
		High Rise Flat		PFCW1	0.373	83	800 - 1200	0.2	10 - 20	1	70 - 100	0.5	30 - 50
		with 2 external		PECW3	0.36	95	800 - 1200	0.2	20 - 20	1	80 - 110	0.5	40 - 50
		walls	obstructions	PECW2	0.318	134	800 - 1200	0.2	20-30	i.	110 - 160	0.5	50-80
		High Rise Flat	Category 1/2 Partial	PECW1	0.373	79	800 - 1200	0.2	10-20	1	60 - 90	0.5	30 - 50
		with 3 external	Fill/covity	PECW3	0.35	01	800 - 1200	0.2	10-20	1	70 - 110	0.5	40 - 50
		walls	obstructions	DECW2	0.318	128	800 - 1200	0.2	20-30	1	100 - 150	0.5	50 - 80
		Waitz	- Cost actions	prenz.	10.010	110	1000 1200	0.2	120-00		100 150	0.0	150 00
						Sub-total number of partial cavity type dwellings in GB (1000s)	1600 - 2400	Total GB emissions saved due to insulating hard to fill cavity walls (tonnes):	22000 - 33000	Total GB emissions saved due to insulating hard to fill cavity walls (tonnes):	109000 - 163000	Total GB emissions saved due to insulating hard to fill cavity walls (tonnes):	54000 - 820
						Total number of suitable dwellings in GB (000s)	16-2,4	Total GB emissions saved due to insulating hard to fill cavity walls (tonnes):	22,000 - 33,000	Total GB emissions saved due to insulating hard to fill cavity walls (tonnes):	109.000 - 163.000	Total GB emissions saved due to insulating hard to fill cavity walls (tonnes)	54,000 - 82,

These are the savings if CERT underperformance & comfort factors are applied and if 100% of potential is filled.

 $(100\%-underperformance)^*(100\%-comfort)$  where underperformance =35% and where comfort =23% (where comfort of an insulated wall is 15%). "CERT factor" =  $(100\%-35\%)^*(100\%-23\%) = (0.65)^*(0.77) = 0.50$ 





## 10 Indicative Costs of Hard to Fill Cavities

### 10.1 Cavity wall insulation costs for key dwelling types

The currently available cavity wall insulation (CWI) methods are reviewed in detail in section 7 of the report. These details, together with indicative costs (per square metre of cavity wall area) are summarised in section 12 (Appendix B – Technical Solutions), together with illustrations of typical installations.

Cost models have been developed for the main dwelling types covered in this study. These are based on the quantity data for each dwelling type in section 13 (Appendix C). Costs are estimated using indicative rates (per square metre of cavity wall area) for different CWI methods obtained from market testing undertaken with a sample of typical CWI companies in England during the early summer of 2010. Allowances are included for normal work associated with clearing the existing cavity of debris and for normal "making good" of the external or internal leaf, depending on the method of installation. Costs are therefore specific to the dwelling characteristics identified as typical for dwellings in each category.

The table below summarises indicative costs for the main dwelling types as follows:

Dwelling type	Sub-type	Typical CWI cost
	(see section 13 – Appendix C)	£ per dwelling
Houses (semi and detached)	Semi: 2 storeys	£600-690
	Semi: 2 storeys (random stone)	£1130-5000*
	Detached: 2 storeys	£1340-1520
Houses (Terraced)	Mid terrace: 2 storeys	£1130-1230
	End terrace: 2 storeys	£1110-1200
Bungalows	Semi: 1 storey	£460-490
	Detached: 1 storey (+ side garage)	£670-725
Low rise flats	With 2 external walls	£490-530
	With 3 external walls	£630-720
High rise flats	With 1external wall	£250-1220*
	With 3 external walls	£260-1260

\* High maxima are due to the expected use of relatively more expensive materials in these installations

The range of typical CWI costs is relatively narrow and covers three main insulation types: gravity fed beads, blown mineral wool and injected beads (see section 7). Costs per square



metre of wall area for these three types generally vary by no more than +/- 10%. The exception is PUR Foam which costs more per square metre of wall area – we have included PUR costs in the random stone and high rise flat dwellings to indicate the potentially relatively high costs of filling cavities in these dwelling types.

The above costs exclude extraordinary items such as difficult access and other abnormal items (see further below), as well as any grant provision and VAT charges.

### 10.2 Indicative costs of filling Hard to Fill cavities in Great Britain

Data currently available on the stock of dwellings in Great Britain suggest that between 3.9 million and 5.8 million are constructed with "hard to fill' external wall cavities. A further 1.6 million to 2.4 million dwellings are constructed with cavity walls that have been partially filled – these latter dwellings tend to be included as having filled wall cavities in the English House Survey.

The estimated costs of filling both categories of wall cavities at current (mid 2010) prices are as follows:

	Dwellings	20% uptake	100% uptake*
	No.	£m	£m
Hard to Fill	3.9-5.8m	£1,103-1,660	£5,530-8,300
Of which:			
Houses (semi and detached)	1.9-2.9m	£550-830	£2,760-4,145
Houses (Terraced)	0.9-1.4m	£305-455	£1,520-2,280
Bungalows	0.4-0.7m	£105-145	£515-725
Low rise flats	0.5-0.8	£125-200	£620-985
High rise flats	0.09-0.14m	£25-35	£110-175
Partial Fill	1.6-2.4m	£450-680	£2,265-3,400

Davis Langdon 🔿 DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 78 of 168

All totals do not sum precisely due to rounding

\* Full (i.e. 100% take up) is not practically possible – for example, some dwellings are in exposed locations that make them unsuited to retrofitted cavity wall fill; others, because of their built form and construction technology, pose particular access and technical difficulties.



These costs are based on average CWI costs per dwelling type (see above) and are "broad brush', relying heavily on a range of assumptions covering how the work will be procured, the condition and location of the affected housing stock, the extent of ancillary work required in particular circumstances, and other matters. The following paragraphs summarise the key elements of our costing approach.

A simplified cost model has been constructed for this analysis, based on a series of cost models for each dwelling type as well as the analysis of market size in sections 4 and 9 of the report. The essentials of the costing approach are to "factor' cavity wall installation costs (per dwelling) by the number of affected dwellings in each category. Where alternative installation methods are available for a given dwelling type, we have assumed the lowest cost method would be used. However, as noted, the cost differential between the main methods (with the exception of PUR Foam) is not great. We have made allowances, based on experience, for some of the complexities that might be encountered during installation, in particular:

- Access difficulties mainly involving Abseil Access, Gondola or other provision for access to high rise properties, and scaffolding for low rise up to 5 storeys (see Section 17)
- Building condition, in particular, the condition of the cavity, whether excessive debris removal is required, together with the removal of existing (partial fill) insulation if considered defective; whether the damp proof course (dpc) requires repair or reinstatement, etc
- Work to "make good' building elements affected by the installation, in particular whether re-render of the external leaf is required; whether internal redecoration and other work (for example, removal and reinstatement of kitchen units, central heating installations, etc)

Of course, our assumptions regarding these complexities are subject to considerable uncertainty. In particular, the model is highly sensitive to assumptions about access difficulties and associated costs as well as the condition of the existing cavities and buildings. While the costs derived from the model are broadly indicative at the national (GB) level, they cannot be expected to apply at the local authority or estate level where more specific considerations will tend to predominate. The greatest uncertainties are around the extent and condition of the stock of different types of dwellings with hard to fill cavities. A more thorough study – involving the development of a detailed stock model, which is outside the scope of the present study – would be required to test and refine the assumptions in the model and to develop a more accurate basis for assessing related costs. We understand that a more detailed study has recently been launched by the Energy Technology Institute to predict the distribution of costs associated with undertaking the works to upgrade UK housing stock on different scales across the UK. The context being the achievement of an 80% CO2 saving with wall insulation, new technologies and skills. Results are expected to be available in 2012."



As noted, costs per dwelling are based on typical installer's charges to householders. Simply aggregating these across the stock does not provide a very reliable estimate, mainly because work to those properties under landlord control (either public or private) would be procured in greater bulk with the unit cost falling in line with procurement volume. However, as contracts for greater numbers of dwelling units increase in size, additional management and other costs tend to reduce anticipated economies of scale – these are difficult to assess without some prior knowledge of contract size (including details of the dwelling types included), timing, etc. We have made some initial assessments of likely volume adjustments, though again these are subject to significant uncertainties.

Finally, we have made no allowance in our cost estimates for inflation over the period of a national insulation programme. Generally, the cavity wall insulation industry is characterised by SMEs geared primarily to undertake small to medium scale contracts directly for a building owner. Clearly the industry structure would need to change to deliver a programme of several million installations, even over the short to medium term. But of course it is not at all clear how such a programme might be taken to market (if at all in any nationally co-ordinated manner). Nonetheless, at anything like current rates of cavity filling (section 3.1) it will take several years to complete a national programme on a stock of some 4-6 million dwellings.

Allowances for VAT and any grants/subsidies are also excluded from our estimates.



## 11 Summary

There is potentially in the region of 359,000 to 1,078,000<sup>26</sup> tonnes of CO2 annual savings available in addressing the hard to fill cavities in Great Britain. There is an untapped market ready to be addressed but with attendant risks. Risks to the dwelling owner include taking on board liabilities directly where these are not covered by buildings insurance or warranties etc

Between 3.9m and 5.8m existing houses could potentially benefit from having the hard to fill cavities, filled. The majority of houses can potentially be filled using techniques that exist or that are currently considered to be innovative. It is believed a minority of those conventional cavities, currently left uninsulated, could be insulated conventionally if existing CERT funding criteria were widened to permit the side walls of houses (that fall under the 75% accessible criterion) to be eligible.

In addition, there are 1.6m to 2.4m cavities that are considered by the English Housing Survey as being filled but that have a remaining cavity that could potentially be filled. Filling such "partial cavities" could provide potential savings in the range of 22,000 to 82,000<sup>27</sup> tonnes of CO2 annual savings. The potential savings may be greater if, as reported anecdotally, the insulation batts were held poorly against the inner leaf of the wall, so permitting heat losses through air currents between the batts and the inner leaf.

A perceived lack of benefit by individual members of the public hampers the uptake of such measures, potentially mitigated through having guaranteed performance benefits.

Technologies are mature and further innovative technologies are slowly emerging that will be useful to overcome the complex treatment issues hard to fill wall cavities.

The processes of surveying, design, remediation, installation need to be formalised and quality assured to ensure good practice. The technical design to potentially include cold bridge analysis, thermo graphic inspections post construction and modelling the risk of condensation due to different occupancy patterns and different lifestyles e.g. low, medium and high water vapour generation levels.

To date, opportunities have been missed because they are more expensive than the cost of dealing with standard cavities and through a lack of financial support e.g. windows replaced with double glazing and requiring scaffolding but walls left un-insulated.

There are an unknown number of cavities in commercial buildings that represents an additional, potentially sizeable, hard-to-fill cavity wall market.

In summary, full cavity fill insulation is usually the most cost effective option where the cavity wall is confirmed as being in good overall condition, where the local exposure factors confirm its suitability for use and where external or internal access is not highly costly or otherwise problematic. In instances where the existing wall finish or cladding is life expired or in need of major refurbishment on a highly exposed site where an appearance change can be

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> CERT underperformance and comfort factors applied and 100% of potential population is filled



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> CERT underperformance and comfort factors applied and 100% of potential population is filled

tolerated, external wall insulation should be considered. In the case of a building where there are complications affecting the condition of the cavity wall on a site too exposed for cavity fill insulation where an appearance change cannot be tolerated, internal insulated dry lining should be considered with the Thermo-Foil type variant minimising the loss of room volume.



# 12 Appendix A: Case Studies of Hard to Fill Cavity Wall Types



## 12.1 Case Study – Low Rise, Variable Cavity

## 12.1.1 City of Edinburgh District Council – Non traditional 3-storey housing

Construction: Non- traditional housing built in 1940's and 1950's with cavity widths varying by up to 171mm comprising houses and three-storey blocks

Issues: Poor insulation, some condensation problems and potential structural problems caused by water ingress resulting in carbonation and corrosion of reinforcement.

Technology/Innovation: Polyurethane foam insulation was installed in the cavities to improve energy efficiency. The condensation caused by the cold walls was eliminated and as moisture penetration was prevented, the structure was stabilised from further deterioration.

Insurance: Unknown at this time





## 12.2 Case Study - High Rise Dwellings

## 12.2.1 City of Edinburgh District Council – Kirkgate House, Leith

Construction: Concrete formwork with brick outer skin in a high rise block.

Issues: Problems of wall tie deterioration & water penetration.

Requirement: Tenants to remain in residence. To avoid the cost of overcladding.

Technology/Innovation: A polyurethane insulation and stabilisation foam was installed (Isothane) bonding the inner and outer leaves together. Constructional air leakage was improved.

Insurance: Unknown at this time





## 12.2.2 LB Camden – Laystall Court, London

Construction: Concrete formwork with brick outer leaf.

Issue: Costs of access to 10 storey block of flats and consistency of fill

Requirement: Cavity fill in preference to overcladding

Technology/Innovation: A novel access solution was developed by LB Camden utilising an abseiling company instead of conventional scaffolding provide an estimated saving in costs of 40%. Additional savings are likely both in time and costs due to the avoidance of the need for "s20" consultation with tenants. Bead insulation (Polybead) was blown in. Thermal analysis was undertaken.

Insurance: Unknown at this time





## 12.3 Case Study – Steel Framed House, System build, Exposed Site

## 12.3.1 Semi-detached house, Tarrant Way, Moulton, Northampton

### Construction: System Built Steel Frame Cavities

Issue: Saleability of house insulated in 1980's – close to end of 30 year guarantee and originally a "Hard to Fill" type cavity. North-easterly facing wall subject to driving rain/wind

Requirement: Survey confirming that there was no deterioration of steel frame structure or in the insulation -

Technology/Innovation: A thermal camera inspection with boroscope inspection revealed that the walls were fully insulated with the exception of an area identified by thermograph. The Rockwool had caught on a horizontal steel section that resulted in part fill below. Inadvertent sealing of wall vents during original construction may have contributed to a reduction in uncontrolled ventilation in the cavity (located in an exposed location – wind and driving rain) potentially contributing to its longevity with a lack of dampness measured on internal walls and within insulation, otherwise expected from analysis of thermograph.

#### Insurance: Unknown at this time

The following Thermo grams and photographs show the property to be fully insulated with the exception of one area highlighted below.

	Spot: 13.7 °C (14.8) (1		Spot 15.0 3 17.5 FLIR
Steel frame	Thermograph showing	View down the	Cold steel can
construction of the	heat loss (red) through	staircase clearly	be identified
side elevation wall	single brick wall	shows the vertical and	clearly (green)
evident by		horizontal steel frame.	with the thermal
inspection from inside roof		Internal surfaces measured dry. Insulation also dry.	camera. I metre horizontal spacing



### 12.4 Case Study - Concrete Cavity

#### 12.4.1 Rochdale Borough Council – 3 blocks of Hi-Rise Flats at College Bank Flats, Rochdale

Construction: Reinforced concrete<sup>28</sup>, external brick leaf.

Issue: Narrow cavities

Requirement: To ensure continuity of insulation during works by piloting an insulation system on 3 tower blocks in a planned upgrade of 7 no tower blocks

Technology/Innovation: Thermographic survey before and after works. Injection with polyurethane PUR rigid foam.

Insurance: Unknown at this time

The following are extracts from the thermographic survey undertaken by IRT Surveys:

"IRT Surveys conducted a thermographic survey of 3 blocks at the College Bank flats, Rochdale. The survey was carried out on 9th April 2010. The purpose of the survey was to assess the blocks with regards to continuity of insulation and heat loss. Two Blocks had a Technitherm® injected polyurethane PUR rigid foam cavity wall thermal insulation and stabilisation system, one block remained as built. The internal wall is cast concrete with external leaf in brickwork, seen diagram below:



<sup>28</sup> Wendy Stewart, 26/05/10 Rochdale Boroughwide Housing

Davis Langdon 🔗 DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 88 of 168



At the time of the survey the weather conditions were clear. The thermographic survey commenced at 6:00a.m. Average ambient outside temperature was 5°C. The building was warm with internal temperatures of approximately 21°C, giving a differential of 16°C. Temperatures have been assumed to be constant throughout the survey.

The following report contains several colour infrared images which can be difficult to understand. The equipment we use sees heat instead of light and automatically allocates various colours to different temperatures. For example red is hot and blue is cold. The hottest colour being white the coldest being black. There are several factors that can lead to miss-interpretation of a thermal image. Different materials reflect energy in different ways, such as glass or highly polished metals. Where there are materials like glass, the information recorded must be ignored, as it is not an accurate temperature. A well insulated roof or building in good condition should show consistent temperatures and colours across its surface.

#### **Terms of Reference**

#### Summary

Thermal analysis of the uninsulated block 1, Town Mill Brow, revealed inconsistent warmer red and yellow colours across the elevations, indicating areas of heat loss from the building. The Insulated blocks 2 & 3, Tentercroft and Dunkirk Rise, showed a better thermal performance, with cooler blue and green colours across the elevations, indicating lower levels of heat loss. The average temperature of block 1 is 5°C the average of blocks 2 & 3 is 2.6°C. This is a significant difference. Close up images were also taken of the 4th floor flats on the blocks Town Mill Brow and Tentercroft. ...... it can be seen that increased temperatures are seen across Town Mill Brow in comparison to Tentercroft. Warmer red colours can be seen extending across the elevations on all 3 blocks at floor levels. This is due to thermal bridging and can be ignored."

Uninsulated:	Uninsulated:	Insulated	Insulated (1)	Insulated	Insulated (2)
Town Mill	Town Mill	(1)	Tentercroft,	(2) Dunkirk	Dunkirk Rise,
Brow	Brow	Tentercroft,	Thermograph	Rise	Thermograph
	Thermograph				



### 12.5 Case Study -Timber Frame Cavity

Note: No case studies could be identified at the time of the study and the EST Guide to Refurbishment illustrates this pictorially but without constructed images<sup>29</sup>. References to constructions quoted in publications as being timber frame were subsequently found upon investigation to have been of concrete. Trade contacts were unable to locate example of filled hard to fill cavities. Other contacts were aware of such cavities filled inadvertently.<sup>30</sup>

<u>http://server-uk.imrworldwide.com/cgi-bin/b?cg=uk\_energyst\_bestpracticedocs&ci=energyst&tu=http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/busines/content/download/1033344/3426710/version/1/file/refurb\_final\_web.pdf</u>

<sup>30</sup> AECB 26 April 2010





<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> EST 8 June 2010 – See also

## **13** Appendix B: Technical Solutions





Note that currently PUR foam falls outside of the CIGA warranty scheme but is covered by BUFCA guarantee...







Davis Langdon 🕜 DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 93 of 168





Note that currently PUR foam falls outside of the CIGA warranty scheme but is covered by BUFCA guarantee..











Note that currently PUR foam falls outside of the CIGA warranty scheme but is covered by BUFCA guarantee.











Note: Mineral wool not currently guaranteed





















14 Appendix C: House type examples for hard to fill cavity walls



Study on hard to fill cavity walls in domestic dwellings in GB



Description 1		Semi	Semi	Mid Terrace	End Terrace	Detached	Detached	Random stone	Low rise flat 2	Low rise flat 3	High rise flat -	High rise flat -
-		detached	detached	House - 2	House - 2	bungalow - 1	House - 2	semi detached	external walls	external walls	1 external	3 external
		bungalow -	house - two	storeys	storeys	storey with	storeys	House - 2			wall	walls
		single storey	storeys			garage at side		storeys				
Description 2		Traditional	Traditional	Traditional	Traditional	Traditional	Traditional	Random stone	Concrete and	Concrete and	Concrete	Concrete
		construction	construction	construction	construction	construction	construction	construction	brick structure	brick structure	structure and	structure and
		with masonry	with masonry	and concrete	and concrete	floor slabs	floor slabs					
		cavity	cavity	cavity	cavity	cavity	cavity	cavity	floor slabs	floor slabs	with brickwork	with brickwork
		materials,	materials,	materials,	materials,	materials,	materials,	materials,	(Uninsulated)	(Uninsulated)	external leaf	external leaf
		concrete floor	timber floor	concrete floor	timber floor	timber floor	concrete floor	concrete floor	with brickwork	with brickwork	panels and	panels and
		construction	construction	construction	construction	construction	construction	construction	external leaf	external leaf	masonry	masonry
		(Uninsulated),	(Uninsulated),	(Uninsulated),	(Uninsulated),	(Uninsulated),	(Uninsulated),	(Uninsulated),	panels and	panels and	materials	materials
		ceilings timber	ceilings timber	uninsulated	ceilings timber	ceilings timber	uninsulated	ceilings timber	masonry	masonry	forming	forming
		and	and	first floor	and	and	first floor	and	materials	materials	cavities approx	cavities approx
		plasterboard	plasterboard	timber floor	plasterboard	plasterboard	timber floor	plasterboard	forming	forming	50mm. Flat	50mm. Flat
		(insulated	(insulated	and ceilings of	(insulated	(insulated	and ceilings of	(insulated	cavities approx	cavities approx	roof over.	roof over.
		above),	above),	timber and	above),	above),	timber and	above),	50mm. Flat	50mm. Flat	Solid party	Solid party
		pitched roof	pitched roof	plasterboard	pitched roof	pitched roof	plasterboard	pitched roof	roof over.	roof over.	walls	walls
		over. Partial	over. Solid	(insulated	over. Partial	over. Narrow	(insulated	over. Uneven	Masonry party	Masonry party		
		then 40mm	masonry party	above),	then 40mm	then 40mm	above),	thickness	Wall With	Wall With		
		Colid party	wall. Narrow	pitched root	than 40mm	than 40mm.	pitched rooi	outer lear and	SUMMICAVILY	SUMIN Cavity		
		Solid party	than 10mm	covity loss			fill covity loss	varios Solid				
		wall		than 10mm			than 10mm	narty walls				
				Darty cavity				party waits				
				wall (75mm								
				block and								
				nlaster)								
Approx date of building		1975	1920	1985	1980	1925	1985	1920	1980	1975	1965	1965
Floor 1 NIA	m	50.33	29.88	35.80	35.67	84.78	55.45	63.58	42.02	49.17	67.6	47.4
areas	2											
Floor 2 NIA	m	N\A	28.30	31.64	35.52	N/A	61.92	62.56	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
areas	2	,				,				,		,
Average	m	2.40	2.495	2.6	2.6	2.80	2.45	2.45	2.40	2.40	2.40	2.40
storey height												

Davis Langdon 🕜 DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 107 of 168

Net internal floor area (NIFA)	2 2	50.33	58.18	67.44	71.19	84.78	117.37	126.14	42.02	49.17	67.6	47.4
Total external wall area	m 2	61.51	91.47	51.90	105.32	96.79	191.24	154.96	33.41	60.80	36.72	37.44
Total party wall area	m 2	28.15	54.99	101.38	40.34	N/A	N/A	30	33.41	30.56	58.752	31.92
Window/ door area	m 2	12.97	17.24	12.50	14.26	16.78	24.02	30.54	6.41	9.80	12.37	7.63
External footprint area	m 2	54.35	40.80	40.97	43.49	90.25	79.87	85.2	55.48	61.11	72.3	52.5
Total external wall area (less doors and windows)	m 2	48.54	74.22	39.40	91.06	80.01	167.23	124.42	27.00	51.00	24.35	29.81


15 Appendix D: SAP and U value calculations for technical solutions and standard house types



			SAPTotalCO2 (kg/annum)										
Solution	Description	Notes	Detached bungalow - 1 storey with garage at side	Detached House - 2 storeys	End Terrace House - 2 storeys	High rise flat - 1 external wall	High rise flat - 3 external walls	Low rise flat 2 external walls	Low rise flat 3 external walls	Mid Terrace House - 2 storeys	Semi detached bungalow - single storey	Semi detached house - two storeys	Random Stone House
ERCFCW0	Exposed reinforced concrete floor cavity wall	Assumption: standard wall tie spacing (BR443) at 80mm2, 2.5/m2. Mild steel assumed	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ERCFCW1	PUR Foam		N/A	N/A	413	866	881	503	474	516	N/A	545	N/A
ERCFCW2	Perlite Beads		N/A	N/A	323	667	687	391	367	403	N/A	446	N/A
ERCFCW3	EPS Beads		N/A	N/A	341	706	725	414	387	425	N/A	465	N/A
ICCW0	Internal concrete floor cavity wall	Assumption: standard wall tie spacing (BR443) at 80mm2, 2.5/m2. Mild steel assumed	-	-	-	-	-	_	-	-	-	-	-
ICCW1	Blown mineral wool		N/A	N/A	714	1.390	1.533	844	779	879	N/A	745	N/A
ICCW2	PUR Foam		, N/A	N/A	781	1,534	1.676	927	857	963	N/A	818	, N/A
NCW0	Narrow Cavity Wall	Assumption: standard wall tie spacing (BR443) at 80mm2, 2.5/m2. Mild steel assumed			-				-	-		-	
INCVV1	FUK FUAIII												N/A

Davis Langdon () DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 110 of 168



			257	453	230	492	491	285	268	289	230	250	
NCW2	EPS Beads												
			209	370	188	399	400	230	217	236	186	204	N/A
NCW3	Blown												
	Mineral												
	Wool		209	370	188	399	400	230	217	236	186	204	N/A
PFCWO	Narrow Cavity Wall	Note: have assumed 50mm cavity in addition to 30mm insulation. Wall tie correction applied only once. Assumption: standard wall tie spacing (BR443) at 80mm2, 2.5/m2. Mild steel assumed		_		_	_	_					_
PECW/1	PLIR Foam	Note: have											
		assumed 50mm cavity in addition to 30mm insulation. Wall tie correction applied only once.	42	72	36	83	79	48	44	47	39	41	N/A
PFCW2	EPS Beads	Note: have assumed 50mm cavity in addition to 30mm insulation. Wall tie correction applied only once	68	116	58	134	128	77	71	75	62	66	N/A
PECW3	Blown	Note: have				201							,
	Mineral Wool	assumed 50mm cavity in addition to 30mm insulation. Wall tie correction applied only once.	48	83	42	95	91	55	51	53	44	47	N/A

Davis Langdon () DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 111 of 168



RSCW0	Random	Applicable only to											
	Stone Cavity	random stone											
		nouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
K3CW1	FURFUAII		156	278	141	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	176	139	152	447
RSCW2	EPS Beads												
			103	184	94	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	117	92	100	295
RSCW3	Blown												
	mineral												
	wool		103	184	94	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	117	92	100	295
RSCW4	Perlite												
	Beads		111	197	100	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	125	98	108	316
TFCW0	Timber	Assumption:											
	Frame	standard wall tie											
	Cavity	spacing (BR443)											
		at 80mm2,											
		2.5/m2. Mild steel											
		assumed	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TFCW1	EPS Beads												
			341	600	305	N/A	N/A	379	356	383	306	332	N/A
TFCW2	Blown												
	mineral												
	wool		341	600	305	N/A	N/A	379	356	383	306	332	N/A



#### 16 Appendix E: English House Condition Survey (SS6.4)

	wall type and insulation		loft present and insulation				extent of double glazing				all			
	cavity insulated	cavity uninsulated	non-cavity wall <sup>1</sup>	none in loft	less than 50mm	50 to 99mm	100 to 199mm	200mm or more	no loft	none	less than half	more than half	all	dwellings in group
enure													1. 1. 1.	
owner occupied	33.1	37.9	29.0	3.2	3.0	20.7	49.4	19.0	4.7	8.4	7.1	17.4	67.0	15,560
private rented	16.8	36.2	47.0	6.2	2.7	25.4	33.2	11.7	20.8	21.8	10.0	12.6	55.7	2,738
ocal authority	41.8	33.2	25.0	1.9	1.3	9.6	37.2	23.0	27.0	19.6	5.2	5.9	69.2	1,987
RSL	43.3	37.6	19.0	1.4	1.0	7.5	39.4	27.3	23.5	12.2	3.4	4.6	79.7	1,904
all private	30.7	37.6	31.7	3.7	2.9	21.4	47.0	17.9	7.1	10.4	7.5	16.7	65.3	18,298
all social	42.5	35.4	22.1	1.6	1.1	8.6	38.3	25.1	25.3	16.0	4.4	5.3	74.4	3,891
acant														
occupied	33.3	37.2	29.5	3.1	2.6	19.2	45.8	19.5	9.7	11.0	6.8	14.8	67.3	21,242
acant	20.6	38.5	40.9	7.5	2.6	18.8	36.6	12.2	22.3	19.9	10.6	11.7	57.8	947
welling age			Degradies -							0.200				
pre-1919	3.3	12.9	83.8	8.3	2.2	23.7	41.2	14.4	10.3	25.8	15.5	17.9	40.8	4,766
919-44	22.6	35.7	41.8	4.5	3.5	23.5	45.4	18.1	4.9	8.4	7.9	24.8	59.0	3.864
945-64	44.0	43.0	13.0	2.3	3.3	16.5	47.0	22.0	9.0	7.5	4.7	15.9	71.9	4.345
965-80	41.4	51.6	7.0	1.1	3.7	22.0	42.6	16.6	14.1	7.1	4.7	12.4	75.8	4.806
981-90	48.2	48.5	3.3	0.4	0.5	16.7	52.6	15.0	14.8	12.6	3.5	6.4	77.5	1.878
ost 1990	56.6	39.9	3.5	0.3	0.3	5.1	51.0	33.3	10.1	28	0.4	1.8	95.0	2.531
welling type														-1001
and terrace	30.4	33.2	36.3	38	19	21.6	50.8	22.0	0.0	11.5	82	13.7	66.7	2 082
nid terrace	18.5	30.3	51.2	6.2	28	23.6	48.5	18.8	0.0	11.7	9.4	16.1	62.8	4 158
mall terrace	23.3	35.6	41.1	5.5	19	22 4	50.6	19.5	0.0	11.2	65	123	70.0	2 185
nedium/large terr	22.0	29.0	49.0	53	28	23.2	48.5	20.1	0.0	11.8	10.3	17.0	60.9	4.056
Il terrace	22.5	31.3	46.2	5.4	25	23.0	49.3	19.9	0.0	11.6	9.0	15.3	64.1	6 241
ami detached	34.5	40.8	24.7	31	37	21.5	50.4	21.1	0.0	6.6	6.8	10.3	67.3	6 103
letached	11 2	30.1	16.7	21	27	19.2	54.1	21.0	0.0	8.0	7.6	15.7	68.7	3 073
ungolow	50.6	37.0	12.4	17	21	17.2	19 5	21.5	0.0	6.1	2.0	12.4	76.6	3,975
onvorted flat	0.0	37.0	12.4 95.5	5.0	0.6	17.5	40.0	29.4	52.0	40.5	12.0	13.4	24.6	2,102
b flot low rice	2.7	47.0	10.6	1.2	0.0	20.4	10.2	4.0	50.2	40.5	0.0	11.0	70.0	157
b flot bigh rice	10.4	47.0	19.0	1.5	0.7	0.1	11.2	7.0	00.0	20.3	2.0	4.0	60.0	2,090
b hat, high hee	10.4	30.0	02.7	0.0	2.0	2.0	50.0	0.0	0.00	0.0	3.9	4.4	60.9	310
ul floto	04.4	30.0 20.5	20.9	3.0	0.0	21.0	00.4	21.8	0.0 CO.E	0.0	5.0	10.5	07.0	18,418
in nats	24.9	59.5	33.0	1.9	0.6	10.1	20.4	0.5	60.5	25.2	5.0	0.0	03.7	3,771
lize	01.0	20.0	00.0	10	0.0		00.7	107	44.0	01.0	5.0	10	00.0	0.070
ess than 50m <sup>2</sup>	31.0	39.9	29.2	1.6	0.8	14.4	28.7	12.7	41.9	21.2	5.0	4.8	68.9	2,378
i0 to 69m <sup>2</sup>	30.6	38.5	30.9	3.3	2.0	16.7	42.6	18.6	16.7	12.5	5.1	11.0	71.3	5,208
'0 to 89m <sup>2</sup>	33.2	37.1	29.8	3.7	3.5	20.6	46.7	21.0	4.4	8.9	5.9	16.6	68.5	6,440
0 to 109m <sup>2</sup>	35.5	36.2	28.2	3.2	2.9	22.3	51.2	18.3	2.1	7.6	7.9	20.0	64.4	3,237
10m <sup>2</sup> or more	33.5	35.5	31.1	3.7	2.6	20.1	51.0	21.2	1.4	11.1	10.6	17.4	60.9	4,926
all dwollinge	327	37.2	30.0	33	26	19.2	45.4	19.2	10.3	11.4	7.0	147	66.9	22 189

Notes:

1. Non-cavity walls are predominantly brick and stone solid walls but also include a minority of homes with walls of timber, concrete and metal frames, or are of modular construction





#### 17 Appendix F: Key issues in filling wall cavities in existing dwellings

#### **Davis Langdon Technical Note:**

#### Key issues in filling wall cavities in existing dwellings

#### 1.0 "Hard to Treat" Cavities

- 1.1 A cavity wall survey by boroscope, localised opening up and a roof void inspection (if relevant) should be carried out to determine:
  - Type(s) and extent of wall construction
  - Storey heights where insulation is contemplated and ease of access to the elevations
  - Type, condition and effectiveness of external protection or cladding (render, tile hanging, decorative/protective coating, rainscreen cladding etc.
  - Type and condition of the wall finishes and decorative finishes on the inside faces of the external cavity walls together with the degree of obstruction by fixtures and fittings
  - Width of cavity
  - Presence, type frequency and condition of cavity wall ties
  - Condition of mortar joints
  - Presence of weep holes, frequency and degree of obstruction
  - o DPC's and cavity trays are fitted and stop-ends present
  - Presence or not of debris in the cavity
  - o Whether all ducts or pipes have sleeves or collars
  - The wind driven rain exposure zone (1-4) for the subject property(s)
  - The location of the wall and its exposure to wind driven rain based on orientation, height above ground level and local site topography
  - The presence or otherwise of overhangs, parapets or other construction detailing that influences the protection or exposure of the wall
  - Cavity barriers are in position and there is sufficient masonry thickness between chimney (where present) and insulation
- 1.2 Only when this information has been verified, can a well informed decision be made on the most cost effective strategy to be employed to insulate the walls defined as "Hard to Treat" Cavities.
- 1.3 If structural problems are identified by the cavity wall survey e.g. absent or defective cavity wall ties, cavity blockages or unsound masonry construction, these matters should be the subject of suitable remedial works whichever type of insulation strategy is adopted.



- 1.4 Broadly, with retro-fit insulation to external cavity walls, the following options should be considered:
  - o Full fill cavity wall insulation injected from the outside
  - Full fill cavity wall insulation injected from the inside
  - External wall insulation system
  - Internal drylining incorporating timber battens, Thermo-Foil or similar and plasterboard
  - o Internal drylining using an insulated plasterboard system

These will be discussed in turn.

#### 1.4.1 Full fill cavity wall insulation injected from the outside

#### Advantages

- No or minimal disruption to the interior of the property or occupants
- Fast to install
- Minimal impact on the external appearance of the building

#### Disadvantages

- Relies on cavity being clear of debris and requires detailed checks to be carried out on other aspects of cavity wall condition/construction and remedied if necessary prior to installation
- Access costs can become very high where works above four storeys are to carried out or where lean-to buildings or other obstructions affect lower levels
- Leaves a pattern of made good drill holes in the façade of the building, lowest cost when in facing brickwork, higher costs when in masonry painted render and the like.
- External making good may be impossible to conceal sufficiently on listed or other sensitive buildings
- Very careful consideration needs to be taken of maximum recommended exposure zones for insulated masonry walls of this type.
- Future risk of frost damage to the outer leaf/finish of the wall
- Future risk of creating localised cold bridge condensation
- Risk that climate change will increase the exposure zone value of the site over time, leading to water penetration where none previously occurred

#### 1.4.2 Full fill cavity wall insulation injected from the inside

#### Advantages

o Often avoids the need for an external scaffold with arising cost savings

Davis Langdon 🕜 DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 116 of 168



- No external drill holes to be made good
- Fast to install

#### Disadvantages

- Disruption to the internal finishes and decorations inside the building which would require making good
- Disruption to building occupants
- Future risk of frost damage to the outer leaf/finish of the wall
- Future risk of creating localised cold bridge condensation
- Risk that climate change will increase the exposure zone value of the site over time, leading to water penetration where none previously occurred

#### 1.4.3 Externally applied wall insulation system

#### Advantages

- No need to address issues of cavity debris, sleeves, cavity tray DPC's etc but wall would need to be structurally sound.
- The wall finish is replaced at the same time as the wall is insulated an advantage when the original wall finish is in very poor condition
- Virtual elimination of the possibility of cold bridge condensation
- Suitable for use on high exposure sites where the use of full fill cavity insulation is not recommended
- o Minimal disruption to the interior or occupiers
- No loss of internal room volume

#### Disadvantages

- High unit cost
- Requires access scaffold
- Often entraps window and door frames
- Modifications usually required to external soffits, rainwater goods, soil, waste and services pipes
- Often results in a substantial change in the appearance of the building which may not always be desirable

# 1.4.4 Internally applied dry lining incorporating timber battens, Thermo-Foil or similar and plasterboard





Advantages

- No need to address issues of cavity debris, sleeves, cavity tray DPC's etc but wall would need to be structurally sound.
- Suitable for use on high exposure sites where the use of full fill cavity insulation is not recommended
- o Does not change the external appearance of the building

#### Disadvantages

- High unit cost
- Replacement cost of the internal wall finishes and decoration together with associated electrical work and second fix joinery.
- o Disruption to the occupiers
- Small loss of room volume
- o Criticality of vapour barrier in minimising the risk of interstitial condensation
- Future risk of localised cold bridge condensation

#### 1.4.5 Internally applied dry lining using an insulated plasterboard system

#### Advantages

- No need to address issues of cavity debris, sleeves, cavity tray DPC's etc but wall would need to be structurally sound.
- Suitable for use on high exposure sites where the use of full fill cavity insulation is not recommended
- o Does not change the external appearance of the building

#### Disadvantages

- o High unit cost
- Replacement cost of the internal wall finishes and decoration together with associated electrical work and second fix joinery.
- $\circ$  Disruption to the occupiers
- Noticeable loss of room volume
- o Criticality of vapour barrier in minimising the risk of interstitial condensation
- Future risk of localised cold bridge condensation
- 1.5 In summary, full cavity fill insulation is usually the most cost effective option where the cavity wall is confirmed as being in good overall condition, where the local exposure factors confirm its suitability for use and where external or internal access is not highly costly or otherwise problematic. In instances where the existing wall finish or cladding is life expired or in need of major refurbishment on a highly exposed site where an appearance change can be tolerated, external wall insulation should be considered. In the case of a building where there are complications affecting the condition of the cavity wall on a site too exposed for cavity fill insulation where an appearance change cannot be tolerated, internal insulated dry lining should be considered with the Thermo-Foil type variant minimising the loss of room volume.



#### 2.0 "Unfillable" Cavities

- 2.1 A site survey using a boroscope, localised exposure or opening up of the wall structure should be carried out to confirm that there are either insufficient or no mortar joints that can be drilled to enable the insertion of the injector nozzle for the cavity fill insulation. Matters to be determined are:
  - Whether one or both leafs of the cavity wall contains sufficient mortar joints to enable cavity fill insulation to be injected
  - The ability or otherwise of both leafs to effectively contain the cavity fill insulation
- 2.2 If this preliminary inspection indicates that the building has a potentially fillable cavity, contrary to initial opinion, the following further checks should be carried out to determine:
  - Storey heights where insulation is contemplated and ease of access to the elevations
  - Type, condition and effectiveness of external protection or cladding (render, tile hanging, decorative/protective coating, rainscreen cladding etc.
  - Type and condition of the wall finishes and decorative finishes on the inside faces of the external cavity walls together with the degree of obstruction by fixtures and fittings
  - Width of cavity
  - Presence, type frequency and condition of cavity wall ties
  - Condition of mortar joints
  - Presence of weep holes, frequency and degree of obstruction
  - o DPC's and cavity trays are fitted and stop-ends present
  - Presence or not of debris in the cavity
  - Whether all ducts or pipes have sleeves or collars
  - The wind driven rain exposure zone (1-4) for the subject property(s)
  - The location of the wall and its exposure to wind driven rain based on orientation, height above ground level and local site topography
  - The presence or otherwise of overhangs, parapets or other construction detailing that influences the protection or exposure of the wall
  - Cavity barriers are in position and there is sufficient masonry thickness between chimney (where present) and insulation
- 2.3 When this survey has been completed, the same process of consideration should be applied as set out in paragraphs 1.2 to 1.5 inclusive.



2.4 In the event of this investigation confirming either that no or insufficient mortar joints are present or that the wall is of steel or timber framed construction, the insulation options set out under paragraphs 1.4.3, 1.4.4 and 1.4.5 should be considered.

#### 3.0 Party Walls and Narrow Cavities

#### 3.1 Party Walls

- 3.1.1 The party wall should be surveyed involving the use of an boroscope and may also require localised exposure of masonry or opening up. A roof void inspection should be undertaken where relevant. This inspection should determine:
  - Type(s) and extent of wall construction
  - Type and condition of the wall finishes and decorative finishes on the inside faces of the party wall together with the degree of obstruction by fixtures and fittings
  - Width of cavity
  - Presence, type frequency and condition of cavity wall ties
  - Condition of mortar joints
  - DPC is present
  - Presence or not of debris in the cavity
  - Whether all ducts or pipes have sleeves or collars
  - The wind driven rain exposure zone (1-4) for the subject property(s) if any section of the party wall is external
  - The location of the wall and its exposure to wind driven rain based on orientation, height above ground level and local site topography if any section of the party wall is external
  - The presence or otherwise of overhangs, parapets or other construction detailing that influences the protection or exposure of the wall if any section of the wall is external
  - Cavity barriers are in position and there is sufficient masonry thickness between chimney (where present) and insulation
  - The presence and integrity of a firebreak wall in any roof void
  - o Points at which the cavity fill insulation requires containment to prevent "overspill"
- 3.1.2 If no part of the party wall is external, exposure zone values are not relevant and can be disregarded. Consideration should be made of acoustic and fire spread properties of any insulation selected for use, together with the method that would keep disruption of the internal finishes and decoration and building occupants to a minimum.
- 3.2 Narrow Cavities



3.2.1 The narrower a cavity becomes, the lower the maximum recommended exposure zone value becomes for full fill cavity insulation in any given location. For example, a 50mm wide cavity filled injected with non UF foam insulation into facing brickwork with tooled flush joints has a maximum recommended exposure zone of 2, whereas the same insulation material would have a recommended exposure zone of 3 in the same wall construction but with a 75mm cavity. Clearly, full fill cavity insulation cannot be used as widely in walls with narrow cavities as in walls with wider cavities and for sites with above average exposure, external or internal insulation options should be considered. The width of the cavity in every building considered for full fill cavity insulation should be determined by boroscope or localised opening up. If a narrow cavity is only encountered to a small proportion of the total wall area, this does not necessarily preclude the use of full fill cavity insulation and consideration should be given to a localised solution to narrow cavity width.





# 18 Appendix G: Summary of Access Solutions



# Davis Langdon Technical Note:

# **Summary of Access Solutions**

The following table summarises the Access and Making Good Costs. These are described in more detail with their underlying assumptions in the following sections.

ltem	Description	Access cost (£)	Making Good Cost (£/m2)		
Access					
High-Rise	Gondola	£26,000			
High-Rise	Abseil	£19,200			
Low-Rise (<5 storeys)	Scaffold	£4,240			
Low-Rise (<5 storeys)	Mobile elevation works platform	£3,000-£4,000			
Making Good					
	General		£6.64		
	Redecoration				
	Kitchen units		£41.35		

#### 18.1 High rise solutions

#### 18.1.1 Gondola system electronically operated

Approximately £850 for erection and dismantling.

A weekly hire rate of £150 per week.

£245 for each move (i.e. to another side of the building).

Survey and structural calculations £1,200

Operative (optional depending on training) £5,000

Lifting equipment (Cranage)/ equipment through the building £12,000

The typical load is 173kg per sq ft and that solution will always stay within the typical roof load capacity. Supplier also carry out a survey and undertake calculations prior to



Davis Langdon 🕜 DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 124 of 168

installation to prove adequacy of loading. Roof and balcony configuration is important to consider to ensure this method is physically possible.

The guide estimate for the high rise example used elsewhere in this study would be approximately £26,000.

#### 18.1.2 Abseil access

At the time of finalising this report (October 2010) there is only one company in the UK that holds BBA certification for the installation of cavity wall insulation using abseil access.

The company has given a guide estimate of approximately £36,000 to insulate a high rise block comprising 13 floors (64 units) excluding 2 lower floors, using a poly bead graphite product which it installs into high rise buildings. The total cost is broken down into approximately £19,200 for access only and £16,800 for insulation installation. An indicative programme suggests 8 – 10 working days for an abseiling team to complete the works

This estimate is based on the high rise example used elsewhere in this study.

#### 18.2 Low rise up to five storeys

#### 18.2.1 Scaffold over four storeys

Approximately £16 per sqm for erection and dismantling

A weekly hire charge of between £150 and £200 depending on locality

An estimated cost for access scaffold for a four storey block of 8 units could be approximately £3,840 plus hire charges over 2 weeks to give a total of £4,240.

#### 18.2.2 Mobile elevation working platforms

Approximately £550-900 per day variance depending on reach of MEWP.

An estimated cost of a MEWP for a four storey block of 8 units could be approximately between £3,000 and £4,000.

#### 18.3 Assumptions

All prices exclude VAT

Chimney stacks have not been factored in these dwelling types

Party wall cavities have not been factored in the example prices

No cleaning or clearing of occupiers effects are factored in to the example prices



#### 18.4 Internal access solution

Example for high rise block of flats where internal access is accepted by residents as an alternative to external access.

Internal costs per unit area would be similar for treating internal party walls.

Where the configuration of the flats in a block lead to an internal applied cavity wall solution, disruption to internal wall finishes to various rooms can be expected.

#### 18.5 Internal Installation – Costs to Make Good

#### **General Redecoration**

Installation of lining paper - £3.12 per m<sup>2</sup>

Two coats of emulsion - £3.54 per m<sup>2</sup>

Total - £6.66 per m<sup>2</sup>

#### **Kitchens**

#### Wall units

Removal of wall units - £12.60 per unit

Refixing of wall units - £18.51 per unit

Total per unit – £31.11 (assuming unit size of 600 x 300 x 720mm)

#### **Base units**

Removal of base units - £10.61 per unit

Refixing of base units - £18.51 per unit

Total per unit – £29.12 (assuming unit size of 600 x 600 x 870mm)

#### Sink units

Removal of sink units - £24.23 per unit (including temporarily capping off)

Refixing of sink units and reconnection - £26.97 per unit

Materials cost (O rings etc. as required) - £2.00 (Included in refit cost)

Total per unit – £51.20

#### **Electric hob**

Removal of integrated hob - £21.00 per unit (including temporarily disconnection)

Davis Langdon () DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 126 of 168

Refixing of integrated hob and reconnection - 25.60

Total per unit - £46.60

#### Worktops

Fixing of worktop - £5.31 per metre

Jointing strip at corner intersection of worktops (if required) - £10.30

#### **Ceramic Wall tiling**

Removing existing tiling - £7.15 per m<sup>2</sup>

Installation of new tiling and grout - £34.20 per m<sup>2</sup>

#### Total - £41.35 per m<sup>2</sup> (assuming 152 x 152 x 5.5mm tiles in white)

#### 18.6 Examples

#### 18.6.1 Flat with One External Elevation Wall

By way of example, a two bedroom flat on the tenth floor with 1 external wall with four window openings serving key rooms, Lounge, Bedrooms and Kitchen.

Internal access to each external wall and drilling / installing cavity wall insulation (EPS Bead) requiring the following making good.

Bedroom 1								
External wall – re	External wall – redecoration of one wall							
Bedroom 2								
External wall – re	External wall – redecoration of one wall							
Lounge	Lounge							
External wall – re	External wall – redecoration of one wall							
Kitchen								
External wall –	Redecoration of 4 walls							
	Removal and reinstatement of tiling above worktops							
	Removal and reinstatement of base kitchen units including sink							
Total redecoration and reinstatement of finishes - £717.62								



#### 18.6.2 Flat with Two External Elevation Walls

In contrast, a two bedroom flat on the tenth floor with external walls with four window openings serving key rooms, Lounge, Bedrooms and Kitchen.

Internal access to each external wall and drilling / installing cavity wall insulation (EPS Bead) requiring the following making good.

Bedroom 1 External wall – redecoration of all internal walls Bedroom 2 External wall – redecoration of one wall Lounge External wall – redecoration of one wall Kitchen External wall – Redecoration of all internal walls Removal and reinstatement of tiling above worktops Removal and reinstatement of base and wall kitchen units including sink and hob

Total redecoration and reinstatement of finishes - £877.04



# **19** Appendix H: Effect of CWI on Non-traditional Construction types



#### Davis Langdon Technical Note:

Summary of the effect of CWI on Non Traditional Construction Types for Dwellings in the UK

Non Traditional Construction Types in Support of Hard to Fill Cavities Wall Installations

References used for the compilation of this summary are:

- BRE Publications relating to Non Traditional Housing from a Classified List compiled by the BRE for reinforced concrete dwellings, steel framed and steel clad dwellings and timber framed housing between 1920 and 1975
- Specific reference has been made with BRE Publications 275 and 318 for Cast In-Situ Dwellings
- BR74 Preliminary Information for Panel Pre Cast Concrete Systems
- BR107 Prefabricated Reinforced Concrete
- BR113 Inspection and Assessment of Steel Frame and Steel Cladding Housing
- BR282 Timber Frame Housing Inspection and Assessment for Dwellings between 1920 and 1975

#### 19.1 Reinforced Concrete

The BRE have identified three broad approaches to reinforced construction of dwellings, these being cast in-situ dwellings, pre fabricated reinforced concrete dwellings, and large panel system (LPS) dwellings.

Cast in-situ concrete construction methods vary, with the majority of in-situ solutions being of a single skin construction. However there are examples in existence where cavity wall construction has been cast in-situ with formwork retained to form part of the cavity forming construction. There are further examples of in-situ reinforced concrete structure with a variety of external cladding panels, including brickwork, timber and GRP as examples.

In these instances the cavities could be adequate to receive cavity wall insulation. However, with all in-situ concrete structures the condition of the cavity forming materials may present defects to be rectified before considering the retrospective installation of cavity wall insulation. Consideration ought to be given to the possible reduction in life cycle cost of the external leaf and method of fastening of the leaf before retro-fit insulation is installed.

Prefabricated reinforced concrete dwellings typically comprise pre formed pre cast concrete columns with pre cast concrete panels individually tied to supporting structural columns. Large panel construction is similar to the prefabricated reinforced concrete construction as a method and with similar characteristics. Individual precast systems vary considerably and there is a wide range of systems/products available, each designed and constructed by different manufacturers. Depending on the system type, insulation was rarely installed in the wall cavities of these systems.



Davis Langdon 🔿 DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 130 of 168

The deterioration of reinforcement within the concrete as a result of climatic conditions, carbonation, chlorination content and water ingress particularly at joints between panels, is a common cause of failure.

Depending on the external cladding material, non masonry panels may limit the options available to install retrofit cavity wall insulation with appropriate consideration to retaining the current condition of the cavity forming materials and without advancing deterioration of those materials.

#### **19.2 Timber Frame Non Traditional Construction BRE Digest T282**

Timber frame construction has been defined by the BRE to evolve over three periods dating back between 1920 and 1944, 1945 to 1965 and 1966 to 1975. The changes in construction detailing for timber frame reflect external wall construction and insulation methods defined through changes in building standards and the building regulations. The three principle forms of timber wall construction identified by the BRE as non traditional form are:

- Directly clad solid timber planking (no cavity)
- Directly clad stud frame external wall (insulation between studs)
- Stud frame wall with separate cladding (insulation between studs only with a separate cavity)

The vast majority of timber frame construction are built using platform construction, i.e. one storey on top of another. In each of the methods cavities are internal and integral to the frame with the exception of the clad solid timber planking. The most common method is the stud frame wall with separate cladding which could be formed from a combination of materials including brickwork external leaf with wall ties tying it back to the structure.

Early timber frame construction tends not to incorporate features to ventilate the wall cavity. Where porous materials form the external leaf, designs have evolved to deal with water penetration and keeping cavities clear between leaves. Specific problems relate to the deterioration of sole plates to the timber structure internal leaf where products have failed or poor workmanship has resulted in moisture penetration to the timber structure from the bottom of the cavity.

The resilience of the cavity forming materials is a key consideration for timber construction where retrofit cavity installation is to be considered. Often the building paper membrane has degraded particularly at low level presenting a pathway for moisture to reach the internal leaf and especially where porous cladding materials form the external leaf. In these instances, a close cell vapour permeable cavity wall insulation option could be considered if appropriate repairs are made to the cavity forming materials and ventilation is introduced to the sealed cavities to enable moisture to wick away from the internal structure and cavity. The condition of the internal leaf should be ascertained and insulated before considering retro fit insulation to the cavity between leaves.



#### 19.3 Steel Frame BR113

There are four broad bands types of steel frame and steel clad construction identified by BR113 and are derived according to their distinguishing features.

- Type 1 framed structure with outer leaf brickwork or other masonry or other cladding with rendered mesh (significant differences in the structural frame and components form a complex overall structure).
- Type 2 framed, concrete panel clad (the various systems under this type have significant differences in the support methods therefore systems should be identified and appropriate system report consulted).
- Type 3 framed steel clad (characteristics include an impervious outer cladding presenting condensation to the back of the outer leaf fixed to the structure)
- Type 4 reinforced load bearing panels (no separate frame composite construction).

Construction types 1 to 3 describe a structural frame located in the cavity forming the support for internal and external cladding materials. The variances of the number of types are such that the composite wall thicknesses varies widely and therefore affects the thermal performance across the composite external wall structures.

Due to the thermal properties of the different materials, the application of specific insulation methods of non traditionally constructed steel frame buildings require specific knowledge and a simulation of characteristics in order to recognise the risks of advanced material deterioration. Inappropriate application of insulation products to the cavities, next to the structure, may vary the performance of the cavity forming materials that may require additional remedies to ensure longevity and structural stability of the dwelling and its cladding components.

#### 19.4 Summary

Cavity wall insulation applications to non traditional forms of housing construction should take into account a number of considerations including climatic factors, component life cycle and compatibility of composite construction methods. Due to the variants between different non traditional construction systems, and to the limited number of properties of each type built, there are instances where the structural type is not readily classified under the investigation by the BRE. As a result of the variances of the structure and the cladding detailing, the thermal performance of composite external wall structures presents conditions that are inherently more complex in treating than traditional construction techniques.

A survey for the building should identify the existing construction and where possible identify the conditions of cavity forming materials. If other defects exist in the construction forms then remedial works should be considered before the installation of cavity wall insulation. Other such problems may be spawling concrete, corroding wall ties, delaminating brickwork, defective construction under workmanship techniques of the composite structure including

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foundations. Consideration should be given to climatic conditions and behavioural properties of the materials forming the cavities in conjunction with the properties of the cavity wall installation product to ensure that the material compatibility covers a longer term and does not present adverse effects on the cavity materials that will require considerable repair in the medium term.

In addition to the relative forms of moisture ingress, the incidence of condensation and cold bridging occurring in existing dwellings dating back to prior 1975 occur more frequently in the non traditional forms of construction particular with concrete and steel. The conditions generated in the cavity as a result installing cavity wall insulation may reduce the life cycle of the structural components.

The choice of retrofit cavity wall installation products is more complex in non traditional housing types, requiring expert knowledge to identify appropriate solutions. In many instances, more appropriate thermal solutions may provide a better thermal performance than other construction and insulation methodologies.





# 20 Appendix I: Cavity Wall cancellation survey: InstaFibre Consortium



Cavity Wall cancellation survey: InstaFibre Consortium 2009-2010

**Technical Factors for Cancellation** 





Technical and Non-technical reasons for Cancellation

CWI Cancellation Reason	No of Jobs	% of Jobs
Cavity too narrow	103	1.4%
Cracks in the Render	2	0.0%
Damp problem	93	1.2%
Metal Frame	16	0.2%
No Access	385	5.1%
Property is random stone	27	0.4%
Rubble in Cavity	53	0.7%
Scaffolding Required	50	0.7%
Solid Walls	933	12.3%
Timber Framed Ventilation requirements not met: Customer refused to have vent	131	1.7%
installed	86	1.1%
Total	1879	19.8%
% CWI Cancellations	20%	Note 1
Customer Cancellation Reason	No of Jobs	
Client - Costs	314	4.1%
Client has missed several appointments	273	3.6%
Client no longer interested	3568	47.0%
No response from client	3436	45.3%
Total	7591	80.2%
% Customer Cancellations	80%	Note 2
	9470	Note 3
<b>Total Cancelled Jobs</b> Note 1: Originally 9% Awaiting confirmation		
Note 2: Originally 35% Awaiting confirmation		
Note 3: Originally 21921 Awaiting confirmation		



### 21 Appendix J: Assessment of CWI market: BRUFMA









- <u>Non-Traditional Housing</u>: We estimate that there are 230,000 of these around the UK (<sup>Ref 3)</sup>, many of which have not been insulated for various reasons. We know there are 1500 un-insulated Wates Houses which belong to Birmingham City Council where PUR has been specified on the first phase (<sup>Ref 4)</sup>
- <u>High-Rise dwellings</u>: Many of the 480,000 (Ref 3) in the UK have been built with cavity construction and a large number are not insulated and may have structural and weatherproofing issues (Ref 5)

BRUFMA therefore estimates the total number of properties with "Hard to Fill" Cavities at 1.35 million.

"Hard to Fill" cavities can be insulated with an in-situ injected PUR insulant which offers an excellent insulation value. The insulation is installed by injection from the outside of the property so disruption is minimal, and the installation costs are much lower than external wall insulation.

Some of the benefits of using this type of insulation are:

- Can be used to insulate cavities of sub 50mm width.
- Can be used to insulate cavities of variable width where the narrow parts are below 50 mm, for example in random stone properties.
- Suitable for use in cavities in High Rise Properties.
- Suitable for use in properties of non-traditional construction and other types of Hard to Treat Homes.
- Provides higher insulation value than "standard" insulation measures, with typical thermal conductivities of 0.026 Wm-1K-1.
- Installed under BBA Certification Scheme.
- Listed by OFGEM as qualifying for funding under the CERT scheme.
- Reduces unwanted air leakage as it seals all gaps in the cavity wall.
- Resistant to wind-driven rain and suitable for all UK weather exposure zones.
- Provides a flood resilient insulation barrier as it is completely water resistant.
- Installation costs can vary widely depending on the cavity width and property type but a typical 3 bed semi can be insulated for approx £1500.

Many properties have already been treated successfully with PUR insulation including Multi-Storey High-Rise properties in Edinburgh, Liverpool, Rochdale, etc with variable cavity widths from 80mm to 25mm, Non-Traditional House types (for example, Wates, Orlit, Trustreel, etc), random stones properties, etc. (see attached Case Studies)







# 22 Appendix K: Risk Workshop attendees

Attendees:

Baring Insulation
BBA
BRUFMA
Davis Langdon LLP
Davis Langdon LLP
Davis Langdon LLP
DECC
DECC
DECC
EAGA
Inbuilt
Inbuilt
INCA
Isothane
Knauf Insulation
LB Camden
Polypearl
Polypearl
Rockwool Ltd




## 23 Appendix L: Risk Workshop presentations: 4<sup>th</sup> June 2010



	RESEARCH PROJECT ON "HARD TO TREAT CAVITIES"
	Science & Analysis Team, DECC
	4 <sup>th</sup> June 2010
De	mand reduction will help us meet CO <sub>2</sub>
	Compared with 1990, UK greenhouse gas emissions over
1.	the 2018-2022 period must be 34% lower
1. 2.	the 2018-2022 period must be 34% lower Effort is required from all sectors:
1. 2.	the 2018-2022 period must be 34% lower Effort is required from all sectors: e.g. For household sector 28% reduction of direct emissions relative to 2008 emissions is needed







The C	Challenge
BRE	classifies cavities into four categories:
1.	Standard fillable
2.	Less problematic
3.	Problematic
> 4 st	toreys
< 75%	% masonry pointing
4.	Unfillable
Steel	or timber frame
No ma	asonry pointing
Categ milli	gories 3 & 4 account for around 4.5m cavities, and around 1 lion cavities have been filled since 2008.
Aim	of project
Inves insu	stigate the technical problems, feasibility, costs and risks of ulating:
• Higł	in rise buildings
• High • Part	ty walls
• Higł • Part • Nari	n rise buildings ty walls rrow cavities
<ul> <li>High</li> <li>Part</li> <li>Nari</li> <li>Cav</li> </ul>	n rise buildings ty walls rrow cavities vities in areas affected by driving rain
<ul> <li>High</li> <li>Part</li> <li>Nari</li> <li>Cav</li> <li>Timl</li> </ul>	n rise buildings ty walls rrow cavities vities in areas affected by driving rain nber framed houses

















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09:30	Workshop start Overvlew of the study Penny Dunbabin, DECC Study approach, purpose of the workshop John Connaughton, Davis Langdon	
09:45	What the market is telling us: emerging findings form industry consultation Casimir Iwaszkiewicz, Inbuilt Questions and Answers	
10:15	<b>Costs and risks: emerging findings</b> John Connaughton and Brian Hayes-Lewin, Davis Langdon Questions and answers	
10:45	Break	
11:00	Focus on risks: how important are they, and how can they be mitigated? John Connaughton, Richard Newey, Brian Hayes-Lewin and Casimir Iwaszkiewicz	
12:30	Risks and mitigation: sum-up Report-back from breakout groups	
12:40	Implications for the study: the way ahead John Connaughton and Casimir Iwaszkiewicz	
12:50	Final points; Any other business	
13:00	Close, light lunch	
	00000000000000000000000000000000000000	lon ()
	Davis Langd	lon ()
Hard to fill Solutions, John Connaug Brian Hayes-L	Davis Langd Davis Langdon Davis Langdon	
Hard to fill Solutions, John Connaug Brian Hayes-L	Davis Langd Davis Langdon Davis Langdon Lewin	
Hard to fill Solutions, John Connaug Brian Hayes-L	Davis Langd Davis Langdon Davis Langdon Lewin	
Hard to fill Solutions, John Connaug Brian Hayes-L	Davis Langdon Davis Langdon Cavity walls in domestic buildings: their likely costs and risks ghton Lewin	







Davis Langdon 🕜 DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 157 of 168





Davis Langdon 🕜 DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 159 of 168

### Risks – key issues

- O Three key categories:
  - Procedural/market
  - Product/installation
  - Performance in use

• The following risks are 'generic' – there are more detailed risks associated with each solution/application:

- Have we identified the key risks?
- Are there others?
- O How do we avoid/reduce these risks? What mitigation would be effective, and who should be responsible?

# 0

Risk Category/Risk Consequence Cause, eg 1. Procedural / Market a) Grant application fails No / low take up (no CO2 reduction) CWI system not approved / certified b) Lack of product innovation/choice Difficult scenarios not addressed Highly price-sensitive market with no incentive for innovation c) Insufficient client interest No / low take up (no CO2 reduction) Lack of awareness of technical solutions, costs, risks, 2. Product / Installation a) Physical constraints of No / low take up Various: quality, condition and type of construction type limits installation construction. Some building systems unable to achieve BBA certification b) Physical constraints of No / low take up Building shape; height; degree of building/dwelling type limits Expensive installation costs (eg difficult modification (eg extensions, conservatories, installation access; working at height) etc) No / low take up c) Location/climate conditions limit Location specific exposure rating installation Poor performance in use d) Hazardous materials Expensive installation costs Product manufacture; compliance with accepted standards e) High embodied energy / CO2 of Reduced (net) CO<sub>2</sub> performance Manufacturing process product f) Damage to building fabric / interior Poor installation. Condition of cavity. No / low take up Cost of remedial work Inadequate survey 3. Performance in Use Reduction in energy savings; energy cost and a) Poor thermal performance Inappropriate product for construction type; (inadequate heat retention) expected CO<sub>2</sub> reduction poor condition of cavity; inadequate survey, etc b) Deterioration in cavity-forming Damp penetration problems; Corrosion/failure Rain penetration across cavity; change in materials of structural elements from interstitial dewpoint within cavity, etc condensation c) Escape of insulant from cavity Unauthorised modifications to fabric (e.g. Reduction in energy savings, etc Cold bridging. new windows)

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Study on hard to fill cavity walls in domestic dwellings in GB



#### 24 Appendix M: Glossary of terms

Abbreviation	Meaning
BBA	<b>British Board of Agrément:</b> An authority offering approval of construction products, systems and installers.
BS EN	<b>British European Standards Specifications</b> : A set of standard British technical standards based on a common European wide standard.
CIGA	<b>Cavity Insulation Guarantee Agency</b> : An insulation guarantee agency
DPC	<b>Damp Proof Course</b> : An impervious membrane laid about two brick courses above ground level to prevent damp from rising.
EHCS	<b>English House Condition Survey</b> : A national survey of housing in England, commissioned by Communities and Local Government and updated annually.
HTF	<b>Hard to Fill</b> : A form of cavity wall that is considered problematic to fill due to: obstructions in access, an inconsistent internal width of cavity, excessive height of application, exposed location subject to driving wind and rain, non-standard cavity wall construction i.e. differing from a wall comprising an outer brick leaf, a cavity and an inner brick leaf.
NHBC	<b>National House Building Council</b> : A standard setting body and warranty provider for new and newly-converted homes.
PAYS	<b>Pay As You Save</b> : A government backed scheme to provide financial incentives to home owners who take up energy saving measures
SAP	<b>Standard Assessment Procedure</b> : The Government's recommended method for measuring the energy rating of residential dwellings.



Technical Term	Description
Air Brick	Perforated brick used for ventilation, especially to floor
	voids (beneath timber floors) and roof spaces.
BBA Surveillance Scheme	A scheme to approve installers of BBA products
Boroscope	An optical device that allows a surveyor to look inside a
	cavity through a small bore opening in the leaf of a wall.
Butter Fly Wall Ties	An alternative form of wall tie holding the inner and outer
	leaves of a cavity wall together and shaped as a figure of
	eight.
Carbonation	A chemical reaction that occurs in the outer layer of mortar
	and concrete increasing its causticity towards metal
	including wall ties.
Cavity Tray	A plastic insert placed in the cavity wall that courses
	moisture out of the cavity via weep holes in the outer leaf
	of a cavity wall.
Dew point position	The position within the wall at which water vapour
	condenses into water. The dew point position is affected by
	the amount and location of insulation in the wall.
Exposure Zone	A measure of how prone a building is to wind driven rain.
Outer Leaf	The outer wall bordering the cavity
U-value	A measure of the insulation properties of a material. A wall
	with a low U-value has a better insulating performance than
	one with a higher U-value.
Wall Ties	A metal fixing linking inner and outer cavity skins or
	external cladding to timber framework.
Weep Holes	Holes in the outer skin of the building to allow moisture to
	escape from the cavity
Cold Bridge	A location within the building fabric where the building's
	insulation is broken or crossed. A cold bridge is an
	unwanted location losing heat and a potential cause of
	condensation build-up leading to mould growth and/or
	Structural actay.

#### 25 Appendix N: Stakeholders

Name	Activity	Organisation
Chris Sanders	Academic	Caledonian University
Prof Malcolm Bell	Academic	Leeds Metropolitan
Steve McBurney	Agency	CERT managers
Mark Brown	Agency	EEPfH - Energy Efficiency Partnership for Housing, Insulation Group/Fuel Poverty Action/Social Housing
Scott Restrick	Agency	Energy Action Scotland
Mat Colmer	Agency	EST – Energy Saving Trust
Ben Castle	Agency	EST Practical Help programme
TBC	Agency	HCA – Homes and Communities Agency
Rob Peck	Agency	PFH/SHESP contact
Ian Bailey	ALMO	Ashfield Homes Limited
John Lythe	ALMO	Berneslai Homes
Suraj Shah	ALMO	Brent Housing Partnership
Chris Williams	ALMO	Cheltenham Borough Homes
Ellen Gava	ALMO	Kensington & Chelsea Tenant
Chris Maarhausa		
Maya Bobill	ALMO	National Enderation of ALMO's
Andy Dowbury	ALMO	National Federation of ALMOS
Mondy Stowart	ALMO	Reside la Reroughwide Housing
	ALMO	Ct Coorgos Community Housing
Henderson	ALIVIO	St Georges community Housing Ltu
Lydia Wisby	ALMO	Stevenage Homes
Joe Keating	ALMO	Stockport Homes
Andy Simmonds	Association	AECB - Association of Environmentally Concious Builders
Melanie Price	Association	BRUFMA - British Rigid Urethane Foam Manufacturers' Association
Alan Onslow	Association	BUFCA - British Urethane Foam Contractors Association
Matthew Sharp	Association	EAGA
Gary Bundy	Association	Inca
Neil Marshall	Association	National Insulation Association
Joe Blaisdale	Certification	BBA – British Board of Agrément
Stephen Ryman	Government	DECC

Davis Langdon () DECC ref: CESA EE0211 Page 165 of 168

Richard Moores	Installer	Baring Insulation
Tony Hardiman	Installer	Dyson Insulation
Bradley Isaac	Installer	Instafibre
Nina Lajara	Installer	Instafibre
Mr Webb	Installer	Interglow
Paul Mcleish	Installer	Kershaw
Ken Middlemiss	Installer	KNW
Walter French	Installer	Mark Group
Paul O'Driscoll	Installer-Main	Wates
	Contractor	
Peter Dicks	Guarantee	CIGA - The Cavity Insulation Guarantee
		Agency Ltd
David Malsolm	Local Authority	Calderdale Council
David Malsolm Peter Bridgstock	Local Authority Local Authority	Calderdale Council Hambleton District Council
David Malsolm Peter Bridgstock Daniel White	Local Authority Local Authority Local Authority	Calderdale Council Hambleton District Council LB Camden
David Malsolm Peter Bridgstock Daniel White Ross Mitchell	Local Authority Local Authority Local Authority Local Authority	Calderdale Council Hambleton District Council LB Camden Merton Council
David Malsolm Peter Bridgstock Daniel White Ross Mitchell	Local Authority Local Authority Local Authority Local Authority	Calderdale Council Hambleton District Council LB Camden Merton Council
David Malsolm Peter Bridgstock Daniel White Ross Mitchell Lawrence Connelly	Local Authority Local Authority Local Authority Local Authority Manufacturer	Calderdale Council Hambleton District Council LB Camden Merton Council EAGA
David Malsolm Peter Bridgstock Daniel White Ross Mitchell Lawrence Connelly Mervyn Kirk	Local Authority Local Authority Local Authority Local Authority Manufacturer Manufacturer	Calderdale Council Hambleton District Council LB Camden Merton Council EAGA Isothane
David Malsolm Peter Bridgstock Daniel White Ross Mitchell Lawrence Connelly Mervyn Kirk Andy Patel	Local Authority Local Authority Local Authority Local Authority Manufacturer Manufacturer Manufacturer	Calderdale Council Hambleton District Council LB Camden Merton Council EAGA Isothane Kingspan
David Malsolm Peter Bridgstock Daniel White Ross Mitchell Lawrence Connelly Mervyn Kirk Andy Patel Stephen Wise	Local Authority Local Authority Local Authority Local Authority Manufacturer Manufacturer Manufacturer Manufacturer	Calderdale Council Hambleton District Council LB Camden Merton Council EAGA Isothane Kingspan Knauf Insulation
David Malsolm Peter Bridgstock Daniel White Ross Mitchell Lawrence Connelly Mervyn Kirk Andy Patel Stephen Wise Ian Tebb	Local Authority Local Authority Local Authority Local Authority Manufacturer Manufacturer Manufacturer Manufacturer Manufacturer	Calderdale Council Hambleton District Council LB Camden Merton Council EAGA Isothane Kingspan Knauf Insulation Polypearl
David Malsolm Peter Bridgstock Daniel White Ross Mitchell Lawrence Connelly Mervyn Kirk Andy Patel Stephen Wise Ian Tebb Nick Ralph	Local Authority Local Authority Local Authority Local Authority Manufacturer Manufacturer Manufacturer Manufacturer Manufacturer Manufacturer	Calderdale Council Hambleton District Council LB Camden Merton Council EAGA Isothane Kingspan Knauf Insulation Polypearl Rockwool Ltd
David Malsolm Peter Bridgstock Daniel White Ross Mitchell Lawrence Connelly Mervyn Kirk Andy Patel Stephen Wise Ian Tebb Nick Ralph David Burton	Local Authority Local Authority Local Authority Local Authority Manufacturer Manufacturer Manufacturer Manufacturer Manufacturer Manufacturer	Calderdale Council Hambleton District Council LB Camden Merton Council EAGA Isothane Kingspan Knauf Insulation Polypearl Rockwool Ltd Saint Gobain isover

#### 25.1 Advisory Group

- DECC Dr Penny Dunbabin
- CIGA Gerry Miller
- Inbuilt Casimir Iwaszkiewicz
- Davis Langdon John Connaughton



Study on hard to fill cavity walls in domestic dwellings in GB



Contact details

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