

## The C.H.E.E.S.E PROJECT - October 2017

<http://www.cheeseproject.co.uk/> info@cheeseproject.co.uk

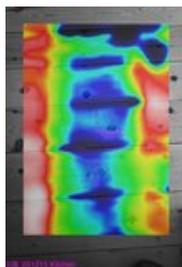
The project was started in November 2014, and aims to reduce domestic heat loss to achieve warmer homes and a cooler planet. It is volunteer led, non-profit, low-cost and community-based, and it delivers dual benefits: 1. saving money and improving comfort for the fuel-poor, and 2. reducing greenhouse gas emissions. We have developed a unique, highly effective combination of thermal-imaging expertise with bespoke equipment and software to perform detailed *internal* surveys in cold weather. These identify precisely where remedial action is needed. Participating householders can actually see how energy is escaping from their homes. Up to a third of domestic heat loss is due to draughts, which can be remedied easily at low cost. A video of the survey is supplied on a memory-stick, providing a powerful motivation for householders to take remedial action, while obviating the time and cost of a written report. We then lend householders a 'C.H.E.E.S.E Box' box of energy-monitoring meters and Haynes Eco-House Guide for a month. Of our participants, 73% undertake low cost improvements within three months. We offer free surveys to those on low incomes, working in conjunction with community NGOs that can provide financially-assisted remedies and labour, or help to access grants for remedial work. In winter 2016-17 we carried out 56 internal surveys – one third of them for free.

The Project is grateful for the Naturesave grant which will aid expanding our surveying kit and purchasing more C.H.E.E.S.E Boxes. From November to March 2018 we expect to survey over 100 homes in the Greater Bristol area, ~40 of them for free. We have already successfully:

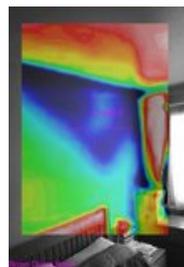
- Developed bespoke low-cost equipment: including FLIR thermal cameras, iPhones, and tablet computers, integrated with our own C.H.E.E.S.E. iPhone app.
- Refined a unique survey method based on extensive experience.
- Developed a training course and trained 21 local, paid, thermal surveyors.
- Developed a sophisticated public website and a private website for data collection and analysis of energy loss and remedial action taken.
- Taken 11,000 external thermal images of homes for awareness-raising, available on the [www.heatview.co.uk](http://www.heatview.co.uk) website - combined with Google Streetview images.
- Won the Bristol Green Capital 'Volunteers for Energy Award'.



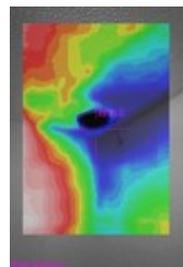
Training session



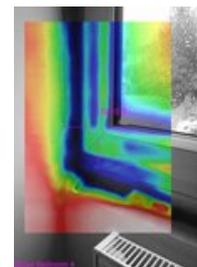
Draughts between floorboards



Missing cavity wall insulation



Cold bathroom vent



Poorly fitted window