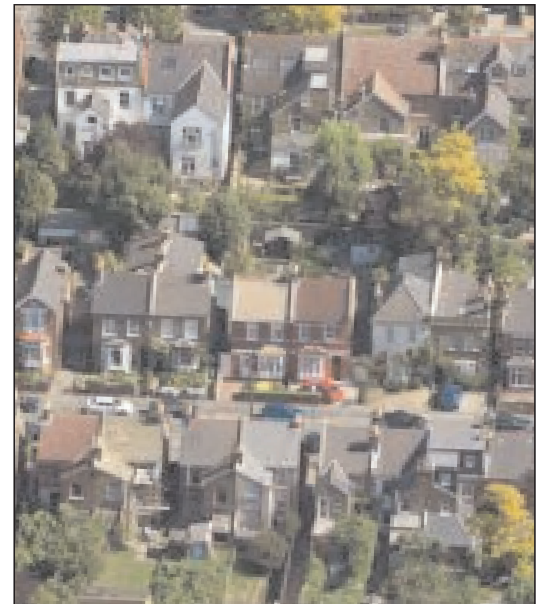


The Future

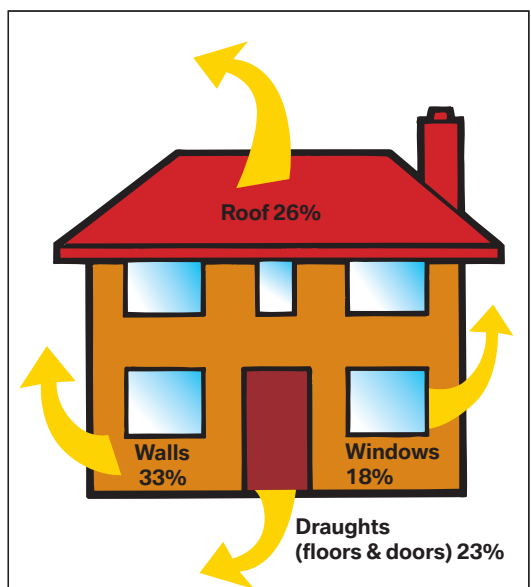
4c

Sustainable homes

- Many of the homes of the future have already been built – we are living in them already! Houses that were built some time ago may not be efficient and waste energy. When our homes need to be repaired or improved, or machines replaced, we can choose more sustainable replacements.
- Solar panels and wind turbines could supply electricity for the home in the future and also feed surplus power into the National Grid.
- When wood is bought it will be labelled if it is 'Sustainable Timber' from managed forests, where new trees are planted to replace those felled.
- Triple glazing stops heat being lost from windows.
- New washing machines and dishwashers can be compared with other models to check that they consume less water.
- Toilets can be bought that have a smaller cistern and dual flush, so that less water is used. Dirty water from the house can be recycled and used to flush the toilet.
- Reed beds can be built to filter sewage from small groups of houses. Some toilets use no water and turn the waste into compost.
- Many new homes will be made in factories and assembled on site, using less energy and saving time.
- All homes should have efficient insulation in their walls and lofts – this can save 20% on fuel bills.
- Lastly, and perhaps most important, the people living in the house should act sustainably and not waste energy or resources. For example, turn down thermostats; cook in one pan whenever possible.



We use lots of energy in our homes.



There are many ways heat can be lost from our homes.

Research Links

www.energysavingtrust.org.uk
www.energysavingwales.org.uk