

BUILDING SERVICES

ESTATE REFURBISHMENT

PiLON, the complete refurbishment specialists, have completed a project on the Blackstock Estate in Islington, north London, as a subcontractor to Balfour Beatty. Homes for Islington had asked Balfour Beatty to refurbish 100 homes in occupied, tenanted properties, to bring them up to government Decent Homes standards, and PiLON's task was to replace all of the kitchens and bathrooms.

The kitchens were over 30 years old, and many of the bathrooms 40, which meant that all of the units and bathroom suites needed to be removed. As the homes remained occupied throughout, the toilets were always replaced on the same day, and even though proper cooking facilities were temporarily affected, a hot and cold water supply was always left to a temporary kitchen sink unit at the end of each day.

Over a typical 15 day period per property, PiLON's job was to install a new kitchen and bathroom utilising a team of 15-20 multi-skilled tradesmen depending on the extent and nature of work needed on each day. The team would start five new properties each week and within the

kitchens had to work around a variety of occupiers' existing appliances, altering the units to fit the available space. Following removal of the old wall tiling new electrical sockets were provided and then new splashbacks. In the bathrooms, PiLON replaced wall tiling and flooring as well as the bath, basin and sink. On completion both rooms also received complete redecoration.

Working together with and ensuring the involvement and happiness of the tenants was of the utmost importance. This in part was achieved by giving residents the opportunity to make choices from a range of options as follows: kitchen unit style and colour; kitchen unit handles and worktops; wall tiles; floor coverings and wall paint colours to both kitchen and bathroom.

On the basis of their past performance and competitiveness, Balfour Beatty have subsequently awarded PiLON with four further contracts for works being undertaken on behalf of Homes for Islington.

Email: bd@pilon.co.uk

Web: www.pilon.co.uk



RADS FOR REFURBISHMENT

“Heat Electric radiators are perfect for any refurbishment project - no maintenance issues, no flues and easy to install - it's a heating source that fitters, specifiers and users genuinely approve of.”

Phil Boraston, Director of Birmingham-based Mechanical & Electrical consultancy New Medallion, spent over 30 years with the Midlands Electricity Board covering roles as broad as

electrician to specification, before launching New Medallion Ltd in March 2004.

Phil specified Heat Electric's innovative LST (Low Surface Temperature) radiators into two libraries within Solihull Borough Council - Hampton in Arden and Marston Green. The results couldn't have been better.

“The Heat Electric range is perfect for any refurbishment project. The radiators display all the characteristics of 'wet' central heating but there's no need for a boiler, gas supply or pipework and the radiating heat from the water-filled emitters dries the air far less and therefore is more comfortable than conventional electric panel/convactor heating,” he explains.

“Our libraries were old buildings which needed a constant temperature to keep visitors comfortable but without any risk of contact burns. The Heat Electric LST model has a specialised casing which doesn't exceed 43° C - it removes the risk of burns while still achieving a comfortable room temperature. The system also meets strict NHS safety guidelines making it perfect for hospitals, nursing homes, schools and children's nurseries.”

Email: info@heatelectric-uk.com

Web: www.intheatingsystems.co.uk



REDLAND WELCOMES GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

Redland, the UK's leading solar-renewable roofing supplier, has welcomed this week's Government announcement on Feed in Tariffs, which are designed to incentivise small scale, low carbon electricity generation.

The new Feed in Tariffs will provide “clean energy cashback” for householders, communities and businesses who invest in technology to generate electricity on their property.

Redland, which is launching its second generation of roof-integrated PV tiles this spring, believes this is just the kick-start needed to encourage both housing developers and consumers to invest in solar technology and directly tackle climate change.

Said Redland's Head of Marketing, Richard Hartley: “Nearly every house in this country has a pitched roof which could be used to generate clean electricity. The new Feed in Tariffs recognise the importance of electricity-generating roof tiles to the climate change agenda, with both the highest tariff levels (up to 41.3p/kWh) and the longest tariff lifetime (25 years). In real terms, tariff levels have been set to



provide a rate of return of around 5-8%”

“With this in mind, it is obviously vital that both the systems and the roof will perform throughout that period. Redland's latest PV tile systems have been specifically designed to integrate with five of our most popular tile ranges in the housing market, and offer both aesthetic and roof performance benefits over above-the-roof systems, which if poorly fitted can compromise the weathertightness of the roof.”

The new roof-integrated PV tile systems are included in Redland's 15 year Roof Guarantee, which assures the durability and weathertightness of the whole roof.

Email: sales.redland@monier.com
Web: www.redland.co.uk