

# Making Green Come True, 5 December 2020

## Conference Pack

### Programme

<b>12:45</b>	<b>Arrive on Zoom</b>
<b>13:00</b>	<p><b><u>Opening panel with Q&amp;A and discussion</u></b></p> <p><b>Ruth London</b>, Fuel Poverty Action</p> <p><b>Pauline Saunders</b>, CIVALLI, supporting victims of failed cavity wall insulation</p> <p><b>Tracey Rogers</b>, resident, Pembroke Park, Hillingdon</p> <p><b>Tony O'Brien</b>, Trades Union Congress London East and South East Pensioners Network</p> <p><b>Stuart Hodgkinson</b>, campaigning academic and author</p> <p><i>The government is talking about making homes more energy efficient - to cut down carbon emissions and to save on heating bills. But the energy efficiency we get in practice, as retrofits or new build homes, is often nothing like what we are promised - if we get any at all. This session will explore the issues of accountability in housing and the gulf between green promises and reality.</i></p>
<b>14:00</b>	<p><b><u>Breakout rooms: What's on offer?</u></b></p> <p><b>Rhiannon Hughes</b>, Southwark Group of Tenants Organisation, and <b>Claire Glasman</b>, WinVisible (Women with visible and invisible disabilities)</p> <p><b>Graeme</b>, Malus Court Tenants and Residents Association, and <b>Phil Murphy</b>, fire safety expert</p> <p><b>Donal Brown</b>, RetrofitWorks</p> <p><b>Tom Woolley</b>, architect, researcher and consultant</p> <p><b>Asad Rehman</b>, War on Want</p>
<b>14:15</b>	<b>Break</b>

<b>14:30 - 15:15</b>	<p><b><u>Breakout rooms</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Listening to residents: the route to housing fit for all</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Fire safety: Salford tenants' battles, and the new Building Safety Bill</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">UK homes are 'heating the streets': how can we keep warm instead?</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Too slow, too fast? The pace of retrofits, training workers, and winning good, green jobs</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">No sustainability without justice, from the point of extraction on up</a></li> </ul>
<b>15:15</b>	<p><b>Break</b></p>
<b>15:30</b>	<p><b><u>Concluding plenary discussion</u></b></p> <p>Chair: <b>Alexa Waud</b>, Fuel Poverty Action</p> <p><i>This final session is a chance to continue and deepen the exchanges and debates that were started in the breakout rooms, and consider how we can incorporate what we have learned into our work towards warm, safe homes.</i></p>
<b>16:30</b>	<p><b>End of conference</b></p>

## Breakout rooms: What's on offer?

### Listening to residents: the fight for housing that's fit for all

*This breakout room will focus on the role of Tenants and Residents organisations in fighting for insulation and warmth and in holding social/private landlords accountable, how they are under attack, and what hope there is for increased accountability. It will also look at the fight for homes fit for the people who live in them, whether we're old, young, or children, and whatever our disabilities, family sizes, and needs.*

## **Fire safety: Salford tenants' battles, and the new Building Safety Bill**

*Residents of Pendleton Together, in Salford, live in 9 high rise blocks that are the mirror image of Grenfell Tower, and have only just had their cladding removed. Now it's cold. Tenants will report on their ongoing battles to get homes fit to live in. Plus: In response to the pressure following Grenfell, the government is creating a new regulatory system governing high-rise building and fire safety. They've promised that residents' voices and safety will be at the heart of it. How can we hold them to it?*

## **UK homes are 'heating the streets': how can we keep warm instead?**

*This breakout room will focus on insulation types and ventilation: what standards are we aiming for and what materials are safe, functional, non-toxic, sustainable, and can be available at scale? Passivhaus, enerphit, or natural ventilation; rockwool or hemp: or should we instead be focusing on renewable-energy heating? A chance to engage with these ongoing debates.*

## **Too slow, too fast? The pace of retrofits, training workers, and winning good, green jobs**

*The current pace of retrofitting homes falls miles short of any realistic climate target. But when projects move too quickly with contractors seeking profit at the expense of workers' and residents' safety and health, the results are disastrous. How do we ensure that a secure, well-trained, well paid, secure, caring workforce can carry out the transformation that our quality of life - and the future - depend on?*

## **No sustainability without justice, from the point of extraction on up**

*Plastic-based insulation means continued extraction of fossil fuels, a process also leading to wars, repression, impoverishment, and destruction of environments round the world, and locking us further into climate change. Yet if our homes continue to heat the streets, they'll require more energy. And if it comes from renewable sources, this requires mining of rare earth metals, now carried out at the expense of peoples across the globe. How can our movements align to press for an alternative - not unabated climate change, nor profit driven supply chains that devastate the global South?*

## Virtual Stalls

*We invited conference participants to set out a stall with whatever they think will be useful for others to see and take away. Several contributed.*

### Organisations

Civalli	Southwark Group of Tenants
Fuel Poverty Action	Organisation (SGTO)
Green Left	Sustainable Hackney
Green Party Trade Union Group	Tower Blocks UK
Homes For All	WinVisible
National Pensioners Convention	

<u>Organisation</u>	<u>About</u>	<u>Contact</u>
	<p><b>CIVALLI</b> is a free resource and community interest project, run by volunteers most of whom have had their lives negatively impacted by an installation of cavity wall insulation that was defective in some way.</p>	<p>Visit <a href="#">our website</a> and contact us <a href="#">via this form</a>.</p>
	<p><b>Fuel Poverty Action (FPA)</b> campaigns against the causes of fuel poverty, working with people challenging rip-off energy and heat providers, and policies that leave people cold - or, in the summer, overheating. We take action for warm, well-insulated homes and clean and affordable energy, under the control of people and communities, not private interests.</p> <p>Fuel Poverty Action is UNFUNDED and entirely run by devoted volunteers. If you would like to see our work continue, please consider making a <a href="#">one-off donation here</a>, or becoming a <a href="#">Friend of FPA, here</a>.</p>	<p>Contact us via <a href="#">this form</a> and sign up to our newsletter <a href="#">here</a>!</p> <p>Follow us on Twitter: <a href="#">@fuelpovaction</a></p>

	<p><b>Green Left</b> has been launched as a network for socialists and other radicals in the Green Party of England and Wales. It will act as an outreach body that will communicate the party's radical policies to socialists and other anti-capitalists outside the party. Read the full founding statement <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>Find out <a href="#">how to join</a> the Green Left.</p>	<p>Follow us on <a href="#">Twitter</a>: @GreenLeftUK</p>
 <p>The logo features a green square with a white circular emblem containing a sunburst and two hands shaking. Below the emblem, the text 'Green Party' is in a green box and 'TRADE UNION GROUP' is in a red box.</p>	<p><b>The Green Party Trade Union (GPTU)</b> is part of the Green Party of England and Wales. We are Green Party members who are Trade Unionists, working to bring the Green Party and the Trade Union movement closer together.</p>	
 <p>The logo shows a green house icon inside a yellow circle, with the text 'HOMES FOR ALL' below it.</p>	<p>The <b>'HOMES FOR ALL – AXE THE ACT'</b> campaign – formerly the 'Axe The Housing Act' campaign and before that the 'Kill The Housing Bill' campaign – was started in late 2015 to bring together campaigners, groups, trade unions and anyone who wants to fight the current Conservative Governments Housing &amp; Planning Act 2016.</p> <p>Now with the act party stalled, in summer 2017 we renamed ourselves to take on wider housing issues.</p>	<p>See <a href="#">our website here</a>.</p> <p>Need more information? Want to start a local campaign group? Get in touch with us:</p> <p><a href="mailto:info@axethehousingact.org.uk">info@axethehousingact.org.uk</a></p>
 <p>The logo consists of the letters 'NPC' in large blue font, with 'NATIONAL PENSIONERS CONVENTION' in smaller blue text below.</p>	<p>The <b>National Pensioners Convention's (NPC)</b> main objective is to promote the welfare and interests of all pensioners, as a way of securing dignity, respect and financial security in retirement.</p> <p>To learn more about NPC policies and what we campaign for, click <a href="#">here</a>.</p>	<p>Visit <a href="#">our website</a> or contact us: <a href="mailto:info@npcuk.org">info@npcuk.org</a></p> <p>Follow us on <a href="#">Twitter</a> and <a href="#">Facebook</a>: @NPCUK</p>

	<a href="#">Why should you get involved?</a>	
	<p><b>Southwark Group of Tenants Organisation (SGTO)</b> is an independent voluntary organisation representing and promoting the rights of tenants and residents</p>	See <a href="#">our website</a> for more information.
	<p><b>Sustainable Hackney</b> aims to protect and enhance the environment and create a sustainable community and to contribute to social, economic and environmental justice locally and globally.</p> <p>See some of our projects <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>Our Steering Group meets from 7-9pm on the last Wednesday of each month in Dalston. All welcome!</p>	<p>To find out more, visit <a href="#">our website</a> or contact us: <a href="mailto:info@sustainablehackney.org.uk">info@sustainablehackney.org.uk</a></p> <p>Follow us on <a href="#">Twitter</a> and <a href="#">Facebook</a>: @SustainHackney</p>
	<p>Founded in the 1980s as the National Tower Blocks Network, we regrouped in 2017 as <b>Tower Blocks UK</b> - a hub for sharing information and resources with groups and individuals who live in, or are concerned about tower block housing safety issues in the UK.</p>	See <a href="#">our website</a> for more information and <a href="#">contact us via this form!</a>

	<p><b>WinVisible</b> is a multi-racial community group of women with visible and invisible disabilities: polio, sickle cell anaemia, osteo-arthritis, mental health issues, cancer . . . from different backgrounds: asylum seekers, refugees, other immigrants, UK-born.</p> <p>Through WinVisible, disabled women meet and support each other, overcome isolation and discrimination, and often win what we are entitled to. We provide self-help information and advocacy, on benefits, accessing health, transport and support services, on homecare charges and many other problems, against discrimination, including in employment.</p>	<p>See <a href="#">our website</a> for more information.</p> <p>Contact us: <a href="mailto:win@winvisible.org">win@winvisible.org</a></p>
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## **Resources**

<b><u>Author</u></b>	<b><u>Title</u></b>
<b>Asad Rehman</b>	<p><a href="#">The “green new deal” supported by Ocasio-Cortez and Corbyn is just a new form of colonialism</a>, May 2019</p> <p><a href="#">Report: A Justi(ice) Transition is a Post-Extractive Transition</a>, September 2019</p> <p><a href="#">The Rivers are Bleeding, British Mining in Latin America</a>, April 2019</p>
<b>Civalli</b>	<p><a href="#">Supporting Victims of Failed Cavity Wall Insulation</a></p>

	<p><a href="#">Cavity Wall Insulation: Complaints, Hansard 16 March 2020</a></p>
<b>Fuel Poverty Action</b>	<p><a href="#">Fuel Poverty Action's Energy Bill of Rights / In trouble with your energy company? A mini-guide to your rights.</a> Spring 2018</p> <p><a href="#">Mirror image of Grenfell Tower: Spruce Court, Salford fears disaster,</a> August 2018</p> <p><a href="#">Climate Justice at home: Pressing Questions,</a> March 2019</p> <p><a href="#">Demanding Climate Justice,</a> September 2019</p> <p><a href="#">Fuel Poverty Action's response to the Labour Party's Green Recovery Consultation,</a> June 2020</p> <p><a href="#">Fuel Poverty Action Annual Report 2019-20,</a> September 2020</p> <p><a href="#">The SCIN Campaign for Safe Cladding and Insulation Now!</a> November 2020</p>
<b>Homes for All</b>	<p>Recording of fantastic <a href="#">online event with Ken Loach</a>: The fightback against evictions and Poverty</p>
<b>House of Commons Housing, Communities and Local Government Select Committee</b>	<p><a href="#">Does the draft Building Society bill improve building safety?</a> November 2020</p>
<b>Global Women's Strike</b>	<p><a href="#">GWS Book Catalogue</a></p> <p><a href="#">How the Mangrove Nine Won: video clip</a></p> <p><a href="#">Care Income Now,</a> April 2020 (webinar)</p> <p><a href="#">From Coronavirus to Beyond: VALUING CAREGIVING, the Unwaged Work that Protects People &amp; Environment,</a> March 2020 (webinar)</p>

	Nina Lopez and Alexa Waud: <a href="#">World Transformed Workshop: Climate, Care &amp; Covid 19</a> , September 2020
<b>Phil Murphy</b>	<a href="#">Proper Fire Door Check</a> , March 2018 (Video)
<b>Selma James</b>	<a href="#">Our Time Is Now: Sex, Race, Class, and Caring for People and Planet</a> , February 2021
<b>Stuart Hodkinson</b>	<p><a href="#">Safe as Houses: private greed, political negligence, and housing policy after Grenfell</a>, March 2019.</p> <p>Read Chapter 7 of the book <a href="#">here</a>. Please note that this chapter is for conference attendees' personal use only and should not be shared.</p>
<b>Stuart Hodkinson and Phil Murphy</b>	<p><a href="#">Submission of evidence to the Housing, Communities and Local Government Committee's Inquiry on Pre-Legislative Scrutiny of the government's draft Building Safety Bill</a>, September 2020</p> <p><a href="#">Grenfell, Three Years On: a Preventable Disaster that Could Still Happen Again</a>, June 2020</p>
<b>Tony O'Brien</b>	<a href="#">Tackling the housing crisis. The case for council housing and direction employed construction workers.</a>
<b>Tower Blocks UK</b>	<p><a href="#">Fix My Block</a>: Tried and tested action guides for getting stuff fixed in your block.</p> <p><a href="#">Fix My Block video</a></p>
<b>WinVisible, women with visible and invisible disabilities</b>	<a href="#">Open letter to governments -- A Care Income Now!</a>

## Would you like to help Fuel Poverty Action?

- Sign up for our newsletter [here](#), and follow us on twitter [@fuelpovaction](#).
- Write to us at [fuelpovertyaction@gmail.com](mailto:fuelpovertyaction@gmail.com) if there's something you would like to get involved in.
- Fuel Poverty Action is UNFUNDED and entirely run by devoted volunteers. If you would like to see our work continue, please consider making a [one-off donation here](#), or becoming a [Friend of FPA, here](#).
- For unions, or other organisations to [affiliate to FPA, see here](#).

# Fuel Poverty Action presents:



Join tenants, residents, organisers and researchers who are fighting for energy efficient retrofits that work for people and the planet.

It isn't **GREEN** if it doesn't work!  
It isn't **TRUE** if it isn't affordable!



**FUEL  
POVERTY  
ACTION**

with TUC London  
East and Southeast  
Pensioners Network

a half-day  
conference



Saturday  
5<sup>th</sup> December



Please register online at: [www.fuelpovertyaction.org.uk/mgct](http://www.fuelpovertyaction.org.uk/mgct)

