





## **Raven Housing Trust**

## **Building Homes, Changing Lives**

### ~6000 homes

**Surrey and Sussex area** 





# CHALLENGES



### **Significant Raven research early 2019**

Indepth interviews with 300 customers

Number 1 issues:

- Affordability 54%
- Warmth 10%

From detailed comments:

16% raised detailed issues on cold, mould, and cost of bills

10% frustrated about 'Just get it done' issues



### **FUEL POVERTY**



#### Affordability of energy and warmth is a huge issue

- 14.3 million (22%) in poverty in the UK
- 34% of children in poverty

Can't heat/dry homes properly.

#### Reluctant to ventilate.



## **'GET THE JOB DONE'**





# Residents frustrated that landlords don't just 'get the job done'

- "I have had 4 different surveyors come to see the same issue"
- "They were supposed to follow up but I never heard from them"

#### **BUT** staff frustrated by the same things!

- *"My workload makes it impossible to track every project"*
- "We need experts sometimes problems are just more complicated than people realise"
- "We need time to diagnose problems you try one solution, but then you discover a different underlying cause"
- "Budget is tight, so we patch things, hoping that will be ok and then it fails again"



#### Legal challenges:

Disrepair

Homes (fitness for human habitation) act

**Environmental Protection Act** 

Slows down 'getting jobs done' and distracts from proactive work

Housing providers have to waste residents' money on legal fees

Residents very rarely get any money due to costs

**Solicitors get rich!** 



Other:

Net zero carbon by 2050

EPC C by 2030











We want to help our residents stay warm, cope with financial pressure and live in Healthy Homes

## **GET PROACTIVE!**





## **18% of Raven Homes**

~1000 households identified vulnerable to fuel poverty, mould or poor insulation.

74% of Raven's carbon footprint is from heating homes.

#### **ACTION!**

- Proactive contact and repairs
- Give advice and help to manage their homes.
- Use IoT technology to help them too.
- Plan investment to meet the carbon and energy efficiency challenge.









### **Steps**

- DATA: Identify priorities with known cold, mould or fuel poverty issues from:
  - Resident comments from call centre contacts, satisfaction surveys
  - Stock condition survey reports, past jobs/history and EPC data
- COMMUNICATE: Call each resident, offer help, get information on energy use, home management and information needs.
- HELP: Provide support, advice, sign-posting and communication.
- SURVEYORS: Raise immediate responsive works and plan investment measures.
- IOT: Would sensor technology help in managing the home? (coming soon...)
- INVEST: Pilots leading to investment works in years 2-4



## • Support, advice, sign-posting and communication.

- Avoiding and managing condensation/mould
- Budgeting, tariff switching, metering and billing
- Entitlements eg Warm Homes Discount, Priority Services Register

#### • Immediate responsive works

- Heating or boiler improvements
- Ventilation, fans etc
- Damp or roof works etc
- Draft proofing and insulation
- LED lighting, radiator replacement, TRV controls, reflective panels

#### • Planned investment measures

- Energie Sprong or other whole house insulation
- Other major investment eg double glazing, PV, floor insulation (solid floor)
- IOT, sensor technology, smart metering to help manage the home



#### **KPIS/ MEASURES OF SUCCESS**

- Happier residents; fewer complaints
- Savings to residents from better management of home energy
- Savings from 'fix once'
- Savings from reduced repeat inspections (as technology monitors for us)
- Get homes to energy efficiency EPC C+ well ahead of govt target.
- Carbon savings towards net zero carbon objective
- Savings against compensation and legal costs











# Thank you

Jo Hills

**Director of Assets and Services** 

**Raven Housing Trust** 

**Contact:** 

e jo.hills@ravenht.org.uk

www.ravenht.org.uk