

### **Empowering Energy Education**

# Gamified energy saving behaviour change in European buildings:

Initial impacts from a web-based app developed with its pilot users

Andrew Reeves, Ashley Morton, De Montfort University Richard Bull, Nottingham Trent University Energy Evaluation Europe, Online, 15th -16th March 2021







Imagine your workplace...

- ... and energy efficiency issues that might come up
  - Over-heating?
  - Lights left on?
- Would you install and use an App that helped to reduce these problems?
- Would it reduce energy use?







# Buildings, Energy, Wellbeing

"The *characteristics* of a building, its *design*, its look and feel, and its *technical standards* not only influence our productivity, our wellbeing, our moods and our interactions with others, they also *define how much energy is consumed* in and by a building, and how much heating, ventilation and cooling energy is needed to create *pleasant environment*." (BPIE, 2011)



gases

BPIE (2011). EUROPE'S BUILDINGS UNDER THE MICROSCOPE: A country-by-country review of the energy performance of buildings. ISBN: 9789491143014



## **Gamification and Motivation**

- **COM-B** model
  - Motivate, via gamification
  - Enhance social opportunity, by connecting users to information and sharing
  - Ensure **Capability**, via promoting doable behaviours
- Gamification example:
  - Energy Chickens "serious game" led to 13% energy use reduction

environment: A serious game intervention. Energy and Buildings. 74. pp.43-52

Level -1

Level -2





Michie S, Atkins L, West R. (2014). The Behaviour Change Whee A Guide to Designing Interventions. London: Silverback

Baseline 0



Level +1

Level +2



### MISSION

Encourage and enable energy behaviour change of building users to save energy and optimise indoor environmental quality.

#### VISION

Carry out behaviour change interventions facilitated through a set of empower tools to drive informed user decisions.

### **eTEACHER IS DEMONSTRATED IN...**



SPAIN 2 HEALTHCARE CENTRES 2 SCHOOLS 1 RESIDENTIAL BUILDING 1 OFFICE



UNITED KINGDOM 1 SCHOOL 1 OFFICE



ROMANIA 4 RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS







## Participation

- Projects designed by experts frequently fail or under-perform (Robinson, 2012)
  - Lack of buy-in from stakeholders
  - Lack of insight on the situation as it is
  - Lack of checking if intervention ideas could work
- User-centred design can address this
  - Initial meeting and three Feedback
    Forums to specify app
  - 112 and 119 participants respectively









### Roll-out

- Soft launch in early 2020
- Full launch October 2020
- Usage data: Oct 2020-Jan 2021

### Early Evidence

- Logging app usage
- Logging energy use
- Interim survey (Dec'20 Jan'21)







## Results - Impact

- Energy
  - Disrupted by Covid-19
- Engagement
  - 49 users
  - 18 active
- Evaluation needs to draw and link all four aspects









## **Results - User Experience**









- Issues
  - Sense of project ownership
  - Priorities amidst pandemic
  - Installing monitoring
    - Technical
    - Privacy
- Evaluation in a changed context
  - Multiple complementary data sources
    - Self-reported and measured
    - Qualitative and Quantitative







**Empowering Energy Education** 

## THANK YOU

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