



# THE CASE FOR CARPET TILES IN SOCIAL HOUSING

## The Benefits of Carpet Tiles for Heat Retention

### INTRODUCTION

The UK is facing a price energy crisis, and the rising cost of energy is affecting not only the general public but also social housing residents. With the UK electricity prices rising by 65.4% and gas prices by 128.9% in the 12 months to December 2022, according to the Office for National Statistics, many residents are struggling to pay their bills. Social housing organisations are also under pressure, with 26% of housing providers having increased rent or service charges in response to the rising energy prices. These increases have a significant impact on the mental health of residents and can also lead to housing stock issues such as damp and mould.

### THE SOLUTION

Carpet tiles are an excellent solution to help mitigate the UK energy crisis for housing providers and their residents. Carpet tiles are an exceptionally good insulating material, with thermal resistance that is significantly higher than that of concrete and plywood, two common flooring materials. The insulation value of carpet can be up to 10 times higher than that of hard floor covering and can help to reduce energy costs in heating by up to 8-13%.

### BENEFITS

- 1. Cost savings:** Carpet tiles can help to reduce energy costs in heating. in the range of 8-13%.
- 2. Improved comfort:** Carpet tiles help to maintain a comfortable temperature within the home, reducing the need for additional heating and helping to prevent damp and mould, which can be particularly detrimental to the health of residents.
- 3. Enhanced mental health:** The rising cost of energy is affecting the mental health of social housing residents. By reducing energy costs, carpet tiles can help to alleviate some of the financial pressure on residents and improve their overall well-being.

### AT A GLANCE

Energy price increase can lead to colder homes, more mould and damp and mental illness of residents. Heat is lost through the floor. It doesn't need be this way. Carpet tiles provide heat retention saving more than 10% in energy costs. Thermal resistance of carpet tiles is higher than concrete and plywood. Further Flooring provides a UK wide service of affordable like-new carpet tiles for housing providers.

### CONCLUSION

Carpet tiles are a simple but effective solution for social housing providers in the UK energy crisis, providing long-term benefits for both housing associations and their residents. By reducing energy costs and maintaining a comfortable temperature within the home, carpet tiles can help to prevent housing stock issues such as damp and mould and enhance the mental health of residents.

**Sources:** \*Liverpool John Moores University - uValue Analysis, Refurbished Carpet Tiles

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