



## Keeping a warmer welcome in the hillsides

Home owners in South Wales are benefiting from a retro-fit upgrade scheme to improve the thermal performance of hundreds of homes in the Bridgend County Borough area.

Homes are being upgraded in a rolling programme using a PAREX THERM External Wall Insulation (EWI) system to upgrade privately owned dwellings, some dating back over a century.

The work, using a combination of PAREX materials, is being carried out by a number of approved contractors on behalf of Bridgend County Borough Council with Lapida Consultants, Wales Co and Green Renewable Wales for private dwellings in the Bridgend CBC area, in partnership with energy companies.



The homes, spread across several Llŷni Valley communities, are generally of single leaf construction. Additional insulation to the external envelope is provided by carbon enhanced expanded polystyrene (EPS) which is mechanically fixed with ETAG approved fixings and bonded to the existing walls using PAREX Maite adhesive base coat.

A further coat of Maite is then applied with PAREX 355 AVU reinforcing mesh embedded, prior to a final coat of PAREX through coloured EHI hydraulic mineral render, which is finished to an aesthetically pleasing scraped textured finish.

Gable ends are treated with a dash finish to improve their durability. The lower sections of front elevations and gable ends are also treated with Paraguard AG, a clear protective coating which guards against staining and provides enhanced waterproofing.

The PAREX THERM system was selected for its speed of application and the ability to apply wet on wet layers in an area where the climate is often unpredictable. The flexibility of the system means that it can be used to achieve continuous programmes of work even in winter conditions.

As part of their partnership with the Council and funding partners, PAREX has provided training for local operatives and ensured a supply of materials through local merchants to benefit the South Wales economy.

All aspects of the system, which has European Technical Approval and the supply arrangements, meet the criteria of the new Social Value Act 2013, which aims to improve economic, social and environmental wellbeing. Parex has worked with local application companies who have provided prospects of employment for unemployed and young people.

### PAREX MATERIALS USED

PAREX THERM Mineral EWI System comprising of;

- Insulation adhesive - Maite
- Insulation - EPS70E
- Base coat - Maite
- Base coat mesh - 355 AVU
- Top coat - EHI