



Architect awarded retrofit award

A Wheathampstead architect is celebrating receiving recognition for the first Certified Passivhaus Plus Retrofit dwelling in the UK.

The Passivhaus Plus standard is considered the ‘gold standard’ when it comes energy efficiency, and it is usually only achieved on highly insulated new dwellings. ADPractice Sustainable Design, which is based in Mill Walk, achieved the same high standard updating a 1970s property in Bedfordshire (*pictured*), the first to do so in the UK.

Lead architect and director, Heather McNeill said: “We are as delighted as our clients with the finished result, and in particular being the first such project in the UK. With increasing awareness of the energy wasted by our existing housing stock, such projects show what can be done. I know our clients are looking forward to many years of comfortable living with minimal energy costs.”

The company has already established a reputation for high level sustainable development, having been shortlisted for the prestigious Passivhaus Trust awards last year.