The government estimates that around 70% of the housing stock that will be standing in 2050 has already been built. If we are to tackle the carbon footprint of our built environment, then it is essential that we take measures to improve the energy efficiency of existing homes and buildings. The Office of Climate Change (OCC) and Defra are likely to bring forward proposals for a bill to regulate carbon use in the next parliamentary session that is likely to attempt to reduce energy use and carbon emissions in the domestic sector by as yet unspecified policy measures. For example, if the entire United Kingdom housing stock were to be fitted up to the current standards applied in Sweden, it is hypothesised that as much as three quarters of domestic carbon emissions would be eliminated. However, adapting the aging UK housing stock to meet high energy efficient standards will be expensive and inconvenient – what will be the public’s reaction?

We will hear about the possible ways forward from Dr Brenda Boardman, the Head of the Lower Carbon Futures team at Environmental Change Institute at Oxford University and co-director of the UK Energy Research Centre, an expert in energy efficiency and the way that energy is used in British homes. There will be a chance to discuss topics such as:

- How energy efficient can you make existing homes and is refurbishing a home to a high level of energy efficiency cost effective?
- How much energy are you wasting and what changes can be made in the way energy is used in your home?
- How can you learn about your carbon emissions?
- What would motivate you to contribute towards the reduction in carbon emission targets set by the government?

To attend, please contact Anne Snelgrove MP on 01793 615444 or annesnelgrovemp@parliament.uk