

WORKSHOP SESSION - Review of Sustainable Design and Construction SPD

Code for Sustainable Homes and Low/Zero Carbon Energy Schemes

Issue for discussion	Discussion comments	Prioritise top 3
<p>Sustainable Design and Code for Sustainable Homes -</p> <p>List the top 3 most important aspects for the SPD to focus on to guide new development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What value added will this SPD have? National guidance is in place to ensure houses are/will be built to a sustainable standard in line with the relevant code levels for that time period. What purpose will the SPD therefore serve?• Materials are an important aspect as it something that developers can do something about, but this is a challenge for developers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Energy/CO² emissions• Materials• Surface water run-off
<p>Low/Zero Carbon energy schemes -</p> <p>What information would be useful for developers designing renewable energy schemes to support new development?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• It is the responsibility of developers to collate their own information and seek appropriate advice. Developers have the financial resources to do this. It should not be the Council's responsibility to provide this information.• The economics of a developer achieving this should also be assessed.• Achieving the standards for low/zero carbon energy schemes could be offset against reducing the affordable housing requirements.	<p>N/A</p>

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Energy Assessments and improving the effectiveness of the SPD

Issue for discussion	Discussion Outcomes
<p>Are Energy Assessments appropriate for all types of Development?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, Energy Assessments should apply to every type of development unless exceptional circumstances prevail and it is explained why a development should not have to undertake such an assessment. • Such assessments should be incorporated into building regulations.
<p>Should any type of development be excluded from an Energy Assessment?</p>	<p>See Comments above.</p>
<p>How could the SPD ensure clear, good quality energy statements are submitted with planning applications?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council should produce guidance that identifies common standards setting out what must be included in such statements. A checklist of what must be submitted should be created. • The guidance should identify that energy statements must be produced by accredited professionals. • A digital document could be used requesting specific information, where applicants are required to fill in the boxes and answer specific questions. • A scoping report approach could be taken where developers identify in a letter what they intend the energy statement to cover and this is checked and agreed by the Planning Department.
<p>Ideas to increase the effectiveness of the SPD.</p>	<p>The SPD can add value to other aspects such as encouraging community ownership through the provision of community heating facilities. Similarly, community renewable energy sources can be encourage such as micro turbines and community compositing facilities in new developments.</p>
<p>How could the wider issues of achieving more sustainable design be tackled?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reintroducing architects panels and working with CABI to ensure good and appropriate design takes place. • Closer working with the Transport and Highways department to ensure sustainable transport measures are integrated in the development process. • Reducing energy demand through the provision of localised facilities, which reduce the need to rely on the car. A more localised approach to energy supply should be encouraged.