HBF TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ZERO CARBON POLICY UPDATE

Rob Pannell 14th October 2014



Overview

O What We Do

O Zero Carbon Policy Update

- O ZC Hierarchy and definition
- O Housing Standards Review
- O Allowable Solutions
- O The Performance Gap

O Immediate Priorities

Role of the Zero Carbon Hub

To facilitate the mainstream delivery of low and zero carbon homes

- Provide leadership and create confidence
- O Work with industry & government
- O Reduce risk and clear obstacles
- O Disseminate information

ZERO



ZERO CARBON

Hierarchy and definition





Zero Carbon Hierarchy

ZERO CARBON



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Scope of 'Carbon Compliance'



Energy Efficiency Standard

- Building fabric U-values
- Thermal bridging
- Air permeability

- Thermal mass
 - Solar, metabolic, lighting & appliance gains

Carbon Compliance Standard

- Heating / cooling appliances (boilers, etc)
- Mechanical ventilation
- Hot water
- Active controls
- Fixed lighting
- All LZC technologies

HOUSING STANDARDS REVIEW

Implications for the Zero Carbon Policy





Implications for the Code?



Transitional period – LA ability to influence EE up to 2016

ALLOWABLE SOLUTIONS

Developments to date



Allowable Solutions - The Journey to date



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Carbon still to be abated via Allowable Solutions will be calculated using the NCM

Energy and Infrastructure Bill

O Queen's Speech in July 2014

'Legislation will allow for the creation of an allowable solutions scheme to enable all new homes to be built to a zero carbon standard......'

O Further clarity and consultation :-

- O National Framework (LA interaction)
- O Fund Price cap £ per tonne of carbon
- O Small site exemption
- O Certification & Verification

THE PERFORMANCE GAP

To 2016 and beyond.....



Ambition - Carbon Compliance report, Recommendation 4a:



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Industry WG Structure



Interim Report

The Problems!



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CROSS-CUTTING THEMES









Literature Review



• State of the industry (aggregated data)

NHBC, LABC, SAP software providers, professional institutions, house builders, manufacturers

O Compliance processes

 As-built SAPs, ACD/ECD use, Air pressure tests, commissioning

O Field trials

• TSB Building Performance Evaluation, EST Heat pump trials

O Academic studies

O Stamford Brook, Elmtree Mews, Temple Avenue

O "Secret" knowledge

O Manufacturers, Universities

Housebuilding Process Review

- O 21 sites analysed
- Over 200 units

- O Completely anonymous
- O Identified many issues



Evidence Review

The truth behind the myths.



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1. Inadequate Understanding & Knowledge within Design Team

- O Impact on:
 - O Buildability
 - O Compatability of systems, materials and services
 - O Thermal detailing
- O Typical examples:
 - O Details into which insulation is impossible to fit
 - O No detail on support of screed at ground floor perimeters
 - No consideration of thermal bridges for rooms over garages
 - Etc....



2. Concern over Competency of SAP Assessors

O Problems with:

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- O Accuracy of inputs
- Following conventions
- O Validating assumptions
- O Evidencing assessments



Massive impact where they are giving design advice



Can't assume same thickness across entire roof



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3. Lack of Site Team Energy Performance Related Knowledge and Skills and/or Care

O Literature Review -

 "The lack of proper training of the workforce.....resulted in significant construction faults, unplanned design solutions and wrong system commissioning"

> Oxford Brookes University, Understanding the Gap between As Designed and As Built Performance, 2013

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- O Windows located in front of design positions
 - O Insufficient overlap with cavity closer
 - O 8 out of 9 sites visited

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4. Product Substitution On Site

O Literature Review -

• "The most striking observation about the application of materials and components were the number of occasions on which materials intended for one location were used in another"

Leeds Metropolitan University, Lessons from Stamford Brook, 2008

O Housebuilding Process Review -

- Identified on all sites reviewed
- Blockwork & windows

INDUSTRY RECOMMENDATIONS



1 - PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT R&D

Undertake the research and development necessary to create innovative testing, measurement and assessment techniques to understand the performance gap and develop commercially viable methodologies acceptable across industry for 'demonstrating performance'

2 - SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE DEVELOPMENT

Ensure that as-built energy performance knowledge, including learning from on going research and development, is embedded into training and up-skilling for professionals and trades.



3 - CONSTRUCTION DETAILS SCHEME

Develop an industry owned and maintained construction details scheme providing 'assured' as-built energy performance for the most common major fabric junctions and systems.

4 - CONTINUED EVIDENCE GATHERING

Support further evidence gathering processes and coordinated feedback to ensure accelerated continual improvement across all sectors of industry .

GOVERNMENT RECOMMENDATIONS



1 - SIGNAL CLEAR DIRECTION

Clearly indicate that, in place of immediate additional regulation, it expects the construction industry to act now and have put in place a number of measures to ensure that the energy performance gap is being addressed and to demonstrate this by 2020.

2 - STIMULATE INDUSTRY INVESTMENT

By funding research and development into testing, measurement and assessment techniques with immediate effect, to support the industry in providing the information necessary to quantify the performance gap and create the learning loops required to drive continuous improvement.

Additionally provide pump prime funding to enable industry to develop a construction details scheme.

3 - STRENGTHEN COMPLIANCE REGIME

Take action by 2016 to ensure that the Zero Carbon Hub recommended revisions to energy modelling practices, SAP processes and verification procedures, together with a strong regime to ensure that only suitably qualified persons carry out energy modelling, can be put in place.

4 - SUPPORT SKILLS & KNOWLEDGE DEVELOPMENT

Accelerate the demand for industry developed qualification schemes by requiring energy certified trades and professionals for all developments on public land from 2017.

The journey so far:



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Immediate Priorities

- O SAP Just where is this going?
- O Allowable Solutions 'Live Trials'
- O Small builder 'Know How' campaign
- Overheating & Ventilation
- O Skills and Knowledge

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Stay in touch: <u>www.zerocarbonhub.org</u> <u>Rob.pannell@zerocarbonhub.org</u>

Thank you



