

Sustainable construction – Local Authority focused events
 Summaries of key point taken from the events on 4th & 5th July 2007

Key points taken from 4 th July Event – Bracknell - Hilton.
• Sustainability issues are currently seen as window dressing the whole environmental issue
• It is important to realize that the issues are nice to have but dependant upon low/nil cost
• A Champion is needed to push the issues forward within a company
• It is important to understand what turns politicians on to the sustainability agenda and what their drivers are
• It doesn't matter what the drivers are as long as the politicians are engaged
• Regulation should not be prescriptive to allow for better design
• Define competency levels for assessment or standards
• Securing additional skills and resources is key
• There needs to be communication of issues e.g. sustainable procurement throughout departments, organizations and councils
• Unitary authorities may be a barrier to issues

Key points taken from 5 th July Event – Dorking – White Horse Hotel.
• Training and support needed before anything can move forward
• There are key challenges to implement code within councils
• There needs to be a Strategic policy hook - e.g. pps22 or RSS
• Existing properties may prove to be a barrier
• Encouragement needs to be directed at home owners
• There are no incentives for compliance
• Training is required for - councilors and officers
• Policy embedding - common approach standards needed
• Model guidance needs to be developed and disseminated regionally / nationally
• Resources from government and PDG needs to be established
• Implementation via District councils /Borough Councils /LAA's, If government make the code mandatory it needs to be accompanied by resources to enforce
• Building regulations, District council, Policy coordination, inc P'g and C'am
• Legal S106 agreements
• Investigation into planning gain supplements or tariff approach needs to be done
• BLG applications

Sustainable construction – Business focused events
 Summaries of key point taken from the events on 10th, 11th & 12th July 2007

Key points taken from 10th July Event – Oxford – Kassam Stadium.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Client and councilor training required • Planner developer forums would prove to be useful • Government incentives / Lobby groups needs to be established • Accreditation for supply chain (ISO14001 and BS8555) should be promoted within companies • CPD training - Modular – reflecting Code for Sustainable Homes sections would be more useful and effective than • Practical, clear summary to CSH needed • Discussion forum (WEB BASED) would be an ideal solution to busy schedules • Smoothing process with planners • Key person / champion needed to take issues forward • Partnering agreement with LA's to establish good working practices • Bite size information instead of whole code information transfer required • Online seminars would be a great idea to trial
Key points taken from 11th July Event – Guildford – The Manor House Hotel.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commitment throughout chain is needed • Knowledge and R&D needs to be identified and shared • Sharing problems and solutions e.g. planner, developer forums and working groups • Knowledge share and forums • Urgency cannot be understated • Education and Training is key • Communication channels need to be established and maintained within companies and working groups • Validation is a key issue that needs to be addressed, Who, Where, How and When. Milestones need to be established
Key points taken from 12th July Event – Ashford International Hotel.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education, information, policy and legislation, Competence of the decision makers, aspirations, client understanding, communication, awareness, commitment, Cost/value, supply/ availability, Regional boundaries/ national, planning/delivery. • Knowledge issues - small / medium sized companies do not have the resources to devote to these issues so sharing information would be ideal • Consistency of rules and standards. The process is undermined if the rules keep changing • Early consultation (designers and clients), this is important to gain buy in from whole chain • Joined up thinking is key • End User/clients - are they bothered? The importance of gaining buy in from end users and clients should not be underestimated • Conflict of implementation between different and neighboring Local Authorities • Training / Understanding – the debate is should the code be compulsory or voluntary?