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The Housing Forum

East Midlands EXPO 2007
Finding Low Carbon Solutions
Construction Conference
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The Housing Forum's Approach to Sustainability



- About The Housing Forum
 - Established 10 years ago to build cross industry “common ground”
 - Represent and voice the whole industry view
 - Collaborate on new measurement techniques and lead implementation
 - Strategic issues- The Callcutt Review
 - Regional profile

The Housing Forum's Views

- Support the overall targets for new housing, concerns about size, standards and density
- Concerned about the industry -can it deliver?
- Concern about reliance on Shared Ownership models to deliver “Affordable Housing”
- Believe in “incentivisation” not “compulsion”
- Welcome the phased introduction of the “Code for Sustainable Homes”





What does The Housing Forum do to Support the Industry?

- Strategic Working Groups – Sustainable Improvement in the Existing Stock
- Targeted Guidance –with Constructing Excellence
- Plain English Guide
- Householders guide
- Regional Impact – workshops and regionalised findings
- Demonstration Projects

Sustainable Improvement in the Existing Stock Working Group



- The “untouched” stock issue
- Can Code be adapted for refurbishment?
- Whole life costing for “retro –fit”
- Measurement of carbon usage to encourage a better regime of planned maintenance

Guides



- Water Retention on site – 20% Savings – Practical Examples
- Practical conservation measures, wildlife habitats, vegetation,

Regional Findings

- East Midlands – June 2007
- Strengths
 - Willingness, best practice exchange from East Midlands industry
- Weakness
 - Lack of national leadership and disconnection of embodied and operational costs
 - cost uncertainty of untested products



Regional Findings



- Barriers
- (perceived) additional costs of sustainable options
- Lack of attention to whole life costs/values
- Recommendation
 - Level 4 to be mandatory ASAP
 - Current legislation should be more comprehensive- lighting etc
 - Promote energy management through energy measuring kits

Regional Findings



- 5 Regions now complete –
- National picture launched at HF National conference
- 16th April 2008