

Title of the measure:	UK30_Zero Carbon Buildings (closed)
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General description

The Zero Carbon Hub ceased operations on 31 March 2016. Following the decision by the Government not to pursue the zero carbon target at this time, industry funding has been withdrawn.

The Zero Carbon Hub website containing all the work carried out in the past eight years will remain available at www.zerocarbonhub.org.

Historic

The Government set out a timetable for the progressive tightening of building regulations (Part L) with the aim of achieving zero carbon new homes by 2016 (and non-domestic buildings by 2019).

Government targets for zero-carbon buildings were:

- all new schools to be zero carbon by 2010
- all new-build homes in England and Wales to be 'zero carbon' by 2016
- all new public sector buildings to be zero carbon by 2018
- all new non-domestic buildings to be zero carbon from 2019.

The targets for Zero Carbon Buildings were underpinned by the UK33_Building Regulations (2016), UK32_Building Regulations (2014), UK28_Building Regulations (2010) and UK19_Building Regulations (2006) and the Code for Sustainable Homes (UK22).

Zero Carbon Hub

The Zero Carbon Hub closed for business on 31st March 2016. The Zero Carbon Hub was established as a public/private body in 2008 to help translate the then Government's target for all new homes to be zero carbon from 2016 into practicable regulation, and to remove the barriers to its implementation. Over the past eight years the Hub has supported the new homes' industry in the delivery of the zero carbon homes' programme and overseen the successful introduction of higher energy efficiency standards.

Zero Carbon Hub had lead responsibility for delivering homes to zero carbon standards by 2016. The Zero Carbon Hub was a non-profit company limited by guarantee. They were a public/private partnership established to take day-to-day operational responsibility for co-ordinating delivery of low and zero carbon new homes. The Callcutt Review of House-building Delivery identified the need for this new venture and more than 25 organisations were consulted before the Zero Carbon Hub was launched on 28 June 2008.

The Zero Carbon Buildings had five work streams covering:

- Energy Efficiency and Carbon Compliance: Communicate the scope and requirements of the Fabric Energy Efficiency and Carbon Compliance Standards.
- Energy supply: The main focus on the Carbon Compliance Tool Policy Assumptions, the future of a compliance tool.
- Examples: The Examples and Scale up workstream to identify examples and promote successful low and zero carbon homes.
- Skills and Training: Led in identifying skills and knowledge needed to deliver low and zero carbon homes. Help build capacity and skills.



- Consumer/Marketing: Help create the consumer proposition. Create plans to implement recommendations made in Marketing Tomorrow's New Homes including website and work on innovative funding solutions.

Impact evaluation (methods and results)

The DECC Updated energy and emissions projections 2015 (published in Feb 2016) stated that Zero Carbon Homes was discontinued.

Historic Impact evaluation (methods and results)

The DECC Updated energy and emissions projections 2013 (published in Sep 2013) provide estimates of the impact of Zero Carbon Homes:

Ex-post evaluation	1995	2010	2016	2020
CO ₂ (kt)				
Energy (PJ)				
Ex-ante evaluation	1995	2010	2016	2020
CO ₂ (kt)			33	555
Energy (PJ)				

Measure Impact Level		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> low	<input type="checkbox"/> medium	<input type="checkbox"/> high

Definition of the qualitative impact level

- The categories (low, medium, high) are linked to the aggregate electricity or energy consumption of the respective sector (households, transport, industry or tertiary), and not to a particular end-use, because the aggregation of the impacts is easier.
- The following limits (in each case in % of the overall final energy or electricity consumption of the sector; in case of fuel substitution and CHP: of primary energy consumption) are defined for the three impact levels:
- **low impact: <0.1%**
- **medium impact: 0.1-<0.5%**
- **high impact: ≥0.5%**

Interaction of measures

See progressive tightening of building regulations (Part L) in the UK33_Building Regulations (2016), UK32_Building Regulations (2014), UK28_Building Regulations (2010) and UK19_Building Regulations (2006).

References

Zero Carbon Hub – now closed but website remains

<http://www.zerocarbonhub.org/index.aspx>

Historic (2011) Zero carbon homes: Impact assessment (CLG)

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/zerocarbonia>

Historic (2011) Zero carbon non-domestic buildings: Phase 3 final report (CLG)

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/zerocarbonnondomreport>



Last update: October 2016

UK Report on Articles 4 and 14 of the EU End-use Efficiency and Energy Services Directive (ESD)
Update on progress against the 2007 UK National Energy Efficiency Action Plan (July 2011)
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/48144/2289-uk-report-eu-enduse-esd.pdf

Historic Annual energy savings estimate from:

Updated energy and emissions projections 2013

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/updated-energy-and-emissions-projections-2013>



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