

KISS

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Fundamental problem:

Building energy performance is the result of what is built, what people do in them, what people think, what the future might bring

We cannot accurately predict overall performance long term – we can only make generalisations

We are trying too hard to use analytical approaches to manage complex, dynamic systems.

It won't work – and it is not working

What do we do?

Try harder using the current mindset?

Problematic mindset 1:

If you can't measure it, you can't manage it

Boundaries are not clear

KPIs often become targets

Can't manage people in buildings

Can't predict the future

**Fundamentally , we cannot manage complex
dynamic systems**

Problematic mindset 2:

We need evidence-based policy making

**In a complex dynamic system evidence is
context specific**

**we often cannot generalise between place and
over time**

Cannot innovate on the basis of evidence

Problematic mindset 3:

We can drive excellence through standards

**Excellence cannot be defined usefully
so let's not waste everyone's time trying**

**People and companies truly striving for
excellence don't work to standards – they try
to do the right thing**

So what are the elements of a useful mindset today?

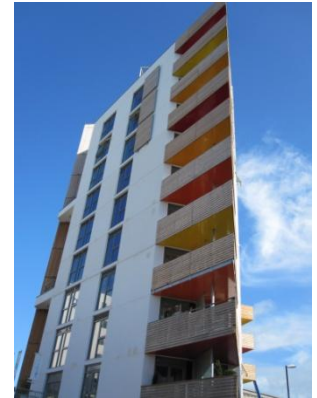
Useful mindset 1:

We can nurture better outcomes through principles

We can decide what are the principles wish to use to maximise the probability of desired, or healthy outcomes

We can use these principles as 'DNA' for context-specific solutions, training, learning and culture change

- 1 Zero carbon
- 2 Zero waste
- 3 Sustainable transport
- 4 Sustainable materials
- 5 Local and sustainable food
- 6 Sustainable water
- 7 Land and wildlife
- 8 Culture and heritage
- 9 Equity and local economy
- 10 Health and happiness



Earth's greenest neighbourhoods



Useful mindset 2:

We can use standards to maintain minimum standards

Minimum standards are easier to define

**These should not be dependent on
behaviourally influenced aspects such as
predicted energy demand from appliances**

**Behavioural aspect should be in culture
change strategies**

In the case of buildings standards should be limited to 'regulated emissions'

Appliances should be tackled by regulation or standards on appliances not homes

defined as simply as possible without a requirement for complex (and often misleading) modelling – eg simply U-values, air tightness, air changes

If in doubt, leave it out

**Elegant regulation is as much about what we
leave out as what we put in**

What will this new mindset mean?

It will mean we need the courage 'to let go'

It will mean fostering excellence by changing
from
'auditors/enforcers' to 'coaches/motivators'



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It will mean the freedom to express and allow solutions to emerge

It will mean emerging from the joylessness of green tape to the joys of creating

KISS Zero Carbon

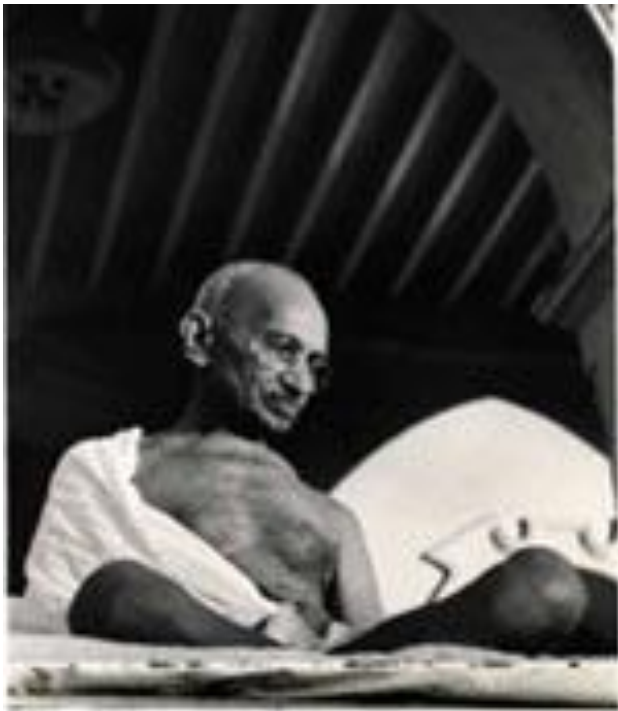
Building standards limited to energy efficiency

Zero carbon is part of national energy policy

**National definition of 'zero carbon homes'
should be 'zero carbon ready homes'**

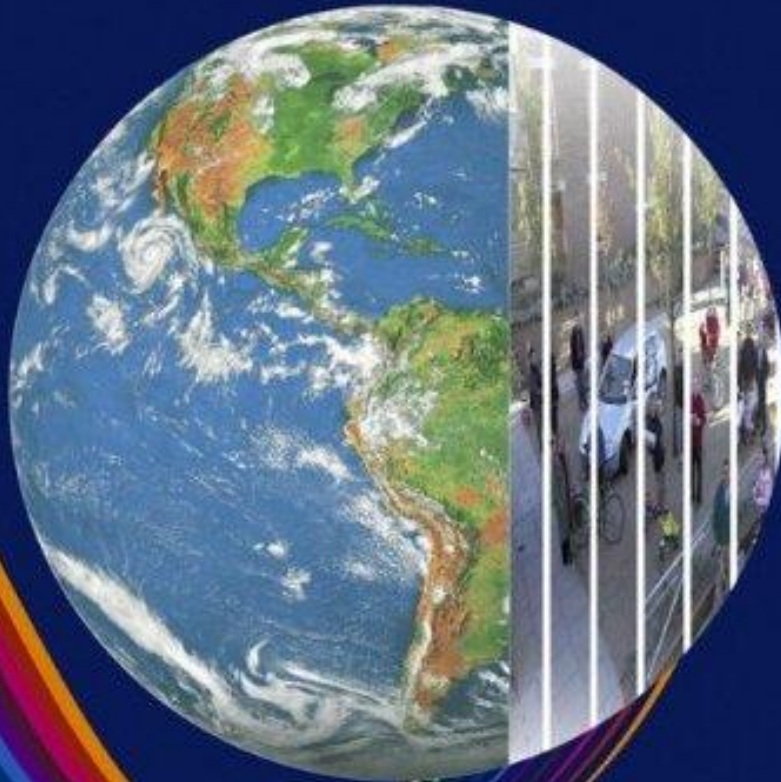
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One Planet Communities

A real-life guide to sustainable living



Pooran Desai