

2009 Research Programme

Research & Think Papers



1) Energy Monitoring - phase 1 - scoping study - Complete Jan—April 2009

Funding: Energy Saving Trust

Partners: GHA Members

Outline: Phase 1 – Research into approaches to energy monitoring, development of outline guidance (and membership requirements) for GHA Developer members and identification of further needs for support or assistance

Activities: 1) Preparation of a GHA think paper/ standard on energy monitoring
2) Input to GHA education event in April 2009.
3) Preparation and of monitoring plans with each developer

2) Energy Monitoring - phase 2, delivery July 2009 - March 2011

Funding: Department of Communities and Local Government (CLG) and Energy Saving Trust

Partners: Leeds Metropolitan University & UCL, Oxford Brookes University + others.

Outline: Major project to collate information from energy & other performance monitoring (e.g. water, indoor air quality, etc.), post-occupancy evaluation, construction process management, build system performance etc. Work will be based on the performance of GHA homes during design, construction and post-completion.

Activities: Action research and associated guidance about monitoring and POE associated with the delivery of low carbon homes.

Plus input to GHA education events in April

3) Regulatory Framework Jan-Dec 2009

Funding: GHA Members

Partners: Leeds Metropolitan University & UCL, NBT+ others.

Outline: Review and feedback on practical implications of Code for Sustainable Homes, Building Regulations Part L (2010) and Part F and Zero Carbon Definitions

Activities: Policy papers, Code for Sustainable Homes Technical Working group, Government Lobbying.

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2009 Research Programme cont....



4) Good Homes Case Studies Jan-December 2009

Funding: Department of Communities and Local Government (CLG) & Others

Partners: GHA Developers

Outline: Collection of information and performance data about leading sustainable housing projects, and preparation of detailed case studies. Previous studies have included:

- 1) One Brighton by BioRegional Quintain
- 2) Lincoln Grove, Bladon by Kingerlee Homes
- 3) The Old Apple Store, Stawell by ECOS Homes.

Activities: Preparation of detailed project case studies
Plus GHA project site visits in Summer 2009

5) Health and Well-being Ongoing (Phase 1 - think paper)

Funding: tbc

Partners: tbc

Outline: A project to examine the health & well-being implications of low carbon and sustainable homes, including

- 1) the potential health impacts of sustainable building materials and air-tight dwellings on ventilation, humidity and subsequent indoor air quality,
- 2) the potential benefits of green space, good neighbourhood design, local food and social interaction on physical and psychological well-being.

Activities: Exploratory session at a GHA education event in July 2009
Plus preparation of a short think paper

6) Costs and values – the business case for Good Homes Dates tbc..

Funding: tbc

Partners: tbc

Outline: Evidence-gathering about the business case for Good Homes, covering various aspects of costs and value, such as

- 1) Added value and premiums for sustainable homes
- 2) Cost implications of delivering to higher standards
- 3) Marketing approaches and consumer awareness of benefits of Good Homes
- 5) Government, planning and landowner requirements and land & sale values
- 6) Process and supply-chain efficiencies affecting speed of construction and sale.

Activities: Preparation of a short think paper
Plus a GHA education event in December 2009

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