

# 2010 Research Programme

## Research & Think Papers



### 1) GHA Monitoring Programme Phase 1—post construction testing January 2010 - April 2011

*Funding:* Energy Saving Trust, Department of Communities and Local Government

*Partners:* GHA Developers, Leeds Metropolitan University, Oxford Brookes University and University College London (UCL).

*Outline:* Conducting a raft of post construction testing, including co-heating test across four sites and five different building types. Work will examine the performance of GHA Developer homes - made from different build systems - during design, construction and post completion.

*Activities:* Post construction tests of five dwellings on four sites.

### 2) GHA Monitoring Programme Phase 2—ongoing monitoring and occupant feedback July 2010 - July 2011

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

*Partners:* Leeds Metropolitan University, Oxford Brookes University, UCL and others.

*Outline:* An extension of phase 1, collating information from energy & other performance monitoring (e.g. water, indoor air quality, etc.), and post-occupancy evaluation to demonstrate the performance of GHA Developer homes during occupation.

*Activities:*

- 1) Ongoing monitoring of at least five dwellings on four sites
- 2) Ideally extension to monitor other dwellings on the same sites
- 3) If possible, more detailed examination of performance-in-use on 5 dwellings

### 3) Health and Well-being Phase 1—think paper Planned start July 2010

*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:* Follows an exploratory session at a GHA education event in July 2009  
Plus preparation of a short think paper

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# 2010 Policy Programme

## Proposed Work



### 1) Regulatory framework

**January - December 2010**

*Funding:* GHA Members

*Partners:* Leeds Metropolitan University & UCL, NBT and others.

*Outline:* Members' responses to the Code for Sustainable Homes consultation and continuing our work on the Code Advisory Group

*Activities:*

- 1) Policy papers & consultation response
- 2) Membership of the Code for Sustainable Homes Advisory Group
- 3) Annual Christmas debate about the effectiveness of current policies

### 2) Putting the Good in Good Homes

**Planned start date June 2010**

*Funding:* GHA Members

*Partners:* tbc

*Outline:* An examination of the broader mechanisms needed for delivery of Good Homes, such as:

- a) Good design - details, internal space and external environments
- b) Good neighbourhoods - local settings that encourage sustainable lifestyles
- c) Good site practices - health & safety, training, quality & craftsmanship
- d) Good support - finance, insurance, materials and supply chain improvements.

*Activities:*

- 1) Preparation of a short think paper
- 2) A GHA policy/ education event in Summer 2010

### 3) Costs and value – the business case for Good Homes

**Possible start date December 2010 tbc**

*Funding:* tbc

*Partners:* tbc

*Outline:* Evidence-gathering about the business case for Good Homes, covering aspects such as

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

*Activities:*

- 1) Preparation of a short think paper
- 2) A GHA education event in December 2010

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