

GHA 2010 Event Programme



2nd March, 10 30—12 30, ecobuild 2010, Earls Court, London

Performance Improvement: Post Construction Testing

Recent studies have shown that there is often a significant discrepancy between design aspiration and as-built performance. The GHA therefore considers monitoring, evaluation and feedback to be an essential part of any build programme; indeed this is reflected in the GHA membership standards.

Given the changes that house-builders are facing in delivering to higher sustainability standards, there are two main questions that need to be addressed through monitoring:

- How do the new building systems/ materials, which are being proposed as solutions for the higher standards, perform in reality?
- How do the completed buildings perform during occupation and how do residents perceive these homes?

This event will explore how leading organisations are addressing the actual performance of our new homes. We will describe studies that have been completed, most notably the Stamford Brook project by Leeds Metropolitan University, and other projects by the Energy Saving Trust and the Homes and Communities Agency. We will then go on to provide more detail of the forthcoming TSB *Building Performance Evaluation* competition.

This seminar offers a strategic overview of post construction fabric testing and will detail the range of tests, the benefits and constraints, costs and learning opportunities. Details of the GHA Monitoring Programme with a summary of results to date will also be given.

22nd April, 13 30—17 45, University College London

Implementing a Monitoring and Feedback Plan

A detailed examination of the practical performance of different build systems in meeting sustainability requirements, and the monitoring methods that help to provide proof of this.

The GHA monitoring programme is underway. We will update you with the results, issues, costs and challenges that have arisen implementing the programme. Speakers include representatives from the Technology Strategy Board, Energy Saving Trust, Oxford Brookes University, Leeds Metropolitan University and a major developer.

Including an exhibition of the latest performance measurement technologies: monitoring kit, sensors, thermal imaging and in-house displays from various manufacturers.

Summer: Low carbon homes - site visits

Guided site visits, hosted by GHA Developers, offering a unique opportunity to see Good Homes during the process of construction. Sites possibly including The Natural House at BRE, Watford and Gentoo Homes, Sunderland

Dates and venues tbc ...

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GHA 2010 Event Programme cont...



June/July: Good Homes: Occupant and buyer satisfaction

This will be an exploration of how the design of houses and neighbourhoods affects the health and well being and perceptions of occupants, including how they view the value and benefits of their sustainable homes.

There is evidence that good homes effect health and human behaviour through various factors, including indoor air quality, dust mites, mould, psychological wellbeing and mental health. There are also suggestions of broad benefits and enhanced value for building occupants, but questions remain:

- What sustainability factors determine the choices people make to buy or to rent a particular property?
- What are the health benefits of sustainable homes?
- What value do tenants and buyers place on Good Homes?
- How can we present the added benefits of sustainable homes and neighbourhoods to buyers and occupants?

Followed by drinks and networking...

September: Neighbourhood design for Good Homes

A partnership event with the Prince's Foundation, to examine the characteristics of good neighbourhoods that can support Good Homes and their occupants to live sustainable lifestyles.

Examination of the characteristics of good neighbourhoods that encourage low carbon and sustainable behaviour, such as walkability, permeability and provision of mixed use, local facilities. Followed by an exploration of the application of these principles at a variety of scales (from urban extension to small infill projects) and in different locations, such as rural, urban edge and city centre sites.

Including examples and case studies, such as Sherford new community, and details of tools and techniques that can help provide quantitative measurement and evidence.

Followed by drinks and networking...

December: Industry transformation

plus GHA Christmas party and AGM

An event to explore what progress the sector is making towards widespread delivery of Good Homes, and to consider what else is needed to help the industry achieve the zero carbon and broader sustainability targets.

Topics covered will include:

- Different types of mortgages, insurance deals and financial models that may support the sustainable construction market.
- How changes in planning requirements can be used effectively for sustainability gains.
- What new training, technologies and approaches are needed to enable successful delivery.

Details to be confirmed...

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