Planning for zero carbon homes from 2016
Thursday 14 February 2013
Council House, Victoria Square, Birmingham

A one-day conference bringing together planners and house builders in response to the challenge of zero carbon homes from 2016.
Over the last 12 months the government has re-stated its commitment to zero carbon development within the context of new policies emerging on economic growth and housing. However, planning and house building continue to face huge challenges as the 2016 deadline moves closer and a number of key questions remain:

- What is the current understanding of costs and viability on deliverability of zero carbon homes?
- How will planning reform impact on zero carbon development?
- What are the roles of local authorities in assisting delivery within the new localism landscape?

_Nearer to Zero_ brings together planners and house builders to explore the opportunities for closer collaboration to achieve zero carbon homes. With 2016 just three years away, the focus of this conference is on the steps that need to be taken now to ensure the delivery of zero carbon housing moves from ambition to reality.
Conference Programme

9:15 Registration opens

10:00 Chairman’s welcome
Cllr James Mckay, Cabinet Member for Green Safe and Smart City, Birmingham City Council

10:10 What do we mean by zero carbon homes?
Neil Jefferson, Chief Executive of the Zero Carbon Hub

10:35 Designing a framework for allowable solutions
Marco Marijewcysz, Allowable Solutions Strategic Lead, Zero Carbon Hub

11:00 The zero carbon journey - Government’s perspective
Bob Ledsome, Deputy Director of Building Regulations & Standards at DCLG

11:25 Break

11:40 Planning for zero carbon
Robert Shaw, Director of Sustainability and Climate Change at LDA Design

12:00 Zero carbon housing developments in West Midlands
John Christophers, Associate at Associated Architects
Lubo Jankovic, Reader in Sustainable Design, Birmingham City University

12:30 New approaches to developing viability and local standards
Sir John Harman, Chairman of the Local Housing Delivery Steering Group

12:50 Energy Storage Technology and the Household Owner
Dr Jonathan Radcliffe, Head of Analysis Team, Energy Research Partnership

13:10 Panel Session 1 – Where are we on the zero carbon journey?
Speakers from the morning session

13:30 Lunch

14:20 Keynote speech
Baroness Verma, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for DECC

14:45 Outlining the Performance Gap
Richard Partington, Richard Partington Architects

15:05 Green Deal & local authorities
Steve Ives, DECC, Head of Green Deal Local Authorities and social housing team

15:20 Birmingham Energy Savers programme
John Swinney, Business Development Director of Carillion Energy Services, Birmingham Energy Savers

15:40 Panel Session 2 – How can we meet the retro-fit challenge?
Speakers from the afternoon session, including
Paul Davies, Sustainable Technologies Manager at Wates Living Space

15:55 Chairman’s closing comments

16:00 Close
Nearer to Zero - Nearer to you?

Nearer to Zero aims to bring together house builders and planners in the localities where their interests lie. A series of regional conferences have been held during 2012, each one having explored the delivery of zero carbon housing in regions throughout England and Wales.

For details of a forthcoming regional conference near you go to www.nearertozer.co.uk

Conference Booking

Delegate rates: £40 (plus VAT) per person

For more details and to book your place go to: www.nearertozer.co.uk.

Email: madeline.logan@zerocarbonhub.org

The learning benefit gained by any individual attending this event can be evaluated and recorded in line with the CPD requirements of their professional body or institute

Nearer to Zero has been delivered with support from CITB-ConstructionSkills Management and Supervisory Development Programme. The conference is hosted by Birmingham City Council.
Conference Highlights

Nearer to Zero will feature speakers from the highest levels of government, industry and local government bringing their unique insight into planning and development:

- Hear DCLG explain how the zero carbon homes ambition fits within the new planning system
- Learn about work on developing a common understanding of ‘zero carbon’
- Get the latest information on technologies and costs of building to the new Zero Carbon standard
- Participate in ‘Question Time’ panel discussions with leading national figures from government, industry and research
- Understand what DECC is aiming for through the Green Deal and what lies ahead for the retrofit agenda

Feedback from previous Nearer to Zero conferences

“Great event and a great forum for highlighting issues and priorities. I look forward to the next one.”

“A very good conference which outlined the current problems and the issues coming up towards 2016”
About the conference organisers

The **Zero Carbon Hub** is a cross-sector public/private partnership set up in 2008 to facilitate the mainstream delivery of low and zero carbon homes. Through a number of work streams, it advises industry and government at all levels on the skills, practice and innovation required to meet the zero carbon ambition. The Hub reports to the 2016 Taskforce.

The **Home Builders Federation** represents the interests of the house building industry and its members deliver 80% of the new homes built each year. It is actively engaging with Government and key stakeholders to identify and find solutions to the barriers to the delivery of zero carbon homes and it shares chairmanship of the 2016 Taskforce.

**Birmingham City Council** is leading an ambitious building retrofit challenge with its Birmingham Energy Savers programme - targeting 60,000 homes over 8 years. They are also reviewing and updating their planning frameworks to actively promote near zero building development and investment in the city.

**SHAP** promotes good practice in sustainable housing - new build and retrofit - helping to keep the West Midlands at the forefront of the journey to low carbon living. SHAP supports the West Midlands Retrofit Steering Group strategic partnership and works with Sustainability West Midlands to drive policy development and disseminate learning and innovation.