Building Better Buildings

22nd March 2016

Cardiff







Ed Evans

Director

Constructing Excellence in Wales



BUILDING BETTER BUILDINGS BREAKFAST SEMINAR





ROLE OF THE ZERO CARBON HUB

PURPOSE AND STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Facilitate the mainstream delivery of low and zero carbon homes working across boarders

- Provide leadership and create confidence
- Reduce risk
- Disseminate information



CLIMATE CHANGE

The Road to Zero Carbon



CLIMATE CHANGE – EXPECTED INCREASE IN TEMPERATURE

ZERO CARBON







KYOTO – WHO'S ON TARGET



POLICY: A 'EUROPEAN' CONTEXT



An interesting time for new buildings



ZERO CARBON HUB

Nearly zero-energy Buildings



EPBD Article 2, NZEB definition:

[..] 'nearly zero-energy building' means a building that has a very high energy performance [..]. The nearly zero or very low amount of energy required should be covered to a very significant extent by energy from renewable sources, including energy from renewable sources produced on-site or nearby.[..]

CAF

Article 9 Nearly zero-energy buildings – EPBD

- 1. Member States shall ensure that:
- (a) By 31 December 2020, all new buildings are nearly zero-energy buildings; and
- (b) After 31 December 2018, new buildings occupied and owned by public authorities are nearly zeroenergy buildings.
- (b) Set targets in order to stimulate the transformation of buildings that are refurbished into nearly zeroenergy buildings

CARBON CULPRITS



CARBON CULPRITS IN UK BUILDINGS



Culprits: most CO2 from buildings stems from heating. Houses are particularly energy-inefficient

RISKS

- **Performance gap** moving to solutions
- Ventilation encouraging best practice
- **Overheating** understanding the issues





THE PERFORMANCE GAP



Golf TD Clean Diesel

NOT A CONCEPT CA

WHAT ARE CONSUMERS EXPECTING?



Victorian with some modern day improvements

ZERO CARBON New Build built to 2013 regulations New Build 2016 aspirations



Closing the Performance Gap – the 2020 Ambition:

"From 2020, be able to demonstrate that at least 90% of all new homes meet or perform better than the designed energy / carbon performance"

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Literature Review

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- State of the industry (aggregated data)
 - NHBC, LABC, SAP software providers, professional institutions, house builders, manufacturers

O Compliance processes

 As-built SAPs, ACD/ECD use, Air pressure tests, commissioning

O Field trials

O TSB Building Performance Evaluation, EST Heat pump trials

Academic studies

Stamford Brook, Elmtree Mews, Temple Avenue

Secret" knowledge

Manufacturers, Universities







Inadequate Understanding & Knowledge within Design Team

Impact on:

ZERC

- O Buildability
- O Compatibility of systems, materials and services
- O Thermal detailing

Typical examples:

- O Details into which insulation is impossible to fit
- O No detail on support of screed at ground floor perimeters
- No consideration of thermal bridges for rooms over garages

Concern over Competency of SAP Assessors

Problems with:

ZERO

- O Accuracy of inputs
- Following conventions
- O Validating assumptions
- O Evidencing assessments



Massive impact where they are giving design advice



Lack of Site Team Energy Performance Related Knowledge and Skills and/or Care

Literature Review -

• "The lack of proper training of the workforce.....resulted in significant construction faults, unplanned design solutions and wrong system commissioning"

> Oxford Brookes University, Understanding the Gap between As Designed and As Built Performance, 2013



Windows located in front of design positions

ZERO CARBON

- O Insufficient overlap with cavity closer
- O All sites visited had the window in the wrong place



Product Substitution On Site

Literature Review -

• "The most striking observation about the application of materials and components were the number of occasions on which materials intended for one location were used in another"

Leeds Metropolitan University, Lessons from Stamford Brook, 2008





ZERC

Performance Assessment R&D

Skills and Knowledge Development

Construction Details Scheme

Continued Evidence Gathering

INDUSTRY RECOMMENDATIONS

Signal Clear Direction

Stimulate Industry Investment

Strengthen Compliance Regime

Support Skills & Knowledge Development



GOVERNMENT RECOMMENDATIONS



How to address the Performance Gap?

• Provide a good practice guide in simple, clear format

O Use with on site toolbox talks, site manager training, builder's merchants, building control, designer awareness, specifications, warranty providers And students !

ZERO



Performance gap - First step to solutions



ZERO CARBON Common themes on site Site Posters - Fabric and Services

Fabric

- 1 Groundworks
- 2 Beam and Block Floor
- 3 Door Threshold
- 4 Cavity Wall partial fill
- 5 Cavity wall full fill
- 6 Floor Joists
- 7 Separating wall
- 8 Lintels
- 9 Windows
- 10 Bay windows
- 11 Projecting windows
- 12 Eaves
- 13 Roof
- 14 Dryline
- 15 Ventilation
- 16 Heating / hotwater
- 17 Finals



Site posters



ZERO CARBON HUB BUILDERS' BOOK



CA

ZERO CARBON HUB BUILDERS' BOOK

WINDOW INSTALLATION



INSIDE THERMAL WINDOW POSITIONED BRIDGE TOO CLOSE TO EXTERNAL FACE

NO OVERLAP OF WINDOW AND CAVITY



ZERO CARBON HUB BUILDERS' BOOK EAVES PROBLEM TO AVOID NO INSULATION AT EAVES NO SPACE FOR INSULATION SOUASHED INSULATION INSULATION MISSING REDUCED SPACE MERICA DI MANA ABOVE JOISTS MAKES INSTALLATION OF FULL INSULATION IMPOSSIBLE **OPTION 1 OPTION 2** WHAT TO DO? 150MM Install rigid insutation to top of the wall plate (1) 2 2 Truss design to accommodate space for Insulation at eaves (2) 1 1 Lay mineral wool Insulation Into eaves (3) 1 Cut Insulation around eaves lintels 3 2 CREST NICHO GOOD PRACTICE Install insulation before eaves are inaccessible

GROUND WORKER

BRICKLAYER

CARPENTER PLUMBER

ELECTRICIAN PLASTERER

ROOFER

WINDOW

FITTER

DECORATOR

Zero Carbon Hub Guides



ZERO CARBON HUB

VENTILATION



Ventilation – delivery improvements



ZERO CARBON HUB
Ventilation Field Study

- O Focus on MEV and MVHR
- O Site walkthrough investigations
- O Interviews with key people:
 - O Installers
 - O Site management
 - O Designers
 - O Manufacturers
 - O Residents

	2 Limited understanding of impact of saily design decisions on energy performance					
DETAILED DESIGN	Indequate Lac understanding and inte knowledge within des detailed design fab	k of Iss. Igrated of L lign between the ric, services & calo	IB es around use -value and mal bridging ulation redures	EUD Concern over competency of SAP essessors		
PROCUREMENT			FR2 nadequate provideration of s ind competency abour procureme	at		
CONSTRUCTION COMMISSIONIN		Product substitution of consideration of energy performance	an Poor installation of febric	Poor Installation or commissioning of semites	Lack of site baam energy performance knowledge & skills	Lack of ad equate energy performance related GA on site
VERIFICATION & TESTING	Concern over consistency of some text methodologies & interpretation of data	reflect) actual b		Lack of robust en performance relative verification, rollati third perty inform	ted toe on	Lack of clarity over documentary evidence for Part L & Part F compliance



OVERHEATING



OVERHEATING – a few numbers

- 20% No of homes in England & Wales are already O/Htg
- 1 in 3 2,000 excess deaths in UK every third year by 2040
- 9°C Biggest recorded Urban Heat Island Effect (London v rural)
- £100K Cost to one builder to rectify an O/Htg apartment block
- 7,000 Estimate of 2050 annual heat related deaths
- 100 Estimated hospital admissions for every heat related death



ZERO CARBON HUB

Helping the Consumer

Are the running costs as presented by the EPC of any use?

Are homes today comfortable?

ZERO

CARBON

Are we creating 'stuffy' homes?

Energy Performance Certificate

1 Insulation Avenue, London W4 1UV

Dwelling type:	End-terrace house	Reference number:	8009-8677-9829-3096-4423
Date of assessment:	13 April 2012	Type of assessment:	RdSAP, existing dwelling
Date of certificate:	10 April 2012	Total floor area:	88 m²
lies this descent	and the second sec		

Use this document to:

Compare current ratings of properties to see which properties are more energy efficient

٠ Find out how you can save energy and money by installing improvement measures

Estimated energy costs	£3,243 £1,521			
Over 3 years you could				
Estimated energy cos	sts of this home			
	Current costs	Potential costs	Potential future savings	
Lighting	£237 over 3 years	£141 over 3 years	You could	
Heating	£2,712 over 3 years	£1,395 over 3 years		
Hot Water	£294 over 3 years	£186 over 3 years	save £1,521	
Totals	£3,243	£1,722	over 3 years	

These figures show how much the average household would spend in this property for heating, lighting and hot water. This excludes energy use for running appliances like TVs, computers and cookers, and any electricity generated by microgeneration.

Energy Efficiency Rating



The graph shows the current energy efficiency of your home.

The higher the rating the lower your fuel bills are likely to be.

The potential rating shows the effect of undertaking the recommendations on page 4.

The average energy efficiency rating for a dwelling in England and Wales is band D (rating 60).

Top actions you can take to save money and make your home more efficient

Recommended measures	Indicative cost	Typical savings over 3 years	Available with Green Deal	
1 Cavity wall insulation	£500 - £1,500	£69	0	
2 Internal or external wall insulation	£4,000 - £14,000	£576	0	
3 Floor insulation	£800 - £1,200	£129	0	

See page 4 for a full list of recommendations for this property.

To find out more about the recommended measures and other actions you could take today to save money, visit www.direct.gov.uk/savingenergy or call 0300 123 1234 (standard national rate). When the Green Deal launches, it may allow you to make your home warmer and cheaper to run at no up-front cost

http://www.zerocarbonhub.org/recent-publications

Stay in touch: www.zerocarbonhub.org <u>Rob.pannell@zerocarbonhub.org</u>

Thank you

ZERO CARBON



Building Performance Evaluation: In-use Post Occupancy Evaluation – a Welsh Case Study

Aberfawr Terrace, Abertridwr, Wales

Building Better Buildings - Cardiff

22nd March 2016 Dr John Littlewood*^

**Director* – Sustainable Construction Monitoring & Research Ltd ^Head of the EBERE group, Cardiff Metropolitan University

scmr2410@gmai.com and jlittlewood@cardiffmet.ac.uk



Project partners

United Welsh Housing Association (BPE grant winner), Caerphilly, Wales

InnovateUK

Sustainable Construction Monitoring & Research Ltd, Dinas Powys (2012date)

Cardiff Metropolitan University (2011-2012, 2015-date), Cardiff, Wales

Thanks to: Richard Mann, Ivan Smallwood, Mat Colmer, Alex Moody



Introduction – Aberfawr Twerrace, Abertridwr



- Altitude is 155 metres above sea level, side of a river valley.
- Orientation is north/south (flats) and west/east (houses).
- Designed and constructed as a package deal with a Welsh contractor.
- Occupied from December 2010: nine single-storey flats, four two-storey houses and one fly-over maisonette.
- BPE study: two flats (single occupancy), one two-storey house, two bedrooms (2 adults/1 child) and one two-storey house, three bedrooms (multiple occupancy).



Introduction – Aberfawr Terrace: Dwellings

- All houses CfSH level 3+ and flats CfSH level: 4, latterly DECC grant during construction in 2010.
- Flat construction 0.2, 0.1 and 0.25 W/m²K U values for exterior walls, roof and ground floor, timber frame, sheeps wool insulation, cedar clad, triple glazing, 1 kW PV;
- House Construction: 0.18, 0.1 and 0.2 W/m²K U values for exterior walls, roof and ground floor; brick/block cavity construction, double glazing, no PV.
- Heating/Ventilation: electric only: NIBE EASHPs + underfloor heating







Littlewood et al, (2014, 2016)



Key questions: Design Intent Vs Actual Building Performance.

- 1. How does timber frame versus brick/block construction effect dwelling internal comfort conditions, space heating energy use and carbon emissions?
- 2. Do NIBE EASHPs lead to high energy usage and associated costs/carbon emissions for space/water heating, and how to occupants engage with such systems and their controls.
- 3. How can the handover/tenant education be developed and used on other schemes and can any lessons be learnt from the contractor's direct supply approach?
- 4. How do air tightness values that exceed the maximum optimum of 3 m³/h.m², at 4.8 m³/h.m² (houses) affect the use of the EASHPs.
- 5. UW wishes to understand whether it needs to fundamentally overhaul its design, procurement, commissioning and hand-over strategies; by stipulating more exacting design, construction, commissioning and operational standards.

Littlewood et al, (2014, 2016)



Systems Review: Underfloor Heating Controls & Heat Pump Controls





Systems Review: Thermostats

Flat Room Thermostat



House Room thermostat

Both dwellings are similar as far as the local room controls are concerned. The thermostats in House , were set to maximum (30°C).

Flat Hall (main) Thermostat



Littlewood et al, (2016)



Occupant interaction with extract ventilation & filters



Cardiff Metropolitan University

Occupant interaction with supply ventilation

Air make-up (to replace the air extracted by the NIBE system) is via wall transfer grilles in each property. These are located in each of the non-wet rooms, i.e. living rooms and bedrooms. This type of air inlet and the installed capacity is appropriate for this type of ventilation system. As often found, however, is the tendency for occupants to close these (Figure 2.6), either due to perceived heat loss, of discomfort from draughts, or both. Two out of the three air inlets in House 4 were found to be closed, and two out of two air inlets in Flat 6A were found to be closed. This finding is symptomatic of poor user guidance and understanding and it is recommended that guidance is made available as detailed earlier in this report.



Littlewood et al, (2014, 2016)



Some key Findings Monitoring vs SAP – Heating: Flat & House

Energy	2010-SAP	2014-SAP	Monitored data	% monitored SAP va	
Total Heating Energy Usage (kWh/yr)*	2051.63	2307.25	1628.50	79.37	70.58
S/Heating Energy Outputs (kWh/yr)	1387.70	3149.83	1244.00#	89.64	60.51
H/W Heating Energy Outputs (kWh/yr)	2111.63	1533.46	342.00#	16.20	22.30
Energy	2010-SAP	2014-SAP	Monitored data	% monitored v valu	
Total Heating Energy Usage (kWh/yr)*	2858.93	3376.83	4009.80	140.26	118.74
S/Heating Energy	2417.51	6463.01	2046.00#	84.63	31.65
Outputs (kWh/yr)					
H/W Heating Energy Outputs (kWh/yr)	2608.35	1855.38	2558.00#	98.07	137.87

*heating values includes energy usages for heat pump, immersion and, pumps, fans and controls. #monitored heating, space and hot water, energy outputs (NOT USAGE).

(Littlewood & Smallwood, 2015)



Sustainable Construction Monitoring & Research Ltd (SCMR)

Education : Monitoring : Research

SCMR Director: Dr John Littlewood, <u>scmr2410@gmail.com</u>

Some key Findings Monitoring – Energy Usages all dwellings



Occupancy patterns are linked to higher energy usage as are greater exposed facades



Some key Findings Monitoring – EASHP COP: House

University



The Derived CoP values are unusual. Notable, the maximum Derived CoPs occur in the SAP nonheating period; July to September, before the first heating period begins.

	NIBE-Published CoP	Derived CoP Maximum	Derived CoP Minimum	
		(Difference)	(Difference)	
Fighter 360P	3.40	2.09 (-1.31)	0.655 (-2.75)	
Cardiff Metropolitan		Sustain	able Construction Monitoring & Research Ltd (Education : Monitoring : R	SCMR) Research



SCMR Director: Dr John Littlewood, scmr2410@gmail.com

Environmental Conditions Review: Monitored Data



Underheating/Overheating - cause may not be the M&E, occupants could be the fabric



Some key Findings Monitoring – Environmental Conditions House



University

Education : Monitoring : Research SCMR Director: Dr John Littlewood, <u>scmr2410@gmail.com</u>

Some key Findings from the System Inspection & occupant Interaction

- The EASHP heating-curve 'set-point' for both dwellings was set to the manufacture's settings for radiators not under-floor heat output sources.
- In the house, the 'selected' heating-curve and heat-supply output was set for climates akin to Sweden with external temperatures of -20C and the Swedish language.
- Ceiling terminals for extracting air from some rooms: inspected as altered and also dust, grease and particulate matter was found to be blocking the ducting, both.
- Monitored data indicates that overall the flat never sustains the SAP-Adjusted internal comfort temperature suggesting little heat is recovered through the ceiling ducts & underfloor heating was faulty.
- Both house and flat: overall air flow, (m³/h⁻¹), is 35% higher & 26% lower in house/flat than the manufacture's recommendations: affecting indoor air quality, heating demands and heat recovery.
- Both house and flat: occupants 'fail' to understand the 'nuances of the installed EASHPs/under-floor heating, operated as 'turn-on/off' & timed – even after repeated instructions during handover, and the BPE project. Filter cleaning problem.



Heating, Thermostats, Occupants or Fabric causing inadequate performanc

	As Built Air	Air Permeability	Difference	
	Permeability - 2010	2014 Test Result	Difference	
Flat	2.9 m ³ /	3.72 m ³ /	+0.82 m³/	
	(h.m ²)@50Pa	(h.m ²)@50Pa	(h.m ²)@50Pa	
Ноисо	4.8 m ³ /	8.8 m ³ /	+4.00 m ³ /	
House	(h.m ²)@50Pa	(h.m²)@50Pa	(h.m ²)@50Pa	



Littlewood & Smallwood (2015)



Some Key conclusions from Abertridwr

The incorrect testing/commissioning of the installed heating and ventilation systems means that, regardless of other external factors, the installed EASHP-systems cannot operate to the manufacture's efficiencies.

So difficult to draw conclusions of the effectiveness of the installed technologies in reducing energy consumption, associated emissions and operating costs.

This BPE study highlights the existence of a 'knowledge gap' within the end-users, occupants have developed behaviour strategies in the provision of their internal comfort levels and environmental conditions using the installed heating and ventilation.

Certain actions have a significant detrimental effect which further exasperate the effectiveness of the installed systems and are also reflective of the barrier between users and new technologies in that there 'appears' to be evidence that older technologies; central heating and extractor fans for example, provide a greater feeling of control of the end-user internal environments.



Key Messages

It appears that the Design and Build and complete package deals, where the contractor retains the majority of the control until handover, may not be suitable for innovative developments using non-standard design, construction and systems.

The local authority building control must be active in checking construction compliance on site throughout the process until handover, to ensure responsible and true certification. In addition, the NHBC should also take an active part in this process to ensure that construction and installation meets design intents.

The 'Performance Gap' does not stop post-construction; the processes of an informed handover to future occupants and a robust maintenance management programme is need to ensure that the properties are used and maintained as to the original design intents if energy-efficiency and low-costs benefits are to be continually realized.

Building performance in the life-time of a property is ultimately dependent upon the occupier's ability and willingness to use the building and systems to the original design intents and not rely on others to manage this on their behalf.

The BPE study further highlights the current serious questions within sustainable construction as to applicability/enforceability of the current raft of regulations, policies and standards so that design intents are translated into actual long-term usable benefits.



Lessons embedded at United Welsh

During the BPE project, a dedicated staff member was employed within the development team for managing handover of projects to tenants;

Post BPE study, a new development inspector (clerk of works) was employed to specifically focus upon construction performance during the build stage, with both architectural design and construction experience

SCMR Ltd retained post BPE to offer guidance on compliance testing: air test observations, conducting independent air tests, thermography tests, and whole dwelling smoke tests.



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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

ANY QUESTIONS



The Main Place Coleford Community Centre

The

The Librar

Building Performance Evaluation Piers Sadler



Passivhaus Design & Consultancy Building Energy & Science

• Building Performance Including –Refurbishment/New Build –Domestic/Non-Domestic

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Building Performance Evaluation The Main Place

- Client: Innovate UK
- Lead Consultant: Quattro Design Architects
- Sub-Consultant: Piers Sadler Consulting
- Sponsorship: Gloucestershire County Council
- Support (Dissemination): Constructing Excellence
- Duration: July 2012-October 2014









Project Background

 Kier Construction - Design and Build Contract

- Occupied from February 2010
- Four user groups CAP, Library, Youth and Learning and Disability Services, shared hall and catering

Handover

- Training (DVD)
- Documentation (BREEAM points)
- Defects:
 - Door security
 - Heating pipes (plant room)
 - Mikrofill pressure maintenance system
 - Water boilers
 - Meters
 - Cracks



Systems

- Gas Boilers
- UFH in Library & Hall radiators everywhere else
- Zone 1 DHW from boilers + solar thermal
- Distributed electric water heating in rest of building
- Air Handling Unit with heat recovery hall
- Overhead door heater
- Kitchen
- Air conditioning unit IT suite and IT server Lighting – PIR sensors automated

Thermographic Survey



Metering and BMS

 6 zones all sub-metered for electricity and heat

BUT

- Electrical sub-meters not properly commissioned
- Gas meters not properly calibrated
- Heat sub-meters not capable of communicating with BMS
- BMS not correctly reading electrical meter pulses



Electricity Metering - Reconciliation


Gas/Heat Metering - Reconciliation



92% of gas energy accounted for

Annual Energy Review Electricity





Annual Energy Review Gas/Heat



~£1500/yr to heat the hall ~£500/yr youth heating

Issues Arising and Interventions Zone 6 Heating







Issues Arising and Interventions Air Handling Unit



Issues Arising and Interventions Air handling unit heater & frost protection



Options: Drain system, remove heater, re-route circuit (£2600) Change frost protection settings (within project cost)

Issues Arising and Interventions Changes to frost protection



Extrapolated to the year 9000kWh or ~£250

Issues Arising and Interventions

Zone 2 - Library Heating

- UFH & radiators on same circuit
- Radiators running at ~50°C



Issues Arising and Interventions Zone 2 electric heaters



- ~£189/yr additional cost of electricity for fans
- £3200 to install thermostat on UFH manifold and reprogramme BMS to provide 70°C water to radiators (not done)

Issues Arising and Interventions



Issues Arising and Interventions Zone 1 Domestic hot water (DHW)

& solar thermal



Note also numerous uninsulated valves and gauges

Issues Arising and Interventions

Distributed electric water heaters

- Zone 3 Hot Water needs to be left on 24/7 for cleaners
- Some water heaters inaccessible so can't be controlled



Issues Arising and Interventions Lighting

- Youth and CAP offices
- Hall cupboards, gallery, youth activity area – PIR adjustments (£8/yr)
- Youth 'lounge' (resolved)



Interventions and Improvements Behaviour

- Operations and behaviour:
 - Water heaters turned off at night
 - TRVs turned down in Zone 5
 - Kettle used in favour of water boiler Zone 1
 - IT suite air con turned off in winter
- Building User Guide and Labelling

Building User Guide



Simple ON/Off Controls and Temperature Set Point

Use only on hot days – a 20 or 21°C set point should be sufficient

Coleford Community Centre – Building User Guide V1.2



Programmable controls – basic features only required

IT Server room – use in Cooling Mode only with continuous operation and a temperature set point of 25°C

Labelling



Labelling...



Labelling...



Other issues

- Computers 24/7/365
- BMS Zone pumps running in summer
- Temperature set points eg circulation area set to 21°C
- BMS access ensuring users can change their settings in accordance with usage



Summer time settings

nfigured T	lime Sch	iemes:													
* Normal Times													Display week sets		
<											-		Display special days		
Holidays/Summer												Default Times selection for group			
													Normal Times	[
lew	Edit Delete Import Time Scheme						Where are these times used?								
00:00	02:00	04:00	06:00	08:00	10:00	12:00	14:00	16:00	18:00	20:00	22:00	24:00			
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Projected Improvements Thermal



Projected Improvements Electrical



Projected Improvements Emissions



Conclusions

- Building handover lacks a user focus
- Buildings metering not fit for purpose
- Influence of BREEAM credits –meters, documentation, solar thermal – present but not useful
- Effort spent at commissioning and handover has potential payback throughout the life of the building
- No and low cost opportunities to save energy and cost across the building stock







Thank you Questions/Discussion

Q&A

