

Applied Energy – Fact Sheet

CODE FOR SUSTAINABLE HOMES



Key Information for Home Buyers and Developers




Why? Building Regulations require those selling new homes to provide information to any prospective purchaser on the sustainability of the home. Where a home is designed and built to the Code for Sustainable Homes (the Code) and assessed against it, a Code certificate will be provided. Otherwise, a statement of non assessment (a nil-rated certificate) will be provided. The Code certification must be provided in the Home Information Pack (HIP).

For Whom? It is targeted at new homebuyers as it allows them to have a better understanding of the environmental impact of their new home and its potential running costs. It also offers builders a tool with which to differentiate themselves in sustainability terms.

By Whom? A Code assessment can only be carried out by a licensed and accredited Code assessor.

What are they? The Code measures the sustainability of a new home against categories of sustainable design and uses a 1 to 6 star rating system to communicate the overall sustainability performance. The rating depends on how the house measures up in nine design categories that the Code has set minimum standards for. These categories are - Energy and CO₂ Emissions, Pollution, Management, Water, Health and Wellbeing, Materials, Surface Water Run-Off, Ecology and Waste.

When? From April 2008, all new social and affordable housing must be built to a minimum of Code level 3. The Code is voluntary for privately built housing, however local/planning authorities can impose specific ratings to design to. The government have put a 10-year timetable in place with the aim to make all new homes zero carbon from 2016. This is to be achieved through a step by step tightening of the Building Regulations as shown adjacent

Date	2010	2013	2016
Energy efficiency improvement of the dwelling compared to 2006 (Part L Building Regulations)	25%	44%	Zero carbon
Equivalent standard within the Code	Code level 3 	Code level 4 	Code level 6 

Contact: Geoff Peters (geoff.peters@appliedenergy.co.uk 07957 142 360) at Applied Energy for an initial chat and some guidance on how best to proceed.