



Green Recovery Planning for the Property and Construction industries

- Step 1: In the light of and learning lessons from the Corona virus emergency the construction and property industries must take stock and reassess both their values and the value they can provide to the UK as it enters recovery mode.
- Step 2: While the UK is in lockdown the opportunity should be taken to provide on-line retraining for furloughed members of the workforce in all parts of the industry, whether normally office or site-based. The training materials are available, even if they still require organising into curricula and courses. Testing and qualifications will be necessary components of any retraining programme.
- Step 3: While the stay-at-home policy runs its course in the UK, the industry institutions - working with in tandem with the government - should commission and provide facilitation for a virtual 'citizen's assembly' representing the full range of stakeholders (including owners, service providers and workers) in the property and construction industry charged with developing a full programme for the recovery of the sector as a fully sustainable industry able to meet the challenges of providing future employment, enhancing biodiversity and delivering on the net-zero obligation.
- Step 4: During the shutdown period and in preparation of the re-opening of tertiary education facilities those offering courses for the construction and property industries should be required to rethink and revise their curricula to enable them to deliver, on reopening, the skills needed to deal with the challenge of climate breakdown and maintain biodiversity
- Step 5: In exchange for support funding for property companies during the Covid19 emergency the government should require them to commit, within 2020, to a detailed programme of improvements sufficient to ensure their existing and future property portfolio operates with net-zero carbon emissions by 2050 (or before)
- Step 6: In exchange for the support of businesses during the shutdown and an ambitious reconstruction programme, construction companies should commit to only deliver net-zero carbon new buildings from 2030 on and to train and resource their entire workforce with the skills and capacity required to achieve this by 2025.
- Step 7: In exchange for the support of companies producing and supplying construction materials and products during the Covid19 shutdown and in advance of the reconstruction programme to be confirmed by government, all such companies should commit to supplying full data on the environmental impact of materials and products and ensuring they are capable of making their assessed contribution to a net-zero carbon built and natural environment.
- Step 8: While the industry is operating at less than full capacity it must develop and commit to establishing an effective programme of building performance metrics, evaluation, data sharing & assessment and research with widespread dissemination of lessons learnt. A fully accessible evidence-base should be developed capable of covering at least 80% of the UK's building stock.
- Step 9: In collaboration with the property industry and planning and design professions the government should use the hiatus caused by the Covid19 virus to commission, deliver and commit to full spatial development plans for the constituent parts of the UK capable of delivering the net-zero carbon emissions obligation
- Step 10: In response to the property and construction industries confirming the above steps the Government will announce an ambitious post-virus reconstruction programme to put the construction industry back to work while simultaneously implementing plans to transform the UK into a vibrant net-zero carbon emissions economy by 2050.