

Proposed Amendment

SOUTH EAST ENGLAND REGIONAL ASSEMBLY ANNUAL MEETING

Date: 13 July 2005

Amendment proposed by: Lucy Young, SEFS

Agenda Item 5 (Section D1)

Policy No CC4 - Sustainable Construction

Background:

SEFS welcomes the new CC4 cross-cutting policy on sustainable construction. But, along with other regional partners, we are concerned that the requirement to apply the BREEAM EcoHomes 'Very good' standard for all new developments has been dropped. Application of this standard could achieve a 39% reduction in water use and a 32% reduction in CO₂ emissions from home energy use over current standards, and is relatively easily achieved. There is unanimous agreement that EcoHomes is the best standard currently available. This amendment seeks to address this issue and also to signal strong support for the application of the SEEDA sustainability checklist, and to promote carbon and water neutral developments.

To revise the wording from:

The construction of all new buildings, and the redevelopment and refurbishment of existing building stock, will be expected to adopt and incorporate sustainable construction standards and techniques. This will include:

1. high standards of energy and water efficiency that exceed current standards required by the Building Regulations and reflect best practice;
 2. designing to increase the use of natural lighting, heat and ventilation, and the provision of a proportion of energy demand from renewable sources;
 3. reduction and increased recycling of construction and demolition waste and procurement of low-impact materials;
 4. designing for flexible use and adaptation to reflect changing lifestyles and needs and the principle of 'whole life costing'.
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Proposed new wording: *(new text is in bold, underscored; deleted text is scored through)*

The construction of all new buildings, and the redevelopment and refurbishment of existing building stock, will be expected to adopt and incorporate sustainable construction standards and techniques. ~~These~~**is** will include:

- 1. the requirement that all new homes will be built to a minimum of BREEAM EcoHomes 'Very good' and increasingly 'Excellent'**

standard (unless and until these are replaced by superior standards), and public authorities will encourage the development and application of similar standards to the refurbishment of dwellings;

- ~~12.~~ high standards of energy and water efficiency that exceed current standards required by the building regulations and reflect best practice, **including carbon and water neutral developments;**
- ~~23.~~ designing to increase the use of natural lighting, heat and ventilation, and the provision of a proportion of energy demand from renewable resources
- ~~34.~~ reduction **in**, and increased recycling of, construction and demolition waste, and **increased** procurement of low-impact materials;
- ~~45.~~ designing for flexible use and adaptation to reflect changing lifestyles and needs and the principles of 'whole life costing'.