CARBON REDUCTION

| DRIVER | CRITERIA | INFLUENCE |
|--|---|---|
| Building Regulations Part L 1&2 (2006) | Sets requirements for energy performance of buildings, part 1 domestic, part 2 other buildings. Major revisions scheduled for 2010 and 2016 | Statutory so sets minimum standards that must be complied with. 2016 issue should demand 'carbon neutral' buildings |
| Government Policy | 80% CO ₂ reduction target for 2050, interim target of 34% CO ₂ reduction target for 2020 and five year reduction budgets that are mandatory | Carbon reduction budgets devolved to local authorities and business |
| Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council Policy | 25% CO ₂ reduction target for 2013 compared to 2005/06 baseline | Sets requirements for savings in all council operations supported by Salix invest to save funding providing interest free loans over five years paid from energy savings |
| Code for Sustainable Homes/BREEAM | 'optional' standards to go beyond building regulations on a series of grades, in the case of CoSH to level 6, carbon neutral. BREEAM for commercial buildings expected to be replaced by more demanding standard to reach carbon neutral requirement | CoSH Level 3 mandatory for social housing and rising to level 4. Cost of achieving higher levels is often the issue with initial capital costs determining standards to be achieved. However, Building Regs should reach carbon neutral requirement by 2016 thus forcing the issue. |
| Carbon Reduction Commitment | New 'cap and trade' scheme for high energy users (includes SBC) to encourage reduction in energy use by charging for carbon emission allowances (£12/tonne initially so ~£375k per annum cost to council) | Effectively a tax on emissions so provides an additional financial element to consider against energy saving investment decisions. |
| BSF Policy | Standards expected from Building Schools for the Future programme. | Requires BREEAM Schools very good rating but also requires 60% carbon reduction compared to a school built to 2002 Building Regs. This provides a further £50/m² funding to achieve this target. |
| Grants | A number of sources of grant support exist including Low Carbon Buildings Programme, RIEP (Regional Improvement and Efficiency Partnership), Big Lottery Fund (CESP – Community Energy Saving Programme), some utilities and from time to time various other sources | These grants can be a means of achieving a viable low carbon approach in terms of payback or budget. One issue can be the timing of applications and how these fit with design and build timescales. |
| Salix – invest to save | Maximum 5 year payback period and £100/tCO2 lifetime basis or maximum 7.5 year payback period and £50/tCO2 lifetime basis for defined technologies. | Being used by Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council for insulation measures, voltage reduction, street light dimming and hours reduction with others to come under the Carbon Management Programme |

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