

CIH Conference

Wednesday 3rd October 2007

Oaklee Room 12.15 - 1.15

Sustainable homes - a greener future?

In this session the subject of sustainability and how this reflects on the well being of our community will be discussed.

Is it possible to create sustainable communities by adopting a lifecycle approach to the provision of housing and community infrastructure?

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What is sustainability?

“The concept of meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs”.

Gro Harlem Brundtland

Former Norwegian Prime
Minister

**(World Commission on
Environment and Development
(1987, p.43)**

Good quality sustainable housing

1. Socially and environmentally appropriate
2. Architecturally appealing
3. Accessible and adaptable
4. Safe and secure
5. Cost effective and affordable
6. Durable and low maintenance
7. Resource efficient

What is a sustainable community?

- Places where people want to live and work, now and in the future.
- Meets the diverse needs of existing and future residents.
- Sensitive to environment, and contributes to a high quality of life.
- Safe and inclusive, well built and run.
- Equality of opportunity and good services for all.

Model – Sustainable community policy Housing – central issue

Key Drivers	Key issues	Key issues - Strategic Policy Responses	Key issues - Implementation	Key issues - Delivery
Economy	Growth	Dynamic economy Environment	Economic	Leadership
Demography	Exclusion	Housing Connectivity	Financial	Professional skills
Environment	Stagnation	Social inclusion	Technical	Partnership
	Decline	Government	Political and social	Community involvement

Key questions in Housing for sustainability

- Was sustainability a key component of the initial project appraisal?
- Does housing project respond to identified need?
- What is the project's suitability/context?
 - in - location, site, tenure mix
 - in - connections to other services
 - in - how community will develop over coming years

Key challenges and Housing responses

Growth related problems:- Social, affordable, private, sprawl; congestion; environment

Response: boosting supply; growth management; planning, design; intensification of land-use; integral solutions

- **Stagnation and decline:-** Economic collapse; de-population, low housing demand

Response: housing market renewal

- **Social Exclusion:-** Unemployment; ghetto forming; ethnic tension; crime & insecurity

Response: regeneration of deprived areas; raising housing quality; diversifying tenures to counteract selective migration

Population change demands an immediate and effective housing policy response

What is the life-cycle approach to Housing?

What is it ?

- Framework – integrated approach to housing/key social challenges
- Addresses risks facing individual persons.
- Makes supports available at each stage in the person's life-cycle.

Adopting a lifecycle approach to housing and community infrastructure

- Social inclusion Networks
- Participation Decision making
- Lifecycle approach Across
 lifespan
- Income Meaningful
- Accommodation Tailored
- Services – support Resources
- Policies – Vision Client centred
- Commitment All partners

Implications for social housing tenants

- Life-cycle approach is very important for social housing tenants
- Recognises housing is not a disconnected issue.
- Recognises associated needs such as health, supports, etc.
- Adopts an integrated approach
- Social networks – community building

In Conclusion

Creating sustainable communities adopting a lifecycle approach

- Affordability Basic right
- Choice Social, affordable, private
- Tenure Mixed tenure
- Support Inclusive to all
- Management Holistic approach
- Sustainability Best practice from design
to living environment
Zero carbon rating 2016
- Environmental Secure cohesive community
- Social inclusion Lifecycle approach