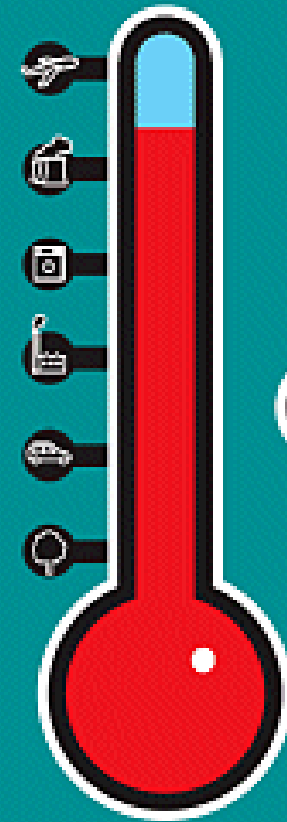


Planning

HM Government



Climate Change
The UK Programme 2007

TOMORROW'S CLIMATE
Today's Challenge

What I'll cover...

- what CLG is doing to shape energy supply....
 - December's green package
- Planning White Paper - TCPA reforms
- draft PPS: *Planning and Climate Change*
- next steps

Shaping energy supply...

- Strong and Prosperous Communities White Paper
- December 2006 green package:
 - Code for Sustainable Homes
 - Building a Greener Future: progressive tightening of Building Regulations
 - ✓ zero carbon new homes by 2016
 - *PPS Planning and Climate Change*
- Exemplar developments:
 - Carbon Challenge with English Partnerships to fast track zero carbon communities
 - Eco-towns to demonstrate highest standards of sustainability
 - Thames Gateway to showcase the best, most innovative approaches to low carbon
- Planning White Paper

Key principles for reform...

Planning White Paper

- planning system must be better able to support economic growth in a way consistent with social and environmental objectives
- build on recent planning reforms: evolution not revolution
- strengthen planning by local authorities to shape places (supporting *Strong and Prosperous Communities*)
- improve plan-making and create a more efficient planning system

Planning White Paper

“...as the Barker and Stern reports made clear, planning will be one of the elements required in a successful response to climate change.....

.....used positively planning has a significant contribution to make. But it is important that the planning system is not asked to bear a disproportionate weight of the overall response nor relied on where there are more effective policy tools.”

Shaping energy supply...

Planning White Paper, helping sustainable energy by:

- finalising climate change PPS
- legislating to set out clearly role of local planning authorities in tackling energy efficiency and climate change
- permitting a range of types of householder microgeneration
- where possible extending PDRs on microgeneration to other land uses including commercial and agricultural development
- working with industry to set action plan to deliver substantial reductions in carbon from new commercial buildings within the next 10 years
- extra push on renewable energy alongside Energy White Paper and Waste Strategy 2007

Shaping energy supply...

Planning White Paper, helping sustainable energy by:

- integrating regional and local plans with national policy statements
- working with LPAs & industry on preparation of high quality renewable energy schemes
- working with LPAs & industry to resolve local impact problems and improve engagement with communities on case for renewable energy
- providing additional training for inspectors on determining appeals on renewable energy, including need to deal with such cases promptly
- reviewing Award of Costs Circular and looking to encourage inspectors to be more pro-active in awarding costs where unreasonable behaviour
- ministers being able to direct smaller renewable energy projects below normal thresholds but of national significance, or with cumulative impacts to be treated as nationally significant infrastructure projects

- climate change at heart of what Government expects from good planning – sits alongside & supplements PPS1
- climate change as a key and integrating theme in plans
- maximise opportunities to integrate adaptation and mitigation: looking for win-wins
- planning should shape places with lower carbon emissions and resilient to climate change now accepted as inevitable
- planning as a positive force for change and get on with the job now

PPS Headlines.....



Planning shapes the places where people live and work and the country we live in. It plays a key role in supporting the Government's wider social, environmental and economic objectives and for sustainable communities.



Planning as a positive force for change...

Positive planning can help:

- secure enduring progress against UK's emissions targets, by direct influence on energy use and emissions, and in bringing together and encouraging action by others
- deliver Government's ambition of zero carbon development
- shape sustainable communities resilient to climate change
- create attractive environment for innovation & private sector investment in renewable/low-carbon technologies
- give local communities real opportunities to influence, and take, action on climate change

Shaping energy supply...

- regional renewable targets, in line with or better than national targets
- actively plan and support renewable & low-carbon technologies
- sites allocated for renewable and low-carbon energy sources, and supporting infrastructure, taking care to avoid stifling innovation
- new development located to optimise carbon performance
- making the most of existing and planned opportunities for decentralised, renewable, and low-carbon energy supplies
- substantial new development to gain significant proportion of energy supply on-site and renewably and/or from a decentralised, renewable or low-carbon, energy supply

Shaping energy supply...

- look favourably on proposals for renewable energy, including on sites not identified in development plan documents
- don't require applicants to demonstrate either overall need for renewable energy / distribution or for particular proposal for renewable energy to be sited in a particular location
- avoid policies that set stringent requirements for minimising impact on landscape and townscape if these effectively preclude the supply of certain types of renewable energy, and therefore other than in the most exceptional circumstances such as within nationally recognised designations, avoid such restrictive policies

Local innovation on energy...

- first rate planning strategies
 - delivering new development located and designed to optimise carbon performance and resilient to climate change
- help shape the framework for energy supply
 - provide platform for delivering tighter building regulations and ambition of zero-carbon development
- deliver opportunities to go faster than national performance escalator
 - LPA should engage constructively and imaginatively to encourage delivery of sustainable buildings, support innovation
 - if LPA need to require higher performance, focus on specific development opportunities and set out in DPD what's wanted and achievable
 - secure earlier application of higher levels of performance of nationally described standards, don't insist on your own favourite way of building for the sake of it

Shaping energy supply, realistically & viably...

- have regard to overall costs of bringing sites to market and desirability of avoiding any adverse effect on development needs of communities
- ensure proposed approach is consistent with securing expected supply and pace of housing development shown in housing trajectory required by PPS3
- make realistic assumptions on availability of renewable and low-carbon technologies and applicable thresholds for their viable delivery
- bear in mind that off-site but localised generation and supply of energy may be more effective in reducing carbon emissions, and build flexibility into policies for where this is demonstrably the case because local networks are, or will be, available for connection

Next steps.....

- consultation – closed 8 March considering views
- practice guidance workshops
- final PPS and draft practice guidance – later in 2007
- commitment to legislate and set out clearly LPA role in tackling energy efficiency and climate change introduce legislation