



CREATIVE
ENVIRONMENTAL
NETWORKS



CASE STUDY: Sustainable solutions for Housing Associations

Project: Network Housing Group - Developing strategy for the future

Client: Network Housing Group

Date of Project: 2007



Client's Objectives:

Network Housing Group (NHG) comprises seven Housing Associations in London and Hertfordshire, and collectively owns and manages over 17,000 homes. Progressive sustainability targets are set for all new developments, and in order to achieve these, NHG have been working with CEN, updating their design brief and processes.

CEN has supported NHG in establishing its design brief to enable the organisation to consistently achieve a 'Code for Sustainable Homes' rating of Level 3, as well as to be prepared for the increasingly challenging future requirements for sustainable design and construction.

About The Project:

A flexible approach was devised for NHG to meet its targets. A set of standard measures to be included in all building designs was documented for inclusion in the design brief. Optional additional measures have been identified to meet Level 3 requirements most effectively in line with specific site constraints.

One of the most challenging elements of the Code is the energy requirements. Extensive SAP modelling was carried out to identify the building materials required to achieve high levels of energy efficiency and associated Dwelling Emission Rate (DER) reductions. Potential renewable options were highlighted and appropriate guidance was issued to ensure that the optimum solution was achieved on a scheme- by- scheme basis.

- Strategy for meeting policy requirements
- Code for Sustainable Homes assessment
- Detailed sustainability training and guidance documentation
- Supply chain mapping
- Low/zero carbon technology modelling and appraisals

Achievements:

Through developing strategy for future schemes, CEN has identified a flexible, cost effective approach for all schemes to support NHG in its drive to exceed sustainable policy requirements. The new design brief and strategy incorporates a range of measures to meet Code Levels 3-6.

As the project continues, CEN is also providing ongoing support to staff, supply chain advice and training services.