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Essex Developers Climate Action Charter v2

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Thursday 13th February 2025

Working together for Essex



EPOA
Essex Planning
Officers Association

Essex Climate Action Commission (2021) – Set targets

2025



New Homes

All new consented homes to be zero carbon by 2025

2025



Commercial

All new consented commercial buildings to be zero carbon by 2025

2030



All buildings

Consented to be carbon positive by 2030

Essex Developers Group Climate Action



Rewarding the work of those aiming to deliver environmental excellence

Climate Action recognition at Essex Housing Awards

Providing accessible advice for residents, businesses, schools and more on Climate Change Action

Multiple Climate Advice Packs published by ECC

Climate Action Charter

Aspiring for the highest quality New Development for Essex Residents



From 2022

Climate Action – Decarbonisation / Retrofit or New Build

Organisations actively responding to the climate crisis with measurable plans and actions.

WINNER

Hollymead Square - The Hill Group, Clarion Housing Group & Octopus Energy

HIGHLY COMMENDED

Climate and Planning Unit - Essex County Council



RESIDENT ADVICE PA

Taking Action on Climate Change



BUSINESS ADVICE PACK

Taking Action on Climate Change

2024

EDG Climate Action Charter (2022) – List of Actions

Net Zero Carbon Show Home

Case Studies

Sponsorship of Apprenticeships
Design and Green Construction Skills

Essex Housing Award
Climate Action / Zero Carbon / Decarbonization / Retrofit.

Climate Change Sustainability Statement

Supporting the Supply Chain and the Work of Smaller Developers

Climate Action Advice packs for residents, businesses and schools

Further details are set out in the Charter, see page 9.

Have the actions been turned into practice?

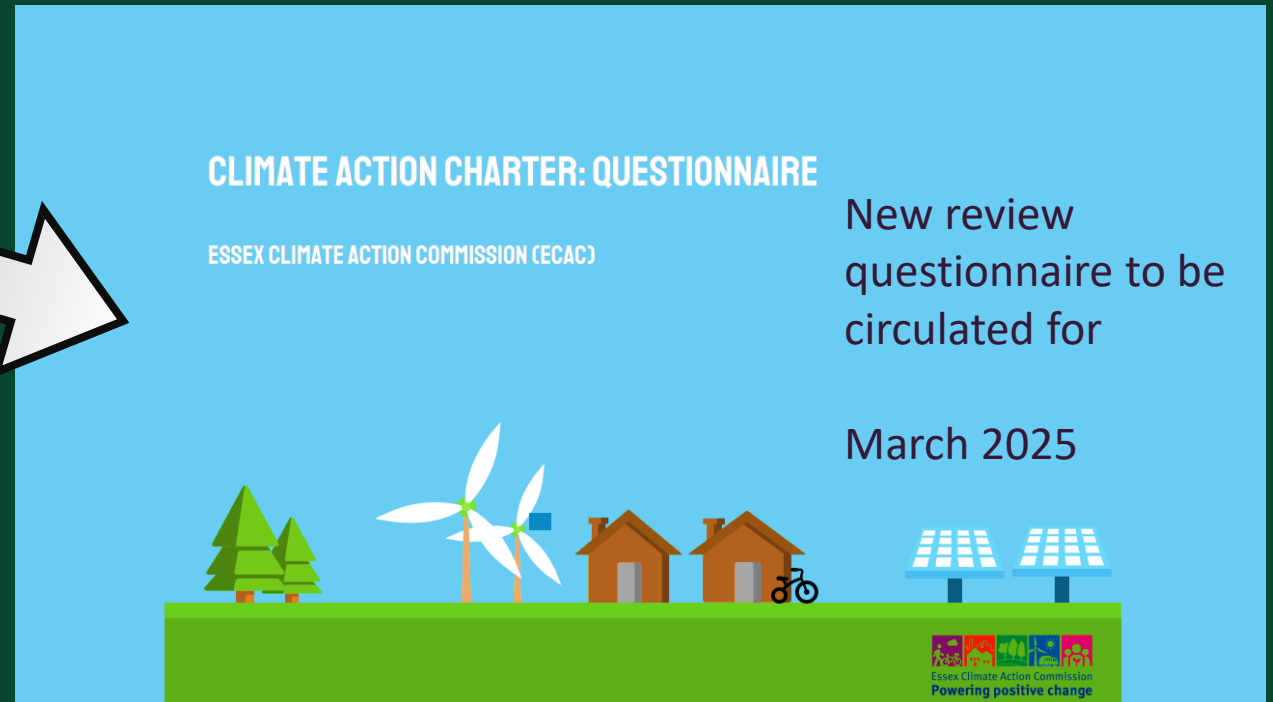
How have each of the actions progressed over 4 years?

Reflection on the 2022 Charter Actions and looking ahead



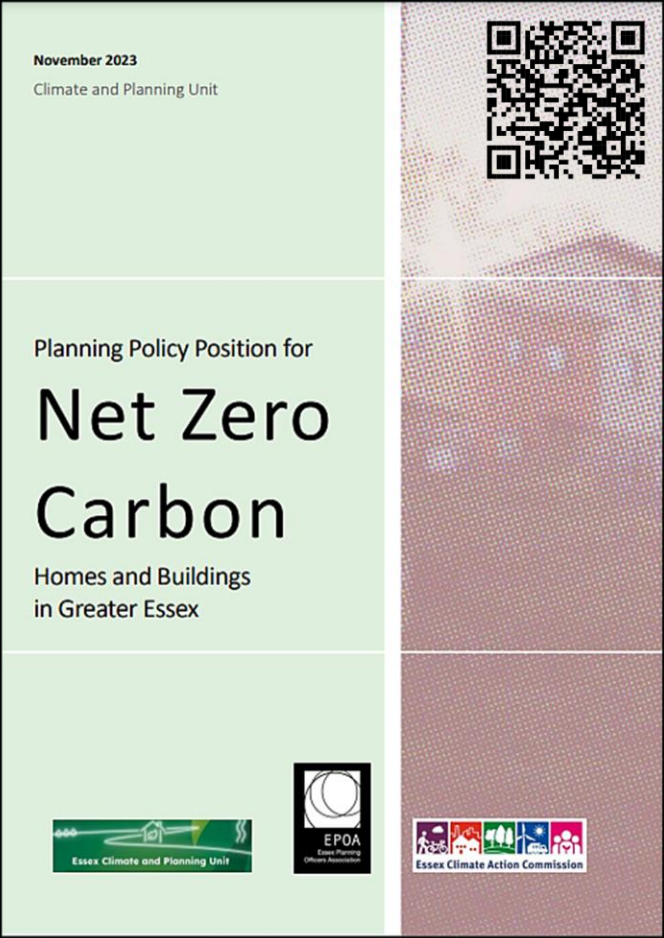
Climate action charter:
Questionnaire Results Dec 2022

Essex Climate Action Commission (ECAC)



An opportunity to capture progress and identify any evolved areas

An emerging policy for Essex Local Authorities... ...A voluntary 'gold' standard for Essex Developers?



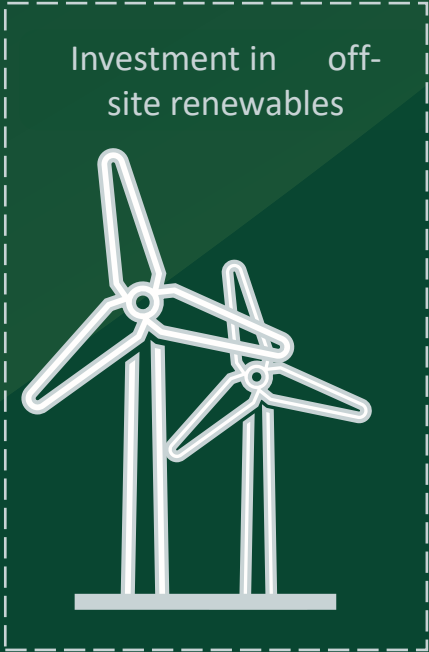
Low Space Heat Demand

Fossil Fuel Free Development

Energy Offsetting as a last resort

Low Energy Use Intensity (EUI)

On-site renewable energy generation



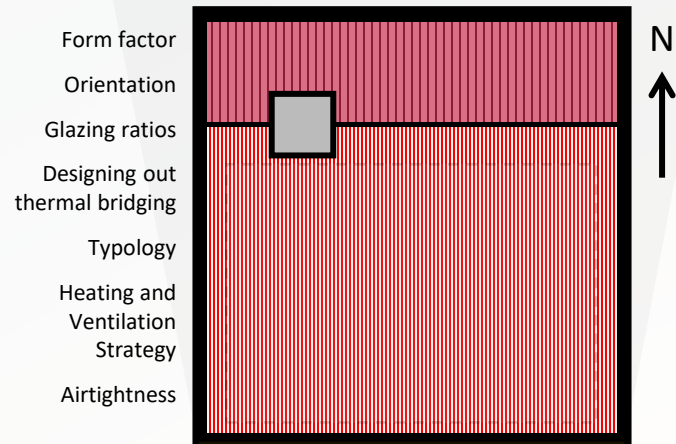
As-built performance confirmation and in-use monitoring

LOW EMBODIED CARBON POLICY POSITION BEING DEVELOPED

Net Zero in Operation: What does it mean?

Fossil Fuel Free!

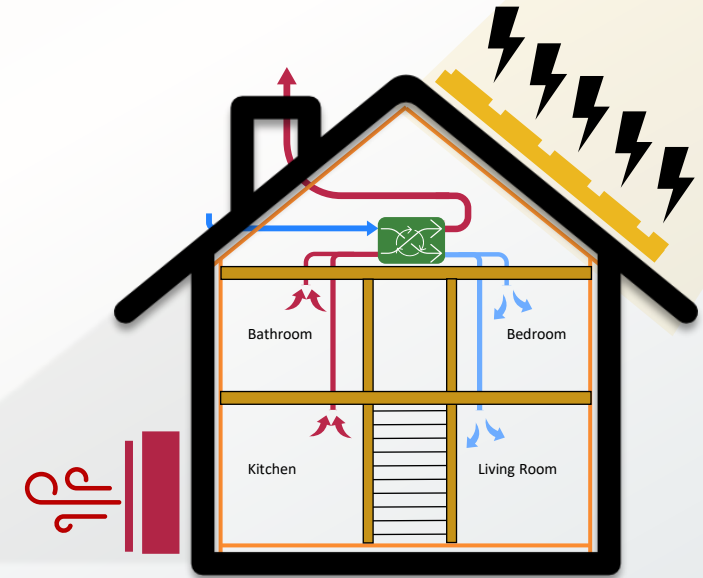
Generating energy using cheap and abundant renewable energy sources – such as solar



Design well first



Excellent fabric standards and efficient energy use



Low carbon and highly efficient building services

Did you know...

90% of a building's environmental impact is defined by early design decisions?


In case you didn't know...

National standards only require design for 'regulated' energy, not including the energy consumed by a building resulting from fixtures or appliances.

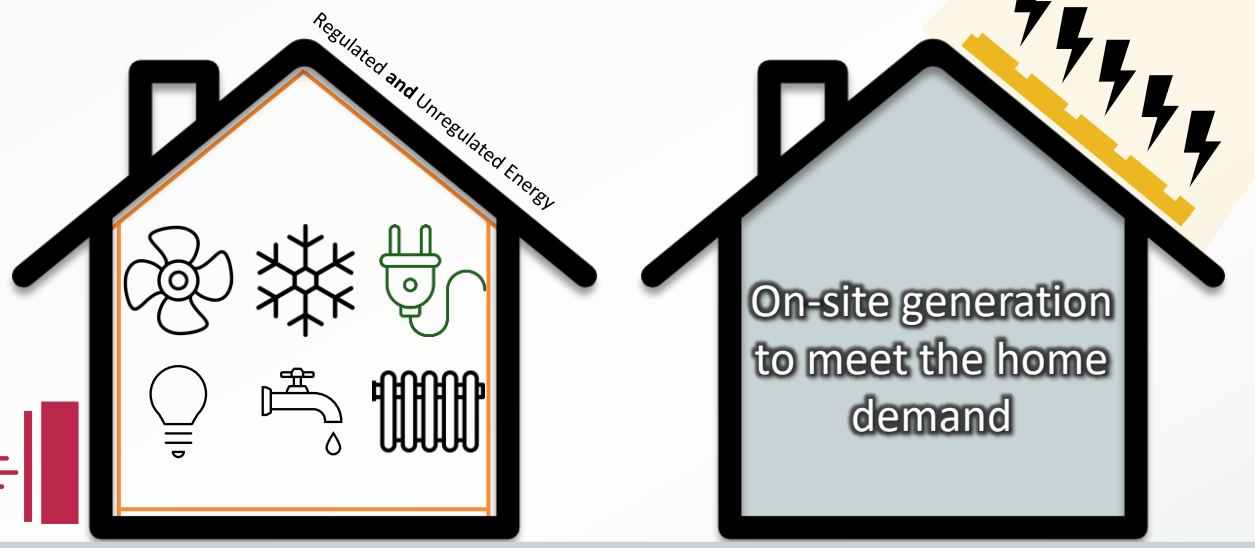
Net Zero in Operation: What does it mean?

15-20
kWh/m²/year

35
kWh/m²/year



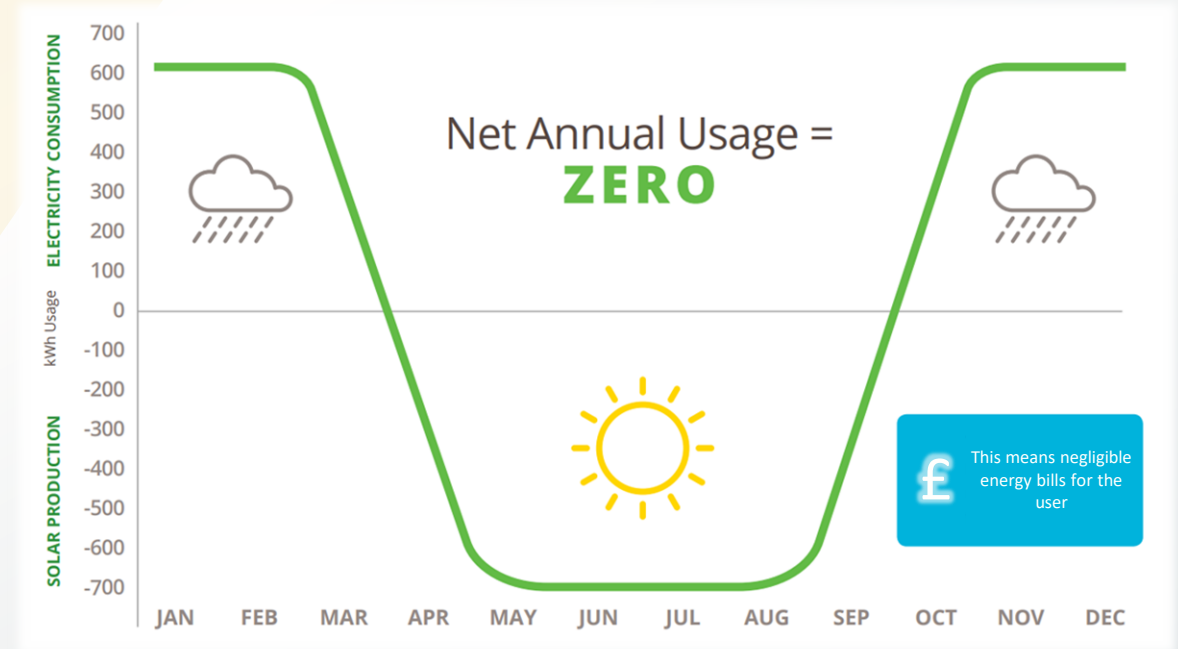
Heating Electricity No fossil fuels



Minimise Energy

Maximise Generation

Net Zero
Balance



£ This means negligible energy bills for the user

and... no future Retrofit costs to get to Net Zero!



UK Government

Building Standards

Future Homes
Standard 2025

vs.

Net Zero
New
Homes



What does it mean for the Essex Developers Group?

Future Proof
Business Plans

Providing
better quality

Meeting rising
market
expectations

No future
retrofit
required

Resident utility
bills greatly
reduced

Greater
affordability of
rents

Social rents
can account
for savings

Healthier
properties for
residents

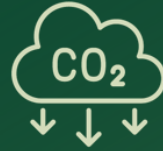
Greater long
term value on
investment

An annual Essex Developers Climate Action Summit?

Essex Developers Group Climate Summit 2026



Net Zero in Operation



Low Upfront Embodied Carbon



Essex County Council
Economic and
Planning Unit

Want to learn more about how your business can tackle climate change?

Check out our advice packs for practical guidance and cost-effective recommendations to help your business reduce its carbon footprint and thrive in a future green Essex economy.

It's time for us all to take immediate action on climate change - download your free energy toolkit by scanning the QR Code below.

Climate Action Business Advice Pack

Essex County Council
Economic and
Planning Unit (CoPU)

The Climate and Planning Unit (CoPU) at Essex County Council are working in partnership with the Essex authorities to deliver Evidence Led Net Zero New Build Policy within Essex now.

Net Zero in Operation

Low Upfront Embodied Carbon

Wider benefits of enabling Net Zero New Build:

- better for health
- improved indoor air quality
- more efficient energy use
- reduced fuel poverty
- decentralised energy supply
- enhanced climate resilience
- skills & supply chain growth
- future proof buildings

Working together for Essex

Essex Developers Group
Climate Summit 2026

