

CLC News Release

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Industry sets out single framework to measure journey to Net Zero

Construction leaders have agreed clear targets for the industry to unite behind in its mission to drive carbon out of the sector.

Today (20 July) the Construction Leadership Council publishes its Construct Zero Performance Framework. For the first time the framework sets out headline commitments for carbon reduction at a sector level, along with a series of measures and metrics to show how progress is being made.

The development of the framework draws on the extensive and detailed work undertaken across the sector by specialist groups and representative bodies to understand their emissions and develop their own plans. The framework seeks to draw these detailed plans together to provide Government and Industry with a comprehensive view at a sector level on progress.

Measures include tracking the number of domestic retrofits achieved, changes in the amount of non-diesel plant in use, and reductions in the amount of energy used to produce key products.

The Performance Framework has been developed in consultation with industry, with more than 2,500 comments received from industry to shape the framework. The commitments map to the nine priorities for carbon reduction outlined by the CLC in March 2021 and is the start of a conversation which will be refined and iterated over time to align with industry and workforce changes.

The headline commitments are:

- 78% of diesel plants to be eliminated from construction sites by 2035
- Close the productivity gap between construction and economy average output per worker by 2035
- From 2025, planning applications from the sector must connect to public/active transport and include EV charging where parking is provided
- Working with Government to deliver retrofitting to 27 million homes by 2040
- From 2025, all new buildings will be designed with low carbon heating solutions
- From 2025, we will deliver new homes and buildings which will minimise energy demand and reduce emissions in operation by 75% (dwellings) and at least 27% (commercial buildings) compared to current standards
- Every person buying from the sector (business or member of the public) will be provided with carbon data by 2030 to make informed lower carbon choices
- From 2022, we will give all our clients the chance to become net zero by offering alternative Net Zero design options to clients, even if not scoped
- By 2035 we will have reduced construction product emissions by 66% from 2018
- We will target 1,500 of the sector's businesses and clients to sign up to a measurable carbon reduction plan (including Race to Zero, Science based Targets or Climate Hub) by 2025

Beneath each of these headline commitments are a series of metrics termed 'measures of success', these will be used by the CLC in 3 ways:-

- To report the sector's progress on Net Zero to Government, including to provide evidence of where Government intervention could accelerate or is essential to enable the sector's Net Zero commitments
- To keep the industry informed on progress and areas where further effort is required
- By the CZ Programme Board as they seek to deliver the industry wide change programme to deliver Net Zero.

Details of each measure are available on the Construction Leadership Council's [Construct Zero web hub](#). Data will be gathered on a quarterly basis and published as an industry carbon 'dashboard'. The first update is due to take place in Autumn 2021.

In addition to the sector level measures of success, the CLC has also today published a suite of aligned metrics to support businesses and projects to understand and set in place their own plans to meet Net Zero. These are purely a resource for the industry and are expected to help businesses and clients to take consistent action, although the CLC will not be measuring their delivery.

Construction Minister Anne-Marie Trevelyan welcomed the publication of the framework. She said: *"The Performance Framework provides Government and Industry with a sector-level dashboard on progress towards net zero, aimed at enabling businesses to action progress and encouraging those outside the sector to take the key steps on the broader journey to net zero. It's important that the sector holds itself to account for the commitments it has made; the Performance Framework will enable the industry to do this, reporting progress on a quarterly basis, building on existing publicly available data"*

Construction Leadership Council co-chair Andy Mitchell said: *"We are seeing huge demand from across the sector to push forward towards Net Zero, and this has been reflected in the level of consultation feedback we received when we tested these metrics with industry. We can have confidence that these measures will help guide us towards a lower carbon future, and I look forward to seeing progress"*.

UK Net Zero Business Champion, Andrew Griffith said: *"The new Construct Zero framework will give environmentally-conscious industry leaders the tools they need to make a difference.*

By setting clear targets and measures for the construction sector, this framework will help this vital sector take the actions we need to help end its contribution to climate change"

Mott MacDonald Carbon Management Discipline Lead, Mark Crouch said: *"Delivering net zero is an urgent priority for our business and decarbonising infrastructure is an agenda we have been leading on for many years. The construction sector must take a leading role in delivering the infrastructure required to transform our economy to net zero, and in ensuring that this infrastructure is planned, designed and delivered in a low or zero carbon way.*

Having measurable metrics for the construction sector and a clear direction of travel is crucial, so we believe the new Construct Zero Performance Framework will be an important tool for decarbonising the sector"

Notes for editors

Details of the ConstructZero metrics are as follows:

- **78% of diesel plant to be eliminated from construction sites by 2035**
 - Annual increase in non-diesel plant in use from plant hire firms.
 - Every construction or client business over 250 staff to trial 1 zero diesel site by end of 2023.
 - Annual increase in electric vans in construction fleet.

- **Close the productivity gap between Construction and economy average output per worker by 2035**
 - Annual reduction in construction and demolition waste tonnes/£m output.
 - Measure industry onsite Productivity output/FTE.
 - Increase % of pre-manufactured value across sector year on year.

- **From 2025, planning applications from the sector must connect to public/active transport and include EV charging where parking is provided**
 - Measure % of relevant planning qualifying bodies to put in place:-
 - Entrance requirements include threshold carbon literacy/competence test (100% by January 2025).
 - Continued Professional Development on climate change mitigation for all professional members (100% by 2022).
 - Annual increase in number of EV charging points installed by the sector.

- **Working with Government to deliver retrofitting to 27 million homes by 2040**
 - Deliver retrofitting to 855,000 homes by 2024, 12,300,000 homes by 2030, and 27,300,000 homes by 2040.
 - Establish industry 'quality scheme' routes and licensing consistent with PAS2035 and target annual increase.
 - Number of Trust Mark Retrofit Coordinators: Targeting 30,000 by 2028.

- **From 2025 all new buildings will be designed with low carbon heating solutions**
 - Increase in Heat Pump installations per year to exceed Government target of 600,000 per year by 2028.
 - Number of buildings connected to low carbon heat networks and heat pumps installed as % of overall building stock.
 - Number of Trained Heat Pump Installers (MCS Registrations): Aiming for 30,000 by 2030.

- **From 2025, we will deliver new homes and buildings which will minimise energy demand and reduce emissions in operation by 75% (dwellings) and at least 27% (commercial buildings) compared to current standards**
 - Annual reduction in average energy requirements for new dwellings and existing (EPC based).
 - Annual reduction in actual energy usage in Buildings (EUK based).

- **Every client of the sector will be provided with carbon data by 2030 to make informed lower carbon choices**

- Measure % of relevant measurement/QS qualifying bodies to project carbon measurement put in place:-
 - Entrance requirements/ membership assessments to include threshold carbon literacy /competence test by January 2025.
 - CPD on climate change mitigation for all members to be available from January 2022 and mandatory from January 2024.
 - 40% of product portfolios to have EPDs by 2025 with 100% by 2030, targeting a baseline and annual updates from 2025.
 - Every business or client over 250 staff in infrastructure to achieve PAS 2080 accreditation, monitor % coverage, target 100% by 2025.

- **From 2022, we will give all our clients the chance to become net zero by offering alternative Net Zero design options to clients, even if not scoped**

- All businesses or clients over 250 staff to identify, specify and trial a relevant low carbon alternative product on a project by the end of 2023.
- Measurement of total MtCO₂ avoided based on client Net Zero advice and designs accepted.
- Measure % of relevant design qualifying bodies to put in place:-
- Entrance requirements include threshold carbon literacy/competence test (100% by January 2025).
- Continued Professional Development on climate change mitigation for all members (100% by 2022).

- **By 2035 we will have reduced construction product emissions down by 66% from 2018**

- Work with Government to have CCUS operational on 2 clusters by 2028.
- Establish 2018 baseline and target annual reduction in energy used in production kWh/Tonne for key product lines (e.g. cement).
- Establish 2018 baseline and target annual reduction in embodied carbon CO₂/Tonne for key product lines (e.g. cement).

About the Construction Leadership Council (CLC)

The CLC's mission is to provide sector leadership to the construction industry. The expanded CLC has twelve workstreams that operate collaboratively to address the biggest issues facing the sector, focused on the Industry Recovery Plan. Workstreams include skills and inclusion, building safety and business models. The CLC is co-chaired by Ann-Marie Trevelyan MP, Minister for Business and Industry, and Andy Mitchell CBE, CEO of Thames Tideway.