



University of
Strathclyde
Glasgow

Embodied carbon

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Policy Engagement

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19.07.23

Embodied carbon


- Foundations
- Recent developments
- Where next?
- What should I be teaching?
- Q&A

Hands up if you've used this guidance

RICS professional statement



RICS professional standards and guidance, UK
Whole life carbon assessment for the built environment
 1st edition, November, 2017



rics.org/guidance

* Decarbonisation applicable - Report decarbonised values alongside non-decarbonised ones.	Global Warming Potential GWP (TCO ₂ e)																				TOTAL* normalised [A] to [C] cradle to grave [kgCO ₂ e/m ² or equivalent]	Benefits and loads beyond the system boundary [D]*
	Product stage					Construction process stage	Use stage						End of Life (EoL) stage				TOTAL* [A] to [C] cradle to grave					
	Biogenic (sequestered) carbon	[A]					[B]						[C]									
		[A1]	[A2]	[A3]	[A4]	[A5]	[B1]	[B2]*	[B3]*	[B4]*	[B5]*	[B6]	[B7]	[C1]	[C2]	[C3]		[C4]				
Building element category																						
Demolition prior to construction 0.1 Toxic/Hazardous/Contaminated Material Treatment 0.2 Major Demolition Works																						
Facilitating works 0.3 Temporary Support to Adjacent Structures 0.4 Specialist Ground Works 0.5 Temporary Diversion Works 0.6 Extraordinary Site Investigation																						
1 Substructure																						
Superstructure 2.1 Frame 2.2 Upper Floors 2.3 Roof 2.4 Stairs and Ramps																						
Superstructure 2.5 External Walls 2.6 Windows and External Doors																						
Superstructure 2.7 Internal Walls and Partitions 2.8 Internal Doors																						
3 Finishes																						
4 Fittings, furnishings & equipment																						
5 Services (MEP)	building-related systems	building-related systems	building-related systems	building-related systems	building-related systems	building-related systems	building-related systems	building-related systems	building-related systems	building-related systems	building-related systems	building-related systems	building-related systems	building-related systems	building-related systems	building-related systems	building-related systems	building-related systems	building-related systems	building-related systems		
	non building-related systems	non building-related systems	non building-related systems	non building-related systems	non building-related systems	non building-related systems	non building-related systems	non building-related systems	non building-related systems	non building-related systems	non building-related systems	non building-related systems	non building-related systems	non building-related systems	non building-related systems	non building-related systems	non building-related systems	non building-related systems	non building-related systems	non building-related systems		
6 Prefabricated Buildings and Building Units																						
7 Work to Existing Building																						
8 External works																						
TOTAL																						
TOTAL - normalised [kgCO ₂ e/m ² or equivalent unit to be stated]																						

Hands up if you use EPD like these

bre

Statement of Verification

BREG EN EPD No.: 000002 Issue 4
ECO EPD Ref. No. 000092

This is to verify that the
Environmental Product Declaration
provided by:
The Brick Development Association

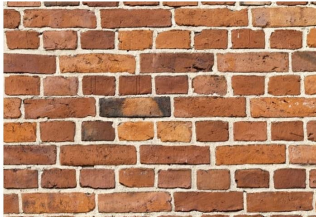
is in accordance with the requirements of:
EN 15804:2012+A1:2013
and
BRE Global Scheme Document SD207


This declaration is for:
UK Clay Brick


BRE Global Verified EPD

Company Address
The Building Centre
26 Store Street
London
WC1E 7BT

BRICK DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION







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Statement of Verification

BREG EN EPD No.: 000311 Issue 02

This is to verify that the
Environmental Product Declaration
provided by:
Kingspan Insulation Ltd

is in accordance with the requirements of:
EN 15804:2012+A1:2013
and
BRE Global Scheme Document SD207

This declaration is for:
Kingspan Kooltherm K5 External Wallboard, Kingspan Kooltherm K20 Concrete Sandwich Board

Company Address
Kingspan Insulation Limited
Pembroke
Herefordshire
HR6 9LA







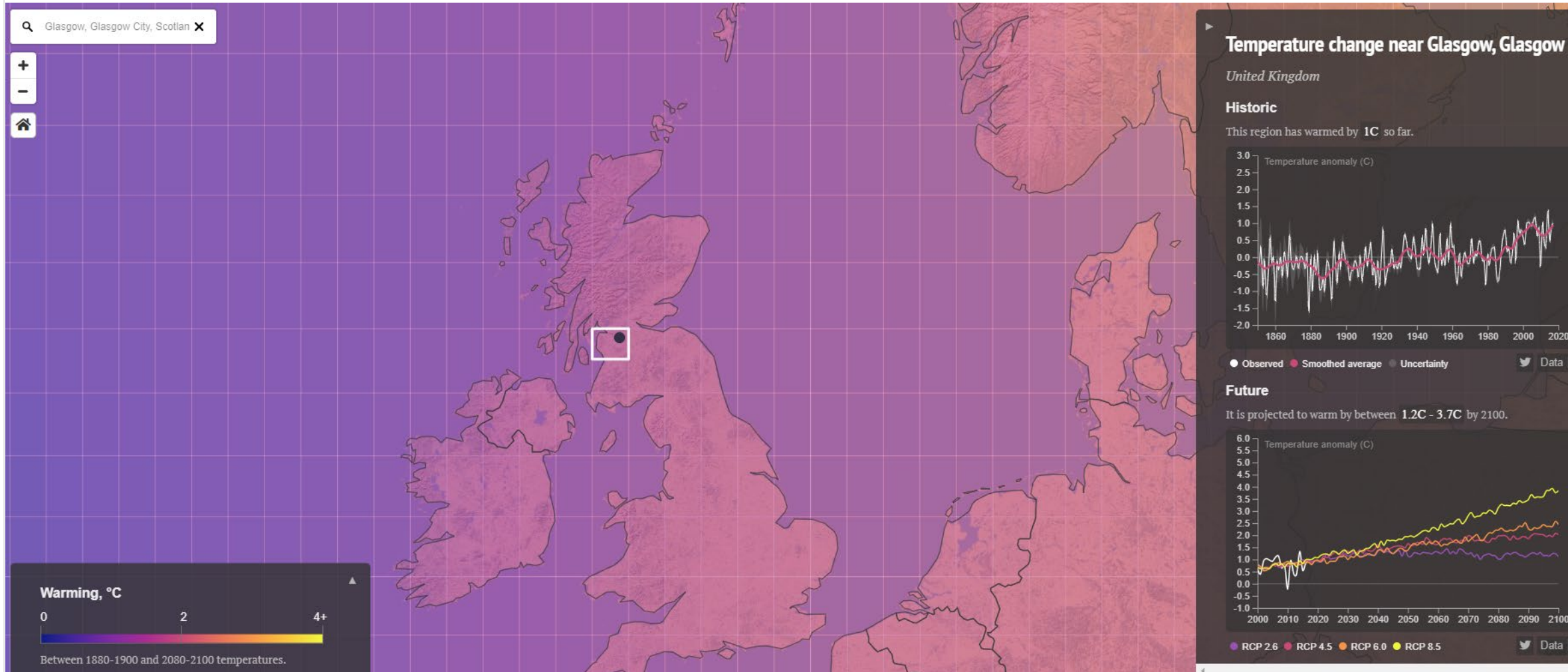


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FOUNDATIONS

Climate change – already $>1^{\circ}\text{C}$



Nations Unies

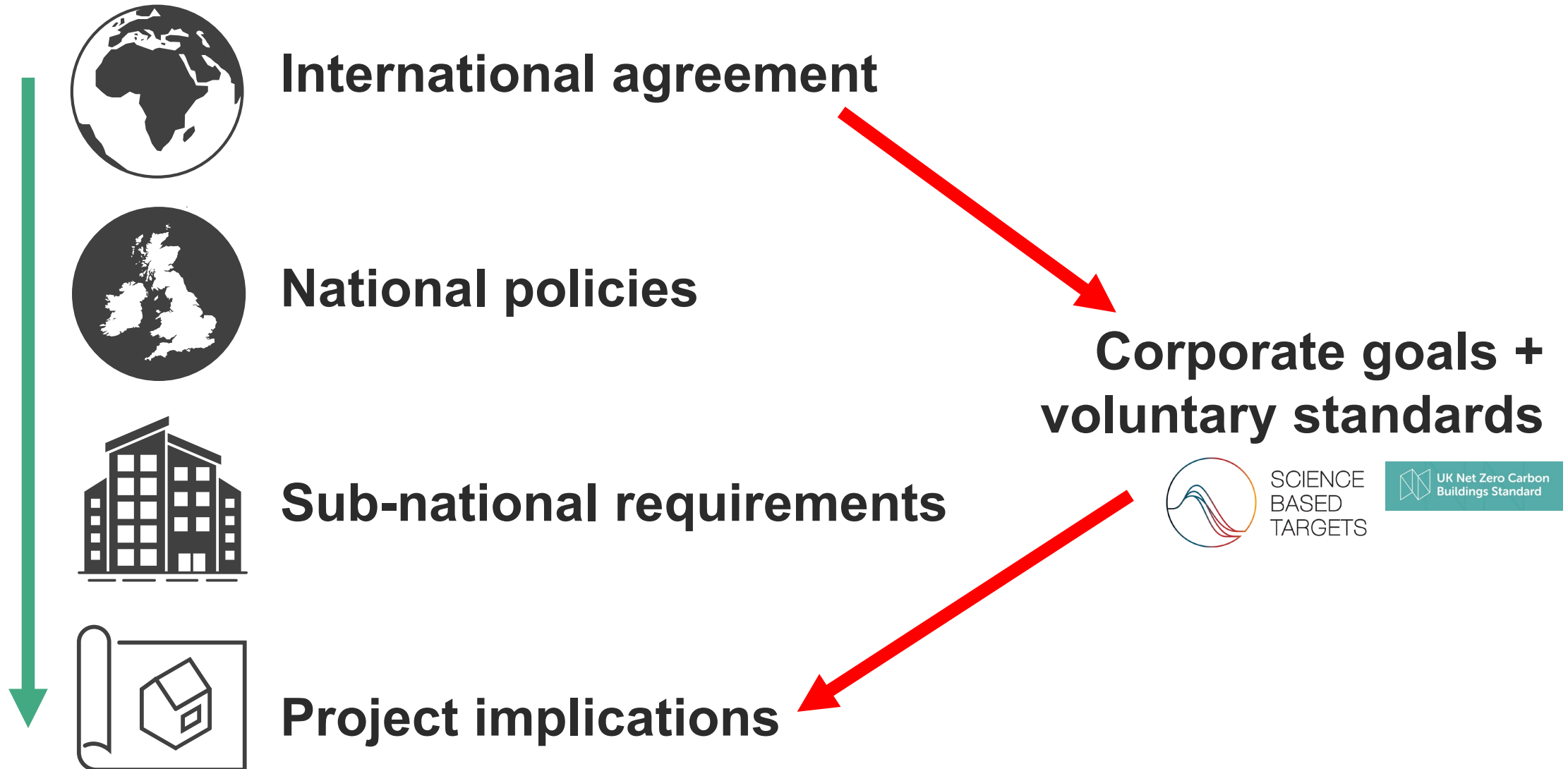
Conférence sur les Changements Climatiques 2015

COP21/CMP11

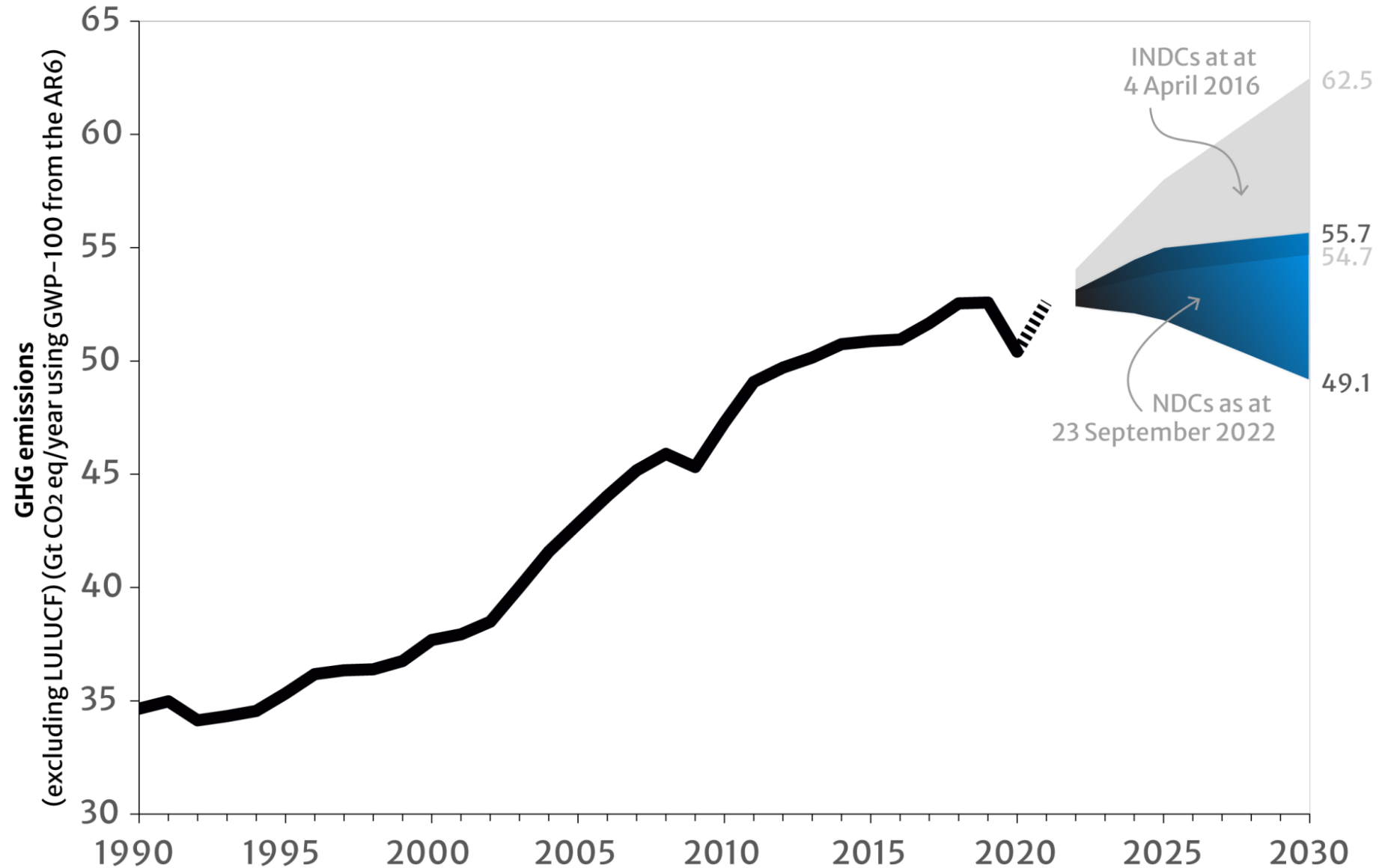
Paris France



From Paris to projects...



Progress since Paris Agreement

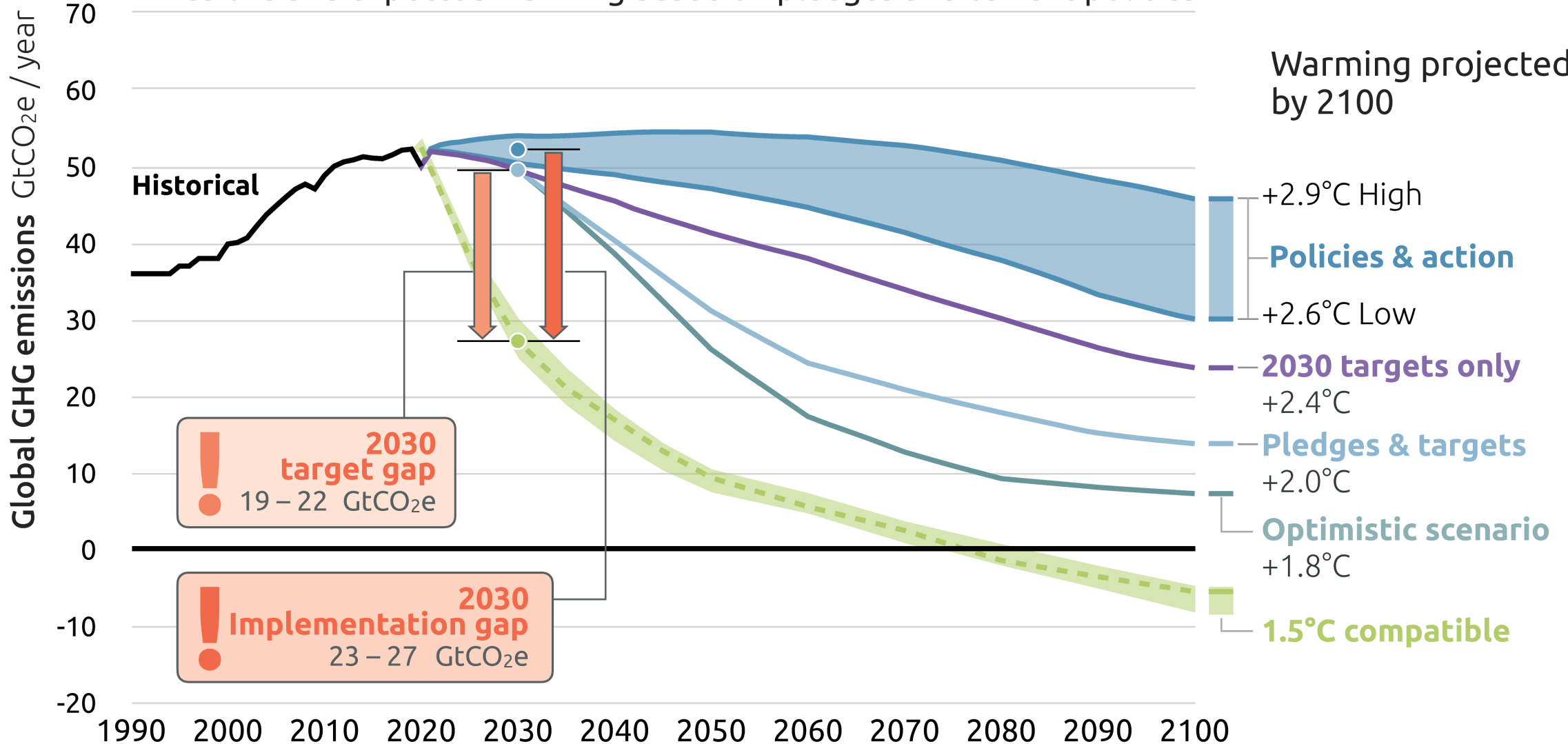


2100 WARMING PROJECTIONS

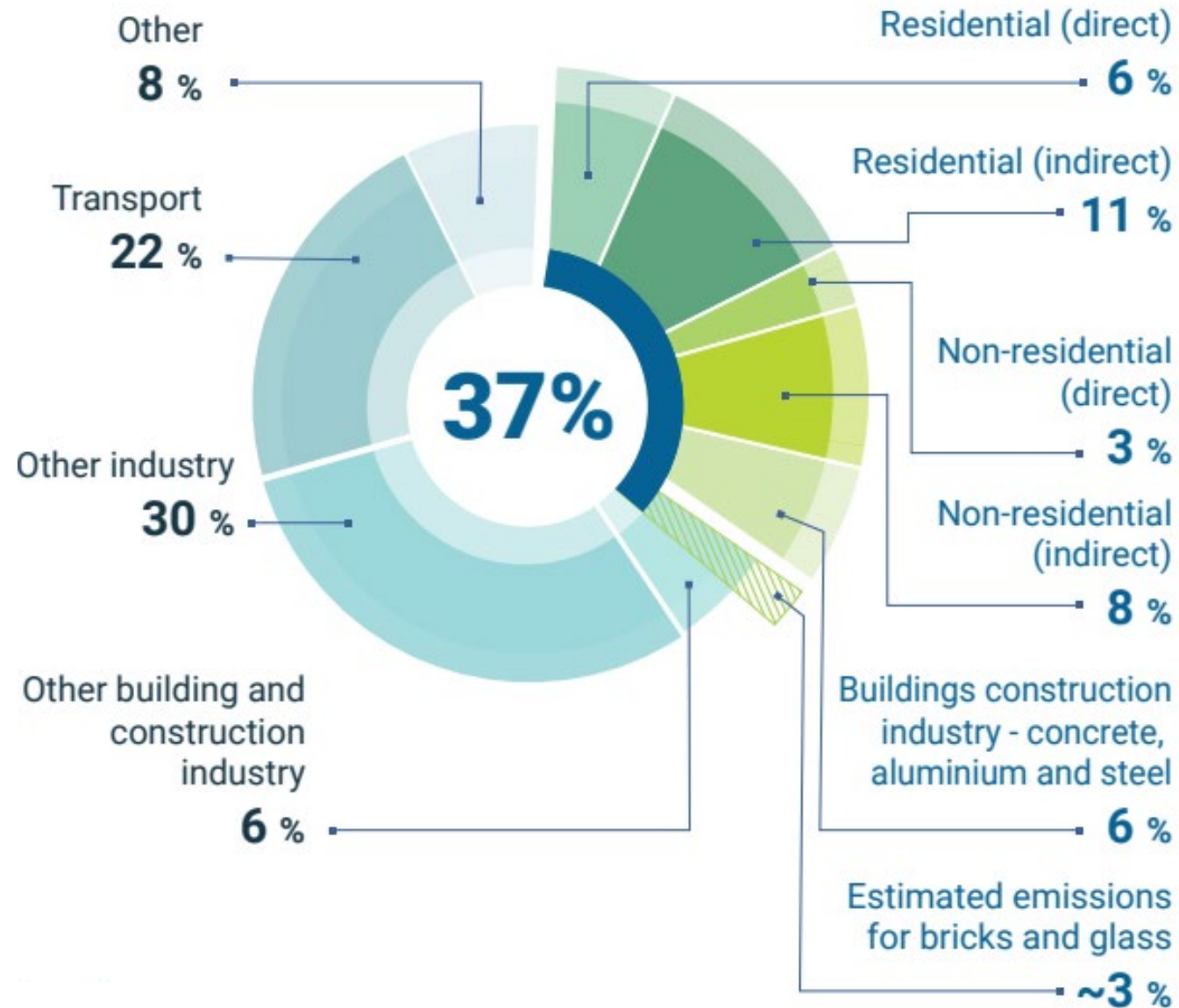
Emissions and expected warming based on pledges and current policies

Climate Action Tracker Nov 2022 Update

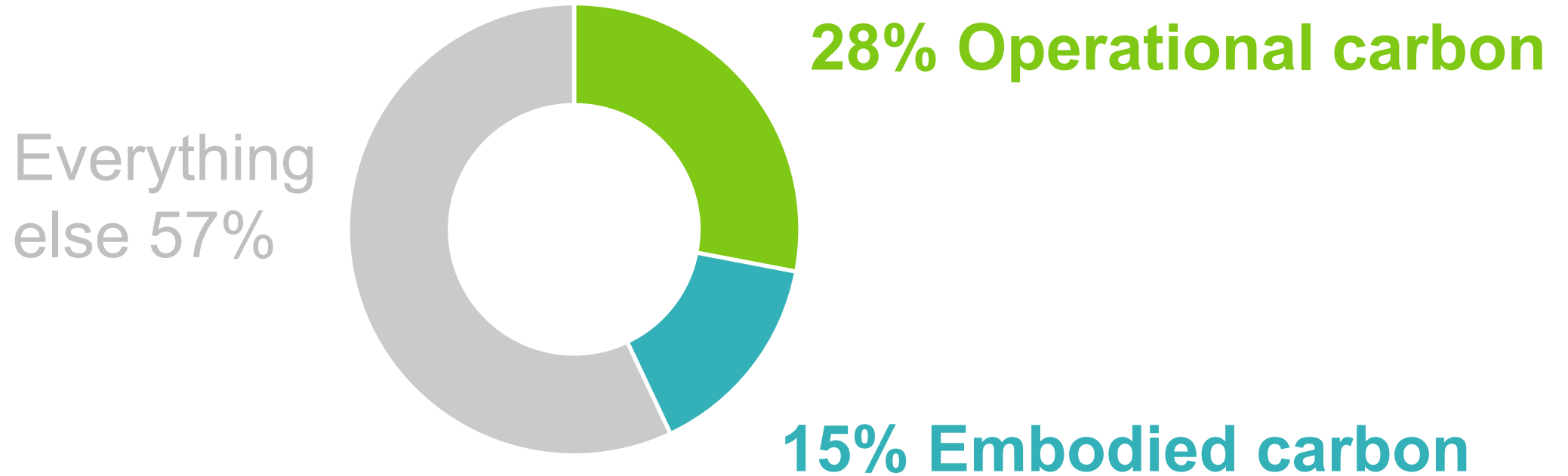
Warming projected by 2100



2021 global energy & process CO₂ emissions



2021 global energy & process CO₂ emissions





Improving Consistency in Whole Life Carbon Assessment and Reporting

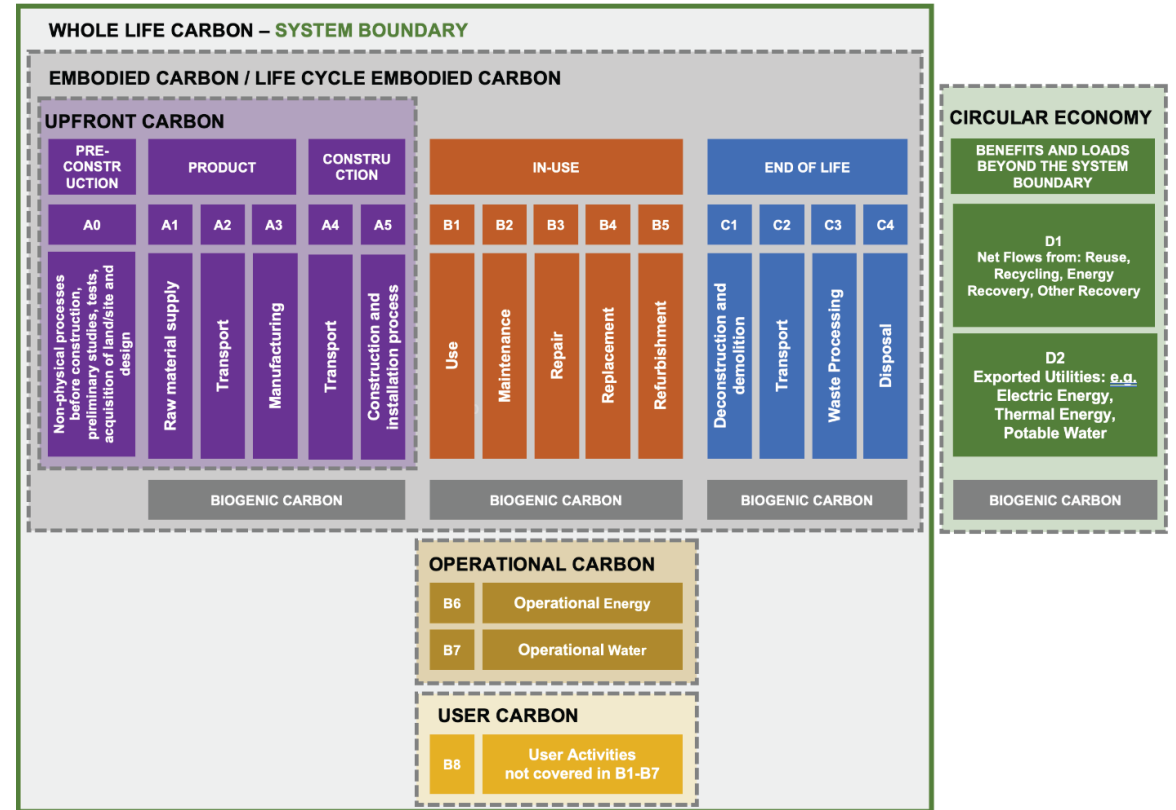
Carbon Definitions for the Built Environment, Buildings & Infrastructure

For inclusion in the update of the RICS Professional Statement: 'Whole life carbon assessment for the built environment' - 2023



January 2023

Definitions



WHOLE LIFE CARBON – SYSTEM BOUNDARY

EMBODIED CARBON / LIFE CYCLE EMBODIED CARBON

UPFRONT CARBON

PRE-CONSTR UCTION	PRODUCT			CONSTRU CTION	
A0	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5
Non-physical processes before construction, preliminary studies, tests, acquisition of land/site and design	Raw material supply	Transport	Manufacturing	Transport	Construction and installation process

BIOGENIC CARBON

IN-USE

B1	B2	B3	B4	B5
Use	Maintenance	Repair	Replacement	Refurbishment

BIOGENIC CARBON

END OF LIFE

C1	C2	C3	C4
Deconstruction and demolition	Transport	Waste Processing	Disposal

BIOGENIC CARBON

OPERATIONAL CARBON

B6	Operational Energy
B7	Operational Water

USER CARBON

B8	User Activities not covered in B1-B7
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CIRCULAR ECONOMY

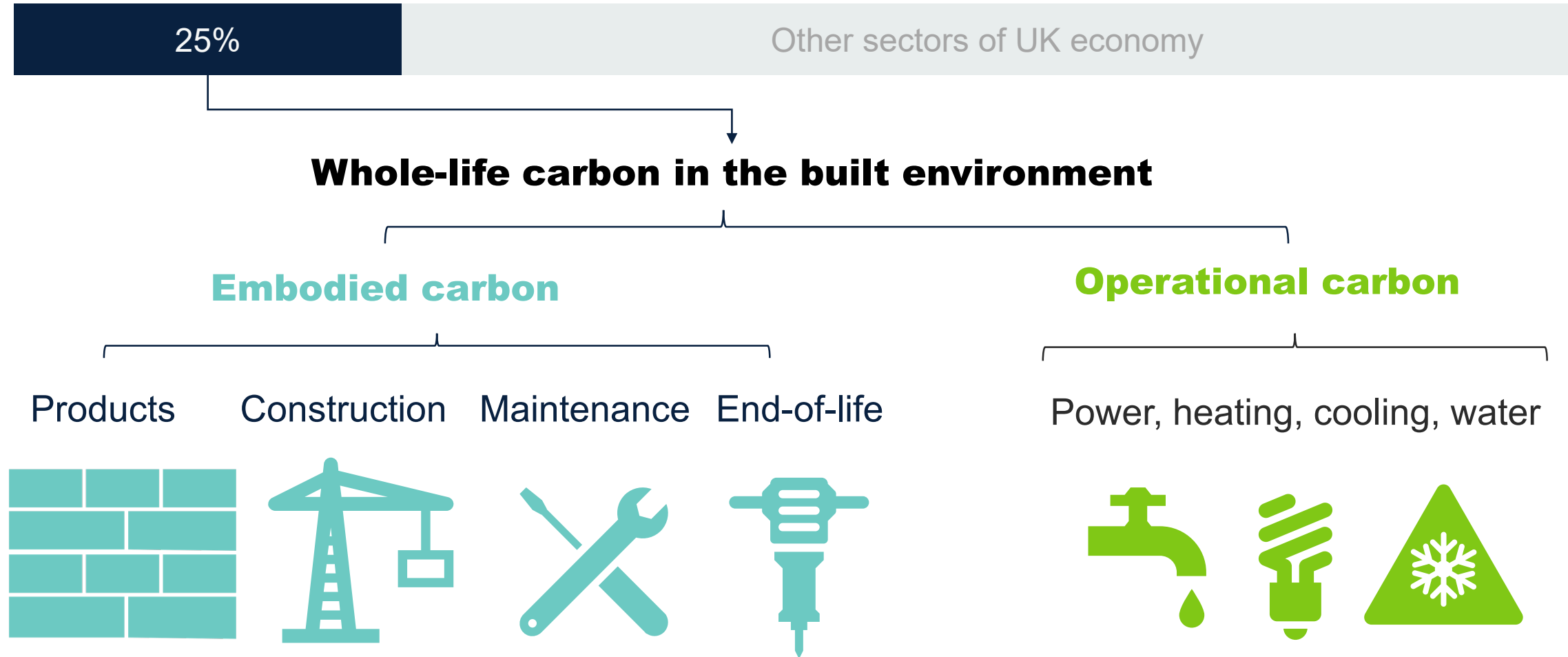
BENEFITS AND LOADS
BEYOND THE SYSTEM
BOUNDARY

D1
Net Flows from: Reuse,
Recycling, Energy
Recovery, Other Recovery

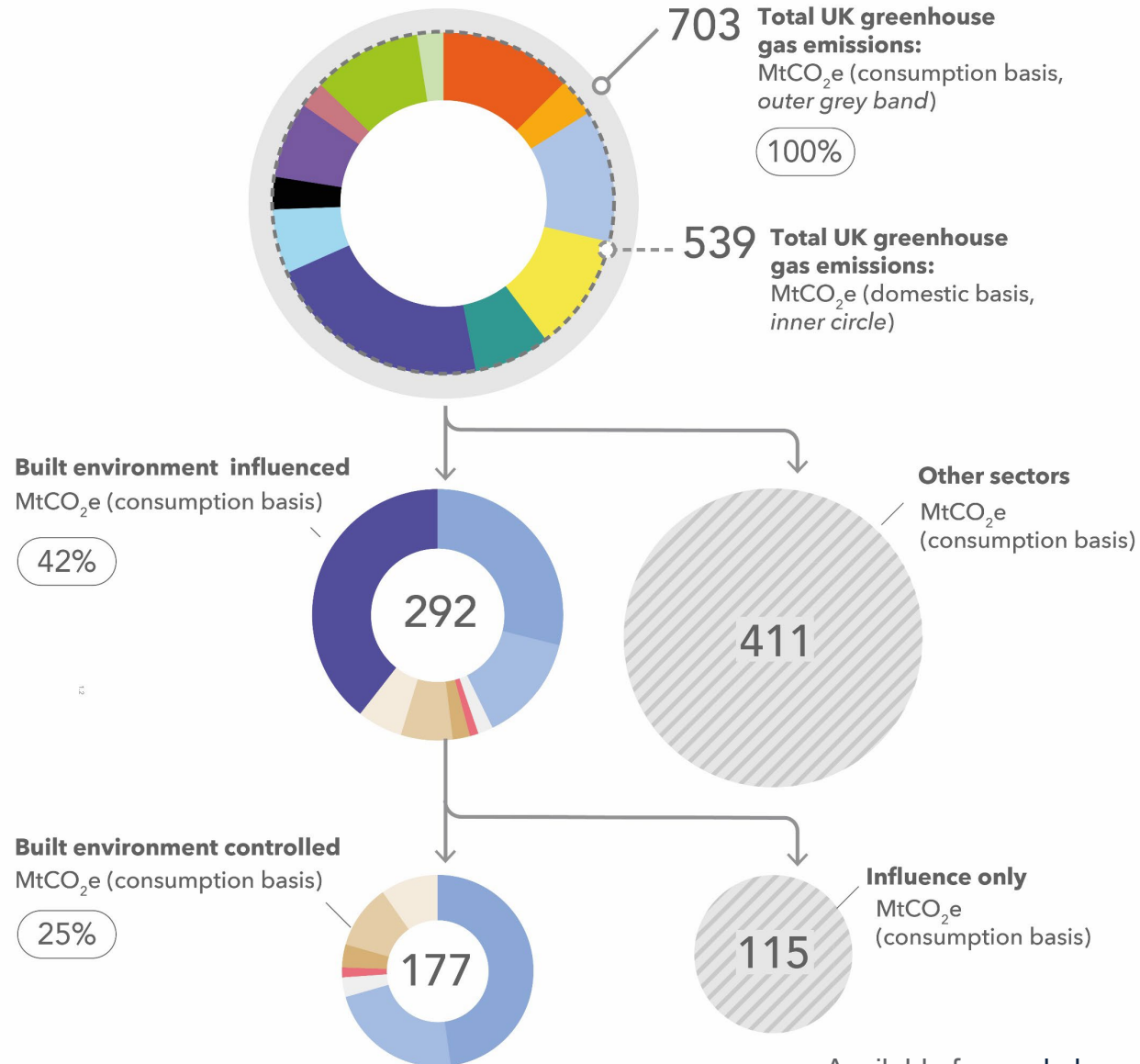
D2
Exported Utilities: e.g.
Electric Energy,
Thermal Energy,
Potable Water

BIOGENIC CARBON

UK Greenhouse Gas Emissions



Total UK GHG emissions (2018 CCC Data) showing proportion of Built Environment emissions



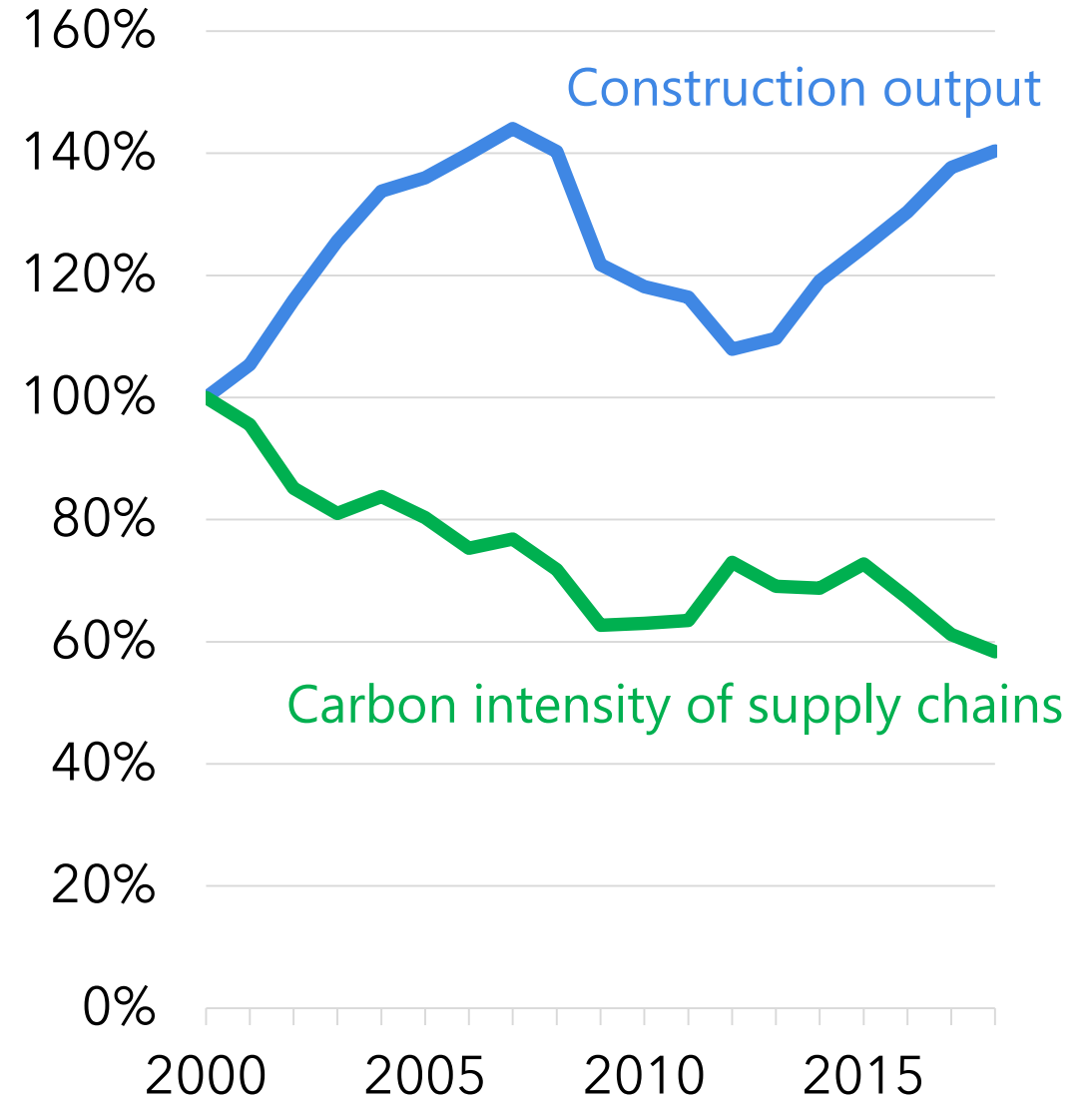
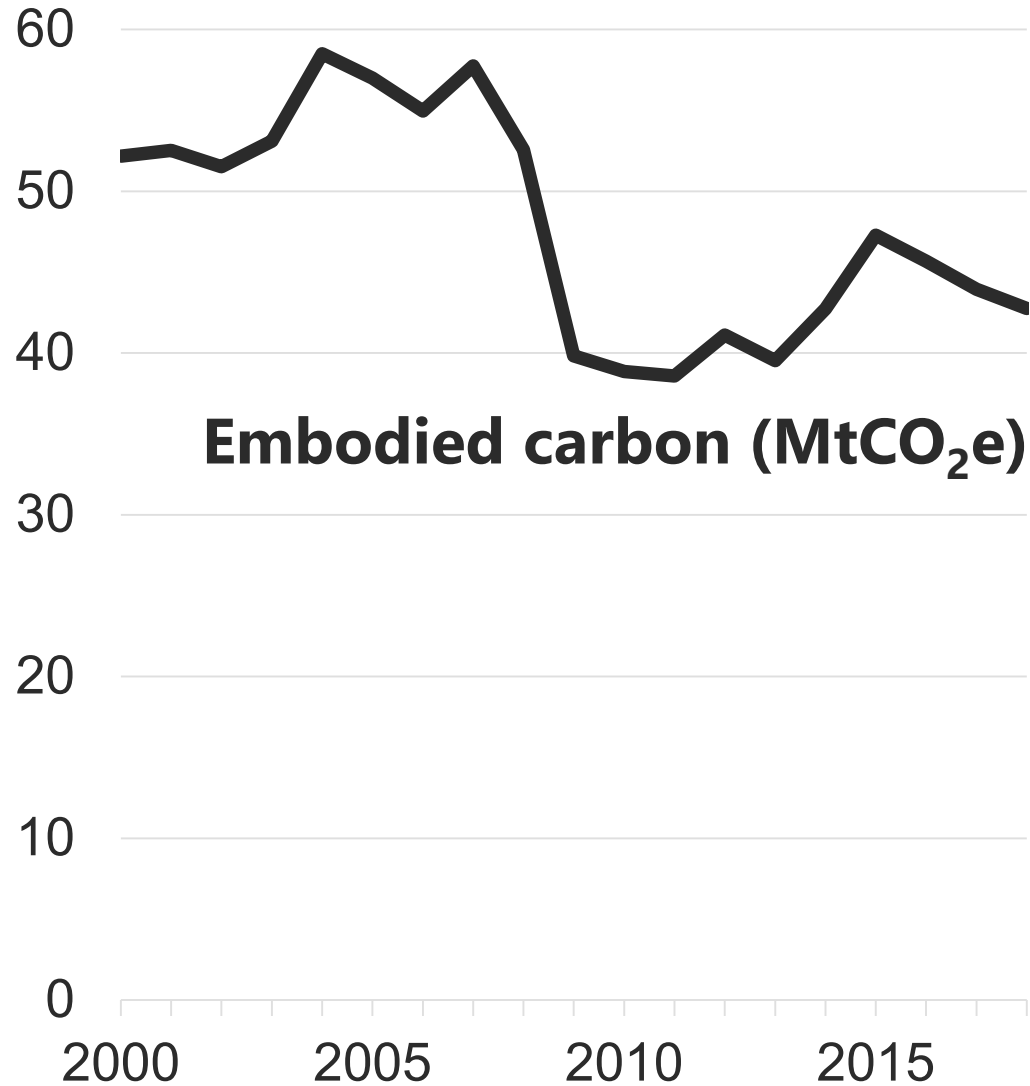
CCC SECTORS (TOP CIRCLE)

- Residential buildings
- Non-residential buildings
- Manufacturing & construction
- Electricity supply
- Fuel supply
- Surface transport
- Waste
- F-gases
- Aviation
- Shipping
- Agriculture
- Land Use, Land-Use Change & Forestry

BUILT ENVIRONMENT SECTORS

- Buildings (Non Domestic) Embodied Carbon
- Buildings (Domestic) Embodied Carbon
- Infrastructure Embodied Carbon
- Infrastructure Operational carbon
- Buildings F-Gas
- Buildings (Non-domestic) Operational Carbon
- Buildings (Domestic) Operational Carbon
- Surface transport

UK built environment





Net Zero Whole Life Carbon Roadmap

A Pathway to Net Zero for the UK Built Environment

November 2021

Net Zero Roadmap

Outlines a common vision & industry-wide actions for achieving net zero carbon in the construction, operation, & demolition of buildings & infrastructure in the UK.

Based on input from >100 stakeholders across industry



Net Zero Whole Life Carbon Roadmap Summary for Policy-Makers

November 2021



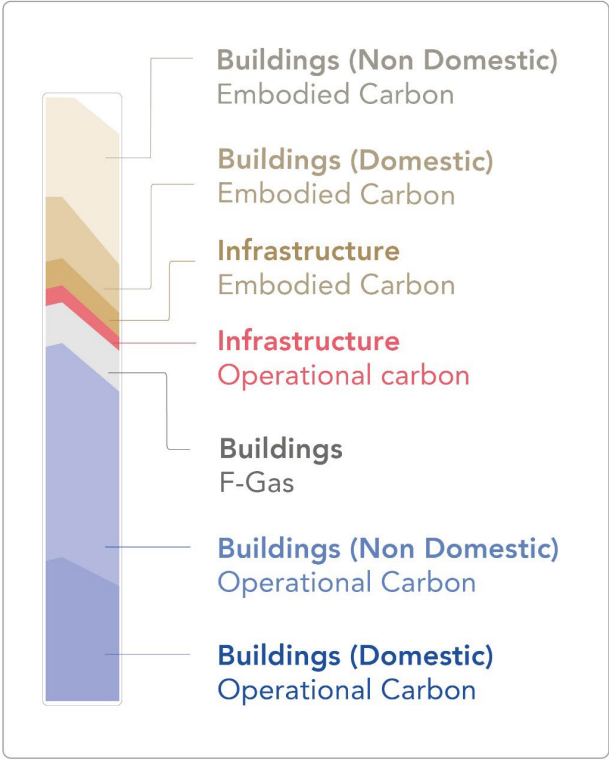
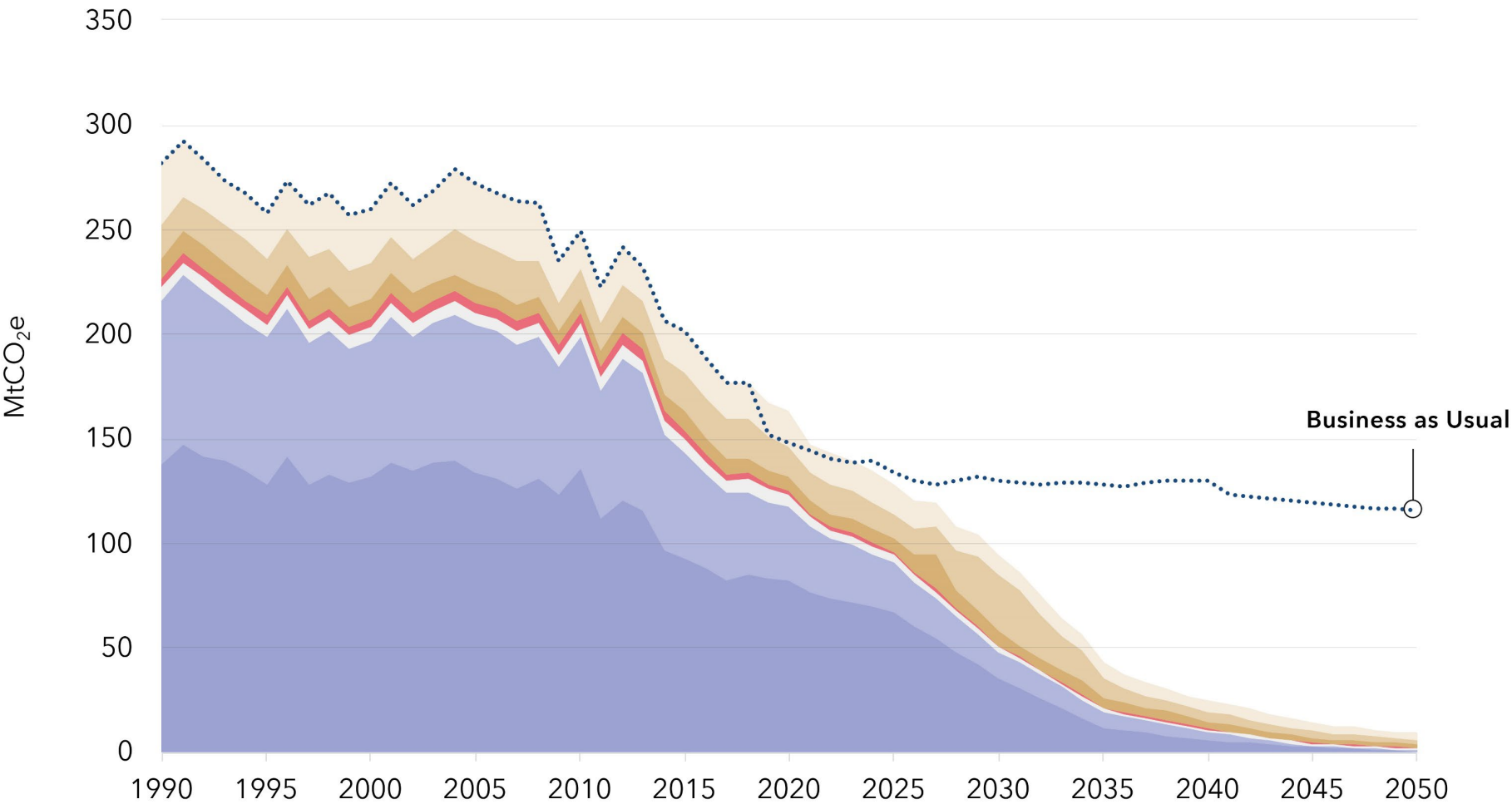
Net Zero Whole Life Carbon Roadmap Technical Report

November 2021

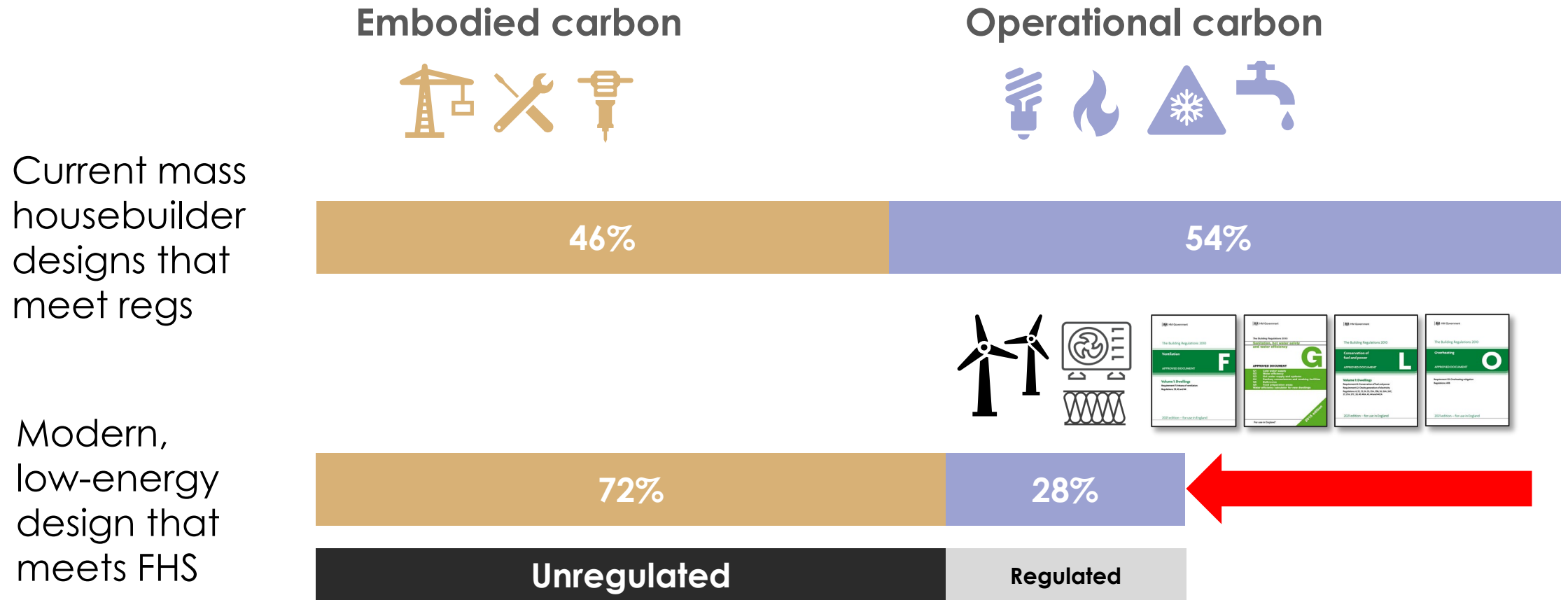


Net Zero Whole Life Carbon Roadmap Stakeholder Action Plans

UK Built Environment GHG Emissions 1990-2050

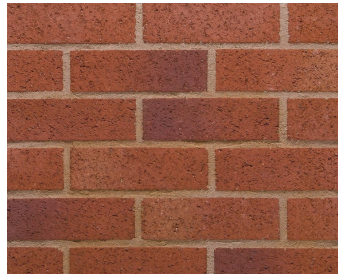


Typical housing project split



Scale – buildings

1t 10t 100t 1kt 10kt 100kt



4x brick pallets

~1 tCO₂

At 232 kgCO₂e/t brick (A1-A5) from UK clay brick EPD



King's Cross Sports Hall

709 tCO₂e

2000m² facility, LETI B-rated for embodied carbon & sequesters 638 tCO₂



5 Broadgate

46,324 tCO₂e

13 storeys, 65,300m² of office space to practical completion

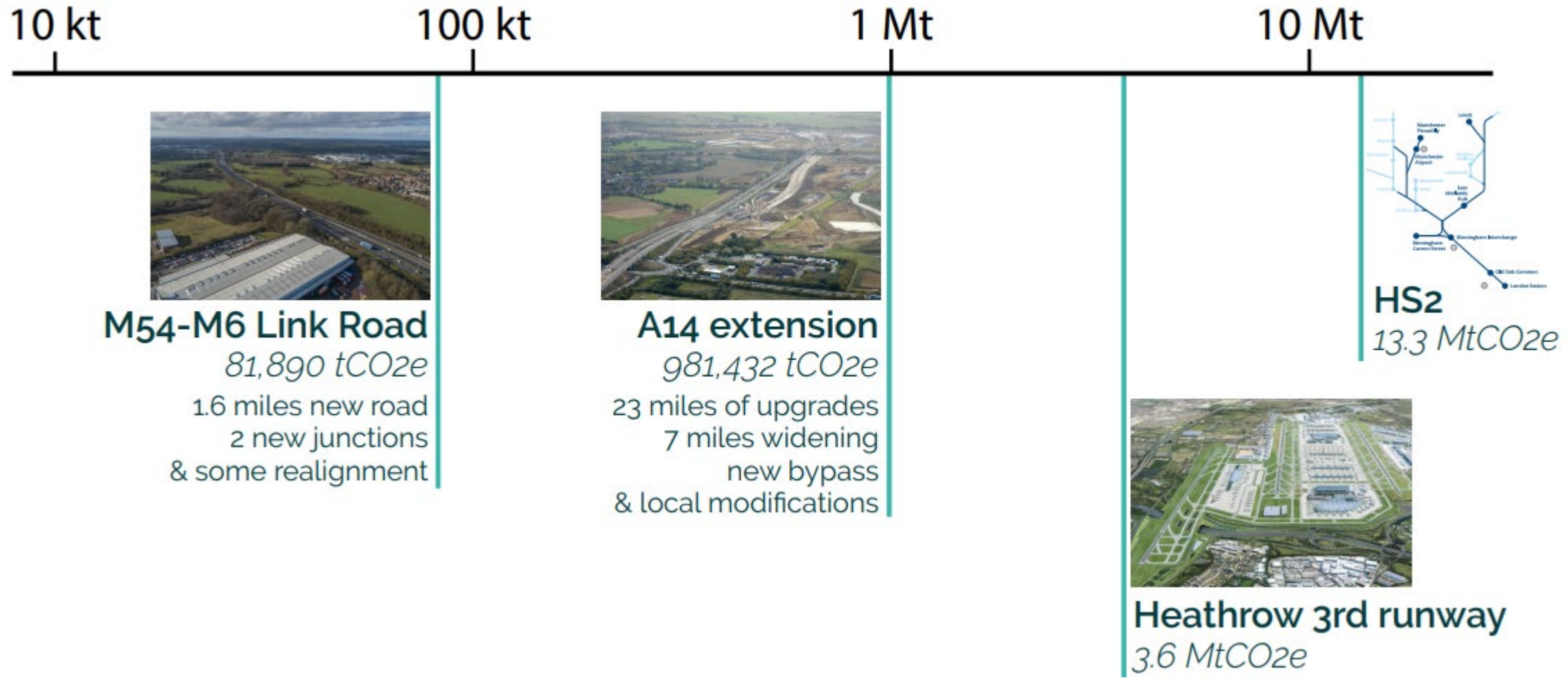


Development Pipeline

209,051 tCO₂e

Forecasted total embodied carbon in 2021 Sustainability Report

Scale – infrastructure



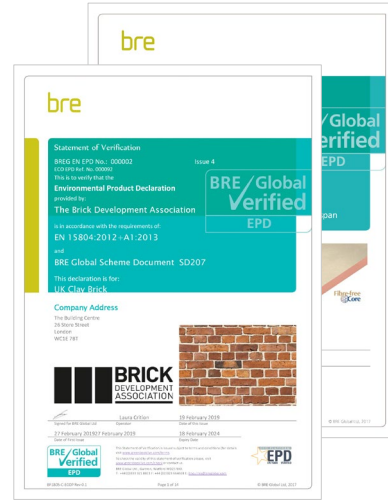
Basic calculation

$$\text{Embodied carbon (kgCO}_2\text{e)} = \sum_{\text{Sum for all materials}} \left(\text{Quantity (kg)} \times \text{Carbon factor (kgCO}_2\text{e/kg)} \right)$$

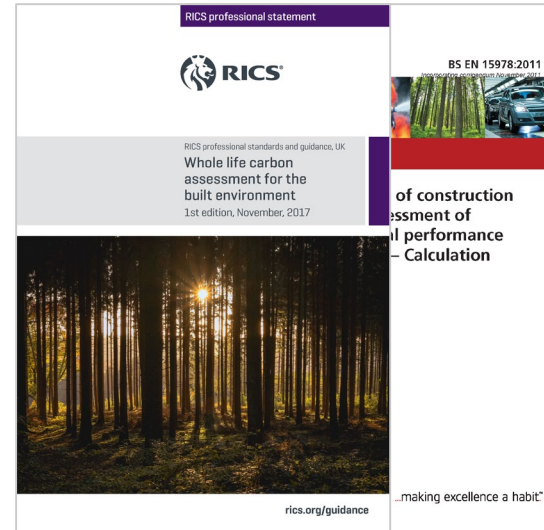
Typical assessment of a building



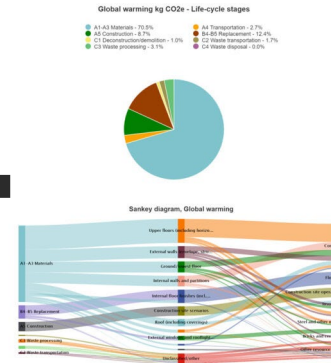
Material quantities
*e.g. from building
model or BoQ*



EPD or generic
carbon factors



Assessment methodology
e.g. BS EN 15978 + RICS PS



Software/tool
e.g. OneClickLCA



What is an EPD?

- An Environmental Product Declaration provides environmental information from a LCA in a standardised format using a consistent methodology
- Based on standards (e.g. EN 15804) combined with Product Category Rules (PCR) and independently verified
- Basically $LCA + PCR = EPD$

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Statement of Verification

BREG EN EPD No.: 000311

Issue 02

This is to verify that the

Environmental Product Declaration

provided by:

Kingspan Insulation Ltd

is in accordance with the requirements of:

EN 15804:2012+A1:2013

and

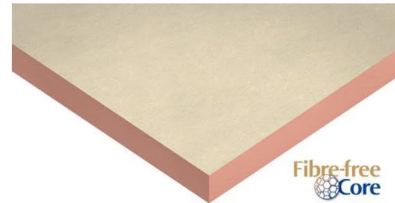
BRE Global Scheme Document SD207

This declaration is for:

Kingspan Kooltherm K5 External Wallboard, Kingspan Kooltherm K20 Concrete Sandwich Board

BRE Global
Verified
EPD

Company Address

Kingspan Insulation Limited
Pembroke
Herefordshire
HR6 9LA

Emma Baker
Operator07 April 2022
Date of this issue21 January 2021
Date of First Issue20 January 2026
Expiry DateBRE Global
Verified
EPD

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Environmental Product Declaration

EPD Number: 000311

General Information

EPD Programme Operator	Applicable Product Category Rules
BRE Global Watford, Herts WD25 9XX United Kingdom	BRE Environmental Profiles 2013 Product Category Rules for Type III environmental product declaration of construction products to EN 15804:2012+A1:2013
Commissioner of LCA study	LCA consultant/Tool
Kingspan Insulation Limited Pembroke Herefordshire HR6 9LA	BRE LINA Tool v2.07
Declared Unit	Applicability/Coverage
1m ² of insulation at a thickness that gives an R-value of 2.857m ² .K/W (60mm)	Product Specific
EPD Type	Background database
Cradle to Gate with options	Ecoinvent 3.2

Demonstration of Verification

CEN standard EN 15804 serves as the core PCR ^a

Independent verification of the declaration and data according to EN ISO 14025:2010

☐ Internal ☒ External(Where appropriate ^b) Third party verifier:
Nigel Jones

a: Product category rules

b: Optional for business-to-business communication; mandatory for business-to-consumer communication (see EN ISO 14025:2010, 9.4)

Comparability

Environmental product declarations from different programmes may not be comparable if not compliant with EN 15804:2012+A1:2013. Comparability is further dependent on the specific product category rules, system boundaries and allocations, and background data sources. See Clause 5.3 of EN 15804:2012+A1:2013 for further guidance



Main Product Contents

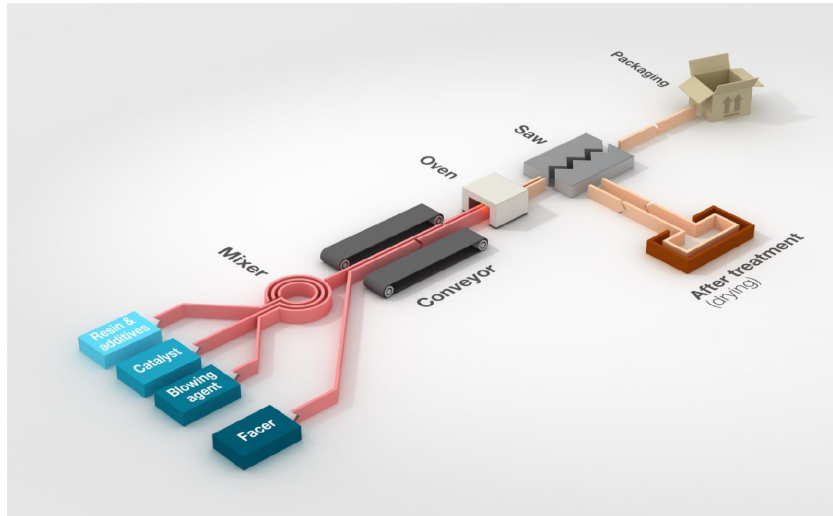
Material/Chemical Input	%
Rigid thermoset fibre free phenolic insulation core	89%
Glass tissue facer	11%

**Average percentages applicable for 1m² of insulation at thickness that gives an R-value of 2.857m²K/W*

Manufacturing Process

Kingspan Kooltherm is made through a manufacturing process in which a foam forms an insulating core between two facing elements. At the start of the process a mix of chemicals is added directly to the bottom layer of facing and then expands to meet the top layer of facing. As it dries, the foam becomes tacky and adheres itself to the facing, top and bottom. Once it has reached the necessary thickness the foam is cooked under pressure. It is then moved onto a secondary oven to cure and harden, becoming bright pink in colour. The insulation boards are then cut into the necessary sizes, packaged and sent to the loading bay for collection.

Process flow diagram



Construction Installation

The product will be installed in wall applications using standard construction techniques.

Use Information

The product will be left alone after installation, and there are no known associated environmental impacts.



End of Life

The insulation will be removed for disposal when the building reaches the end of its life.

Life Cycle Assessment Calculation Rules

Declared unit description

1m² of insulation at a thickness that gives an R-value of 2.857m².K/W (60mm)

System boundary

Cradle to gate with options: Modules A1-3, A4, A5, C2, C3 and C4.

The following processes are included in the A1-A3 production stage of Kooltherm: Manufacture of preliminary products (resin, blowing agent, additives). Transportation of raw materials and preliminary products to the manufacturing site. Manufacturing process on the production site including, energy, disposal of residual materials, water consumption and VOC emissions to air.

The following process is included within the A4 construction stage: Transportation of the product to the construction site.

The following processes are included in the A5 construction stage of Kooltherm: installation wastage rate, material wastes produced by installation.

The following processes are included in C2, C3 and C4 stage of Kooltherm: End of life scenarios: Transportation of waste from the construction site to the waste processing plant, incineration of waste processing operations for recovery, waste sent to landfill.

Data sources, quality and allocation

This EPD covers all Kooltherm K5 External Wall Board and K20 Concrete Sandwich Board manufactured at both the Pembridge and Castleblayney sites, representing 100% of production of these products in 2018 over all Kingspan production sites included in this EPD, and 0.7% of the total site output at the Pembridge site (168.5 tonnes) and 6.0% at the Castleblayney site (808.51 tonnes).

A profile for the Kooltherm foam was created separately as this covered a range of Kooltherm products. The profile included all the impacts from the manufacture of the product, including all the data for the following sections: 'ancillary materials', 'packaging', 'fuel/energy', 'water', 'emissions to air, water and soil', 'production waste', 'other waste' and 'water discharged'. Allocation of these factors to the products was achieved by using a proportion of the total Kooltherm foam output. The foam profile was then used as an input for this (and other) end-product profiles.

Secondary data has been drawn from the BRE LINA database v2.0.64 and the background LCI datasets are based on Ecoinvent v3.2.

Cut-off criteria

No inputs or outputs have been excluded. All raw materials, packaging materials, associated transport to the manufacturing site, and from the manufacturing site to the building site, process energy, water use, direct production waste, installations waste and emissions are included.

Scenarios and additional technical information

Scenarios and additional technical information			
Scenario	Parameter	Units	Results
A4 – Transport to the building site	Description of scenario		
	Fuel type / Vehicle type	Litre of fuel type per distance or vehicle type	Lorry >32 metric tons
	Distance	km	523
	Capacity utilisation (incl. empty returns)	%	86
	Bulk density of transported products	kg/m ³	35
A5 – Installation in the building	Description of scenario		
	Installation wastage rate	% of product	2
	Installation waste sent to landfill	kg	0.042
C1 to C4 End of life,	Description of scenario		
	Transport type	Vehicle type	Lorry >32 metric tons
	Distance	km	523
	Crushing and compacting of waste into briquettes	MJ	9.48e-8
	Waste for energy recovery	kg	1.87
	Waste to landfill	kg	0.19

LCA Results

(MND = module not declared; MNR = module not relevant; INA = indicator not assessed; AGG = aggregated)

Parameters describing environmental impacts			GWP	ODP	AP	EP	POCP	ADPE	ADPF
			kg CO ₂ equiv.	kg CFC 11 equiv.	kg SO ₂ equiv.	kg (PO ₄) ₃ equiv.	kg C ₂ H ₄ equiv.	kg Sb equiv.	MJ, net calorific value.
Product stage	Raw material supply	A1	AGG	AGG	AGG	AGG	AGG	AGG	AGG
	Transport	A2	AGG	AGG	AGG	AGG	AGG	AGG	AGG
	Manufacturing	A3	AGG	AGG	AGG	AGG	AGG	AGG	AGG
	Total (of product stage)	A1-3	3.98e+0	4.83e-7	2.30e-2	5.14e-3	3.92e-3	3.07e-5	1.32e+2
Construction process stage	Transport	A4	1.00e-1	1.90e-8	3.43e-4	9.04e-5	7.10e-5	1.68e-7	1.56e+0
	Construction	A5	8.21e-2	1.02e-8	4.69e-4	1.06e-4	8.03e-5	6.19e-7	2.69e+0
Use stage	Use	B1	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND
	Maintenance	B2	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND
	Repair	B3	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND
	Replacement	B4	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND
	Refurbishment	B5	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND
	Operational energy use	B6	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND
End of life	Operational water use	B7	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND
	Deconstruction, demolition	C1	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND
	Transport	C2	1.00e-1	1.90e-8	3.43e-4	9.04e-5	7.10e-5	1.68e-7	1.56e+0
	Waste processing	C3	1.58e-8	1.02e-15	8.58e-11	1.97e-11	4.88e-12	1.91e-14	2.44e-7
Potential benefits and loads beyond the system boundaries	Disposal	C4	1.97e-3	5.18e-10	1.38e-5	4.52e-6	2.29e-6	1.79e-9	4.83e-2
	Reuse, recovery, recycling potential	D	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND	MND

GWP = Global Warming Potential;
 ODP = Ozone Depletion Potential;
 AP = Acidification Potential for Soil and Water;
 EP = Eutrophication Potential;

POCP = Formation potential of tropospheric Ozone;
 ADPE = Abiotic Depletion Potential – Elements;
 ADPF = Abiotic Depletion Potential – Fossil Fuels;

How might I use an EPD?

- Selecting a product (e.g. comparing two different suppliers)
- Comparing design options
- Meeting a reporting requirement of clients
- Supporting a marketing claim
- Integrating EPD into a larger assessment of a building or infrastructure asset

Calculation tools



ZEBRA
Carbon and Energy Model

+ many more!

The Structural Carbon Tool v2



RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

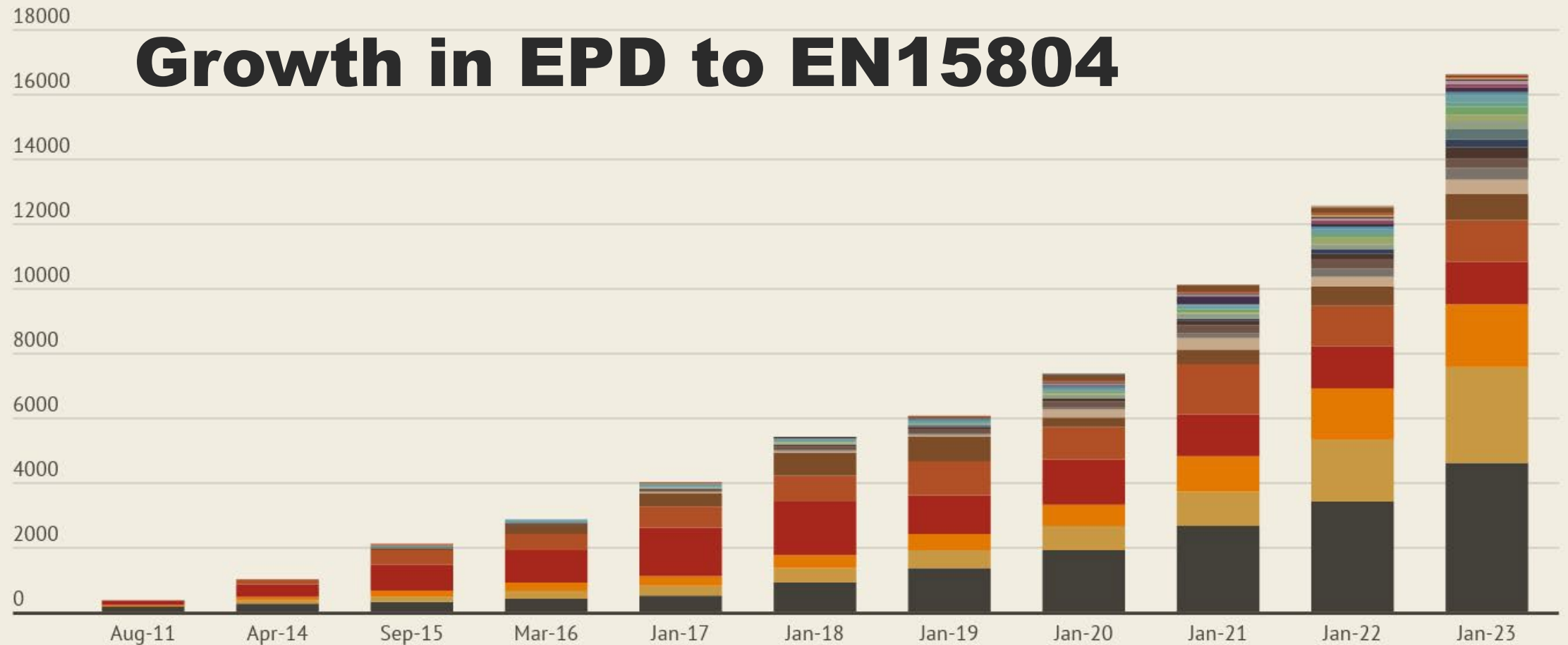
Recent developments

1. Data availability
2. Standards & guidance
3. Benchmarking & grading
4. Planning
5. Public procurement
6. Regulations

Recent developments

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2. Standards & guidance
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Growth in EPD to EN15804



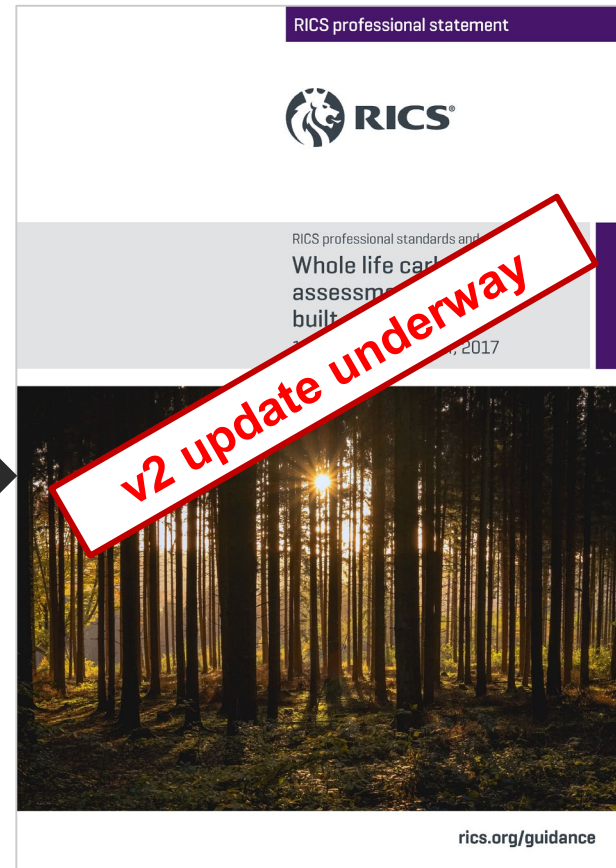
Recent developments

1. Data availability
2. Standards & guidance
3. Benchmarking & grading
4. Planning
5. Public procurement
6. Regulations

Evolution of reporting standards



British & European standards
BS EN 15978 etc.



RICS PS



Built Environment Carbon Database

PAS 2080:2023

Carbon management in buildings
and infrastructure



Construction
Leadership
Council

The Green Construction Board



bsi.

PAS 2080:2023

Defines common language for
carbon management with defined
requirements for each value chain
member at each work stage

Figure 1 – Relationships between value chain members across assets, networks and systems

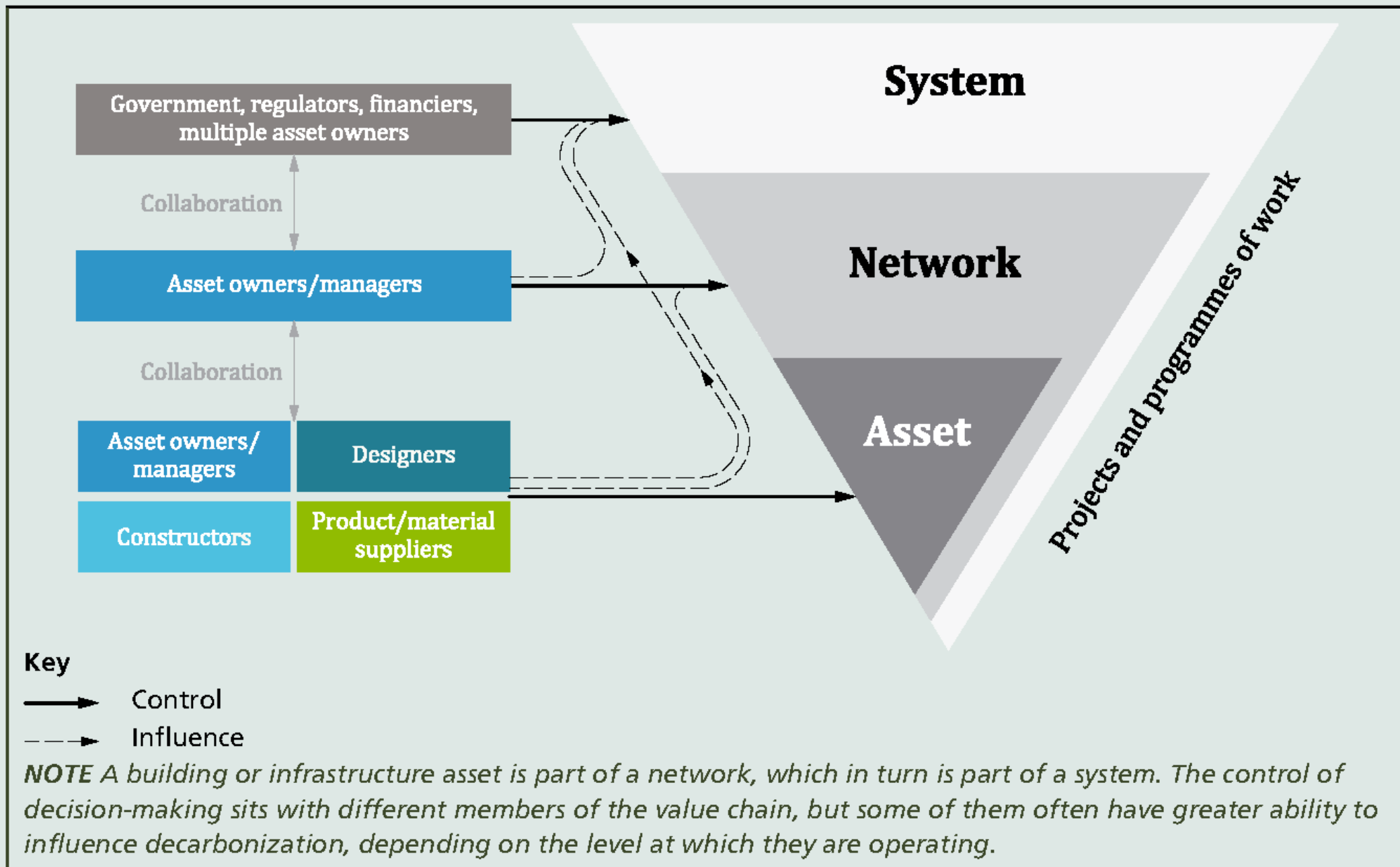


Figure 3 – Value chain members in the built environment and their roles in carbon management

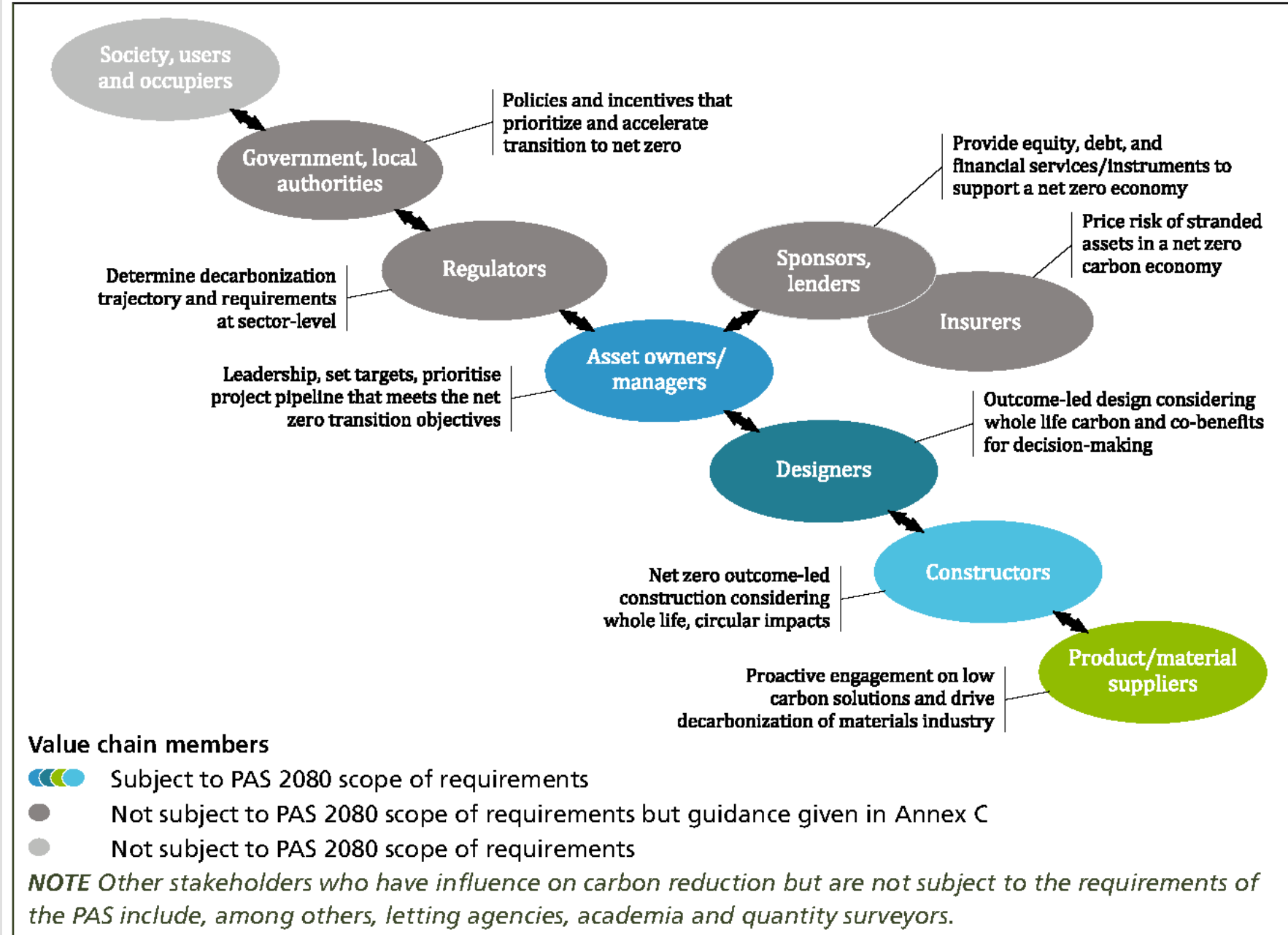
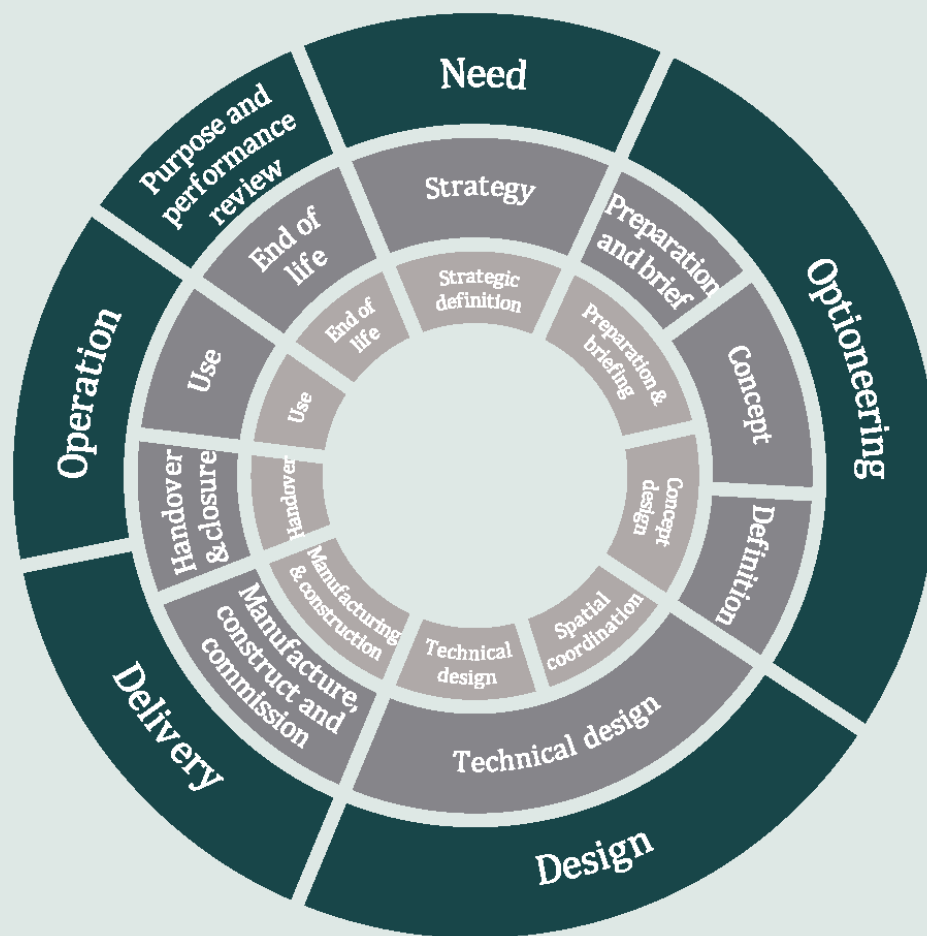


Figure 2 – Unifying work stages for projects and programmes of work

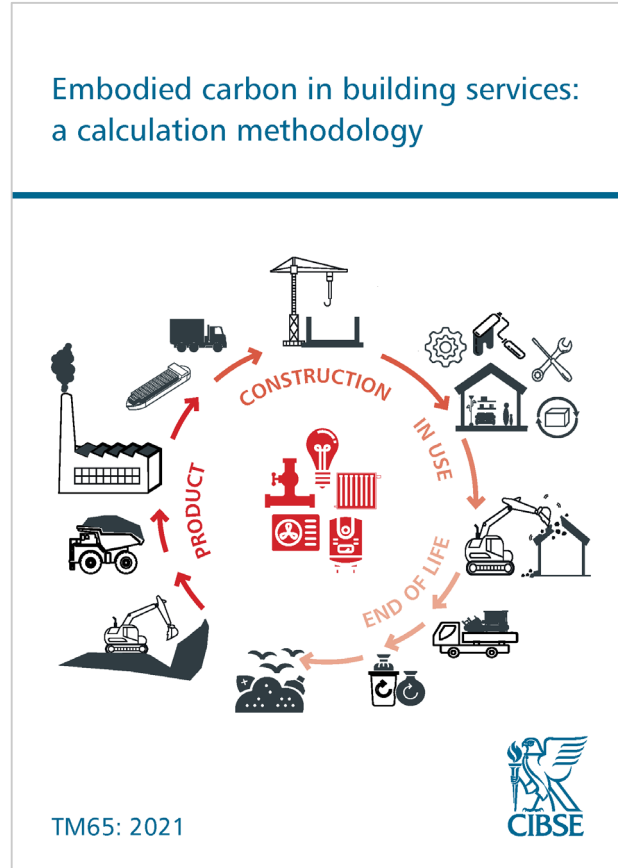


Key

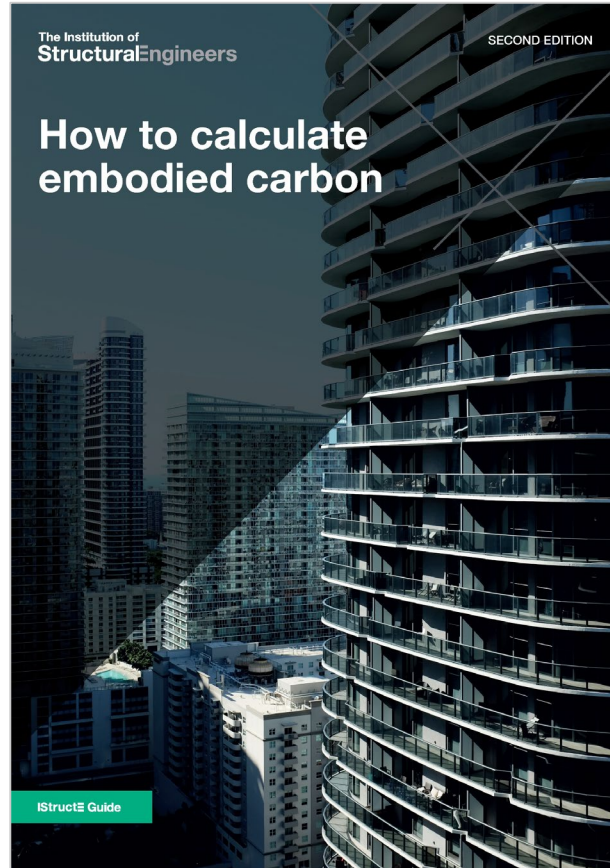
- PAS 2080:2023
- BS 8536:2022
- RIBA Plan of Work

NOTE This figure introduces work stages in PAS 2080 that are similar to those of the Value Toolkit (developed by the Construction Innovation Hub) [4]. For the purposes of this document, these stages map to the work stages of infrastructure (adapted from BS 8536:2022, with an additional “end-of-life” stage) and the work stages of the built environment (Plan of Work [5] developed by the Royal Institute of British Architects), as shown. There are other sector-specific definitions of work stages that differ from those shown in Figure 2, but this is not enough to hinder value chain members from implementing a carbon management process.

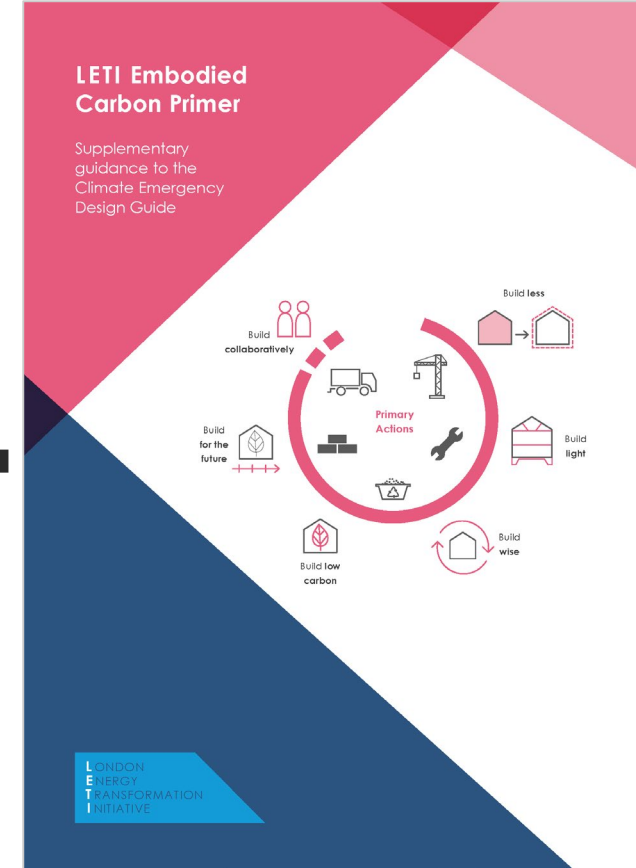
Other key UK guidance



CIBSE TM65



IStructE methodology



LETI primer

Recent developments


1. Data availability
2. Standards & guidance
3. Benchmarking & grading
4. Planning
5. Public procurement
6. Regulations

RIBA & LETI targets



RIBA
2030
CLIMATE
CHALLENGE
VERSION 2 (2021)

Sign up to join the RIBA
2030 Climate Challenge at
www.architecture.com/2030challenge

RIBA 
Architecture.com

Upfront Carbon, A1-5 (exc. sequestration)

LETI 2030
Design Target

LETI 2020
Design Target

Band	Office	Residential	Education	Retail
A++	<100	<100	<100	<100
A+	<225	<200	<200	<200
A	<350	<300	<300	<300
B	<475	<400	<400	<425
C	<600	<500	<500	<550
D	<775	<675	<625	<700
E	<950	<850	<750	<850
F	<1100	<1000	<875	<1000
G	<1300	<1200	<1100	<1200

Embodied Carbon, A1-5, B1-5, C1-4 (inc. sequestration)

RIBA 2030
Built Target

Band	Office	Residential	Education	Retail
A++	<150	<150	<125	<125
A+	<345	<300	<260	<250
A	<530	<450	<400	<380
B	<750	<625	<540	<535
C	<970	<800	<675	<690
D	<1180	<1000	<835	<870
E	<1400	<1200	<1000	<1050
F	<1625	<1400	<1175	<1250
G	<1900	<1600	<1350	<1450

All values in kgCO₂e/m² (GIA)

LETI grades – King’s Cross Sports Hall

Embodied Carbon Target Alignment

Introduction

This document has been produced to provide alignment in Embodied Carbon measurement and comparison. The industry needs to standardise performance and reporting scopes to meet IPCC recommendations for urgent emissions reductions. LETI have worked with RIBA, the GLA, StrucE and the UKGBC to produce this document.

A key issue the industry faces is the lack of consistent measurement, leading to misaligned benchmarks, project targets and claims.

Alignment in methodology is considered the interim step towards developing net zero carbon targets that reflect the UK's carbon budget. Targets will only be useful once measurement is consistent. The UKGBC's 2021 Whole Life Carbon Net Zero Roadmap project will generate sectoral carbon budget estimates, which will assist in future more detailed building-level target setting.

- This paper summarises the following key points:
- The industry must push for Embodied Carbon reporting on all projects.
 - A rating system should be introduced to allow quick comparison of ambition across various typologies and portfolios have been introduced.
 - Targets for retail have been developed.
 - LETI and RIBA now have consistent embodied carbon target.
 - Data disclosure and breakdowns are key to ensuring reporting is valid and comparable.
 - There are two scopes that should be reported against: Upfront Carbon (modules A1-5, excluding sequestration), and total Embodied Carbon (A1-5, B1-5, C1-4, including sequestration).

The Case for Letter Bandings

It is suggested that a rating system that allows comparison of embodied carbon ambition across typologies and facilitates of conversations about embodied carbon with key decision makers. Using a letter rating system, which is already familiar in the context of Display Energy Certificates will allow industry professionals to talk about an "A rated" building and know that they are talking about the same level of ambition regardless of the project. A rating system can support competition across various levels of ambition, something which is particularly useful in portfolio reporting (either for building owners or in schemes like the RIBA practice survey).

Current best-practice performance is considered to be a C rating, while a B and above is considered a robust stretch target. Though only 4 typology rating bands are provided currently, the methodology can be repeated for other typologies or scopes of work as more data becomes available. The bandings do not currently differentiate between new build or refurbishment. Part of the rationale for this is that refurbishment projects will find it easier to achieve good performances and this provides an incentive for retrofit. It is expected that as more data is collected for ranges of retrofit, the bandings could be adopted if necessary.

Using the ratings

The LETI position is that for buildings that are currently in the design stages:

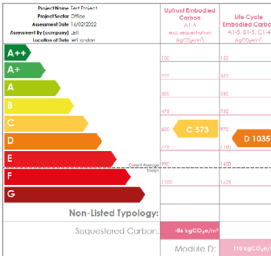
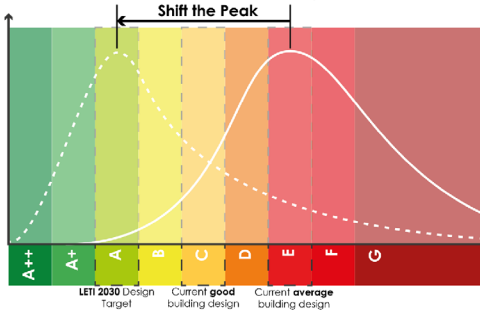
- Average design achieves an F
- Good design achieves a C (LETI 2020 target)
- LETI 2030 design target achieves an A

The RIBA 2030 Climate Challenge built performance is equivalent of a B rating (note that this assumes practical completion in 2030, so designed earlier).

Signposting

This document is designed to be read with other LETI documents including the:

- LETI Embodied Carbon Primer
- Whole Life Carbon and Embodied Carbon One Pagers
- Net Zero Carbon Definitions
- Reporting templates on the LETI website
- FAQs available on the LETI website



Proposed rating 'badge'



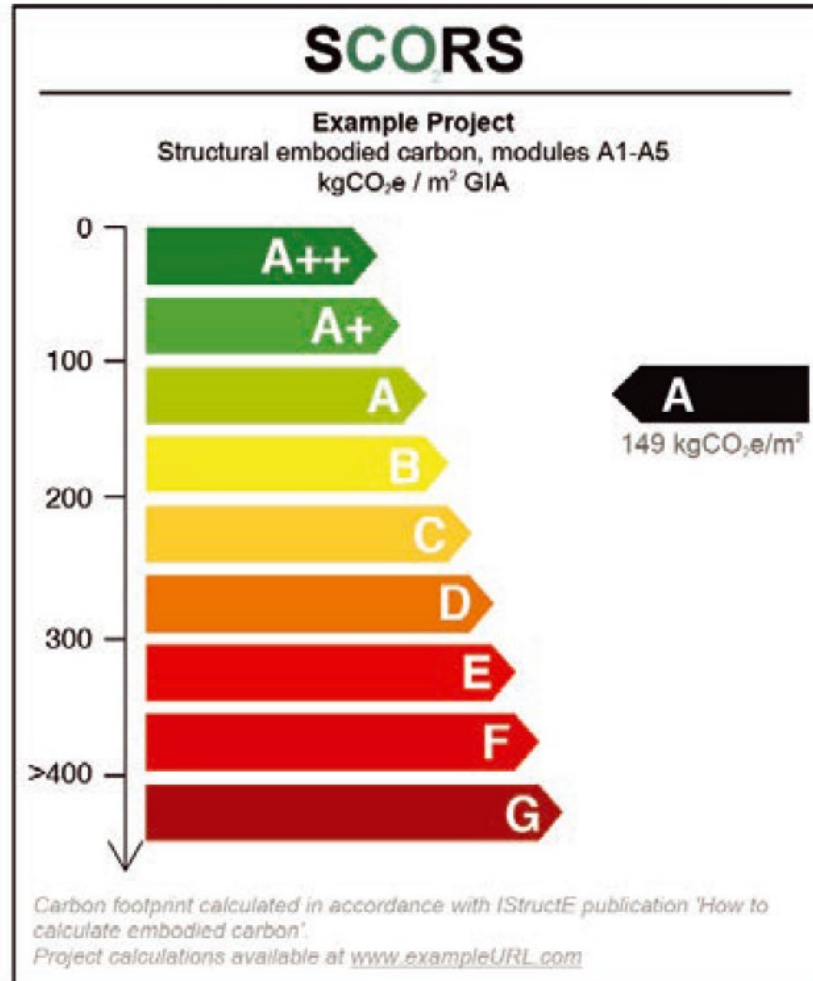
Graphic showing the range of performance based on benchmarked projects, and the need to improve the average



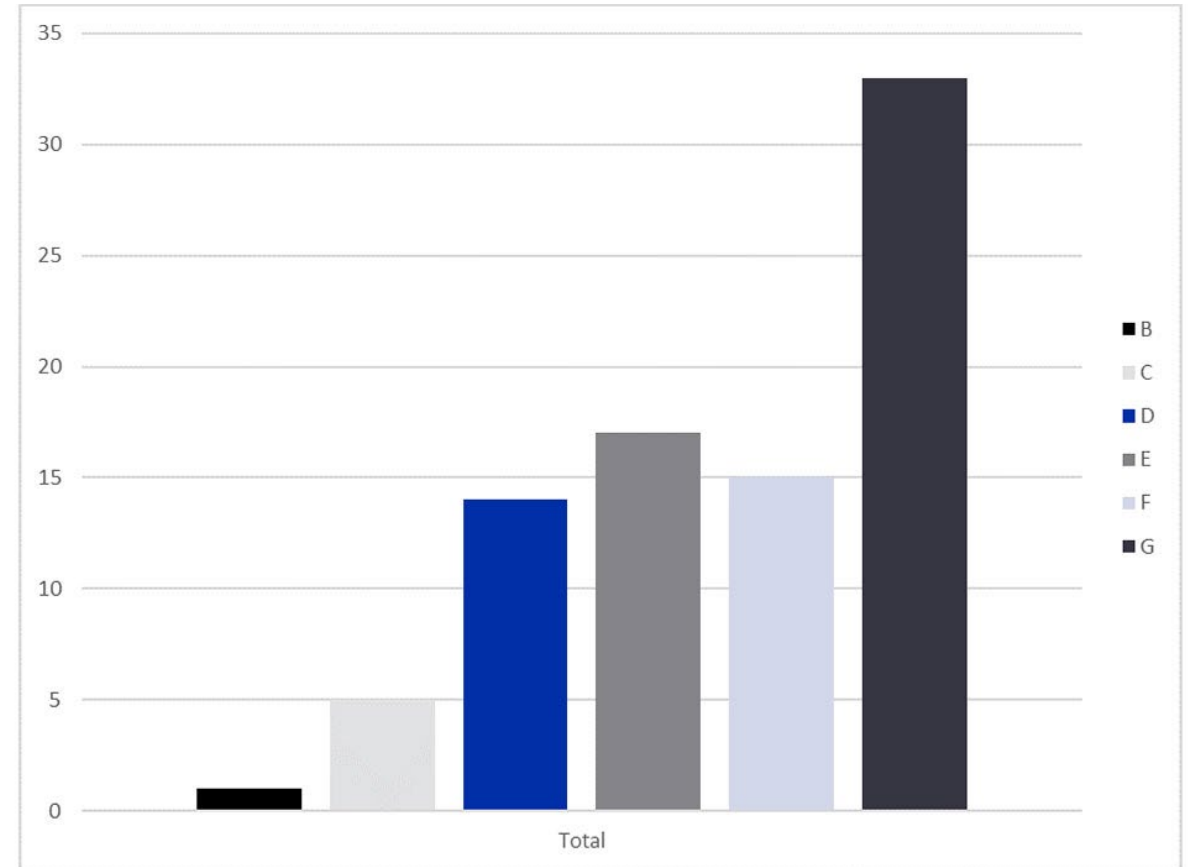
Project Name Sports Hall, King's Cross Project Sector Education Assessment Date 31/12/2020 Assessment By (company) BAM Location of Data https://bit.ly/3fXAm4		Upfront Carbon A1-5 exc. sequestration (kgCO ₂ e/m ²)	Embodied Carbon A1-5, B1-5, C1-4 (kgCO ₂ e/m ²)
A++	100		125
A+	200		260
A	300		400
B	400	B 352.7	540
C	500		675
D	625		835
E	750		1000
F	875		1175
G			
Non-Listed Typology:			
Sequestered Carbon:		-314 kgCO ₂ e/m ²	
Module D:			-186 kgCO ₂ e/m ²

LETI have published a great series of case studies including [this example here](#)

SCORS example



Price & Myers 2021 projects dataset SCORS

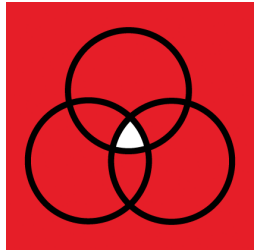


Graph showing the number of designs in each SCORS category

Find out [more about SCORS](#) or view the [latest Price & Myers dataset](#) (v3 2023)

Company benchmarking – Arup Zero

Since our commitment in 2021 we have assessed:



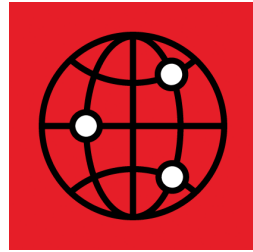
950+

Assets



30

Countries



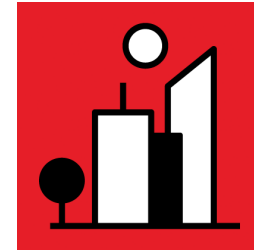
5

Continents



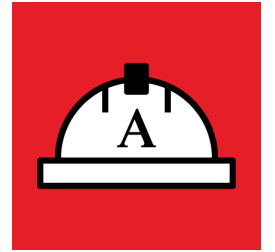
650m²

Gross floor area



16

Building
typologies

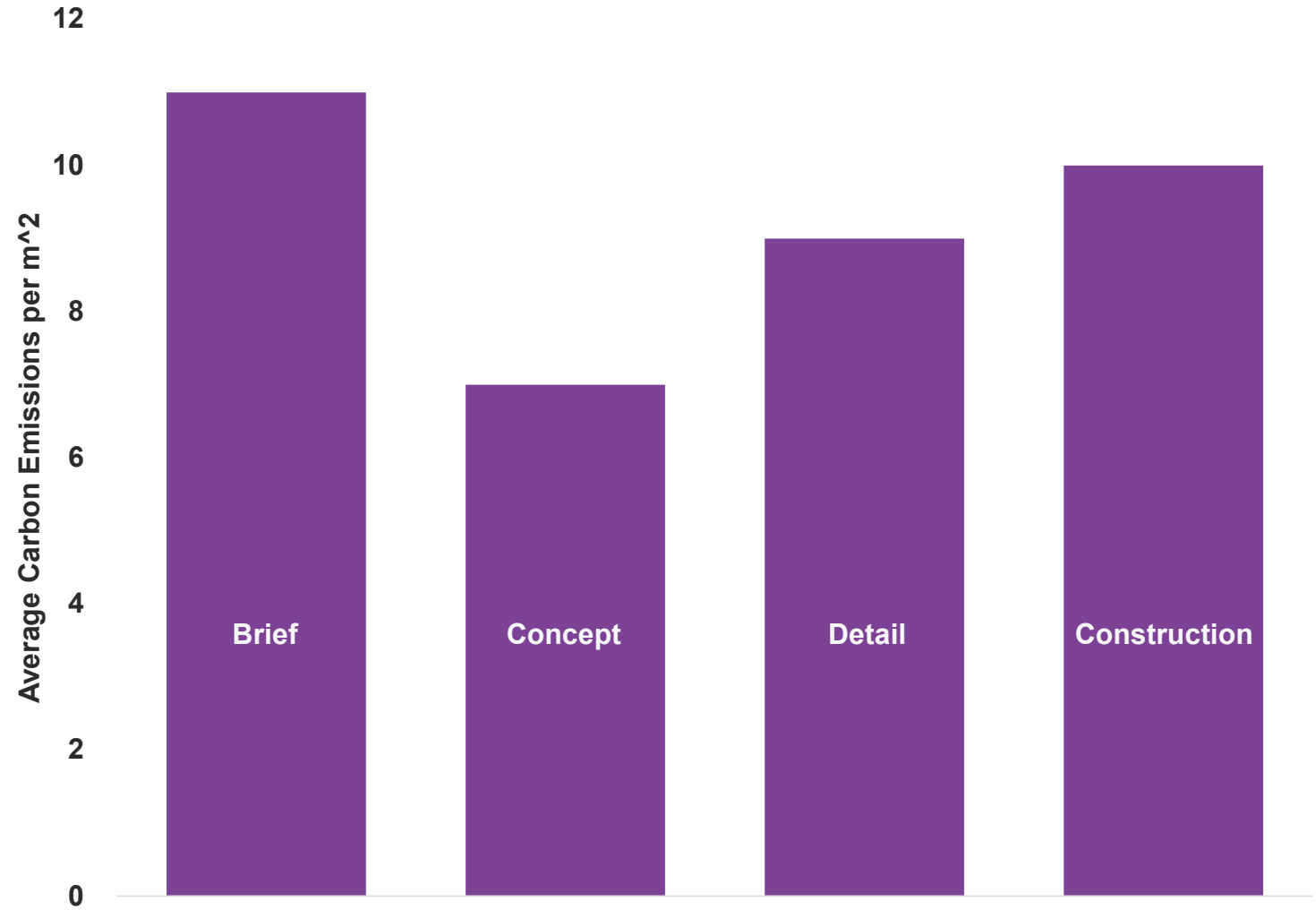


1100+

Arup engineers
contributed data

Example insight – carbon creep

Buildings' whole life carbon is lowest at concept stage, and then creeps up.



Recent developments

1. Data availability
2. Standards & guidance
3. Benchmarking & grading
4. Planning
5. Public procurement
6. Regulations

MAYOR OF LONDON

THE LONDON PLAN



THE SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT
STRATEGY FOR GREATER LONDON

MARCH 2021

London Policy SI2

F Development proposals referable to the Mayor should calculate whole-life cycle carbon emissions through a nationally recognised Whole Life-Cycle Carbon Assessment and demonstrate actions taken to reduce life-cycle carbon emissions

3 stage process

1. Pre-application
2. Stage 1 submission (i.e. RIBA Stage 2/3)
3. Post-construction

Results submitted using [common template](#)

The B&NES Local Plan Partial Update incorporating the Main Modifications, Additional Minor Modifications and delegated changes

BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET COUNCIL

Local Plan (Core Strategy and Placemaking Plan) Partial Update

Adopted by the Council on 19th January 2023

B&NES Policy SCR8

“Large scale new-build developments (a minimum of 50 dwellings or a minimum of 5000m² of commercial floor space) are required to submit an Embodied Carbon Assessment having regard to the Sustainable Construction Checklist SPD that demonstrates a score of less than 900kgCO₂e/m² can be achieved within the development for the substructure, superstructure and finishes.”

Others with emerging requirements

- Bristol City Council
- North Somerset
- Greater Cambridgeshire
- Central Lincolnshire
- Leeds City Council
- Milton Keynes
- Cornwall
- And more...

Impact on high profile developments

FINANCIAL TIMES

The battle over M&S Oxford Street and construction's carbon footprint

Retailer's redevelopment bid has raised questions about the environmental costs of demolishing and replacing older buildings as opposed to retrofitting them



Architects' Journal

Tulip rejected over embodied carbon and heritage concerns

11 NOVEMBER 2021 • BY WILL ING



Recent developments

1. Data availability
2. Standards & guidance
3. Benchmarking & grading
4. Planning
5. **Public procurement**
6. Regulations

SCOTTISH
FUTURES
TRUST



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

Net Zero Public Sector Buildings Standard

MARCH 2021

The Scottish public sector standard for defining, delivering and verifying net zero greenhouse gas outcomes of public sector new build and major refurbishment projects

Objective 2: Construction Embodied Carbon

“

The majority of projects should target no more than 600 kgCO₂e/m²”

Appendix B sets out detailed guidance

Net Zero Estate Playbook

A guide to decarbonising
government property

Version 1.0

November 2021



Net Zero Estate Playbook

“

As Net Zero Whole Life is still a developing and challenging area, further work will be needed to define the scope and requirements for this approach in a future version of this guidance. At present, organisations should follow the guidance set out in the Construction Playbook regarding the use of Whole Life Carbon assessments to inform decisions at early stages of project definition and option assessments”

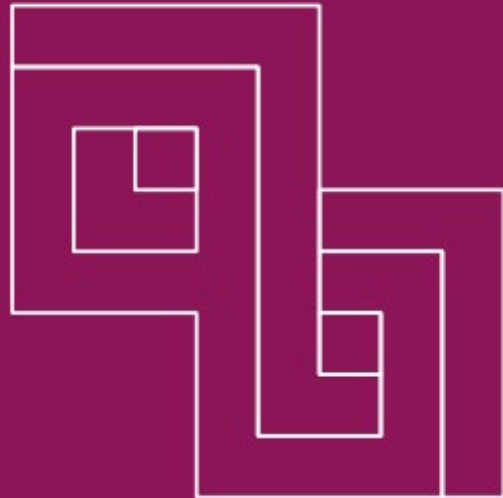


HM Government

THE CONSTRUCTION PLAYBOOK

Government Guidance

on sourcing and contracting public works
projects and programmes



Version 1.0
December 2020



Contracting authorities should adopt the use of whole life carbon assessments to understand and minimise the GHG emissions footprint of projects and programmes throughout their lifecycle...

Contracting authorities should require that solutions put forward by potential suppliers are accompanied by a whole life carbon assessment.”

NHS Net Zero Building Standard



NHS Net Zero Standard

“

Requirement to “Ensure a WLC assessment is undertaken at each design stage, and used to inform design decisions, with data assessed, captured, and reported for all materials”

“Project bespoke Upfront Carbon Limits must be established by the client and project team...for sub-structure, super structure and facade...all other building components and lifecycle stages must be assessed and reported”

See Chapters 3-4 & Whole Life Carbon Compliance Tool for further detail



Homes
England

The Housing and Regeneration Agency



Strategic Plan

2023-28



Homes England KPI15

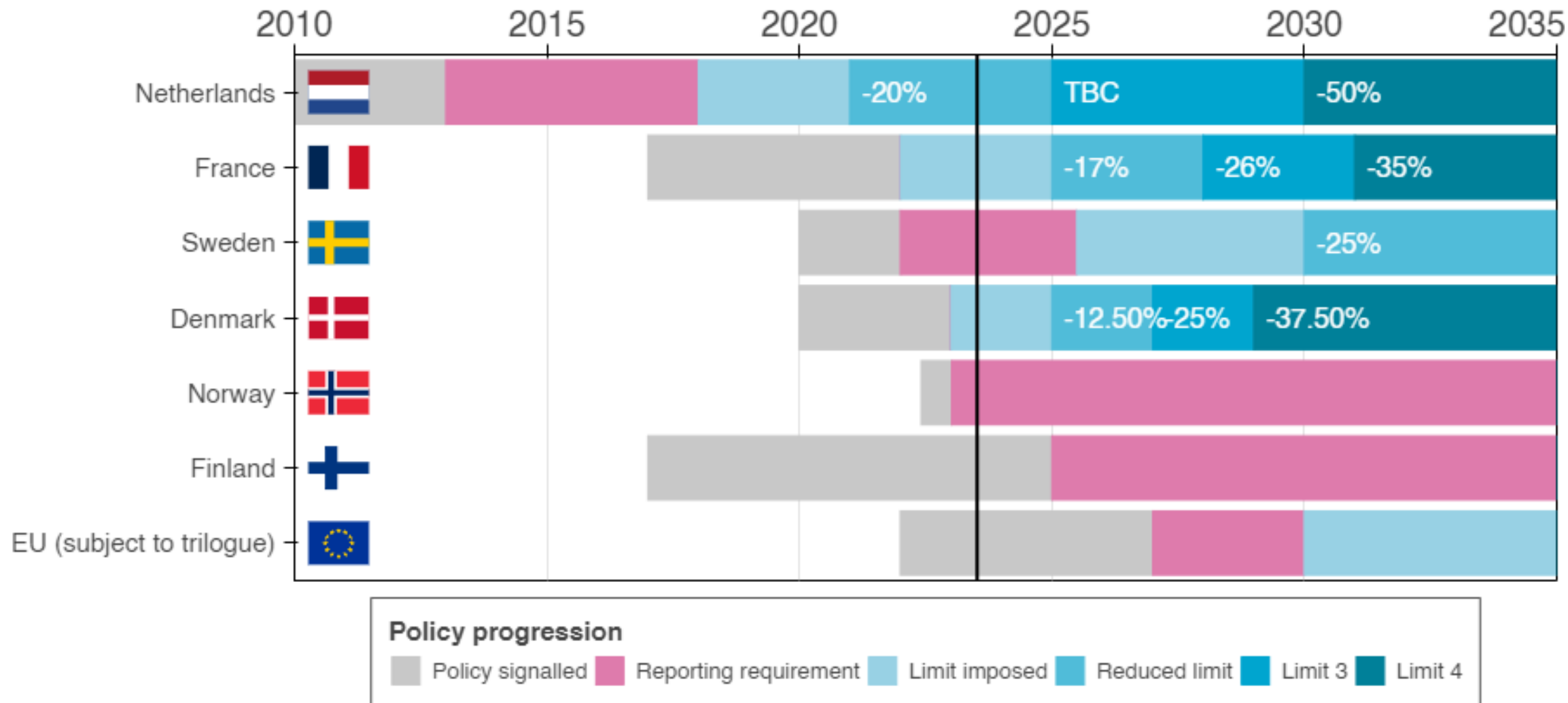
“

Indicator to be developed on
embodied carbon of Homes England
supported development”

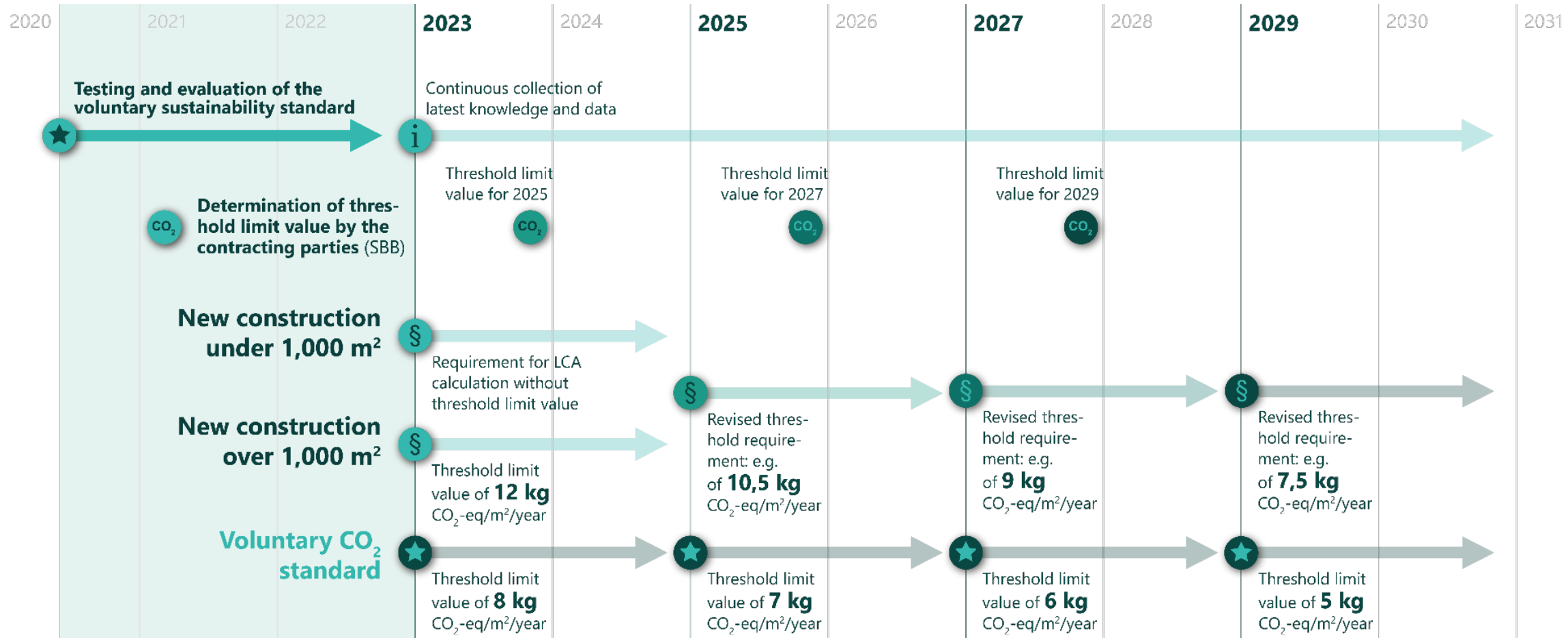
Recent developments

1. Data availability
2. Standards & guidance
3. Benchmarking & grading
4. Planning
5. Public procurement
6. Regulations

International regulatory trend

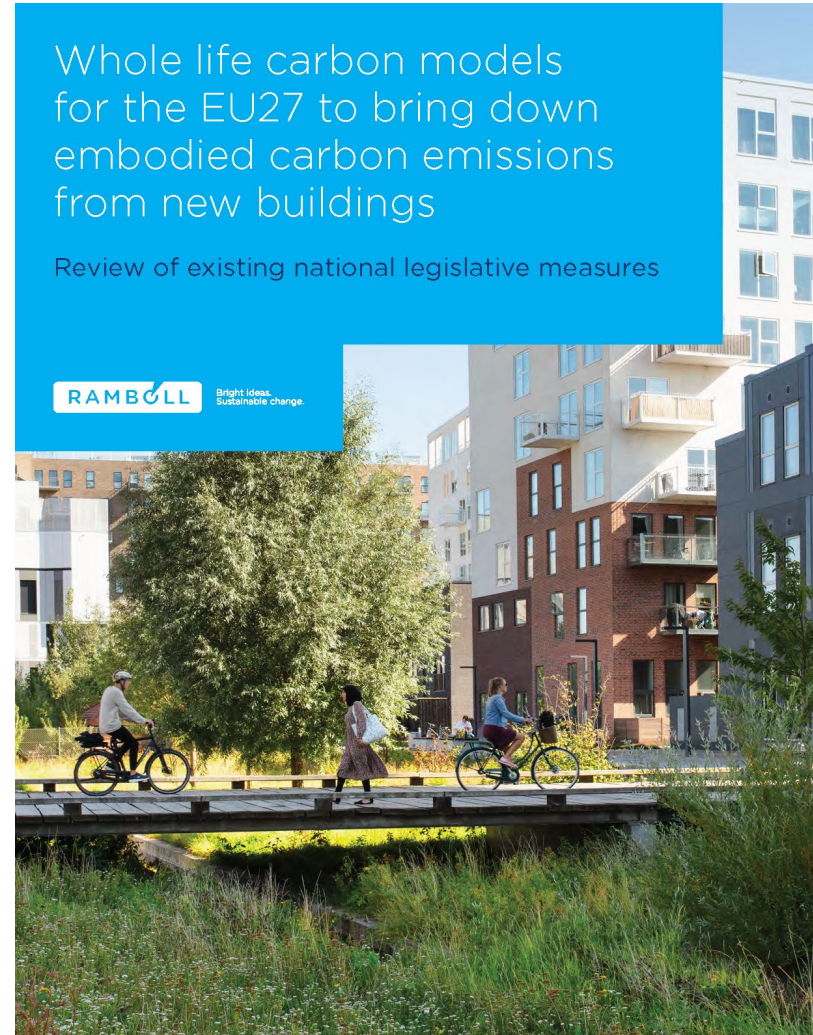


Example approach - Denmark



Example phasing and tightening of criteria from Denmark [bolig og planstyrelsen](#) (2022)

Recent international policy reviews



KU LEUVEN

Funded by: European Climate Foundation



Made possible with support from:

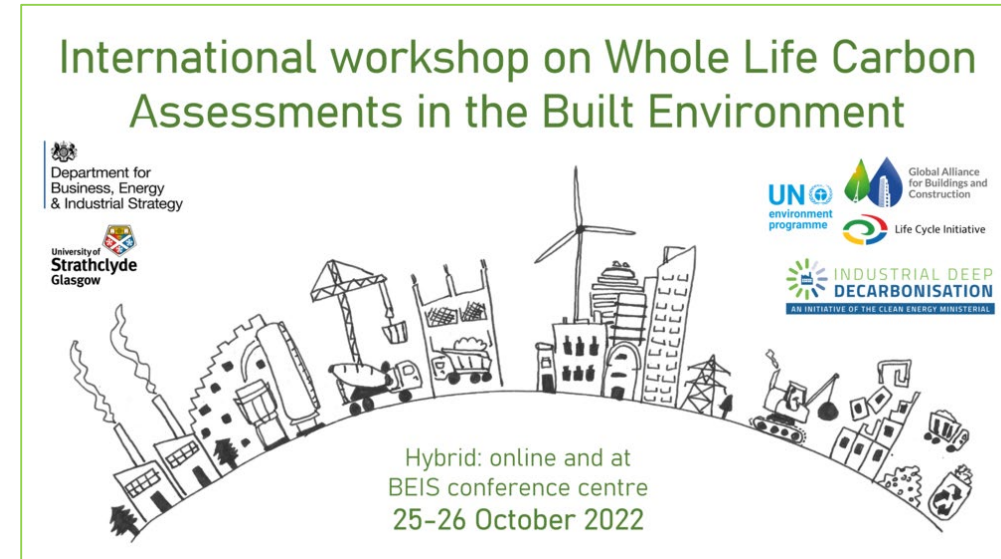
One Click LCA
© 2022. All rights reserved

Ympäristöministeriö
Miljöministeriet
Ministry of the Environment

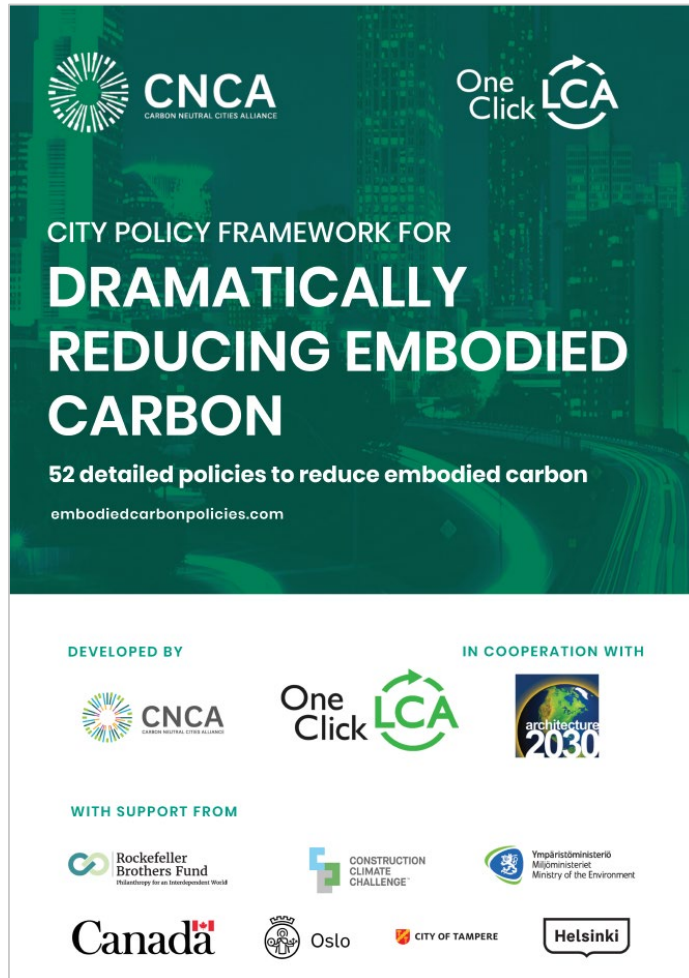
Netherlands Enterprise Agency

International workshop

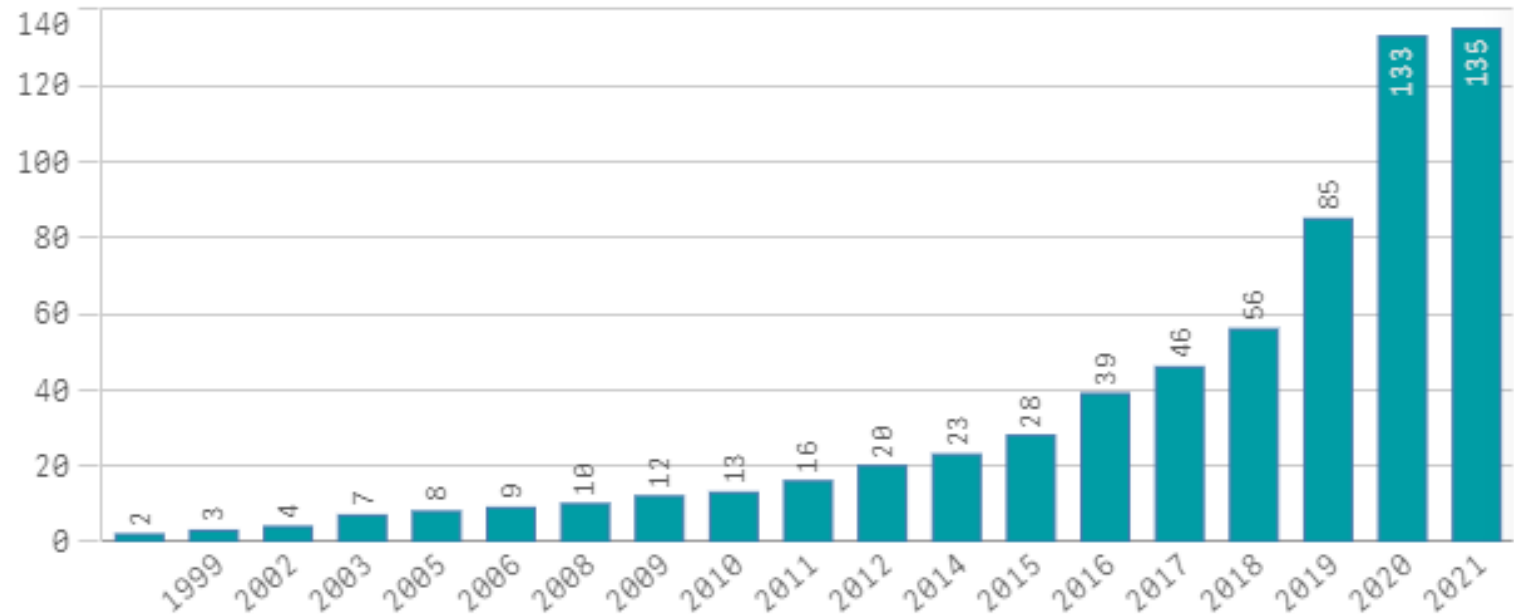
- Organised by BEIS, IDDI, GABC, UNEP LCI, Uni. of Strathclyde
- Hybrid event for 300 policy makers & influencers from 41 countries sharing international best practice on whole life carbon policy development
- 10 sessions with 40 speakers from 20 countries



Local policies



Number of policies and actions adopted over the years



Uptake based on C40 Clean Construction Policy Explorer

June 2022

Progress in reducing emissions

2022 Report to Parliament

CCC recommendation since 2018



Set out a plan to make an assessment of whole-life carbon and material use of public and private construction projects mandatory by 2025, to enable minimum standards to be set. The whole life carbon assessment should be sought at the planning stage to enable efforts to reduce embodied carbon and materials.”

June 2023

Progress in reducing emissions

2023 Report to Parliament

2023 Progress Report

“Overdue” with “some but insufficient progress”

R2022-252	Industry; Buildings; Surface transport	<p>Set out a plan to make an assessment of whole-life carbon and material use of public and private construction projects mandatory by 2025, to enable minimum standards to be set. The whole-life carbon assessment should be sought at the planning stage to enable efforts to reduce embodied carbon and materials.</p> <p>Primary responsibility: DLUHC Supporting actors: DfT; DESNZ</p>	<p>2022</p> <p>Overdue</p>
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House of Commons
Environmental Audit Committee

Building to net zero: costing carbon in construction

First Report of Session 2022–23

*Report, together with formal minutes relating
to the report*

*Ordered by the House of Commons
to be printed 11 May 2022*

HC 103

Published on 26 May 2022
by authority of the House of Commons

EAC recommendation



the single most significant policy the Government could introduce is a mandatory requirement to undertake whole-life carbon assessments for buildings. This requirement should be set within building regulations and the planning system. Following introduction of whole-life carbon assessments, the Government should develop progressively ratcheting carbon targets for buildings, to match the pathway to net zero. A clear timeline for introducing this should be set by the end of 2022.”



House of Commons
Environmental Audit Committee

Building to net zero: costing carbon in construction: Government Response to the Committee's First Report

Third Special Report of Session 2022–23

*Ordered by the House of Commons
to be printed 7 September 2022*

HC 643
Published on 30 September 2022
by authority of the House of Commons

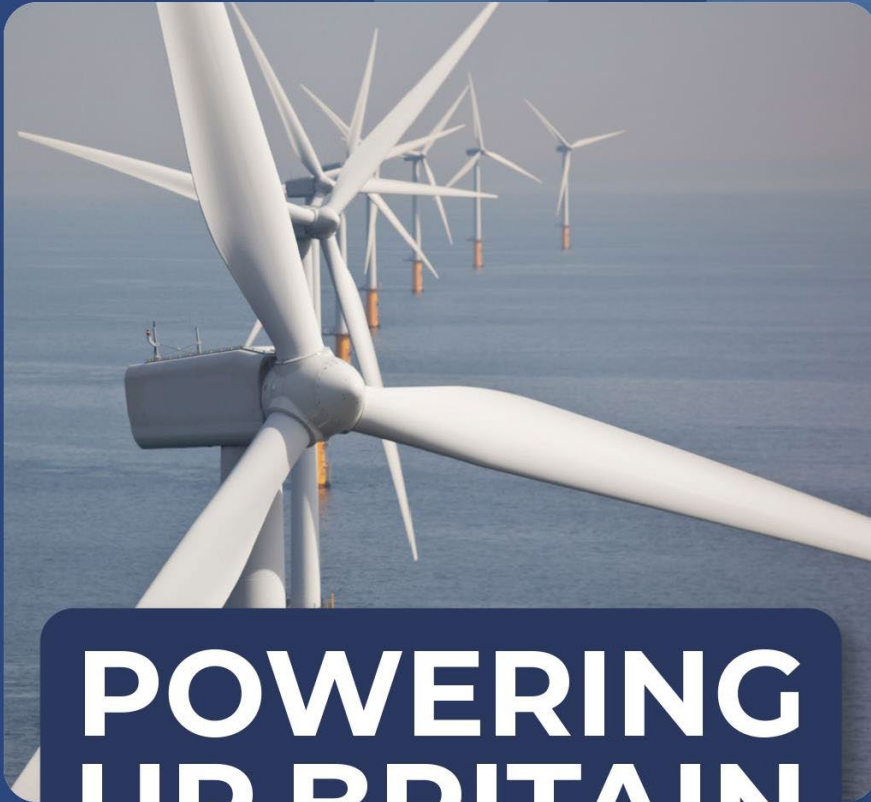
UK Govt response



We agree with the Committee that whole-life carbon assessments are likely to have a significant role to play in delivering decarbonisation across the sector... Government intends to consult in 2023 on our approach and interventions to mainstream the measurement and reduction of embodied carbon in the built environment.”



HM Government



POWERING UP BRITAIN

THE NET ZERO GROWTH PLAN

March 2023

UK Govt Net Zero Plan

“

Responded to the Environmental Audit Committee’s report on Building to Net Zero, outlining our intention to consult this year on our approach to the measurement and reduction of embodied carbon in new buildings”



Statement of Requirements (Draft)

Measurement and Reduction of Embodied Carbon in New Buildings (CPD4124072)

Future Opportunities Notice

1. SCOPE OF REQUIREMENT

- 1.1 Through the contracted work, The Authority is seeking to establish detailed baselines on matters regarding WLCAs and reduction of embodied carbon in new buildings to inform policy development. The work has been divided into the below six in-scope areas:
- 1) The robustness of WLCAs, uncertainties in data used and their results and the challenges that creates for decision-making.
 - 2) The impacts to business of carrying out WLCAs.
 - 3) The supporting structure and data needed for WLCAs.
 - 4) The design and construction choices that are made following WLCAs.
 - 5) The appropriate and cost-effective areas for carbon savings and the relative savings available.
 - 6) The design and material choices that would be encouraged by embodied carbon reduction and the impacts of those choices.
- 1.2 Across these six areas, the work will need data gathering and analysis, technical and practical modelling, and economic analysis in line with Green Book and related methodology and requirements. Also in scope are the possibilities of support for a public consultation and production of impact assessments.
- 1.3 **Given the range work required, especially the inclusion of economic analysis, the Authority expects that many bidders will need the support of external contractors or consortium partners to ensure relevant expertise.**
- 1.4 As this is a developing area of policy the Authority intends for the contract to have a call-off element to allow additional (or changed) work. This could be influenced either by results from earlier work under the contract or policy development by the Authority.

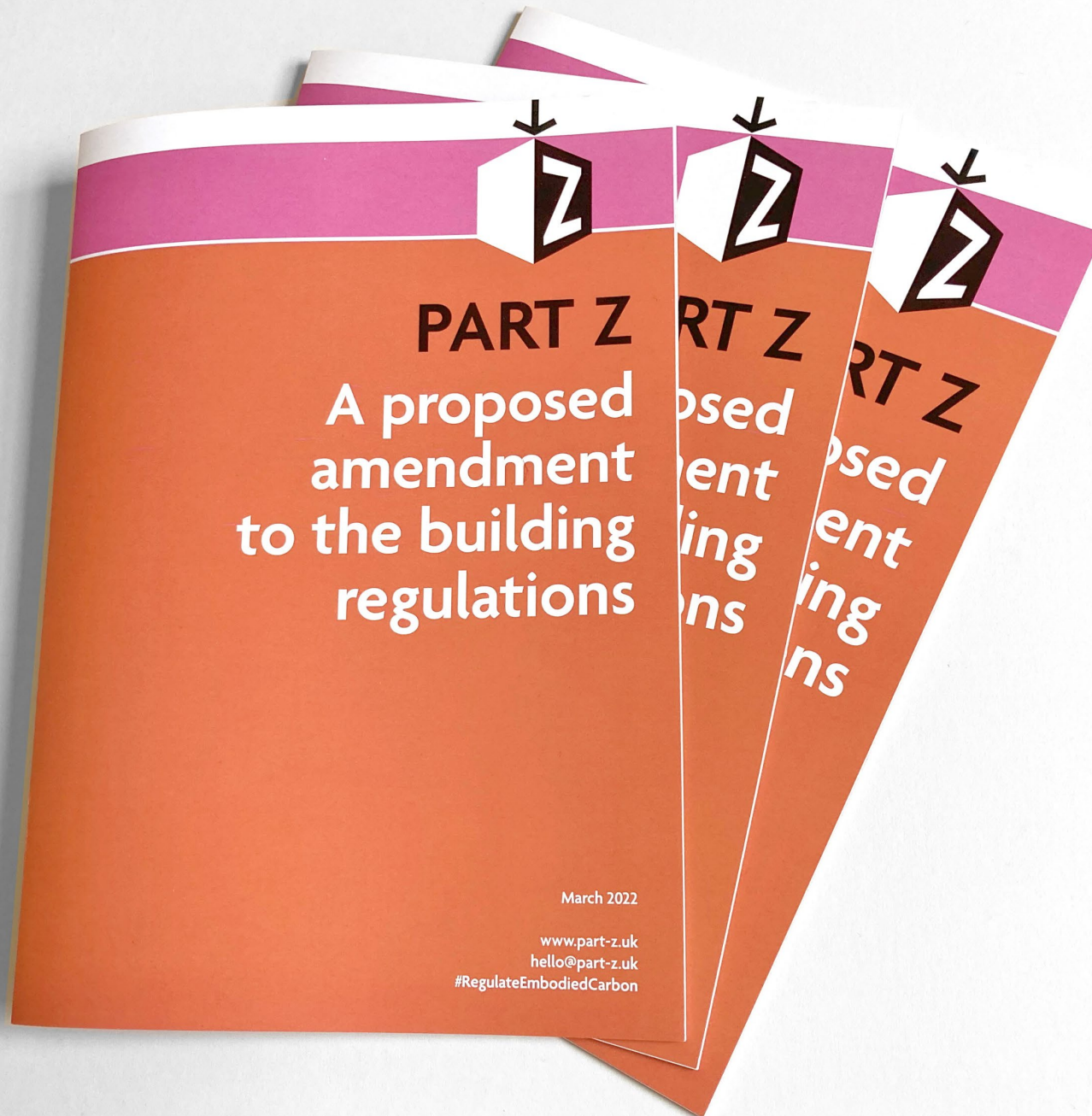
2. BUDGET AND TIMELINE

- 2.1 The maximum budget for the contract will be £250,000 (exc. VAT). Within that budget, the Authority intends that up to £50,000 (exc. VAT) will fund the call-off elements (see para 1.4).
- 2.2 The contract is likely to begin in March 2023 and run until March 2024.

Ongoing DLUHC research

Recruited consultants to deliver 6
outputs staged across FY23/24
Q1-Q4

AECOM



Part Z

Industry led proposed amendment to Building Regulations in England & Wales and suggested document for approval



The Part Z authors



Will Arnold
Low-carbon structures



Tim den Dekker
Net zero architecture



Dr Jannik Gieseke
International policy



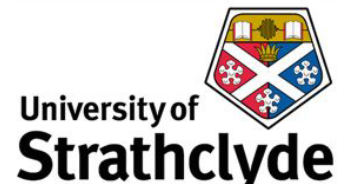
Dr Julie Godefroy
Environmental design



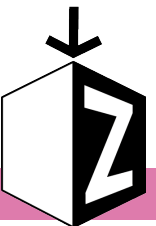
Simon Sturgis
Whole life carbon

IStruct 

**Feilden
Clegg
Bradley
Studios**



**targeting
zero**



Further support



Tom Bunn
Low-carbon structures
Website

ARUP



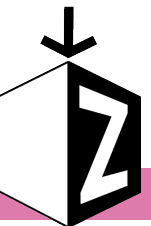
Jenny Stephens
Comms

Feilden
Clegg
Bradley
Studios



Ludovica Pototschnig
Low-carbon structures
Website, blog

ARUP



Amendment to Schedule 1 of the Building Regulations (2010)

Requirement	Limits on application:
PART Z WHOLE LIFE CARBON	
Z1 Carbon assessment Z1. Whole life carbon emissions shall be assessed and reported for the building and any other parts of the project where Building Regulations apply.	Requirements Z1 and Z2 only apply to projects with a gross internal area of more than [1000]m ² , or that create more than [10no.] dwellings.
Z2 Carbon efficiency Z2. Reasonable provision shall be made for the minimisation of whole life carbon emissions by: (a) Minimising upfront embodied carbon; and (b) Where an item provides whole life carbon benefit, this is taken into account.	Requirement Z1 will apply to buildings other than dwellings from [1 January 2023], and dwellings from [1 January 2025]. Requirement Z2 will apply to all buildings from [1 January 2027].



An industry-proposed amendment to The Building Regulations 2010

Whole life carbon

INDUSTRY-PROPOSED DOCUMENT

Z

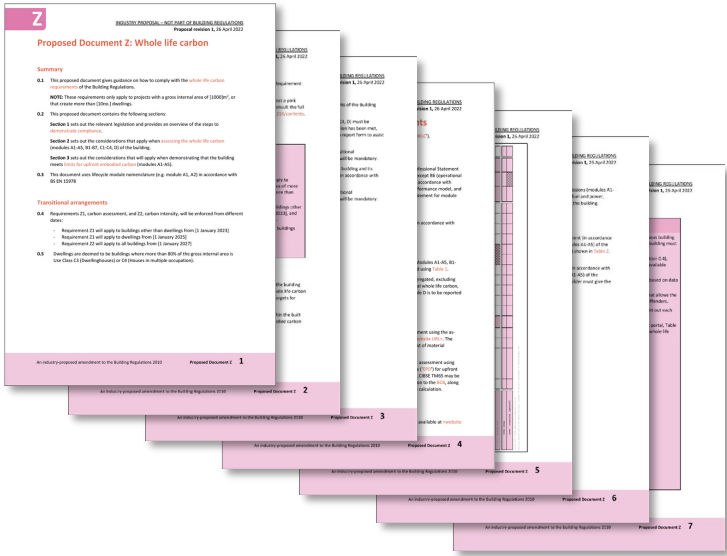
Z1 Carbon assessments
Z2 Carbon intensity

Disclaimer: This document is not part of the Building Regulations. It has been produced by and in conjunction with the construction industry as proof of concept in order to demonstrate one way in which embodied carbon could be introduced into UK regulation. For accompanying commentary on this document, visit www.part-z.uk, or contact hello@part-z.uk

Proposal revision 1
26 April 2022

A proposal from the construction industry

Proposed Document Z





Industry support for the regulation of embodied carbon

We are grateful to the following companies for sharing the statements below so far:

[abrdn Investments](#) | [AESG](#) | [Allford Hall Monaghan Morris](#) | [Allies & Morrison](#) | [Arcadis](#) | [Arup](#) | [Atelier Ten](#) | [Atkins Limited](#) | [Baily Garner](#) | [BAM Construct UK](#) | [BakerHicks](#) | [Barratt Developments](#) | [BDP](#) | [Bennetts Associates](#) | [B&K Structures Ltd](#) | [Black & White Engineering](#) | [Bouygues UK](#) | [British Land](#) | [Bruntwood](#) | [Buro Happold](#) | [Chartered Institute of Building](#) | [The Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers](#) | [Civic Engineers](#) | [The Concrete Centre](#) | [Construction Industry Council](#) | [Cundall](#) | [dRMM Architects](#) | [Elliott Wood](#) | [Elmhurst Energy](#) | [Expedition Engineering](#) | [Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios](#) | [FMDC Ltd](#) | [Goss Structural Ltd](#) | [Greencore Construction](#) | [Grosvenor Great Britain & Ireland](#) | [Hawkins\Brown](#) | [Haworth Tompkins](#) | [Heyne Tillett Steel](#) | [Hoare Lea](#) | [Hopkins Architects](#) | [Hydrock Consultants Ltd](#) | [Igloo](#) | [JLL](#) | [The Institution of Civil Engineers](#) | [The Institution of Structural Engineers](#) | [ISG](#) | [Laing O'Rourke](#) | [Landsec](#) | [Lendlease](#) | [Levitt Bernstein](#) | [The London Energy Transformation Initiative](#) | [Mace Group](#) | [Max Fordham LLP](#) | [Morgan Sindall Group](#) | [Mott Macdonald](#) | [Multiplex Europe](#) | [The National Building Specification \(NBS\)](#) | [Natwest](#) | [Off Site Homes Alliance \(OSHA\)](#) | [Perkins & Will](#) | [Price & Myers](#) | [Ramboll](#) | [Ridge and Partners LLP](#) | [The Royal Institute of British Architects](#) | [Royal London Asset Management](#) | [The Royal Town Planning Institute](#) | [RPS Group PLC](#) | [Sheppard Robson](#) | [Sir Robert McAlpine](#) | [Skidmore, Owings & Merrill \(SOM\)](#) | [Stanhope PLC](#) | [Stanton Williams](#) | [The Steel Construction Institute](#) | [Stora Enso](#) | [The Structural Timber Association](#) | [Sweco](#) | [Thakeham Group](#) | [Thornton Tomasetti](#) | [Timber Development UK](#) | [tp bennett LLP](#) | [University College of Estate Management](#) | [Urban&Civic](#) | [Urban Splash](#) | [UKGBC](#) | [Walsh](#) | [Wagh Thistleton Architects](#) | [White Arkitekter](#) | [WilkinsonEyre](#) | [Willmott Dixon](#) | [WSP-UK](#) ...and 98 more!



Barratt Developments “welcome regulation to mandate the reporting of whole life carbon, leading to the eventual introduction of embodied carbon limits in construction”

“**JLL** supports amendments to Building Regulations requiring assessment of whole life carbon emissions and limitation of embodied carbon emissions”

“**abrdn** Investments are supportive of the regulation of embodied carbon.”

“**Royal London Asset Management** endorses the concept of regulation that mandates the reporting of – and sets limits on – embodied carbon emissions in the built environment.”

“**Stanhope** fully supports the principle of regulating upfront embodied carbon in construction.”

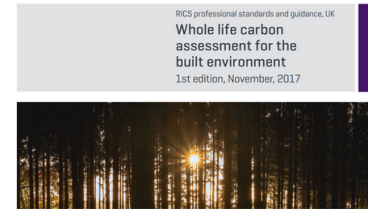
“**Landsec** [...] fully supports these assessments becoming a legal requirement as part of Building Regulations.”

Inform, educate & debate

Why Part Z references the RICS Professional Statement

The RICS PS (2017) is the only UK-based WLCa guidance available for the interpretation and implementation of the framework put forward by EN 15978 and is widely used by industry professionals. The Part Z authors recommend that the UK Government standardise the use of the PS and identify key areas of development for its next revision.

[Read More](#)



Future Homes Hub releases implementation plan for WLC reduction in homes

The Future Homes Hub have launched their report "Embodied and Whole Life Carbon: 2023-2025 Implementation plan for the homebuilding industry". Amongst other measures, the report sets out the need for the homebuilding sector to implement a series of embodied carbon related actions over the next three years. The report calls for mainstream or regulated disclosure of whole life carbon on housing projects from 2025 – which is aligned with the regulation that the Part Z proposals have been calling for.

[Read More](#)



Housebuilders and the proposed Part Z

The Part Z authors have over the past few months spoken with housebuilders of all sizes to discuss the Part Z proposals. All of the housebuilders we met were supportive of the proposed Part Z, calling for the level playing field that will benefit all in the industry. This blog is a summary of our conversations around concerns raised by housebuilders.

[Read More](#)



Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities



RTPI
Royal Town Planning Institute

Planning for Part Z

The Part Z authors have been in conversation with Richard Blyth, Head of Policy at the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI), to better understand what role planners and the planning process could play in relation to Part Z and whole life carbon.

[Read More](#)



AJ100 Panel Discussion:
Getting Started with Embodied Carbon

UK Construction Week



futurebuild
the future of the built environment

Guerrilla Tactics

RIBA's creative business conference for small and medium sized architectural practices

SUPPLY CHAIN SUSTAINABILITY

SCHOOL



TIMBER DEVELOPMENT UK



meshwork
together for a better built environment

Press coverage



BISNOW



**Property
Week**

pbctoday

**de
zeen**
design
magazine



**Building
Design.**

RIBA
The RIBA Journal
J

ENDS
REPORT

**BUILDING DESIGN &
CONSTRUCTION**
THE CHOICE OF INDUSTRY PROFESSIONALS

THEFIFTHSTATE **V** OUR PLANET
OUR REAL ESTATE

**CONSTRUCTION
MANAGEMENT**
Brought to you by CIOB

Engaging with Parliament

Environmental Audit Committee

Wednesday 17 November 2021 Meeting started at 1.17pm, ended 3.29pm



Environmental Audit Committee

Wednesday 20 October 2021 Meeting started at 2.26pm, ended 4.29pm



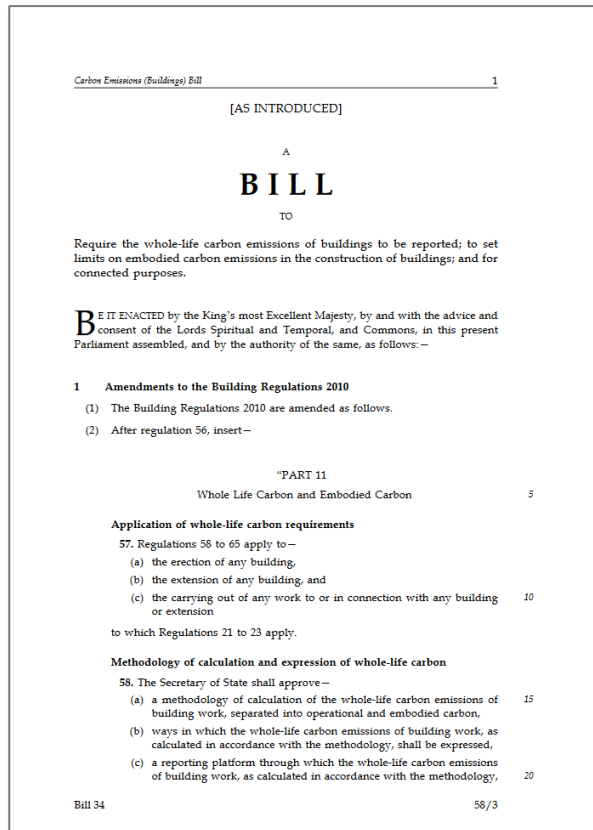
Carbon Emissions (Buildings) Bill

- UK Parliament Private Members' Bill *“to require the whole-life carbon emissions of buildings to be reported; to set limits on embodied carbon emissions in the construction of buildings; and for connected purposes.”*
- Private members bill with support from 4 parties introduced following Part Z proposals
- 2022 bill withdrawn before 2nd reading due to promotion of lead sponsor in DLUHC



Carbon Emissions (Buildings) Bill – take 2

- Second take sponsored by Jerome Mayhew (Conservative)
- 2nd reading on 25/11/22



<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3211>

Amendment 484 to the Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill

UK Parliament

Hansard

UK Parliament > Hansard > Lords: 27 March 2023 > Lords Chamber > Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill

Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill

Volume 829: debated on Monday 27 March 2023

Download text

Lord Ravensdale >
(CB)

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For a long time, operational carbon emissions have accounted for the majority of emissions from buildings. However, with decarbonisation of the grid, operational carbon has reduced, and is set to continue, particularly with the introduction of electric heating. As a result, emissions in construction contribute an increasing proportion of the whole. Buildings, with one study indicating that over two-thirds of a low-energy building's emissions are embodied.

UK embodied carbon emissions represent some 50 million tonnes of emissions, which is equivalent to aviation and shipping combined—a huge quantity of emissions that is continuing to increase in recent years. We think of the huge effort that is going into decarbonising aviation and shipping: we have a sustainable aviation fuels plan, jet zero, and a plan for emission-free shipping based on ammonia and hydrogen. But for embodied carbon, the place is sparse—although industry is making some good progress in reducing emissions.

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Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill

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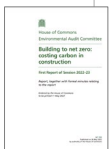
HL Bill 84

58/3



**Debated in the House of Lords
on 27 March 2023**

Part Z timeline



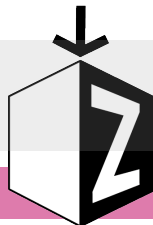
DLUHC
proposed
consultation



Part Z
Proposed
mandatory
WLC reporting



Part Z
Proposed limits
on upfront
Embodied
Carbon

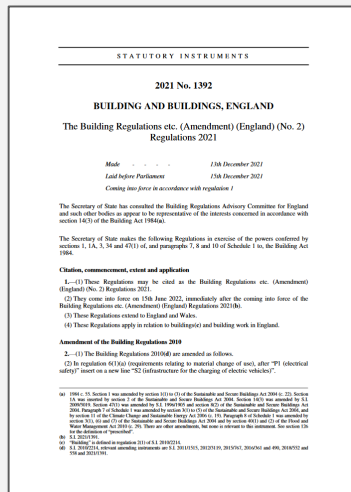


Three (or more!) implementation mechanisms

1

Secretary of State Instruction

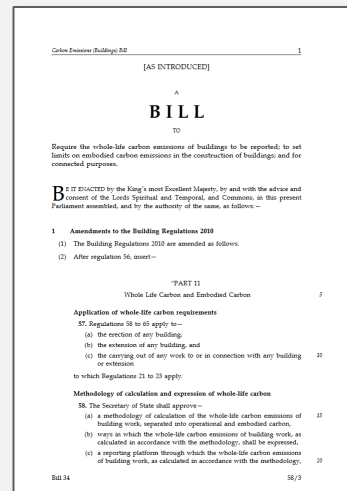
to update Building Regulations
(Statutory Instrument)



2

Independent legislation

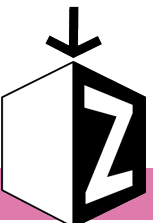
e.g. Private Member's Bill:
"Carbon Emissions
(Buildings) Bill"



3

Added to other legislation

e.g. Future Homes (and
Buildings) Standard



WHERE NEXT?

Trends to watch

1. More science based targets
2. More mainstream disclosure
3. Moves towards regulation

Trends to watch

1. More science based targets
2. More mainstream disclosure
3. Moves towards regulation

What is the Science Based Targets initiative?

“The Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) is a global body enabling businesses to set ambitious emissions reductions targets in line with the latest climate science.”



SCIENCE
BASED
TARGETS

PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS



WORLD
RESOURCES
INSTITUTE



IN COLLABORATION WITH

WE MEAN
BUSINESS

Five step process



COMMIT

Submit a letter establishing your intent to set a science-based target



DEVELOP

Work on an emissions reduction target in line with the SBTi's criteria



SUBMIT

Present your target to the SBTi for official validation



COMMUNICATE

Announce your target and inform your stakeholders



DISCLOSE

Report company-wide emissions and progress against targets on an annual basis

Uptake of Science Based Targets





BUILDINGS SECTOR SCIENCE BASED TARGET SETTING GUIDANCE

Version 1.5 - **DRAFT**

May 15, 2023

Current consultation

Draft guidance for sector out for consultation with draft buildings target setting tool until 16th July

UKNZCBS Consultation



UK Net Zero Carbon Buildings Standard

Technical Update & Consultation

14 June 2023



Trends to watch

1. More science based targets
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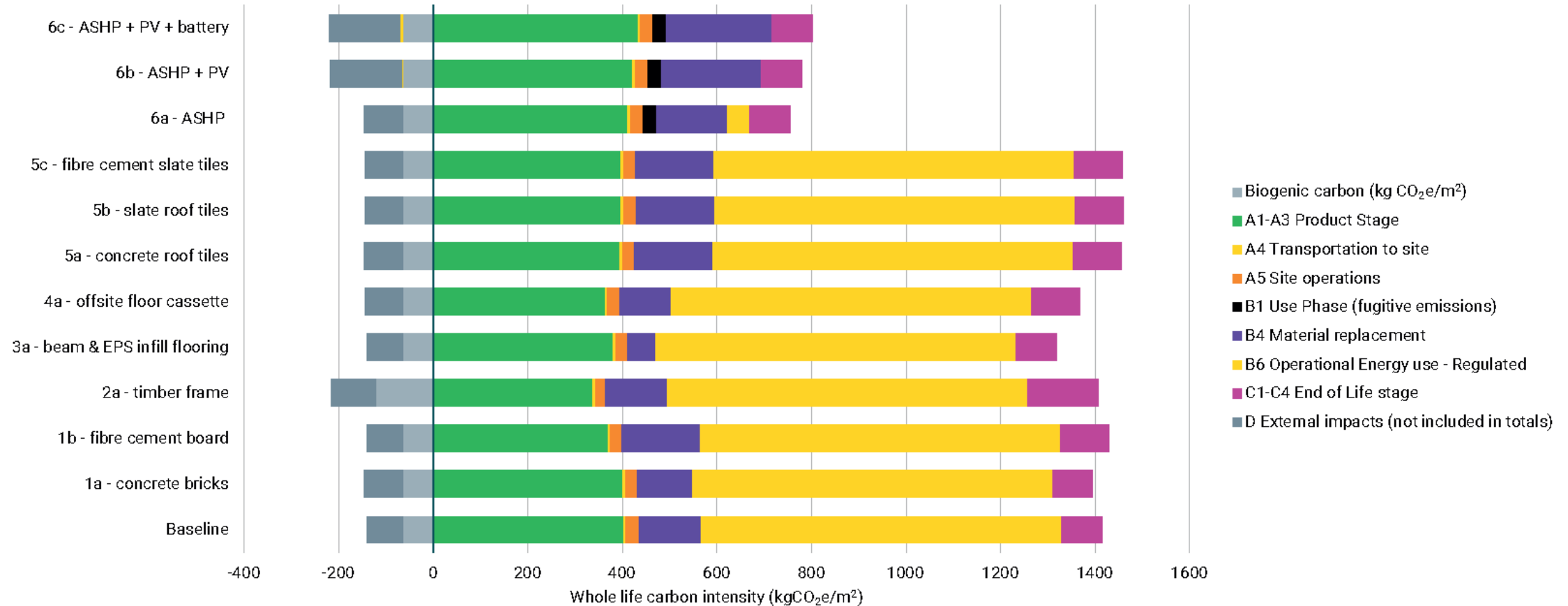
Future Homes Hub plan



**Embodied and
Whole Life Carbon:**
2023-2025
Implementation plan for
the homebuilding industry

January 2023

Future Homes Hub scenarios



Future Homes Hub distribution

Figure D4 – Upfront carbon intensity by construction system within the phase 1 dataset

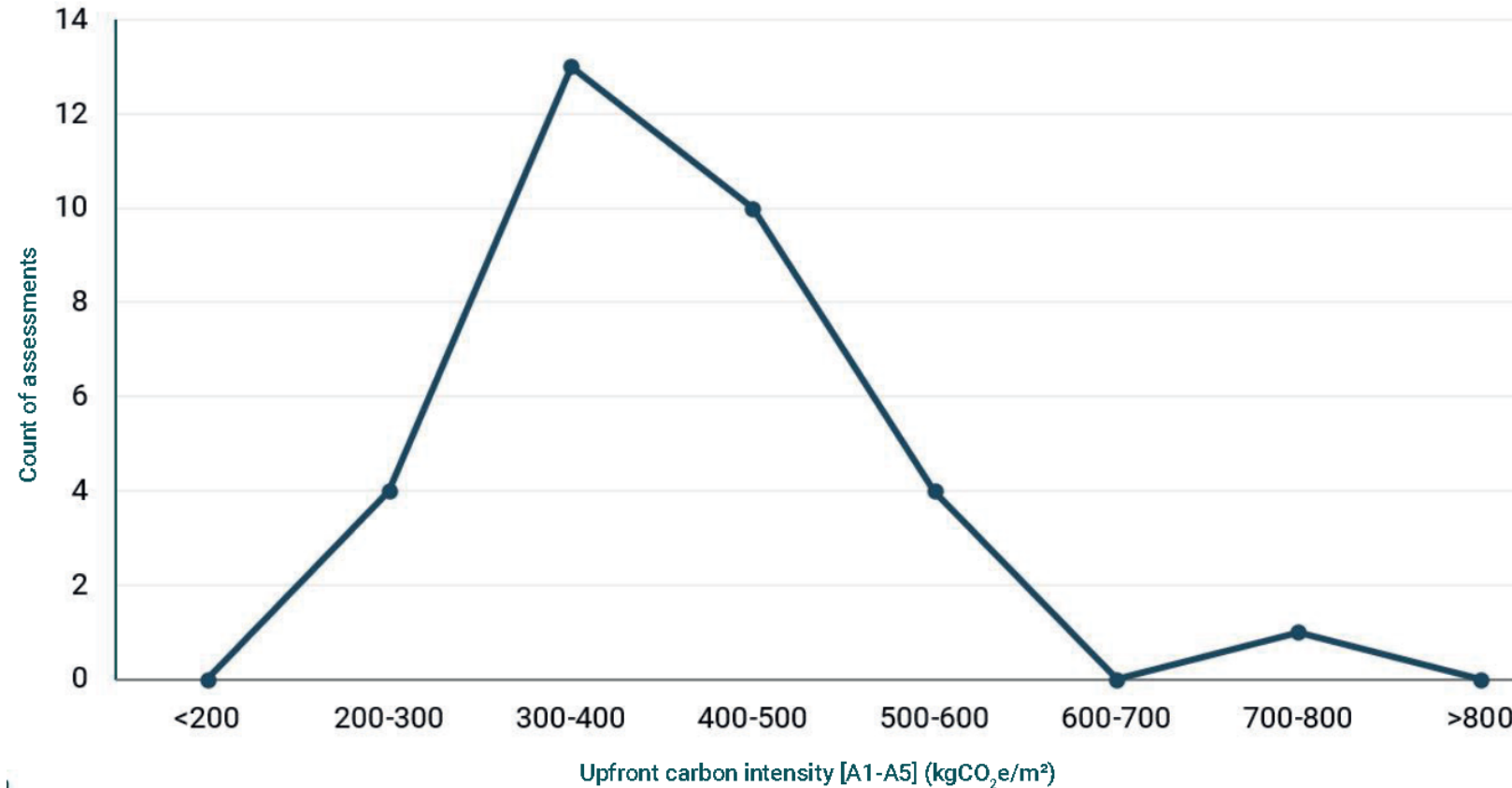
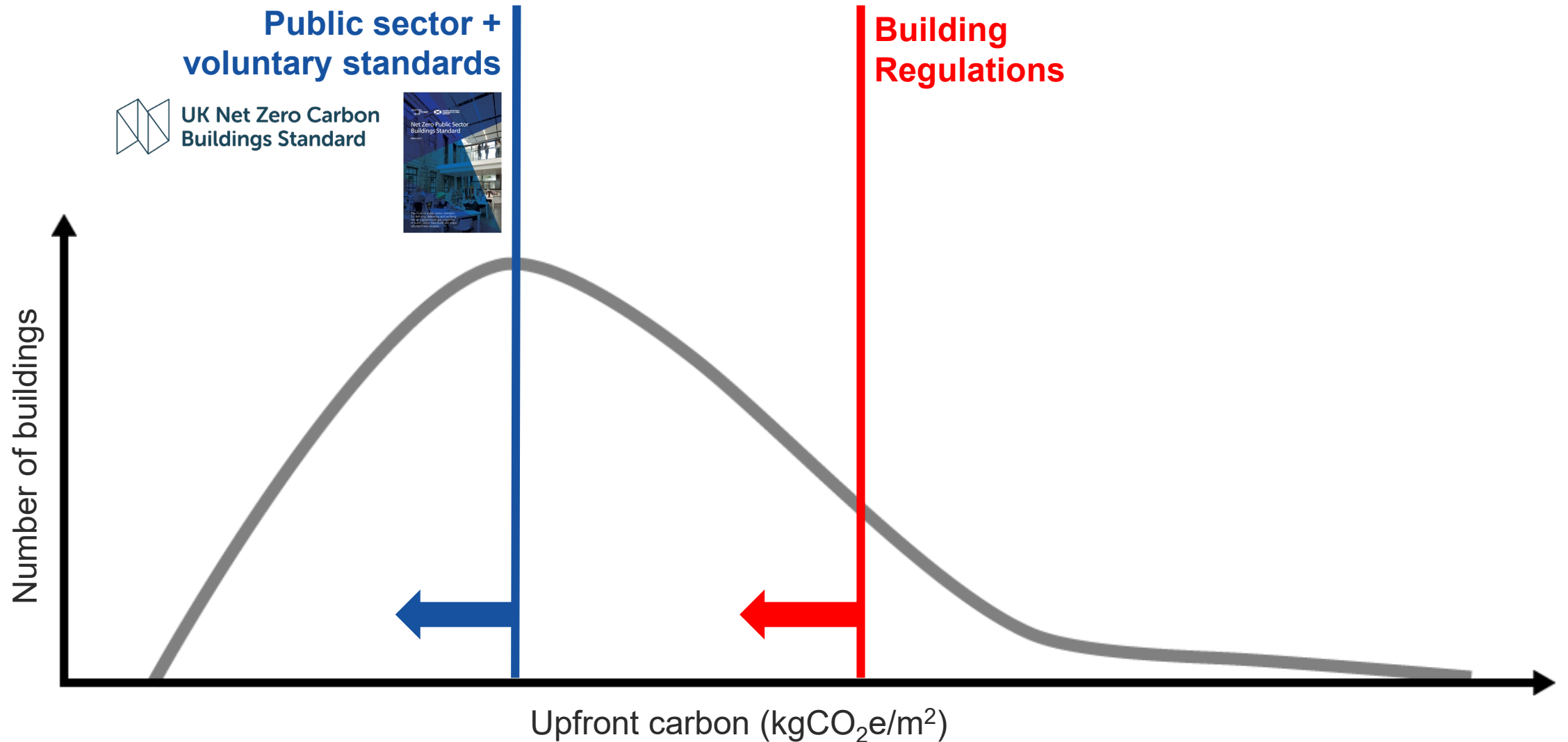


Figure D5 – Distribution of upfront carbon assessment outcomes within the phase 1 dataset

Trends to watch

1. More science based targets
2. More mainstream disclosure
3. Moves towards regulation

Typical distribution & suggested response





Regulating Embodied Carbon in Scotland's Buildings

Prepared by: Jim Hart, Jannik Gieseke, Francesco Pomponi & Ruth Saint

Date: 31 March 2022

March 2022 report

- Report sets out **proposals for developing regulation of embodied carbon in Scotland's buildings**
- Reviews equivalent policies in other nations
- Considers the who, what, where, why & how of implementing regulations in Scotland
- Includes suggested timeline & programme of work

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HL Bill 84

58/3



**Debated in the House of Lords
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WHAT SHOULD I BE TEACHING?

Key elements

1. Assessment
 2. Familiarity with EPD
 3. Management
 4. Communication
- + *design options etc...*

ANY QUESTIONS?