

# CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT RURAL ENGLAND SOUTH YORKSHIRE

## FRIENDS OF THE PEAK DISTRICT

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENTS POLICY

National planning policy within Planning Policy Statement 1 (*Delivering Sustainable Development*) states that “*sustainability is the core principle underpinning planning.*” It defines sustainable development as development that “*meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs*” and sets out the following four aims of sustainable development:

- Social progress
- Effective protection of the environment
- Prudent use of natural resources
- Maintenance of a stable economic growth.

These aims have been incorporated into all the revised Planning Policy Statements, adopted and emerging Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Frameworks.

CPRE SY and FPD support the Government’s aim of sustainable development and its position at the core of planning policy.

To ensure sustainable development principles and practices are more widely utilised, CPRE SY and FPD will assess and comment upon the sustainability of all major developments and emerging planning policies (in accordance with our planning policy).

This approach will look beyond greenhouse gas emissions and adapting to climate change. CPRE SY and FPD will also consider the sustainable use of other natural resources including soil, water and minerals.

CPRE SY and FPD’s objectives are to ensure developments are:

- located in sustainable locations;
- incorporate sustainable construction methods;
- include sustainable design techniques; and/or
- appropriate renewable energy technologies

#### Location

CPRE SY and FPD will continue to support prioritisation of brownfield sites, provided they are in sustainable locations and development does not threaten valued biodiversity or ‘re-greened’ sites (‘urban wildscapes’).

Where insufficient brownfield sites exist to meet proven need, CPRE SY and FPD will, depending on the environmental impacts and landscape capacity, support the development of sustainable greenfield sites.

### Construction

Where appropriate CPRE SY and FPD will, in assessing the broader impact of proposed developments and emerging policies, encourage the use or specification of:

- recycled materials during construction, including on-site demolition waste;
- materials from sustainable sources;
- locally sourced materials; and
- materials which do not require high energy inputs.

### Sustainable Design

CPRE SY and FPD will encourage development designs and emerging policies which:

- reduce energy/carbon use (including site and/or building orientation, insulation and energy efficiency);
- reduce water consumption;
- incorporate grey water recycling, rain water collection and Sustainable Urban Drainage (SUDs) systems; and
- assist recycling and composting initiatives.

### Renewable Energy

Depending on the natural resources available and their location, CPRE SY and FPD will encourage the:

- inclusion of on-site renewable energy generation.

Where developments cannot utilise renewable energy technologies CPRE SY and FPD will seek equivalent energy/carbon savings through design (see Sustainable Design above).

### Sustainable Design Assessments

Depending on the type of development CPRE SY and FPD will encourage developers to achieve as high a standard as possible against the following assessments (see Appendix A for further details):

- Code for Sustainable Homes
- BREEAM
- Energy Performance Certificate

## **APPENDIX A**

### **Housing and the Code for Sustainable Homes**

From 1 May 2008 all new homes will be rated against the Government's Code for Sustainable Homes. The code uses a 1-6 star rating system and the assessment includes energy and emissions, water, materials, surface water run off, waste, pollution, health and wellbeing, management and ecology. Each property's rating will be recorded in a Home Information Pack (HIP).

Whilst assessment against the code is mandatory, there is no requirement for open market housing to reach a specific code rating (apart from social housing which must reach code 3).

### **BREEAM – Building Research Establishment Environment Assessment**

#### **Method**

BREEAM is designed to help developers understand and mitigate the environmental impacts of the developments they design and build.

BREEAM assesses buildings against set criteria and provides an overall score which will fall within a band providing either a; PASS, GOOD, VERY GOOD, EXCELLENT or OUTSTANDING rating.

#### **Energy Performance Certificate**

Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs) are now required for all homes, commercial, and public buildings when built, rented or sold.

The certificate records how energy efficient a building is and provides A-G ratings. These are similar to the labels now provided with domestic appliances such as refrigerators and washing machines.

An EPC is always accompanied by a recommendation report that lists cost effective and other measures to improve the energy rating, such as low and zero carbon generating systems.

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