

# Councillors briefing note- Future Homes and Building Standard



LETI are a group of 1000+ construction experts and built environment professionals, working together to put the UK on the path to a zero carbon future. If you are not familiar with our work yet, we invite you to visit our [website](#) to find out more about us.

The Local Authority you are representing may have declared a Climate Emergency in 2019 and subsequently published a Climate Action Plan to reduce their carbon emissions and reach their own net zero carbon targets.

As you may know, the built environment is directly responsible for 25% of the overall carbon emissions in the UK. Today, we are calling upon you to make an active contribution to critically reduce the carbon footprint of future homes and deliver resilient, energy efficient, healthy and affordable housing for your ward by supporting your Local Authority in responding to the on-going DLHUC and DESNEZ consultation on the Future Homes (Standards) and Future Building Standards.

LETI believes that by 2030 all new buildings need to be Net Zero Carbon in operation, which means that by 2025 all new buildings must be designed to meet Net Zero. To achieve this we need a clear plan to measure compliance with this target at design stage in a way that informs good building design.

To ensure ALL new buildings meet Net Zero Carbon, the Future Homes Standard (FHS) and Future Buildings Standard (FBS) need to become legislative drivers. There are a number of items in the consultation which need to be amended for those regulations to become such drivers. These are summarised in the following key messages:

1. The proposals are not compatible with achieving Net Zero in operation: they do not use Energy Use Intensity as a key metric and do not address the performance gap
2. Fabric performance should be better than Part L 2021 to reduce energy use and residents' bills
3. On-site renewable energy generation (PVs) should be encouraged
4. Embodied and Whole Life Carbon should be addressed
5. Developers should not be allowed to 'opt-out' of meeting Part L Regulations
6. Achieving net zero under these proposals will cost the country more
7. The consultation is not transparent on decision making lacks an evidence base

If the consultation does not meet these targets, the final price will be paid by your residents. Your immediate action is required to ensure more residents do not face fuel poverty.

**Support your Local Authority by submitting their response to the consultation.**

LETI has prepared a number of open source materials which draws on detailed technical evidence meticulously collected amongst industry stakeholders for over five years. The consultation closes on Wednesday 27th of March so endorsing your council's response is urgently needed. (link to consultation toolkit)

For more information please go to [www.leti.uk/FHS](http://www.leti.uk/FHS)

Together, we can change regulatory standards to secure a better built environment for all.