

## **GREEN CONSTRUCTION BOARD TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The Green Construction Board is a consultative forum for Government and the UK design, construction and property industry in order to ensure a sustained high level conversation and to develop and implement a long term strategic framework for the promotion of innovation and sustainable growth. The Board owns, and will monitor implementation and build on, the joint Government / industry Action Plan contained in the Government's response to the Low Carbon Construction Innovation and Growth Team report ("the Action Plan").

The sustainability challenge for firms is threefold: to green their own operations, to pull green practices through their supply chains and to provide, or require, better buildings and infrastructure to facilitate better sustainability performance across the economy. This threefold challenge sits in the context of the need to win peoples' hearts and minds – both in the industry and more widely. In this context the Green Construction Board exists to:-

- Provide co-ordinated leadership across Government and industry on the issues contained in the Action Plan
- Monitor the delivery of the joint Government and industry action plan and, through its development, ensure it remains relevant and appropriate
- Consider, and advise on potential policy implications of, recommendations from the final report of the Low Carbon Construction Innovation and Growth Team
- Act as a sounding board for government departments for new or challenging green construction issues to facilitate effective policy making and better informed commercial decisions
- Advise on the implementation of policies related to green construction, identifying sector specific implications and consequences
- Direct attention of the industry and Government to the need for new knowledge or research in pursuit of the low carbon or sustainability agendas
- Promote UK achievements in the field of green construction and provide a strong public voice on its wider value to the economy, to society and to the environment

In addition, the Board will address any matters agreed by the Co-Chairs.

### **Mode of operation**

The Green Construction Board will be chaired jointly by the Minister of State for Business and Enterprise and by a senior industry figure. Meetings of the main Board will be held 4 times a year.

The Board will have close links with Government Construction Board and the Green Economy Council.

It will be necessary to devolve detailed work to ad hoc sub-committees. The Chairmen of these sub-committees will be agreed by the Board. Terms of Reference will be agreed by the Board.

The Board will publish agreed papers on actions arising from the Action Plan, the Strategy for Sustainable Construction, both as periodically updated by the Board, and on new developments or issues in the UK construction industry.

The Secretariat functions will be shared by the Construction Sector Team in BIS and the industry.

### **Membership**

Members will be senior industry and government representatives and others with expertise in appropriate fields, invited to join on a voluntary basis by the joint Chairs.

These will not be public or Ministerial appointments that fall within the scope of the Code of Public Appointments, though members will be expected to follow the principles of the Code of Conduct for Board Members of Public Bodies as appropriate. No payment of fees will be required for the services or advice provided. Members will bring with them authority, resource and commitment to the work of the Green Construction Board.

Relevant Government Departments will be represented at senior official level as required.

### **Scope**

The Green Construction Board's remit will cover all aspects of the construction, property and infrastructure management supply chain – from raw material extraction through to the use of infrastructure and buildings (insofar as that can be influenced by building design, construction and commissioning). It will look specifically at measures the industry takes to improve the sustainability of its own practices throughout the supply chain, and at propositions it develops for customers with the same objective.

Work on the Government's role as a customer of the industry is led by the Government Construction Board which is chaired by the Government's Chief Construction Adviser. The Chief Construction Adviser will be a member of the Green Construction Board.

The Green Construction Board will work in close partnership with key industry bodies including the Strategic Forum for Construction, the UK Green Building Council and the CBI Construction Council. Appropriate links will be developed and maintained by the Secretariat.

**Green Construction Board Secretariat, October 2011**

**URN 12/590**