Code for Sustainable Homes:
Cumulative and Quarterly Data for England, Wales and Northern Ireland up to end of June 2014

- There were 169,699 post construction stage certificates and 258,206 design stage certificates issued up to 30th June 2014.

- 30% of homes with post construction certificates and 43% of those with design stage certificates have been built for the private sector. 70% of homes with post construction certificates and 57% of those with design stage certificates have been built for the public sector.

- Between April 2007 and June 2014, 187,881 dwellings at the design stage received a three star rating and 64,232 dwellings received a four star rating. Between April 2007 and June 2014, 131,555 dwellings at post-construction stage received a three star rating and 34,340 dwellings received a four star rating.

- The majority of the certificates issued since April 2007 at design stage (73%) and at post construction stage (78%) have been awarded at three star rating.

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This is the seventeenth in the series of quarterly Statistical Releases dedicated to the publication of official statistics on the number of homes which meet the standards set out in the Code for Sustainable Homes (the Code) in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. It covers the period up to the April-June quarter 2014. There are no figures for Scotland because Code certificates are not issued in Scotland.

Code for Sustainable Homes

Statistics relating to the Code for Sustainable Homes (the Code) show the number of dwellings that have been certified to the standards set out in the Code Technical Guide, in which local authority area, at which Code level and whether the homes are registered as private or public sector homes. Code certificates are issued at two stages, the design stage (early in the design and build process) and post construction stage (when the home is completed or nearing completion).
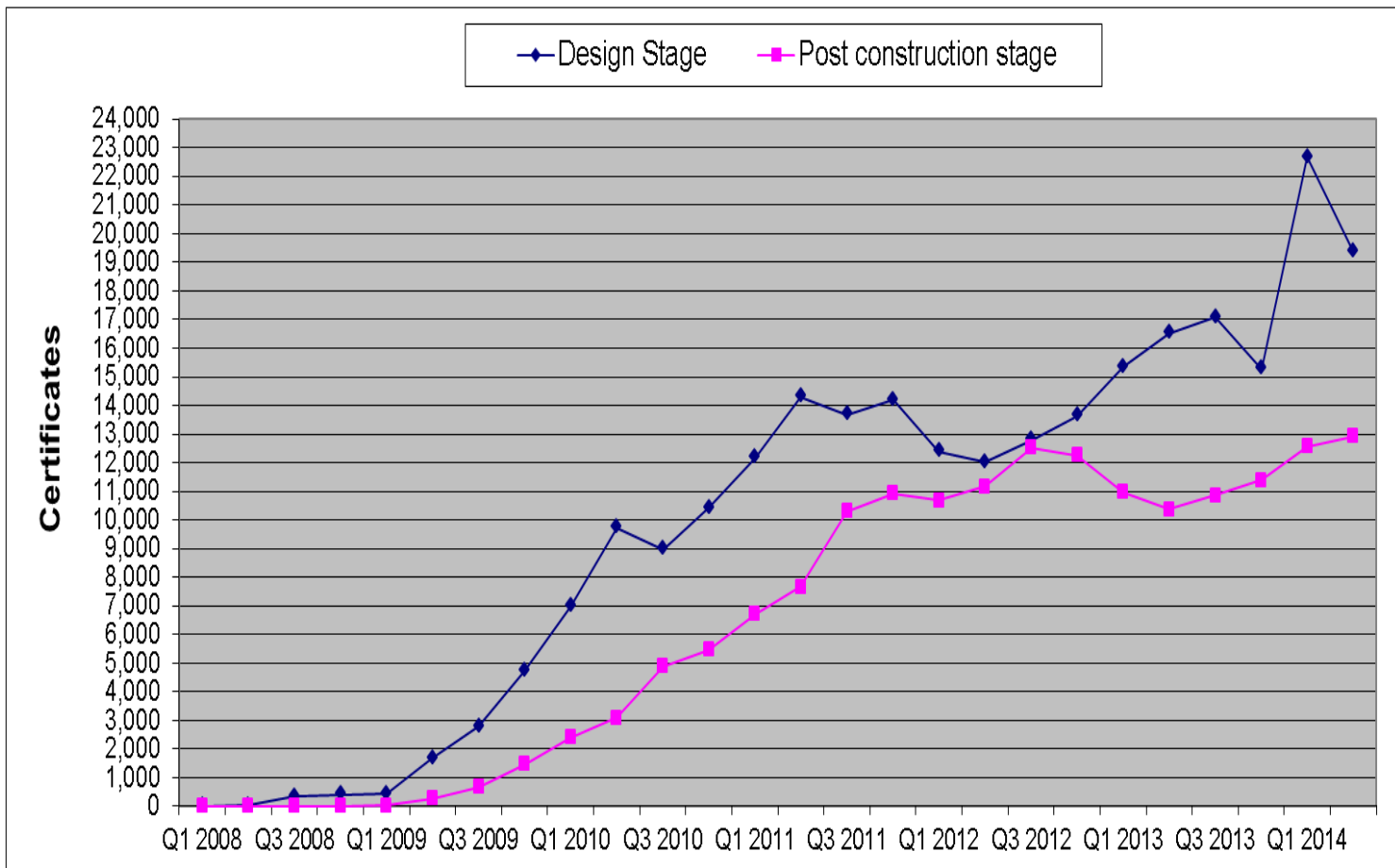
The Code takes a whole house approach and measures the sustainability of a dwelling against nine different categories: energy/carbon; water; waste; materials; surface water run-off; and health and well being, which have mandatory performance standards; and pollution; ecology; and management. To achieve the levels of the Code, a number of points must be accumulated across all categories and the mandatory requirements must be met. Depending on the number of points gathered, a star rating is then awarded (one star being the lowest achievable level and six stars incorporating zero carbon). If a dwelling does not achieve the mandatory standards set out in the Technical Guide and/or does not reach the minimum score for a one star rating, it will receive a certificate with no stars. The assessment and certification of Code homes is undertaken by the 1176 assessors who are licensed by BRE Global Ltd, Stroma Accreditation Ltd and RDL Ltd.

The key points

- The Code came into operation in April 2007. It can take, on average, 18 months to two years to design and build a Code home. As a result the first homes built to the Code standard were not awarded a certificate until 2008. Figure 1 (overleaf) shows the general quarterly trend in the number of certificates issued since then.

- Between April 2007 and the end of June 2014, 187,881 dwellings have received a three star rating at the design stage and 64,232 dwellings have received a four star rating.

- Between April 2007 and the end of June 2014, 131,555 dwellings have received a three star rating at post-construction stage and 34,340 dwellings have received a four star rating.

- A total of 73% of the certificates at design stage and 78% of those at post-construction stage have been awarded at Code level 3 since April 2007.

Figure 1: Number of design stage and post construction stage certificates issued each

quarter in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, up to and including the April – June quarter 2014

Trends

This publication updates the February 2014 release by incorporating data for April, May and June 2014 . Information included is:

- the number of certificates issued in each local authority area;

- the proportion of certificates issued for developments registered by the Code assessor as private sector or public sector.

Breakdown by local authority

The statistics show that Code certificates have been issued in the majority of local authority areas across England as well as in most authorities in Wales and Northern Ireland. The largest total number of design and post construction Code certificates (combined) in the last quarter were issued in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets, followed by the London Borough of Newham.

There were 1,482 design stage and 1,104 post construction certificates where the Code assessor

did not register the local authority or region when completing the assessment. These are listed as 'unknown'.

Breakdown between public and private sector certificates

The total number of certificates issued at Design Stage up to the end of June 2014 in England, Wales and Northern Ireland was 257,936 of which 110,738 (43%) were registered as private sector homes and 147,198 (57%) were public sector homes. At Post Construction Stage, there were 169,699 certificates issued, of which 51,156 (30%) homes were registered as private sector and the remainder, 118,543 (70%) were registered as public sector.

Of the total number of Code level 3 homes at Design Stage up to the end of June 2014, 41% were built for the private sector and 59% for the public sector. At Code 3, Post Construction Stage, 29% were built for the private sector and 61% for the public sector.

Of the total number of Code level 4 homes at Design Stage, up to the end of June 2014, 49% were built by the private sector and 51% for the public sector. At Post Construction Stage, 35% were built by the private sector and 65% for the public sector.

Housing Standards Review

The Government consulted last year on a [review of building regulations and housing standards](#). T[he Prime Minister announced the strategic outcome of the Review in January.](#) A more detailed outcome was made public in a [Written Ministerial Statement](#) and associated [Annex](#) on 13th March 2014. The WMS states that the Code will be wound down to coincide with the implementation of the Review proposals from the end of the year, and that a consultation on the replacement technical documents will take place during this summer.

Data collection

Code for Sustainable homes:

Data for each dwelling assessed under the Code are collected by one of three Code Service Providers of the scheme (BRE Global Ltd, Stroma Accreditation Ltd and RDL Ltd). Assessment is a two stage process - design and post construction stage and is carried out by licensed Code assessors. Assessors submit their reports to the Code Service Provider and after quality assurance checks have been made certificates are issued by the Code Service Provider.

Information regarding each certified dwelling is taken from the Code Service Provider's databases and collated for the Department for Communities and Local Government by BRE Global Ltd on a monthly basis.

Strengths and weaknesses of the data

Code for Sustainable homes:

The three current Code Service Providers operate schemes to train and license assessors through UKAS accredited procedures.

The data collected by Code Service Providers are based on the certificates issued, which are then reported to the Department for Communities and Local Government on a monthly basis. This process is audited by UKAS under certification standards EN 45011 and/or ISO 17024.

Revisions policy

This policy has been developed in accordance with the UK Statistics Authority Code of Practice for Official Statistics and the Department for Communities and Local Government Revisions Policy.[1] There are two types of revisions that the policy covers.

Non-Scheduled Revisions

Where a substantial error has occurred as a result of the compilation, imputation or dissemination process, the statistical release, live tables and other accompanying releases will be updated with a correction notice as soon as is practical.

Scheduled Revisions

The next quarterly release will cover Code levels for the July – September Quarter 2014.

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[1] http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/corporate/statisticalnoticerevisionspolicy

Accompanying tables

Accompanying tables are available to download alongside this release:

Tables:

1a. Code for Sustainable Homes statistics: Number of Code certificates issued in month by stage of construction in England, Wales and Northern Ireland from March 2008
1b. Code for Sustainable Homes statistics: Number of Code certificates issued by sector to date in England, Wales and Northern Ireland from March 2008
1c. Code for Sustainable Homes statistics: Number of Code certificates issued by Local Authority to date in England, Wales and Northern Ireland from March 2008

Notes to the tables

The following conventions have been used in the tables:

.. Not available;
[p] Figure provisional and subject to revision;
[r] Revised from previous release.

Background notes

1. The statistics reported in this publication shows the number of dwellings that have been certified in England, Wales and Northern Ireland from March 2008 (quarterly) to the standards set out in the Code Technical Guide, in which local authority area, at which Code level and whether the homes are registered as private or public sector homes.

2. Figures in the accompanying tables are exact number of certificates issued.

3. Sources are shown at the foot of individual accompanying tables.

4. Official Statistics are produced to high professional standards set out in the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

5. The tables and charts accompanying this release are shown above in the 'Accompanying tables' section and are provided in Microsoft Excel format.

6. Details of Ministers and officials who receive pre-release access to the Communities and Local Government quarterly Code for Sustainable Homes release up to 24 hours before release can be found at:
    http://www.communities.gov.uk/corporate/researchandstatistics/statistics/nationalstatistics/

User consultation

Users' comments on any issues relating to this statistical release are welcomed and encouraged. Responses should be addressed to the "statistical enquiries" contact given in the "Enquiries" section below.

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