



#### Agenda:

- Welcome Martin Large
- Introduction to the Centre of Excellence Jonathan Layzell & Vicki March
- From SME to Top 25 House-Builder, Thakeham's Sustainability Journey Josie Cadwallader-Hughes
- Stonewater's Sustainability Journey Nicholas Harris
- Break
- Retrofit & New Build Standards Adam Masters & Marie Riordan
- Building a Circular (Social) Housing Economy Clare Rainsford
- Panel Session
- Close Nicholas Harris







#### Welcome Martin Large, Chair of Greenoak





# Introducing the Centre of Excellence

Jonathan Layzell, Chief Growth & Development Officer, Stonewater

Vicki March, Director of Development & Sustainability, Greenoak



## Target 2050

Climate Change Act sets out a target of 100% reduction in net carbon emissions by 2050.

- Rapid progress is needed, achievable by working together.
- Our Centre of Excellence means:
  - Building on existing expertise.
  - Learning from others, including through Thought Leadership.

DEMOS

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GREENGO

• Measuring and evaluating real life outcomes – highlighting the most effective route to net zero.

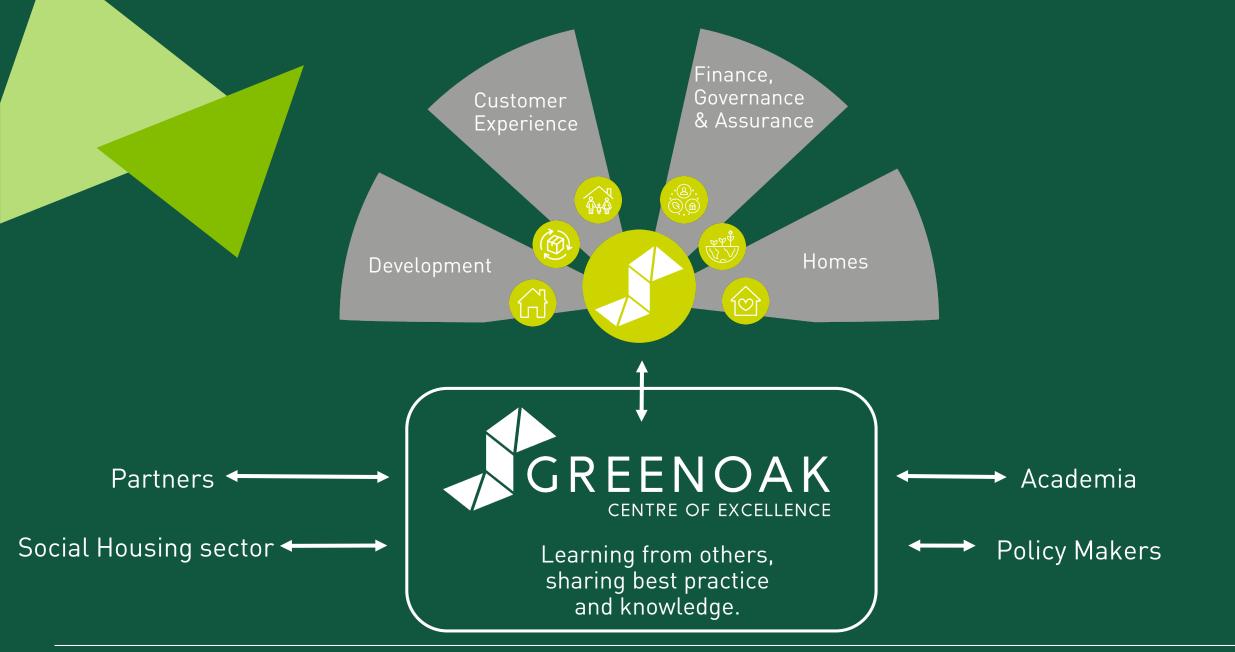


#### Stonewater's Sustainability Team













## Opportunities

# Social landlords are uniquely placed to learn from homes in management and customers.

Stonewater has:

- 36,000 homes under management.
- 78,000 customers to engage with, influence and learn from.
- A significant development programme.
- Significant influence with its supply chain.
- Ability to take positive action on ecology and biodiversity issues.
- Team of sustainability specialists.







## Challenges Ahead

#### How do we measure success?

- Science based real live vs. modelled.
- Carbon reduction what's the reality?
- Design and liveability fit for future needs & expectations?

#### What metrics should we use?

- EPCs fit for purpose?
- Affordability for customers and our business.
- Customer satisfaction.



## Structure

#### Learning

• Capture & evaluate learning from recent and current projects.

#### Training

• Ensure sustainability is embedded within the organisation.

#### **Publications and Events**

• Disseminate learning and learn from others via our website and events.

#### Customer Engagement

 Ensure our Customers are engaged and heard.







## Join us on the Journey

- Get involved.
- Watch the website
  - Blogs, reports, results as they happen.
- Attend events
  - Meaningful discussion about what does and doesn't work.
  - Webinars & workshops.
  - In-depth look at current issues.

www.stonewater.org/gcoe





From SME to Top 25 House-Builder, Thakeham's Sustainability Journey

Josie Cadwallader-Hughes, Sustainability Director, Thakeham





#### Stonewater's Sustainability Journey

Nicholas Harris, Chief Executive, Stonewater



#### Our Goal

Provide safe, warm, comfortable and affordable homes.





#### Stonewater

- Circa 36k homes: Torbay Eastbourne – Skipton.
- 800 colleagues.
- Loans of £1.2 billion.
- We spend c.£300m per annum.



# The Importance of Sustainability

- Leave planet in better condition than inherited.
- Improves retention/recruitment.
- Warm affordable homes.
- Financially beneficial.
- The right thing to do.





## **Top Level Stats**

- Residential accommodation 17% of all UK CO<sup>2</sup>
- 55% of global industrial emissions come from building materials: steel 25%, cement 19%
- In 2020, 53 million tons of nonhazardous waste.



## Employee Offer

- Hybrid working.
   (Pre-pandemic mileage: 01.04.19 to 31.3.20: 2,524,104 miles
   Post pandemic mileage: 01.04.22-31.03.23: 603,344 miles)
- Interest free loans up to £10k.
- 10% uplift on car allowance for hybrid vehicles.



#### Finance Offer

- Early adopter ESG.
- On one ESG Bond over 7 years save £700k.
- Expand investor pool.
- ESG KPIs = what gets measured, gets done.
- SHDF £10m Grant from Government.



## Development

- All land build fossil free heating since April 2021.
- Plant 1 tree for every home, Community Forest Trust plant a further 5.
- Aim is all new homes EPC B or A.



#### Customer

- Cost of Living crisis.
- Energy costs 400% increase.
- Benefits going up circa 7%.
- Living wage increase.



## MacDonald Place, Lytchett Matravers

25 homes, completed February 2023. Homes built to EPC A, with SAP rating of 96. Flats achieved EPC B, score of 86 points.









#### Burton Gardens, Weobley

49 homes retrofitted with ground source heat pumps. Completed December 2017









## Blunden Meadows Ewyas Harold, Herefordshire

38 homes, completed September 2023. Average SAP rating of 88. High EPC B scores.









# Break & Networking







#### Retrofit & New Build Standards

Adam Masters, Assistant Director Environment and Sustainability, Stonewater

Marie Riordan, Director of Development (South & Central), Stonewater





# Retrofit





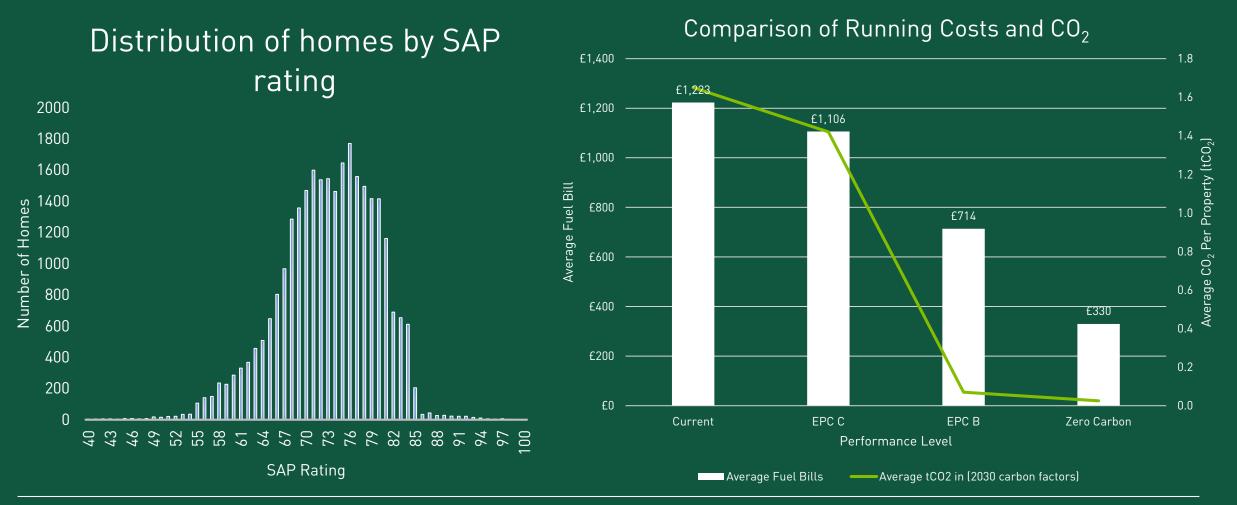
#### A Challenging Environment

- Lack of legislation or policy.
- Funding.
- Supply chain.





Our Homes







## Increasing Efficiency

#### 2020s – Minimum EPC C by 2030:

- Fabric Measures.
- Low carbon heat in off-gas areas.
- Installation of EV Charging.
  2030s Minimum EPC B by 2040:

- Electrification.
- Onsite generation.
- Energy storage.
- Smart controls/optimisation.



## Delivering at Scale

#### Enablers:

- Flexible funding.
- Area-based retrofit.
- Market reform.
- Supply chain development.



## Case Study

#### Oxford Energy Superhub

- Collaborative project.
- 57 properties.
- Ground Source Heat Pumps/Smart controls.
- Load shifting trial.

#### Phase 2

• 5 homes with prototype heat pump.



# New Build

Standards and Innovation





## **Building Standards**

#### What's our direction?

Report by Good Homes Alliance

- Comparison of standards.
- Evaluation criteria.
- 5 different house types or archetypes modelled.
- Energy use split into 4 categories.
- All energy used is electric.
- ASHP rather than boilers.
- Allowance for 'performance gap'.





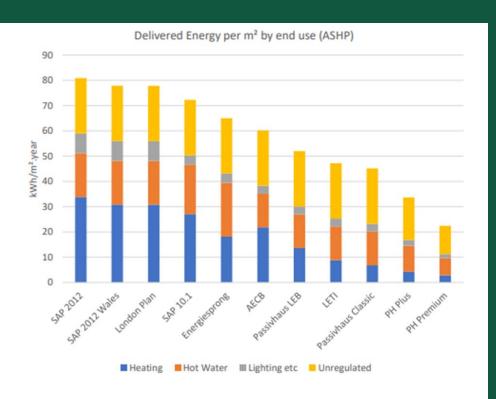
## A Mixture of Standards

#### An opportunity

#### Standards compared in report.

Chart for a three-bedroom semi detached house.

As fabric performance increases, required energy to meet demand to be delivered via the grid decreases.



Good Homes Alliance





#### Stonewater's Base Standard

- From April 2021, no new land and build schemes with fossil fuel heating systems.
- Air Source Heat Pumps and Photovoltaic (PV) Panels.
- Pushed innovation to consider alternatives such as Wondrwall.
- Modern Methods of Construction, including whole house modular construction.
- Taking the next steps.



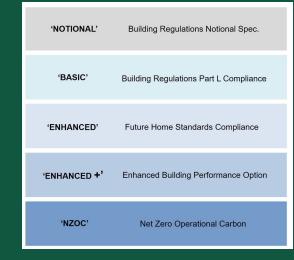
#### Stonewater's Zero Carbon Standard

- Passivhaus, or alternatives?
- Worked with Cooper Homewood Ltd
- Focus on 2 and 3 bed homes, representing the majority of our development programme.
- NDSS Modelled in SAP 10 BRegs Part L 2021



#### Stonewater's Zero Carbon Standard

- Step change levels.
- Allows for evolution and innovation.
- Costing Exercise undertaken by Bailey Garner.







# New Technology

- Continuing to make use of technology like Wondrwall, PV Panels, Air Source Heat Pumps.
- On site generation wind turbines, PV arrays.
- On site energy sharing across homes micro generation systems.
- Ensuring homes built today are fit for purpose for tomorrow.





#### Building a Circular (Social) Housing Economy

Clare Rainsford, Environmental Sustainability Business Partner, Stonewater



# What is a Circular Economy?

Designing out waste, pollution, risk & cost

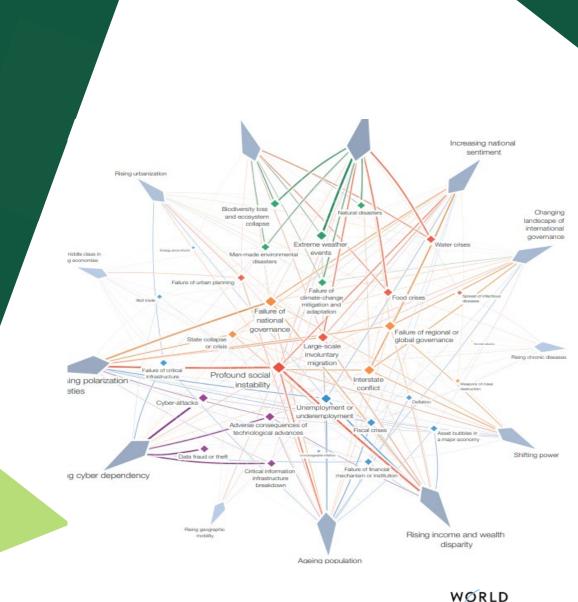
- Keeping products & materials in use.
- Regenerating natural systems.
- Social sustainability health, jobs, wellbeing...

# Why Bother?

#### Escalating risks:

#### 2 years

- 50% global risks Environmental.
- 10 years
- 70% of global risks Environmental.





ECONOMIC FORUM

# What's Happened So Far?

**EU:** Taxonomy setting requirements for circularity.

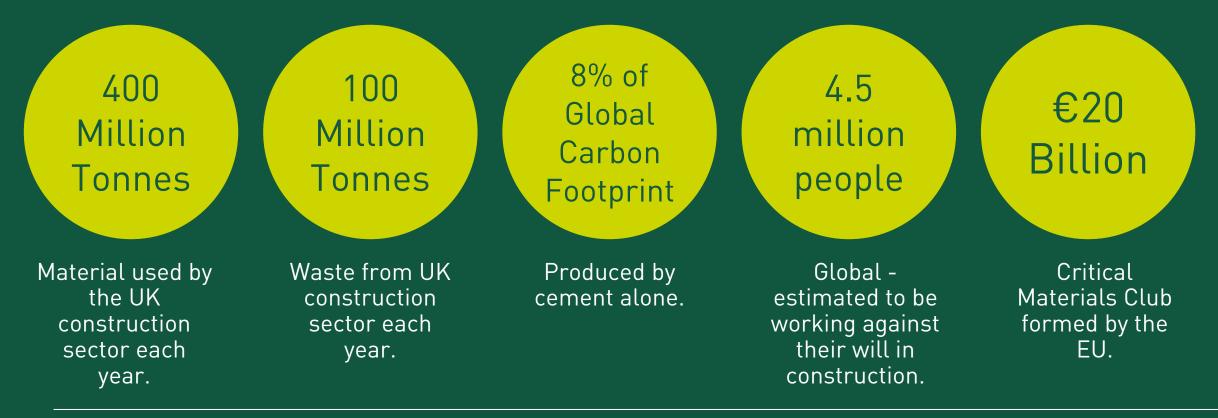
- Creating 'Digital Product Passports'.
   IFRS Financial Reporting Standards.
- Global capital markets.

UK: Environment Plan/Waste Strategy.

• 'Eliminate avoidable waste of all kinds by 2050.'

#### Where Are We Now?

Social housing sector standards: SHIFT, Good Economy/ESG Take, make, dispose





# Where do we want to be?



### **Characteristics Circular Homes ?**



#### Social

'Old brain trapped in a new environment'.

- Natural materials.
- Natural light.
- Plants.
- Happier people...



#### Environment

- Natural & reusable materials. •
- Resource efficient.
- Minimising impacts build/ use:
  - Energy, water, waste.
- Climate resilient.



#### Economic

- Affordable to build, maintain & live in.
- Durable/Flexible.
- Value as future 'material banks'.
- Reusable 'recycle a building'.



#### What are we doing ?

1.Systems approach.
 2.Assessing our specifications.
 3.Procurement.
 4.Our supply chain.
 5.Obtaining & analysing data.

# Systems thinking

- Circular economy as a social housing strategy.
- Framework mapped against UN Sustainable Development Goals.



Use pilots : develop new approaches challenge existing practice.



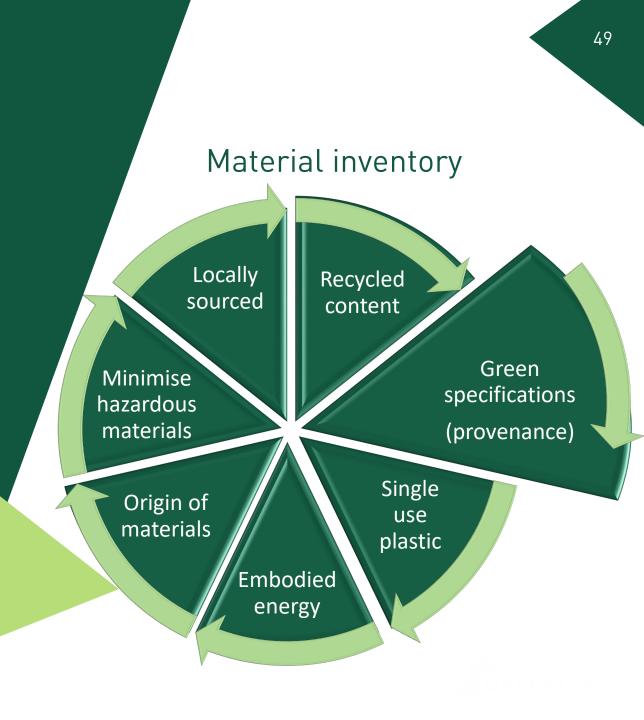
## Circular Design/ Specification Guides

Life cycle – New build & Assets

- Embodied energy.
- Responsible materials.
- Waste minimisation.

#### Integrated attributes:

- Performance.
- Whole life cost.
- Health.



## How Do You Recycle a Building ?

Treat it like a Billy Bookcase ?

- Ikea disassembly instructions.
- Flat pack housing.
- What do you perceive to be the barriers?



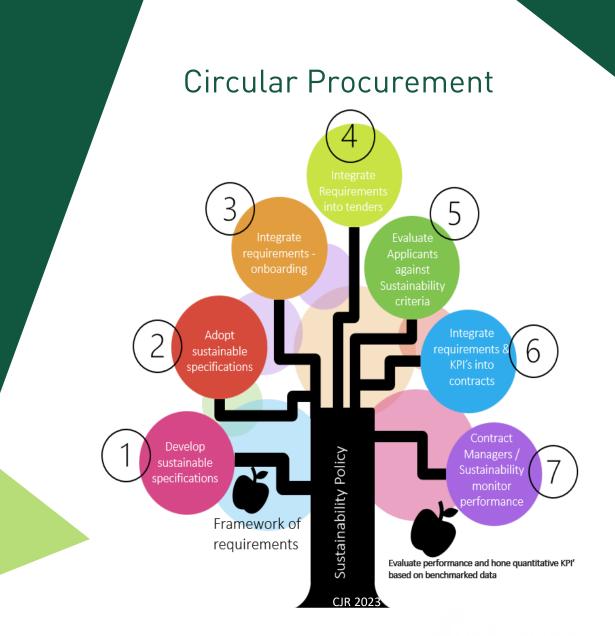
#### IKEA Disassembly instructions



# Working Together

# How much did the sector invest in existing stock last year?

- Immense sector buying power.
- Agree & set collective standards.



# Supply Chains

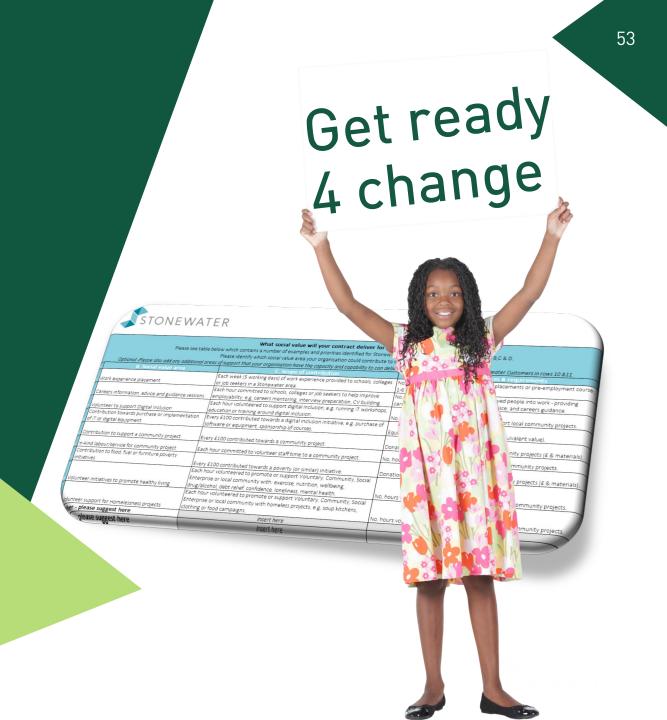
- Evaluating suppliers.
- Mapping suppliers & products.
- Circular/sustainable tender/contracts.
- KPIs data outputs.
- Monitoring & management.



#### Data

#### Transparency - quantify impact.

- Range of indicators.
- Tools support & collect data.
- Performance reporting.



# Summary

- Resources increasing focus/ risk.
- Circularity an organisational strategy.
- Can't have circular supply chain without circular specifications.
- Solutions not just technical psychological.
- Data & transparency key.
- Collaborate make friends...
- Realistic, but not constrained. **Deliver change!**





#### Panel

Adam Masters, with guests Nicholas Harris, Jonathan Layzell, Clare Rainsford, Marie Riordan, and Vicki March.





#### Close

Nicholas Harris, Chief Executive, Stonewater

