

Code for sustainable homes November 2010

Update on main change of this version

The main change in this version is the energy section; the new version now uses SAP 2009, realigning the credits and moves some credits from carbon reduction to improved fabric standards. It now allows fractions of credits to make this section more attractive. No credits are now available in this section for achieving 25% reduction over 2006 regulations, as this is the current requirement.

The move to reward fabric improvements rather than just carbon reduction should be applauded. ENE2 with more credits (9) compared with Ene1 (10), now uses FEES (fabric Energy Efficiency Standards) and takes over from HLP (heat loss Parameter). This moves closer to the PassivHaus standard in both terminology (kWh/m²/ year) and principles and hopefully will now mean that a house built to PassivHaus standards will exceed Level 4! Level 5 & 6 now have a minimum standard.

Internal lighting credits have been removed and replaced with new energy displays, maximum credits if it shows both gas and electric usage.

Ene7 low and zero carbon technologies, the feasibility study is now not required as long as technologies are certified under MCS (Microgeneration Certification Scheme) or CHP QA standard.

New exemption on all Lifetime homes requirements on steeply sloping sites.

Sur 1, surface water management has been revised again.

Alan Budden 15th November 2010.

