Councils tackling Climate Change

Councillor Andrew Cooper
Solar PV on Council Homes

- Green Party amendment to Kirklees 2014 Budget
- £9.2million of Housing Revenue Account funding
- 2000 Council houses
- 2 year programme
- 12 year payback period
Solar PV on Council homes

• In practice payback is less than 10 years
• Energy advice crucial to maximising savings
• No installations in Green Wards 😞
• Working with Labour
Benefits of Solar PV programme

• Kirklees Building Services Jobs
• PV installer of the year beat British Gas!
• Savings equivalent to 2 weeks rent
• Money into the local economy - £300k/year
• Building Services to install in the Private Sector
• Reducing Carbon Emissions!
The binning of Green policies

- Green? Amber Rudd
- % cut in the Feed In Tariff
- 1/1/16 deadline
- 600/2000 will be installed in Kirklees.
Tactics for Solar PV cuts

• 87% cut in the solar PV Feed In tariff
• Respond to the consultation
• Get your Council to oppose the cuts
• Encourage householders to ‘get solar while they can!’
• Solar Trade Association – Solar Independence Plan – Tariff free by 2020
• See what happens!
• If its 5p/kWh – what works!
Zero Carbon Homes policy dumped

• Was due to be introduced next year
• 9 years in development
• Industry has spent millions developing approaches to addressing building regulations
• By no means perfect by and not ‘Zero Carbon’
• Dependent on Onsite Renewables
• Zero carbon dependent on offsetting
What is the Passivhaus Standard?

- ultra-low energy consumption combined with consistently good internal air quality
- super-insulation,
- thermal bridge free design,
- heat recovery ventilation (MVHR)
- energy demand is 90% less than in homes built to current building regulation standards.
- This can mean energy bills of less than £100/year for the average household.
Why we need a Passivhaus Policy

- Reducing Carbon Emissions
- Putting more money back into the local economy
- Addressing Poverty
- Government has abandoned Zero Carbon Homes
- Passivhaus is an international standard independent of Government
Passivhaus in Kirklees

- Stile Common Junior School Site
- Kirklees Budget 2015 - £1.1million HRA funding
- Examplar Development of 30/40 properties
- Oh no not another Pilot project!
A Passivhaus Policy for your Council

“This Council specifies the Passivhaus standards on all buildings on Council-owned land and as a condition of sale on any council land”
Don’t Passivhaus Developments cost too much?

• Yes and No
• Additional Cost 0-30%
• Average 10%
• Whole life costings?
• The cost of the New/Unknown
• No additional costs – Wolverhampton Schools Architype Design
• Competition for developers - Kirklees
• 2 to 3 year run in to the policy
• ‘Flatpack’ Passivhaus developments
• Links with local colleges
What do Passivhaus homes look like?
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Homes for people. Homes for life.
When can you start?

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