

Strategic Forum for Construction – Carbon Measurement Working Group – 8 November 2010

Notes of a Meeting held at Arup, 13 Fitzroy Street, London W1T 4BQ

1. Jonathan de Souza of Constructing Excellence (CE) assumed the Chair.
2. Present were Tony Iles (Atkins), Paul Reeve (ECA), Simon Helmer (Carbon Trust), Jesse Pitzel (BAM), John Wilson (CECA/CA), Alice Douglas (Defra), Jane Thornback (SFfC), Mark Hardisty (Parsons Brinckerhoff), Gia Kroeff (Bovis)
3. Secretary is George Vergoulas (Arup)
4. Background. The development of the 15% Carbon Reduction in the construction process established within the framework of the Government's Strategy for Sustainable Construction (June 2008) was summarised. CE also outlined the relevance of the KPIs published by them since the late 1990's. Subsequently these were added to by the introduction of Environmental KPIs in 2002. Base data for KPI's for construction had been collected by BIS and the KPIs published by CE. In a programme funded by BIS the collection and calculation will now be carried out by CE in association with Glenigan. The base data collected for the CE KPIs for carbon will be aligned with the protocol developed by this working group.
5. The Terms of Reference were discussed and a protocol will be developed on Greenhouse Gas emissions limited to those aspects of the construction process identified in the SFfC/Carbon Trust Action Plan published in July 2010. These included
 - i) Enabling Works and remediation
 - ii) On site plant and equipment
 - iii) Site accommodation
 - iv) Fit out and finishing

The data collected would be project based (as are other CE KPIs) but due regard needed to be made of measurement relating to corporate offices and business travel. Simplicity of inputs and outputs of data would be a significant priority to enable smaller companies to be included and give the KPIs themselves some robustness. References to ISO 14001 compliance should be made where possible.

6. Protocols
Some discussion centred around the Carbon Trust methodology but consensus was that the Greenhouse Gas Protocol should form the basis of the data sets.
7. Next Steps
A draft protocol document would be drawn up by Arup and Jonathan de Souza for circulation and comment. A conference call would be implemented before the end of the year with a firm draft ready for the meeting of the main Sub Group on 26 January 2011.

Author John Wilson representing the Construction Alliance - 8 November 2010