



29 April 2020

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[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

### **Freedom of Information Request 2020-01**

Thank you for contacting CITB requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). In your request dated 1 April 2020, you said the following:

*I am researching the UK's strategic response to the climate emergency, and in particular the essential need to reduce carbon emissions from the UK housing stock.*

*The technology exists for building Zero Carbon Homes. And the building standards for ZCH are being drawn up.*

*Over the coming years it will be essential for newly built homes to comply with the ZCH building standards. It will therefore be vital for the craftsmen deployed on housebuilding – across all building trades – to be able to manufacture and build homes which meet the exacting technical requirements for Zero Carbon house building. And in turn this means that the apprenticeships preparing young people for these vital housebuilding trades are appropriately designed and delivered*

You then asked the following:

- 1. What approach the CITB is taking to this strategic planning issue?*
- 2. Which department is taking the lead in this planning work?*
- 3. What terms of reference have been set?*
- 4. What timescales have been set for development of the strategy?*
- 5. If the strategy has been defined, how far has implementation planning progressed?*
- 6. Which key stakeholders have been identified for implementation?*

My response can be found below:

#### **1. What approach the CITB is taking to this strategic planning issue?**

CITB has commissioned research to identify the critical skills, barriers and enablers for the achievement of net zero by 2050. The research will constitute a skills analysis based on expected net-zero deployment trajectories advised by the Committee on Climate Change (CCC) and will focus on skills to improve the energy efficiency of new and existing buildings, as well as, an anticipated large-scale switch to low carbon heat.



**2. Which department is taking the lead in this planning work?**

CITB's Research Team, which is part of the Strategy & Policy directorate, are taking the lead.

**3. What terms of reference have been set?**

The scope for this piece of research is to:

- establish a baseline of existing evidence;
- describe the impact of the transition to net zero on the composition of the workforce, against an agreed set of deployment trajectories;
- assess workforce capacity and capability against deployment trajectories;
- conduct scenario forecasting / analysis; and
- identify and assess resources (qualifications, training, and assurance of competence).

**4. What timescales have been set for development of the strategy?**

The research is scheduled for completion in August / September 2020. The research will include telephone interviews scheduled to be undertaken and completed during April and May 2020, however the initial planned completion dates may vary depending upon the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

**5. If the strategy has been defined, how far has implementation planning progressed?**

CITB will produce a White Paper, based on the results of the research. No strategy has yet been defined therefore I cannot provide the information requested.

**6. Which key stakeholders have been identified for implementation?**

As noted in my responses above, the research phase is still in progress, therefore no stakeholders for implementation have been identified.

If you are unhappy with this response, or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied, then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting Adrian Beckingham, Corporate Performance Director, CITB, Sand Martin House, Bittern Way, Peterborough, PB2 8TY or email [adrian.beckingham@citb.co.uk](mailto:adrian.beckingham@citb.co.uk).

If you remain unhappy following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioners website: <https://ico.org.uk/>

Yours sincerely

Jonathan Francis  
Information Risk & Data Governance Manager