

IMAGINE A BUILT ENVIRONMENT THAT ENABLES A HIGH QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL



CO-CREATING AN AMBITIOUS NATIONAL RENOVATION STRATEGY FOR IRELAND

Mini Workshop
Setting the right
Standards - 2

8

*Irish Green Building Council –
Dublin*

Tuesday, 13th December 2016

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Roinn Cumarsáide, Gníomhaíthe
ar son na hAeráide & Comhshaoil
Department of Communications,
Climate Action & Environment

SUMMARY

In early 2016, the Irish Green Building Council (IGBC), in conjunction with the department of communications, climate action and environment organised a series of workshops on [Ireland's National Renovation Strategy V.2](#). These events were attended by over 170 key stakeholders and led to the publication of a "[Declaration in 10 Points for a Better National Renovation Strategy](#)".

Since the beginning of the consultation process, workshop participants have consistently said that for large scale deep renovation to happen in the public sector, the public procurement process should be streamlined – [See recommendation number 8](#). A follow-up event was organised on Tuesday, 13th December to see how large scale deep renovation in the public sector could be better supported.

Key Suggested Actions

- Giving public bodies discretion to re-deploy budget resources no longer needed within their annual budget allocation to pay for energy to other areas of their operating budget
- Specifying standards for energy performance in all new long-term public sector leases
- Making ISO50001 compulsory for all public offices over a certain number of square metres
- Improving post-occupancy data
- Upskilling of public sector staff in legal, administrative and technical aspect of procurement
- Creating a centre of excellence in deep retrofit and public procurement

Previously suggested actions

Workshop participants highlighted that most previously suggested actions refer to general standards as opposed to public procurement.

Using the social return on investment (SROI) method when designing procurement guidelines to better incorporate co-benefits could be difficult to implement as this would require a long verification process. They also felt that recommending the inclusion of "energy performance in all procurement decision making" was too general and that a better result could probably be achieved through legislation. According to them, introducing more flexibility for multi-year accounting for deep renovation projects would also be difficult to implement.

However, workshop participants expressed strong support for two recommendations: Specifying standards for energy performance in all new long-term public sector leases and

Other recommendations

Generally speaking, workshop participants felt that the main issues relate to specifications and post-occupancy monitoring.

Pre-procurement work is key and standards are critical to drive cross-sectoral procurement. Adequate energy efficiency goals are often not defined. Yet, the focus should not only be upfront. In particular, workshop participants suggested to extend the design process to include post-occupancy performance. In fact, one of the main challenges in the public sector is the lack of post-contract responsibilities. Tender specifications could for instance require an energy expert and provisions for post-contract energy efficiency professional services, as well as real penalties for non-delivering on energy savings. While the public sector is often risk averse, good quality post-occupancy data would also help in building trust in the process.

However, for this methodology to deliver results better data on public buildings current energy use is required. Upskilling of public sector staff is also key as people that understand both construction and how public procurement works are needed. In that regard, the publication of high quality case studies and of basic recommendations for various building types, as well as the creation of a centre of excellence in deep retrofit and public procurement would be helpful.

WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS ANALYSIS

Mini WS8 Attendees



● Central Government ● Energy ● Other Public
● Research & Academia ● NGO

COLLABORATING ON WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS

A series of over 80 events in the 13 project countries will bring stakeholders together during the project. As part of this process, six high level Energy Efficiency Building Renovation Workshops will be organised across Ireland by the Irish Green Building Council. The workshops are supported by the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment and are a must for anyone who wants to ensure their voice and views are heard in Ireland's National Renovation Strategy Process.

Email Us: Marion@igbc.ie

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THANK YOU TO ALL OUR WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

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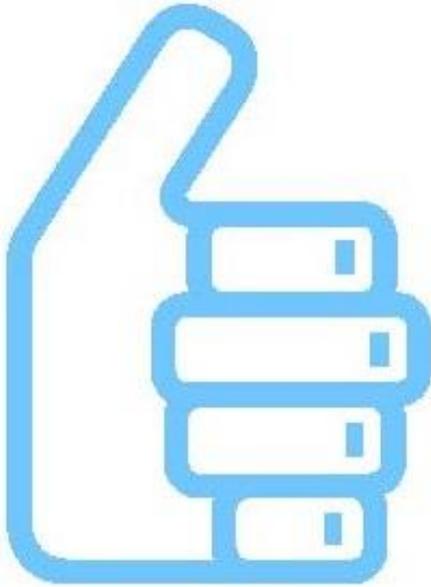
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