

Green housing news

[L&G commits to make all homes net zero](#)

Insurance giant aims to hit target by 2030 as part of drive to 'build back better'. Insurance giant Legal & General has committed to making all of the homes it builds operationally zero carbon by 2030. The firm has said this will include all homes produced by all of its housing businesses, which span traditional housebuilding, affordable homes, later living and modular housing.

[Modular homes are the future](#)

Offsite manufacturing, where homes are built along a production line in a factory, can create huge carbon savings in both embodied carbon emissions and operational carbon, which is the energy used once built. This is vital for investors looking to future-proof assets against tightening energy-efficiency regulations. As part of the Future Homes Standard, which is not expected to be fully consulted on until 2024, the government has outlined plans to reduce carbon emissions from homes by almost a third.

[Larger mortgages to be offered for green homes under pilot scheme](#)

House buyers could get bigger mortgages if they buy more energy efficient homes under a government-backed pilot scheme. Monmouthshire Building Society will offer mortgages that take energy efficiency into account for new build homes at two new low energy developments in Wales, as well as existing homes in the surrounding area that want to make improvements. Taking lower home energy bills into consideration could potentially increase the maximum affordable mortgage by up to £12,000 for a very low energy home.

[Fears grow of needless deaths and cold-related morbidity this winter](#)

A new YouGov poll, commissioned by National Energy Action (NEA), shows that one-in-three British households are concerned about the health impacts of living in a cold home. Whilst the current Covid-19 health crisis has so far taken place in the warmer months, GPs and UK public health directors have warned the Prime Minister cold spells combined with Covid-19 could be catastrophic for individuals and families, and overwhelm our health and social care services this winter.

Our North Net Zero

Wednesday saw the kick-off event for #OurNorth Net Zero - the Northern Housing Consortium's (NHC) programme of activity for members to come together and build the connections and confidence to lead on decarbonisation in the North of England. Around 120 NHC members joined the webinar from housing associations, local authorities and ALMOs from across the region. We were joined by Matthew Phillips, Team Lead on Global Climate Action at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) who spoke about the Race to Zero campaign and its emphasis on the role of stakeholders outside of national governments. Jamie Driscoll, Mayor of the North of Tyne Combined Authority provided the keynote address, explaining the work that his authority has been doing and the importance of a greater commitment to the net zero movement.

Additional resources are available [here](#).

Retrofit

[Chancellor announces £50m social housing retrofit programme](#)

The Treasury is set to fork out a further £3bn for green construction projects as part of the government's "New Deal" to jump-start the post-Covid economy. It comes the day after chancellor Rishi Sunak announced a £1.6bn rescue package for the arts and a week after Boris Johnson announced he would bring forward £5bn for infrastructure projects in his "build, build, build" speech.

[National retrofit plan and zero carbon homes needed to hit net zero target](#)

Government's official advisor, the Committee on Climate Change, says buildings and heat strategy must be a priority. The government needs a national retrofit programme to address leaky old buildings and to urgently bring in a "long overdue" move to zero carbon new build homes if it is to meet its 2050 "net zero" carbon target. The government's statutory adviser, the Committee on Climate Change (CCC), has published its progress report on efforts to cut emissions, outlining what it says needs to happen urgently if the UK is to reach its target of net zero carbon emissions by 2050.

[Boris Johnson is urged to fulfil £9bn UK household insulation pledge](#) [FT – limited clicks]

Boris Johnson has been urged to fulfil his manifesto promise to spend £9bn on a huge household insulation programme as his chief adviser tries to shift the spending on to other priorities. The UK prime minister delighted green groups in November when he committed the Conservative party to "invest £9.2bn in the energy efficiency of homes, schools and hospitals".

[End gas boilers within 15 years says Committee on Climate Change](#)

UK households could soon see a total phase-out of fossil-fuelled boilers by 2035. That's the headline recommendation from the Committee on Climate Change (CCC), which has published its latest progress report on efforts to cut emissions as we strive for net zero. CCC suggests range of measures but warns UK is currently poorly prepared for climate change.

[Housing association says zero carbon will cost £20,000 per home](#)

A housing association in the South of England has revealed that it will cost more than £100m to retrofit its homes so they meet the government's net-zero target for carbon emissions by 2050.

Summer economic statement

['Not what a green recovery looks like': Rishi Sunak's plan gets mixed response](#)

There was no lack of advice for the chancellor on measures to green the economic recovery from the coronavirus crisis from top economists and the government's own climate advisers. But the Rishi Sunak seems to have focused on just one – home insulation – to a mixed reception from green experts and industry figures.

[Has Sunak's 'mini-Budget' gone far enough?](#)

FTAdviser perspective on what the financial markets think of Wednesday's Summer Statement. Dubbed by many as the 'mini-Budget', the announcement was big on promises, the market didn't seem to bounce higher as a result. Of the raft of measures launched by the chancellor, let us see how well the big-ticket items have cut it with financial services professionals.

['Plan for Jobs': Sunak's statement leaves the North wanting more](#)

The housing sector has cautiously welcomed the government's new 'Plan for Jobs', warning that more is needed to kickstart a housing revolution in the North of England. In his summer economic update yesterday, the Chancellor Rishi Sunak announced a wealth of measures to spur housing's recovery from COVID-19.

Politics and Parliament

[Committee on Climate Change chair Lord Deben on why it would be 'stupid' not to use the coronavirus recovery to go for net zero](#)

As lockdown is lifted, ministers are grappling with how to safeguard the British economy amid forecasts of a crippling recession. Meanwhile, the promised “defining year of action” on climate change has slipped out of focus. But could the government ease the effect the pandemic and advance its climate goals in one fell swoop? “The government is presented with an amazing opportunity here,” Lord Deben, chair of the Committee on Climate Change (CCC) tells The House Live.

[Green recovery can spur innovation, create jobs, and boost economy, argue senior MPs](#)

Select Committee Chairs join wave of calls for a green recovery in letter to Chancellor that warns economic stimulus channelled towards carbon-intensive infrastructure projects would be a 'historic mistake'. The chairs of the Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) Committee and the Environmental Audit Committee (EAC) have urged the chancellor to use the forthcoming Covid-19 recovery package to boost low carbon industries, warning that infrastructure and investment decisions made in the coming months will be "critical" to building the UK's resilience to the escalating climate crisis.

Net Zero movement

[U.K. Lags European Neighbors in Green Recovery Promises](#) [Bloomberg – limited clicks]


The U.K. government promised a green economic recovery, but so far it has fallen far short of what its European neighbors are offering. Since May, the U.K. has announced a total green stimulus of 5.4 billion (\$6.8 billion) pounds, which is just two-thirds of the money that will help polluting industries like airlines, according to BloombergNEF calculations.

[Road to net zero: what the Committee on Climate Change recommends](#)

The government adviser has published its progress report. Here are the areas it says require urgent attention.

[Net zero: Almost 100 firms, cities, and states have now pledged to decarbonise their buildings by 2030](#)

World Green Building Council drive to decarbonise company buildings across the globe gathers pace. Almost 100 companies, states, and organisations have now committed to ensuring their buildings emit zero carbon emissions by 2030 or sooner, with the number signed up to the pledge near doubling since last year, the World Green Building Council (WorldGBC) announced. Launched in 2018, the Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment has now attracted 95 signatories, with the actions



they have pledged through the initiative expected to reduce CO2 emissions by 3.3 million tonnes, estimates the WGBC, which is spearheading the initiative.

[Coronavirus pandemic shows UK not ready for climate crisis, stark report claims](#)

Britain is “acutely vulnerable” to the impacts of climate change and a potential environmental crisis, a leading think tank has warned. A report by the IPPR think tank says the “fragility” of the economy exposed by the coronavirus crisis shows the country is ill-prepared for a climate shock. Their review identifies 21 measures of readiness and concludes that the UK is failing fully to meet any of them, making only partial progress in 15 areas and almost completely failing in the remaining six.

[Little progress made on UK's net zero pledge](#)

A year after the UK signed its net zero pledge and as the Committee on Climate Change publishes its progress report, a shift of gear is required by government. A year on from the signing of the pledge, it is clear that progress has been slow, with the only concrete achievements being the consultation on bringing forward the phasing out of petrol and diesel cars from 2040 to 2035, a commitment of £800m for CCS and plans to double the UK’s international climate finance funding from £5.8bn to £11.6bn.

Green COVID Recovery

[Transforming the economy after Covid-19: A clean, fair and resilient recovery](#)

We’re at a historic moment. The Covid-19 crisis could mark a turning point in the direction of the UK’s economy and its efforts to address the climate and nature crisis. The economy is in need of significant intervention to halt rising and long-term unemployment, to protect and improve the quality of life of all citizens and protect and raise the living standards of low-income households and the vulnerable.

[Climate Assembly: 79% of Brits want Covid-19 recovery package tied to net-zero](#)

A survey of the members of the UK's Climate Assembly, who were chosen to resemble the national population in terms of both social demographics and views on environmental issues, found that almost eight in ten want net-zero alignment embedded in all facets of the upcoming Covid-19 recovery package.



UK100 @UK100

[\[LINK\]](#)

Today, we're proud to announce the launch of the [#ResilientRecovery](#) Taskforce a partnership between [#UK100 @corecities](#) and 24 local leaders - collectively representing over 25million people across England and NI. (1/3)

[Support for a green recovery](#)

Polling from Ipsos MORI carried out in June 2020, on behalf of CEN, reveals that Brits would view a failure to tackle pollution and climate change in a post-coronavirus recovery plan as 'bad for the economy in the long run', 'a sign that the government has the wrong priorities' & 'proof the government doesn't listen to ordinary people like me'.

Global good practice

[Western Australia to build 15,000 energy-efficient social housing homes](#)


A new plan from WA's Clean State initiative will see 15,000 energy efficient social housing homes constructed within three years, delivering major benefits for the state. The Building and Housing component of Clean State's Jobs Package aims to create tens of thousands of jobs, reduce homelessness and lower electricity prices for the West Australians moving into those homes.

[Canada plans to fund the construction of net-zero energy ready residential buildings in four provinces](#)

Canada's Minister of Natural Resources announced an investment of over \$2,445,000 toward the construction of energy-efficient residential buildings across Canada. The funding will support a project led by the Canadian Home Builders' Association (CHBA) that will enable seven housing builders to construct net-zero energy and net-zero energy ready residential buildings in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Ontario.

[The dynamic possibilities of passive design](#)

Passive House is an international certification program based in Germany with a Canadian office in Victoria. Net Zero, also known as zero-energy or zero net, is a global concept certified in North America by the Commission for Environmental Cooperation. Through thoughtful materials and design, a Passive House cuts energy use and greenhouse gas emissions by as much as 90 per cent. A Net Zero building does much the same, but also produces energy through the use of solar panels and similar devices.



Reports

[State of the Nation 2020 - Infrastructure and the 2050 Net-Zero report – key findings](#)

Today ICE releases its annual State of the Nation report, which this year is looking at infrastructure and the net-zero emissions target. The Chair of the report's Steering Group, Keith Howells, provides an overview of the key findings and recommendations.

[Reimagining Public Health](#)

The public health emergency of COVID-19 has unearthed the fragility of our economic system, forcing us to confront the scale of inequality it has enabled, fuelled by a market-first approach that concentrates wealth and power in the hands of those who already have it. Those who don't are left to face the sharp end of that inequality, leaving entire communities stripped of the chance to enjoy a long and healthy life, with profound implications for marginalised and oppressed communities.

[Blueprint for a resilient economy – Green Alliance](#)

In the government's economic rescue package in the wake of the coronavirus crisis, it has the chance to set a new path for the UK that creates greater health, prosperity and security for the UK, protecting against future crises. *Green Alliance* set out the five essential building blocks that would support new long-term employment opportunities, thriving businesses and a healthier, fairer society, whilst protecting against the potentially devastating future impacts of climate change and nature's decline.

Campaign Partners:



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HOUSING ASSOCIATIONS

thirteen
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Halton
Housing

together
HOUSING
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Consortium
Procurement
reduce risk, save time, save money, be compliant