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How Green Was My Padlock? Security and Sustainability

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How Green Was My Padlock?
Security and Sustainability

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Content of the Presentation

• The importance of sustainability and sustainable development
• Code for Sustainable Homes
• Security within the sustainability agenda
• Case study
• Potential tensions/synergies
ACPO CPI Research

- ACPO CPI have commissioned Prof. Ken Pease, Dr. Rachel Armitage and myself to conduct an extensive piece of research surrounding this topic.
- The findings from this research are to be published in the near future.
- The aim of this presentation is to provide a generic overview of security and sustainability.
- It does not contain any material collected during the ACPO CPI research and does not anticipate its conclusions.
What is sustainability and sustainable development?
What is Sustainability and Sustainable Development?

• Sustainable means *capable of being maintained*

• **Sustainable development;**
  ‘meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.’
  UN Department of Social Affairs Division for Sustainable Development (1987) p.54

• **Sustainable community;**
  ‘places where people want to live and work now and in the future. They meet the diverse needs of existing and future residents...’
  ODPM (2005) *Defining Sustainable Communities*, HMSO.
What is Sustainability and Sustainable Development?

“The main thing we want is places where we can live for a long time and don’t have to regenerate. The fact that we’ve got regeneration departments in all our councils says that we fail and that we are unsustainable...

Why Sustainable Development?

• Housing shortage – 3 million more homes by 2020 - it is important that this is done without unnecessary costs to the environment

• Buildings contribute half of the UK total CO₂ emissions

• Buildings generate 16% of the nation’s waste during the construction phase


• We need more homes and we need to make sure that these are built with minimal impact on the environment

• The Government is planning to build up to 10 eco-towns by 2020
Code for Sustainable Homes
Code for Sustainable Homes

- Officially launched in England in 2007
- Single framework which can be used to measure standards of sustainable design (mandatory requirement for new homes)
- Nine categories that form the Code
- Point scoring scheme (mandatory and non-mandatory) across the nine categories
- The sustainability rating which a home achieves represents its overall performance across nine Code design categories
## Point scoring table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total points score</th>
<th>Code Levels</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>36 Points</td>
<td>Level 1 ☆</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48 Points</td>
<td>Level 2 ☆☆</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57 Points</td>
<td>Level 3 ☆☆☆</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>68 Points</td>
<td>Level 4 ☆☆☆☆</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84 Points</td>
<td>Level 5 ☆☆☆☆</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90 Points</td>
<td>Level 6 ☆☆☆☆☆</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• Nine categories:
  - Energy and CO₂ emissions;
  - Water;
  - Materials;
  - Surface water run-off;
  - Waste;
  - Pollution;
  - Health and wellbeing;
  - Management;
  - Ecology.
Code for Sustainable Homes

- Overall sustainability rating
- Mandatory requirements for a number of categories, but apart from these, the Code is flexible
- Developers can choose how they make up their credits
Code for Sustainable Homes

- Credits awarded vary
- Each credit is weighted

**Health and Well Being**

- Daylighting
- 3 credits
- weighted at 1.17 per credit
Code for Sustainable Homes

• **Water section** - 1 credit is weighted at 1.50

• **Management section** – 1 credit is weighted at 1.11

‘...derived from extensive studies involving a wide range of stakeholders who were asked to rank (in order of importance) a range of environmental impacts’.

Department for Communities and Local Government (2008) *The Code For Sustainable Homes: Setting The Standard In Sustainability For New Homes*
Code for Sustainable Homes – Crime

- Management – Security
- A maximum of **two** credits (weighted at 1.11 per credit) are available for security
- Credits are obtained where:
  - an Architectural Liaison Officer or Crime Prevention Design Advisor is consulted at the design stage and their recommendations are incorporated into the design of the dwelling
  - by complying with Section 2 – Physical Security from ‘Secured by Design New Homes’
- Not a mandatory requirement, unlike other sections of the Code that are
Examples of getting credits
Ways to obtain credits

Once all mandatory points from the varying sections of the Code are achieved, additional points can be obtained by:

- Provision of drying space (two points)
- Cycle storage provision (two points)
- Installing a water-butt (one point)
- Composting bin (one point)
- Consultation and compliance with Section 2 of SBD New Homes (two points)
Easier to obtain two credits by doing other things?

Don’t have to consider security at all when attempting to score eco-points

Security is optional and only scores you two points

Quick win!
“The government has introduced the Code for Sustainable Homes, so expect to see more ‘rabbit hutches’ with solar panels...In fact, I am pretty confident that public realm, landscape and house design will suffer because of the rush towards scoring eco-points”


- Not just trying to score points as quickly as possible
- Need to make sure they are building truly sustainable developments
Potential tensions
An example...

- Example in the North of England
- Look at a number of things, specifically:
  - Orientation;
  - Car parking;
  - Decking and
  - Planting.
An example...

Southward facing solar panels
Living room
Communal garden
Bedroom and kitchen
Car parking
An example...
Sustainable?
Planting
Ecological – but what about surveillance?
Conflicts?

- Are these really conflicts between security and sustainability?
- Or is it just a case of bad design and poor management?
Synergies
Some advantages...

- More windows = more natural light
- More windows = more opportunity for surveillance
- Promotion of private space
- Promotes sound insulation to reduce the likelihood of noise complaints from neighbours
It’s not just about being green

- Too heavily focused around green credentials?
- Crime **has** to be taken into account – is a sustainable development one with high crime rates and high levels of fear of crime?
- ‘places where people want to live and work now and in the future...’
  
  ODPM (2005) *Defining Sustainable Communities*, HMSO.
- People have to be safe and feel safe
“We have to start rolling other things into sustainability. We have to address the climate but...we’re becoming blinkered and thinking that this is the only thing that matters to society at the moment. Well it isn’t. Other things go hand in hand”


“...the criminogenic capacity of the built environment has consistently been ignored within this conceptual framework [sustainability agenda]”

“Housing that meets the perceived and real needs of the present in a resource efficient fashion, whilst providing attractive, **safe** and ecologically rich neighbourhoods”

To conclude...
How Green Was My Padlock?

- It is not just about being green
- Has the sustainability agenda become too closely focused upon environmental concerns?
- Not about security and sustainability being incompatible
- Better design
- Pre-planning consultation – seeking ALO/CPDA advice
“I don’t necessarily think...this idea of trying to save rainwater or making a property retain more heat...will make any contribution to security but I think what you have to do is adopt the opposite view and say, well it may not help, but it is certainly not hindering either. If ...they are using sustainable materials...but you can still factor security in, we should all pat one another on the back and be pleased by that”
Thank You

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