

## Co<sub>2</sub>nstruct Zero Overview

In November 2020, the government published its 10-point plan for a Green Industrial Revolution, setting out a path to Net Zero by 2050. **Co<sub>2</sub>nstructZero** is the construction sector's response.

Co<sub>2</sub>nstructZero builds on the government's commitments through the lens of our sector setting out how we can together meet the Net Zero challenge. It uses the CCC's 6th Carbon budget to establish the priorities that will frame our action plan and how we will measure and hold ourselves to account.

### Defining the priorities

The priorities we are setting out today align with government's overarching plan, clear policy direction and commitment to deliver Net Zero, with the expectation it will result in the creation of 250,000 green jobs, attracting at least £36bn in private sector investment.

Our work across the built environment offers real opportunity to drive a significant reduction to these emissions through direct action in how we construct, indirectly where we can enable low carbon action such as installing electric car charging points on our developments and in how we conduct our businesses. We are fully committed to the ambitious and transformational change programme required for us to meet the challenges that society and government expects from our sector.

Overall UK emissions were 537 MtCO<sub>2</sub> in 2018. There are three areas, collectively representing 43% of UK emissions, which are relevant to the construction sector<sup>1</sup>. These are: Transport, Buildings and Construction activity.

Based on these areas, the CLC has used the CCC's 6th Carbon Budget to determine the following priorities to focus our efforts both as an industry and as individual businesses to maximise the impact we can make.

#### Transport

1. Accelerating the shift of the construction workforce to **zero emission vehicles and onsite plant**
2. Maximising use of **Modern Methods of Construction** and improved onsite logistics, reducing waste and transport to sites
3. Championing developments and infrastructure investments that both enable connectivity with **low carbon modes of transport** and design to **incorporate readiness for zero emission vehicles**

#### Buildings

4. Work with Government to **deliver retrofitting to improve energy efficiency** of the existing housing stock
5. Scale up industry capability to deliver **low carbon heat solutions** in buildings, supporting heat pump deployment, trials of hydrogen heating systems and heat networks
6. Enhancing the **energy performance of new and existing buildings** through higher operational energy efficiency standards and better building energy performance monitoring

#### Construction Activity

7. **Implementing carbon measurement**, to support our construction projects in making quantifiable decisions to remove carbon
8. Become world leaders in **designing out carbon**, developing the capability of our designers and construction professionals to develop designs in line with **circular economy** - reducing embedded and operational carbon, shifting commercial models to incentivise and reward measurable carbon reductions.
9. Support development of **innovative low carbon materials (prioritising concrete and steel)**, as well as advancing low carbon solutions for manufacturing production processes and distribution

## CLC leading and convening industry

CO<sub>2</sub>nstruct Zero is not developing new solutions, roadmaps or new pathways – there are many groups in the industry well placed to do this but instead does have a critical role to play in bringing people together to consolidate collective actions and plans for the sector. We can help drive change by helping to share innovative solutions and set transparent goals and clear actions that everyone can help to achieve.

We will build on the established success of the CLC Covid Taskforce to:

- Develop a **single overarching programme and action plan** to deliver against the CO<sub>2</sub>nstructZero priorities, to co-ordinate the efforts of partner organisations who are leading individual activities, increasing impact and visibility of those activities and minimising duplication of effort
- Set out **measurable targets and performance criteria** to demonstrate the sector is making progress against the CO<sub>2</sub>nstructZero priorities and 2050 targets, reporting regularly on these to the CLC members and government, as part of our commitment to join the **Race to Zero**
- **Champion the policy change** required to maximise the CO<sub>2</sub>nstructZero impact with Government
- **Signpost industry** towards the action they can take and initiatives they can support which deliver on the CO<sub>2</sub>nstructZero priorities
- Act as the primary conduit for engagement with Government to advise on how best to **showcase the sector at COP 26**

To deliver these priorities successfully, the CLC will establish three supporting activities as part of its mission.

1. We will be focusing delivering impact through the CLC skills activity to develop a **Net Zero supply chain**, recognising the changing requirement for skill types and spread across industry, which will build capability and support the creation of high value green jobs.
2. We will be setting out how the CLC Taskforce bodies can support businesses with **client engagement and consumer marketing** to educate and shift behaviours to lower carbon options.
3. We will be actively **monitoring and reporting on the sector's progress on a quarterly basis**, publicly and to government – defining the milestones, leading and lagging indicators to give the leadership an overview of the performance against the priorities. This will include joining the Race to Zero on behalf of the UK Construction Sector to share our performance.