



Through both individual and collective lifestyle, and buildings, MUCH members aspire to 'live lightly' by consuming fewer resources, reducing carbon emissions and taking care of the environment.

This draft starts to identify issues related to the construction and energy use of both our private homes and communal areas, ongoing issues relating to our environment, and how we can collectively make a difference.

It is the beginning of a conversation about what we might be able to achieve given constraints such as the site, budget and available skills. In that respect it is a 'wish list, with some suggestions of 'means' to reach 'ends' which are referred to elsewhere in our vision and values and design brief.

### **Sustainable Buildings – design and construction**

- Minimise maintenance and running costs by for example
  - Using long-lasting materials
  - Customised and personal handover and post occupancy followup
- Build good quality healthy homes by for example
  - Building to Passivhaus standards (controlled temperature and good air quality)
- Minimise embodied carbon in construction materials by for example
  - Reusing existing buildings wherever possible
  - Minimising quantity of materials used in construction
  - Maximising reuse of any materials found on site
  - Minimising waste on site, segregated waste disposal for remainder
  - Considering off-site construction methods/Modern Methods of Construction
  - Avoiding fossil fuel derived and energy intensive materials wherever possible
  - Avoiding materials & construction methods that harm the environment long term

### **Zero Carbon Energy Consumption – design and technology**

- Reduce space heating demand through good design by for example
  - Building to Passivhaus standards (to minimise performance gap)
  - Optimising use of technologies to minimise carbon while balancing whole life cost (consider PV, heat pumps, batteries, district heating etc)
- Minimise carbon emissions from the energy used for heating and hot water by for example
  - Using electricity rather than gas or other fossil fuels for heating, hot water (and

## MUCH Sustainability Criteria (Draft September 2022)

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cooking)
• Generating and storing electricity
• Carrying out customised and personal handover and post occupancy followup
• Monitor and log energy consumption
• Offset any unavoidable operational carbon emissions as a last resort
<b>Climate change adaptation &amp; Biodiversity – design and landscaping</b>
• Minimise risk of overheating by for example
• Building to Passivhaus standards
• Minimise risk of flooding through Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) by for example
• Incorporating swales, water/rain garden
• Constructing permeable parking areas and pathways for wheelchair accessible and pedestrian traffic
• Capturing rainwater for garden use, car washing etc
• Incorporating green roofs
• Maximise biodiversity by for example
• Incorporating bat and bird boxes, wildlife corridors etc in appropriate locations
<b>Sustainable Lifestyle – MUCH members will, in their day to day lives, aim to:</b>
• Minimise consumption of the Earth's resources by for example
• Sharing resources as far as possible, thus enabling private dwellings to be smaller and equipment to be used more efficiently
• Using Common House, sharing meals, laundry, appliances, tools, garden, car share
• Encourage a culture of minimising contributions to climate change by for example
• Buying any energy which is not produced on site from renewable sources
• Supporting individuals to re-use and recycle on site, with responsible waste management
• Enabling sustainable travel options through choice of location, cycle storage, EV charge points etc
• Maximise biodiversity by for example
• Encouraging biodiversity and a range of habitats within the development (e.g. green space, pollination/growing)
• Using insect/wildlife friendly gardening methods/plants e.g permaculture