



Powering our Lives: Sustainable Energy Management and the Built Environment Project Stakeholder Engagement

Foresight launched the findings of its *Powering Our Lives: Sustainable Energy Management and the Built Environment Project* on 26 November 2008.

A wide range of organisations have taken an interest in the project and its findings. Many interested parties in Government and more widely have contributed their expertise to the process of assembling and analysing the evidence. The Project has brought diverse stakeholders together to explore future uncertainties, and has contributed material to help policy developers. For example the evidence papers, published in *Energy Policy Special Issue: Foresight Sustainable Energy Management and the Built Environment Project* (Volume 36, Issue 12, 2008), have been considered by policy teams in the Departments for Communities and Local Government, and for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform, and have contributed to the evidence base in the Office of Climate Change.

In addition to the engagement through the life of the project, the organisations in the table below have committed themselves to engaging with the scenarios and the findings in the ways specified. These commitments will be re-examined when the sponsoring Minister chairs the One Year Review in autumn 2009.

Organisation	Action
Department for Communities and Local Government	Communities and Local Government will work with the Foresight Follow-up team and project experts to hold an external workshop in early 2009. The workshop will support the development of the Eco-towns programme and explore ways of raising interest levels and increasing cross-governmental participation.
Department for Communities and Local Government and Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills	Foresight will work with: the Chief Scientific Adviser and policy officials in Communities and Local Government; the Technology Strategy Board; and, the Innovation Policy Directorate in the Department of Innovation, Universities and Skills, to develop thinking on stimulating innovation and exercising leadership in the deployment of retrofitting to address the challenges posed by decarbonisation of the existing housing and building stock.
Department of Energy and Climate Change	The Department of Energy and Climate Change welcomes the <i>Foresight Powering Our Lives</i> Project evidence base, report findings and futures scenarios, which will inform and support the development of policy especially on heat and energy savings issues. Over the coming months Government will discuss the UK's strategy for achieving an 80 per cent overall reduction in carbon emission by 2050 and will shape the vision for how individuals and communities can heat and power their homes and businesses in an affordable, secure and low carbon way.
Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills	The Adult Skills Directorate in the Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills notes the Project's findings and will blend them with their own work on Low Carbon Skills with the aim of establishing a high-level forum from across industry and across government departments. The forum will produce a high level delivery plan for the cross sector skills effort needed for the transition to a low carbon, resource efficient economy, with a view to handing this work to the Sector Skills Alliance on a date to be agreed.
Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform	In developing the Low Carbon Industrial Strategy the Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform will consider the findings of Foresight's <i>Powering Our Lives</i> project.

continued overleaf

Organisation	Action
Sustainable Development Commission	The Sustainable Development Commission welcomes the Foresight <i>Powering Our Lives</i> project report in light of the Commission's own publication, <i>Stock Take, Delivering improvements in existing housing</i> (2006). The Sustainable Development Commission will continue to work with Government and stakeholders on policy solutions for achieving substantial improvements in the existing housing stock. The findings of Foresight's <i>Powering Our Lives</i> project and the scenarios it has produced will help stimulate debate.
Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment	The Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment will host an event in early 2009 to provide a forum to launch the Foresight <i>Powering Our Lives</i> Project research and to debate the contribution it can make in tandem with the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment's Sustainable Cities programme due to launch in March 2009. This event will be specifically for architects, local authorities, planners, core cities and other built environment organisations. Key representatives from Government and academia will be invited to speak, capitalising on the popularity of previous joint Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment/Foresight events.
Research Councils UK	Representatives from the research councils, including the Energy Programme, will discuss the project's findings and further the implications for the future research agenda.