

Green Construction Roundup

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### **Periodical Articles**

#### **Ashley Primary School: any colour as long as it's green**

Ashley began life as a single-storey Victorian building, only to be turned into a warren of corridors and high-ceilinged classrooms by generations of additions and extensions. It's a vibrant place full of happy kids, but it isn't exactly environment-friendly

Article looking at how, when an expansion became necessary, the school grabbed the chance to increase its sustainability credentials

*Building*. 26 March (Pg. 48-49)

<http://www.building.co.uk/ashley-primary-school-any-colour-as-long-as-it's-green/3160494.article>

#### **Sustainability – renewable energy**

Renewable energy technologies have been a common component of building projects for a number of years. Typically, they have only been used when regulatory requirements (planning policy or funding compliance) have required it. Project teams would collectively groan when it became evident that a project would need to incorporate renewables

Looks at how the old grudging attitude to renewable energy is being slowly transformed by a series of financial incentives

*Building*. 26 March (Pg. 56-59)

<http://www.building.co.uk/data/sustainability-renewable-energy/3160582.article>

#### **Sustainability in practice – Part 1 Student survey**

While low carbon design is high on the agenda for most built environment students, there is much confusion over how to best teach it. This article presents the results of the AJ student survey.

*Architects' Journal*. 25 March (Pg. 33-36)

#### **Commercial carpet tiles**

Article by Sandy Patience on how huge amounts of used carpet goes to landfill and how companies must commit to reuse to gain the edge in the marketplace.

*Architects' Journal*. 25 March (Pg. 38-39)

#### **Green and warm: the car park championing renewable energy**

A car park may not be the place of choice for many to champion renewable energy, but the designers of new office complex in Bedfordshire have used this space to house a state-of-the-art energy efficient heating system. This article looks at the design and green features.

*New Civil Engineer*. 18 March (Pg. 24)

<http://www.nce.co.uk/features/energy-and-waste/green-and-warm-the-car-park-championing-renewable-energy/5215569.article>

## **Publications**

### **Eco-town worksheets**

The TCPA has published the eleventh and final Worksheet in the Eco-town Worksheet series, sponsored by Government, on the *Effective delivery of eco-towns*. The Delivery Worksheet concentrates on the opportunities and responsibilities that will occur when delivering an exemplar eco-town, and on the steps that can be taken to grasp them fully. The guidance draws attention to those subjects that need early attention and continued development, which include:

- Creating a vision
- Considering and identifying the full range of partners
- Using the ATLAS Statement of Intention to help structure actions of all partners in the early stages
- Identify positive environmental features
- Giving early consideration to a delivery structure to provide leadership, focus and a sense of responsibility
- Assessing and securing adequate skills and resources
- Considering and assessing how to procure infrastructure
- Building a business plan for delivery
- Giving some thought to long-term ownership and management of public amenities

The worksheet also warns against treating the eco-town as a major planning application, but more as a complex integrated project, requiring excellent project management and partnership throughout its period of delivery.

The Delivery Worksheet is the eleventh and final eco-town Worksheet, following on from transport, community development, water cycle management, green infrastructure, economy, towards zero waste, inclusive design, housing, biodiversity and energy Worksheets. Together, these represent a comprehensive set of best practice advice and support when planning an eco-town. To view the full series of worksheets, visit

<http://www.tcpa.org.uk/pages/sustainability-worksheets.html>

### **Cities towns and renewable energy**

The International Energy Agency (IEA) has recently published *Cities towns and renewable energy - yes in my front yard*. Many combinations of policies have been employed to stimulate local renewable energy development. These include: local governance by authority; providing resources; enabling private actors; leading by example; allowing self-governance.

The goals of this report are to inspire city stakeholders by showing how renewable energy systems can benefit citizens and businesses, assist national governments to better appreciate the role that local municipalities might play in meeting national and international objectives, and help accelerate the necessary transition to a sustainable energy future. The report includes several case studies chosen to illustrate how enhanced deployment of renewable energy projects can result, regardless of a community's size or location. Further details are available from

<http://www.iea.org/w/bookshop/add.aspx?id=380>

## **Web Resources**

### **EU renewable energy target**

The EU will, in general, meet its 2020 20% renewable energy target, according to an analysis by the European Wind Energy Association (EWEA) of all 27 Member States' national forecast documents. The EWEA analysis shows that EU member states are on course to achieve over 20% renewable energy by 2020, with 21 Member States meeting or exceeding their national targets. The top 21 are made up of 13 Member States who predict they will meet their target and eight who forecast they will exceed their target. Only six forecast they will not manage to reach their target through domestic action alone.

Top achievers are Spain, which believes it will reach 22.7% renewables by 2020, and Germany which expects to be 0.7%-points above its 18% target. In addition Estonia, Greece, Ireland, Poland, Slovakia and Sweden will exceed their targets.

The six who do not expect to meet their target are Belgium, Italy, Luxembourg and Malta, together with Bulgaria and Denmark - two countries which state that with fresh national initiatives they could meet or exceed their targets. Bottom of the league is Italy which, in order to meet its target, foresees importing renewable energy from neighbouring non-EU countries (Albania, Croatia, Serbia and Tunisia). For further

details see EWEA's table, which shows which countries are forecasting meeting, exceeding or using flexibility mechanisms to reach their targets, at [http://www.ewea.org/fileadmin/ewea\\_documents/documents/press\\_releases/2010/Which\\_Member\\_States\\_will\\_meet\\_their\\_targets.pdf](http://www.ewea.org/fileadmin/ewea_documents/documents/press_releases/2010/Which_Member_States_will_meet_their_targets.pdf)

## **Events**

### **How green is green - environmental profiling explained**

26 October (Monday) 4-6pm

BRE Global - free event, discussing how to validate claims about the environmental performance of building products. BRE experts will explain the assessment process of the Environmental Profiles Certification Scheme, established to provide ongoing independent, third party assessment and certification of construction materials and products for their environmental performance.

Venue - BRE, Watford

For more information please contact: Helen Ball, Tel +44 (0)1923 664303, E-mail, [ballh@bre.co.uk](mailto:ballh@bre.co.uk); or to book online visit

<http://www.bre.co.uk/events>

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