

THE PATHWAY TO NET ZERO

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We urgently require Government, working with industry, to collaborate to remove the regulatory and legislative barriers to allow the adoption of low carbon timber building systems.

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Government should aim to fast track the introduction of sustainability measures to reduce the embodied carbon footprint for all new builds.



BUILD WITH WOOD

The EU Green Deal requires significant reduction in greenhouse gases by 2030 across all sectors, including the built environment.

The decarbonization of our built environment needs to address the wider impact of embodied emissions.

To respond, Ireland urgently needs to embrace low-carbon construction methodologies at a meaningful scale.

WHY BUILD WITH WOOD?

Utilising local, sustainably managed forest resources to produce construction timber will deliver more sustainable buildings, supporting the drive to meet Ireland's climate targets and addressing ambitious housing targets.



TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE

Lower Carbon Emissions

Wood products store carbon that would otherwise be emitted back into the atmosphere and continue to store it for the life of the structure.

Lower Carbon Footprint

Being the least energy intensive to produce, they have the lowest embodied carbon of any mainstream building material and are therefore ideal substitutes.



DELIVERING RAPID AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Build Faster

Timber based Modern Methods of Construction deliver faster, more affordable homes for our citizens.

Build Sustainable

Prefabrication off-site in a quality controlled environment results in less waste and on-site environmental pollution.



SUPPORTING OUR ECONOMY

Promoting a Circular Bioeconomy

Sustainable wood products can be reused or recycled at end-of-life which reduces their environmental impact by extending the use of our natural resources.

Supporting 'Green' Jobs

Our forestry and forest products sector delivers €2.3 billion to the exchequer with annual exports of €573m while supporting significant rural employment.

KEY ENABLERS FOR BUILDING WITH WOOD

The Government should adopt a range of measures to facilitate, support and drive the necessary innovations and technology adoptions for timber-based Modern Methods of Construction (MMC).



POLICY & REGULATION

Unlock Regulatory Barriers

Amend revised Technical Guidance Document Part B to provide guidance for non-combustible materials above 11m height.

Address Total Lifecycle Emissions

Prioritise low carbon materials through embodied carbon regulation, targets and thresholds.



EDUCATION & PROMOTION

Educate Design Practitioners

Support the development of design guidance for timber building systems to combat misconceptions about fire risk and durability.

Increase Public Awareness

Undertake promotion activities to provide clarity around the environmental benefits of our forestry and forest products sector.



DEMONSTRATOR BUILDINGS

Demonstrate New Forms of Construction

Advance the design and construction of new forms of timber building systems to validate performance and compliance with regulations.

Incentivise Early Adoption

Introduce financial supports to demonstrate new forms of construction to drive demand, grow skills and increase confidence in these building technologies, allowing the industry to build capacity and invest.