

Press release: 30<sup>th</sup> July 2007  
For immediate release

## **First zero carbon homes training course reviewed by industry experts**

**Sustainable community specialists, BioRegional<sup>1</sup>, held their first zero carbon homes training session on 29<sup>th</sup> June within their education centre at the BedZED<sup>2</sup> eco-village in south London. The aims of the launch were to help the industry begin to plan a move towards the new standard and to gain feedback from the expert invitees to ensure that the course content would be of the highest standard and of most use to the industry. Several dates have now been set for further training sessions.**

Gordon Brown announced: "Within 10 years every new home will be a zero carbon home, and we will be the first country to make this commitment."

The launch of this Continuing Professional Development<sup>3</sup> course (CPD) was attended by CABE, Department of Communities and Local Government, Housing Corporation, Environment Agency, National Energy Foundation, Adapt Assessment (energy assessors) and planners from London boroughs, architects and housing associations.

*"At a time when we increasingly have to provide added value to our clients with regard to more sustainable construction, BioRegional's Zero Carbon Homes CPD course perfectly complements the internal training provided by our sustainability team."* Edwina McKechnie, Junior Consultant, Davis Langdon LLP

*"As pioneers in the field of providing Zero carbon Homes, I loved the platform for honest opinions and frank discussions on issues ranging from biomass and CHP to implementation in new and existing buildings."* Manmohan Dayal, Planning Officer, London Borough of Merton

*"I just wanted to add again how great I thought the CPD was and just to remind you I would like to hear it all again."* Magda Devaris, Adapt Assessment

Everyone building homes in the UK will have to adopt these standards by 2016. The training course will equip participants with the knowledge they need to deliver zero carbon homes. It covers policy, energy efficiency and energy generation for single dwellings and communities for new builds as well as existing housing stock. The CPD is grounded in first

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hand experience and is based on real case studies.

As with the launch event, subsequent CPD sessions will feature talks from Sue Riddlestone, founder and director of BioRegional, as well as seminars from Chani Leahong, sustainable development specialist at Fulcrum Consulting and Simon Corbey, sustainability consultant in the built environment. In addition to this there will be the opportunity for attendees to have their questions answered by members of the expert panel during the Zero Carbon Surgery.

BioRegional are development partners in BedZED, the Peabody Trust's award winning urban eco-village in south London, and as such, are uniquely placed to offer this training. With zero carbon housing becoming a rapidly expanding area of policy and industry, BioRegional will be holding events on the subject throughout the year<sup>3</sup>. To book places on a course go to: -

[www.bioregional.com/programme\\_projects/ecohous\\_prog/bedzed/bz\\_cpd.htm](http://www.bioregional.com/programme_projects/ecohous_prog/bedzed/bz_cpd.htm)

Course dates

Friday 28th September 2007

Friday 30th November 2007

Friday 25th January 2008

See our website for more BioRegional training courses - courses on sustainable procurement and reclaimed materials coming soon.

**Ends**

### **Editors Notes**

1. BioRegional Development Group is a visionary environmental organisation dedicated to developing practical solutions for sustainable living. [www.bioregional.com](http://www.bioregional.com)
2. BedZED – Beddington Zero Energy Development, the UK's largest eco-village, is a Peabody Trust development in partnership with BioRegional and designed by Zedfactory.

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3. Continuing Professional Development. Each one day course will count for 5 hours towards your training quota.
  4. High resolution digital photographs of the launch event are available.
  5. BioRegional CPDs are part-funded by London Councils, a membership body representing London's 33 councils [www.londoncouncils.gov.uk](http://www.londoncouncils.gov.uk)
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