



Annex B: low carbon buildings programme

The Low Carbon Buildings Programme was originally a £30 million capital grant programme, which will be administered by a consortium involving EST and BRE. £1.5 million was brought forward to smooth the transition between the previous grant programmes and the LCBP, meaning that between 2006 and 2009 there would have been £28.5 million available. There will also be an additional £5m in support of advice on low carbon design incorporating energy efficiency and microgeneration for the larger scale new build/major refurbishment projects. This tranche of funding comes from the Carbon Trust and can only be used for advice purposes.

Grants will be available for low carbon technologies including solar PV, solar thermal, micro-hydro, micro-wind, biomass, microCHP (including fuel cell powered microCHP) and heat pumps. In keeping with our previous approach to funding installations, grants will only be given to technologies that have been accredited and are installed by accredited installers. Newer technologies, such as microCHP, will have to go through an accreditation process (including a demonstration of their carbon saving potential).

In Budget 06 the Chancellor announced a further £50 million to be allocated through the Low

Carbon Buildings Programme. We are still working on the details as to how this additional funding will be spent. The outline below indicates how the original £28.5 million will be allocated.

This money will be split between two streams.

Stream 1 will fund individual and small-scale community projects. The £10.5 million allocated this stream will be provided on a tapered basis, along the following lines (see table opposite).

Stream 2 will have £18m to allocate and will also be split into two categories - retrofit/minor refurbishment and major refurbishment/new developments (see table opposite).

Retrofit/minor refurbishments will attract a maximum funding of £100k. Applications will be invited for grant support for microgeneration installations and assessed by DTI's independent assessors, in very much the same way as Stream 2 projects are currently handled under Clear Skies and the Major PV Demonstration programmes.



Stream 1

£m	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Household	3.5	2	1
Community	1.5	1.5	1
Total	5	3.5	2

Stream 2

£m	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Retrofit/minor refurbishment	3	2	1
New build/major refurbishment	5	5	2
Total	8	7	3

Evidence of energy efficiency will be required with applications but retrofit projects will not involve Carbon Trust advice: we will expect projects to incorporate best practice energy efficiency measures drawing on advice already available in the market.

Refurbishment and New Build will have a funded feasibility study and advice element and technology grant funding up to maximum of £1 million. The initial selection process will focus on choosing suitable buildings in order to engage the building management and construction industries as widely as possible. Calls will be made for suitable building projects, which will be assessed by experts working on behalf of the Carbon Trust and the DTI. The Carbon Trust will then work with successful applicants to develop initial options optimising the low carbon footprint of the building. This study will outline recommendations for low carbon design and recommend a shortlist of technically feasible microgeneration technologies. The building owner/developer will then decide which microgeneration

technologies to seek DTI funding for and will complete the grant funding application. The Carbon Trust will continue to provide light touch advice and support through the design, construction/fit out and commissioning phases of the project.

Further information and details on how to apply for grants can be found from April 3rd on the dedicated website for the programme - www.lowcarbonbuildings.org

