Endorsing the Infrastructure Carbon Review

Reduce carbon, reduce cost

Aimed at leaders within infrastructure organisations, the Infrastructure Carbon Review (ICR) aims to catalyse change and release the value of lower carbon solutions. It has already been endorsed by over 50 leading organisations.

Published in 2013, the ICR makes clear the potential to reduce up to 24 million tonnes of carbon from the construction and operation of the UK’s infrastructure assets by 2050 and save up to £1.46 billion/year – both reducing costs and improving productivity. The ICR sets out the content of carbon in infrastructure and practical steps to reduce it. A number of recommendations for wider action were developed, including the development of a PAS on Carbon Management in Infrastructure.

By endorsing the ICR, you commit to taking action in your organisation at the highest level to reducing carbon.

The industry-led Green Construction Board, which forms the sustainability workstream of Construction Leadership Council, is responsible for promoting the actions and commitments in the ICR and monitors actions undertaken by organisations.

Here is what some endorsers of the ICR have said:

“We have gained real value from lower carbon solutions. The greatest benefit comes from joining up the value chain, with the client taking the lead in defining clear ‘low carbon’ targets and being responsive to the opportunities that are offered. That’s what leads to positive sustainable outcomes.”

Chris Newsome, Director of Asset Management, Anglian Water and Chair of the GCB’s Infrastructure Working Group

“We are proud to pledge to lower our carbon emissions as part of our project to tackle pollution of the tidal River Thames. Through the Infrastructure Carbon Review we are demonstrating our commitment to low carbon and the protection of the wider environment”

Suzanne Burgoyne, Thames Tideway Tunnel’s Environment Manager

Here are some of the current endorsers:
How to endorse the ICR:

1. Consider at your Board / Senior management meeting the ICR statement below and 3 -6 specific commitments which you will undertake to support its implementation in your organisation:

Infrastructure Carbon Review - Statement of Endorsement

We endorse the Infrastructure Carbon Review and agree that the infrastructure sector should pursue lower carbon solutions that also cost less.

We will play our part within the value chain, and therefore commit our organisations to releasing the value of lower carbon through:
- Leadership – to create the environment and the imperative for change
- Innovation – to be the engine of change
- Procurement – to provide the mechanisms that enable the supply chain to respond

We agree that where it can reduce costs to the taxpayer and consumer, Government and industry clients should work together to incorporate carbon reduction objectives within their infrastructure projects and programmes by 2017.

Examples of ICR Specific Commitments

- We will nominate an Executive Director who will have responsibility for driving the carbon reduction agenda in our organisation
- We commit to holding a high-level event with the leaders of our supply chain to explore how we can collectively drive lower carbon solutions and stimulate innovation
- We will use the carbon maturity matrix to identify areas for development and to implement an action plan for driving improvement
- We will prepare a carbon management plan for all our major projects by 2017
- We aim to halve the carbon emissions (CO2e) embedded in the new assets we build by 2020 (from a 2015 baseline)
- We will offer a short course on carbon management in design in all our UK offices
- We commit to reducing our direct CO2 emissions by 20% per employee from a 2012 baseline
- We commit to implementing the forthcoming PAS for management of carbon in infrastructure and promote its use in our supply chain

2. Email the names of the ICR endorser and your specific commitments. Fill in the contact form on our website.

3. We will then prepare your individual statement of endorsement

4. Your details will be added the ICR page on the GCB’s website

5. Periodically you will be asked to report on progress against your commitments.
You can view the ICR main and technical reports and current endorsers on the Green Construction Board website: [http://greenconstructionboard.org/index.php/resources/infrastructure](http://greenconstructionboard.org/index.php/resources/infrastructure)