

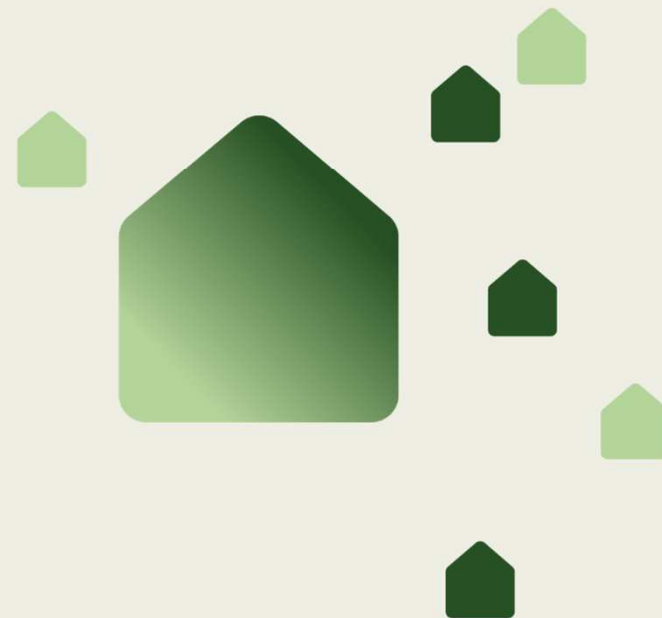
# Alan Ritchie



Chair, RSUA Climate Emergency  
Committee & Director, C60 Design

# Climate Action Paper

What changes are required to our  
built environment and how can they be achieved?



#CLIMATEACTION2023



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# About us

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The Royal Society of Ulster Architects  
strives to enhance Northern Ireland's built  
environment for the benefit of all through  
the promotion of architecture.

# RSUA Climate Emergency Committee

To help radically  
reduce our built  
environment's  
contribution to  
climate change and  
to help prepare for  
the impacts of  
climate change on  
Northern Ireland



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# Our Objective

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RSUA hopes the launch of the Climate Action Paper 2023 will ultimately assist in the development of plans to achieve the 2030 target and ultimately net zero by 2050.



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# Topics

1. Existing Buildings

2. New Buildings

3. Travel

4. Green

5. Building Materials

6. Heat and Power

# Structure of the paper

Within each topic we identify changes required.

For each change required we identify actions to be taken,  
by whom and by when.

Within each section we also identify ideas for further consideration  
and finally the actions that architects can take right now.

# Existing Buildings



**Ben James**  
Member of Climate  
Emergency Committee





**Improve the energy  
performance and  
reduce emissions  
from existing  
buildings**

**Increase re-use of  
existing buildings**



# Existing Buildings

What are the  
changes required?

# New Buildings

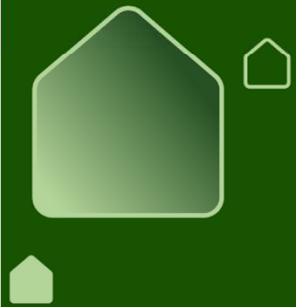
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**Dominic Morris**  
Member of Climate  
Emergency Committee

**Reduce energy  
consumption of  
new buildings**

**New buildings to be  
‘built to last’ longer  
to reduce material  
consumption**

**Reduce embodied  
carbon/emissions  
of new buildings**



# New Buildings

What are the  
changes required?

# Travel

—  
**Albert Parkhouse**  
Member of Climate  
Emergency Committee

**Reduce need for  
travel by traditional  
motor vehicles  
through healthy  
density**

**Reduce car use  
by making the  
alternative viable**



Travel

What are the  
changes required?

# Green

**Pearse McCann**  
Member of Climate  
Emergency Committee

**Increase native Irish tree coverage for future timber supply**

**Allocate green space in higher density urban areas through the planning process.**

**Improve security of food supply and reduce food miles by allocating space for urban food production**



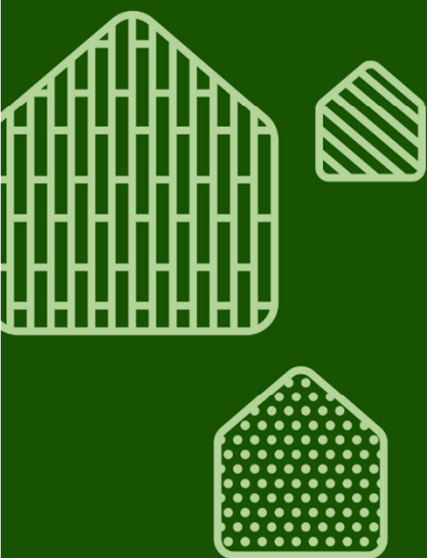
**Green**

**What are the changes required?**

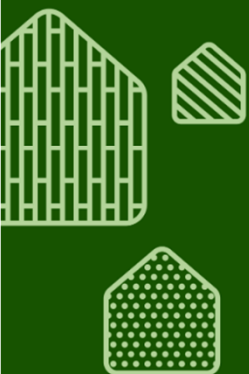
# Building Materials



**Maeve Gorman**  
Member of Climate  
Emergency Committee







# Building Materials

What are the changes required?

**Reduce material consumption in the building process**

**Reduce embodied carbon in construction projects**

**Increase use of local building materials**

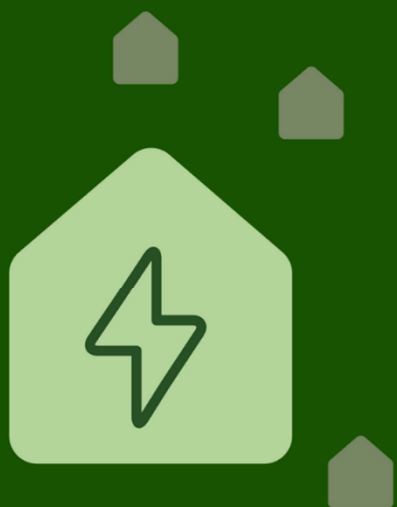
**Increase use of locally recycled building materials**

**Increase use of natural building materials**

# Heat & Power



**Peter Greenwood**  
Member of Climate  
Emergency Committee



**Remove carbon  
intensive fuels as the  
primary heat/cooling  
and power source for  
individual buildings**

**Facilitate local  
community heat and  
power production in  
existing communities  
and new developments**



# Heat & Power

What are the  
changes required?

# Climate Action Paper



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