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From the Minister of State for Climate Change & Environment
Ian Pearson MP

Dear Chris,

Thank you for your e-mail following up our visit to Southampton on 18th July. You were concerned that, in preparing the Code for Sustainable Homes, we should avoid the EcoHomes approach which you felt contains a significant imbalance in terms of the amount of weighting given to revenue based schemes (such as car pools) as opposed to capital based schemes (such as SUDs or wind turbines), to the potential detriment of the scheme's long term impact.

I have been looking into this with our lead department DCLG, and while the Code is still being finalised I would like to explain that the point system on which it is based would be very different from the EcoHomes approach. For example, the consultation document proposed that the Code concentrate on the sustainability of the building fabric and exclude items such as location and transport. It was also announced that energy efficiency, and water efficiency standards will be non-tradable at all levels of the Code, again a significant departure from the Ecohomes approach. We are nevertheless keen to learn relevant lessons from the EcoHomes experience.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



Thank you for taking the time to contact me; I have drawn your comments to the attention of officials involved in finalising the Code.

Yours ever,
Ian
IAN PEARSON