Governance, building regulation & users:

new challenges

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90% reduction in CO_2 by 2050

Three interlocking strands

50% efficiency gain (engineering & fabric)

x 50% demand reduction (social / management)

x 50+% decarbonisation

= desired outcome

Different instrument roles

- Requirements (statutory obligations, set minimum, control)

- Support (incentives and assistance, build capacity)

- Inform (public relations, EPCs, etc – works w markets)

- Research (data gathering, feedback)

Building Regulations

- Blunt instrument
- One-time & infrequent gateway
- One size fits all / lack of flexibility
- High dependency on hypothecation (simulation)
- Lack of certainty (about outcomes)
- Unintended consequences
- Sole focus on physical / technical aspects
- Lack of enforcement

Governance concerns

- Lack of clarity on unit(s) of assessment
- Performance gaps
- Lack of longitudinal data
- Linkage between policy formulation & outcomes?
- Too technocratic, no sense of agency / individual control

Promising governance ideas

- +ive and –ive lessons from voluntary schemes
- Active participation
  - literacy, responsibility and management
  - use of feedback
- Performance-based targets (incl cap-and-trade)
- Social equity / personal carbon allowances
- Annual accounts & Longitudinal data
- Guaranteed outcomes & "monthly plans"
- Retrofit planning over time
- Green leases

Some questions (1 of 2)

- ## Policy:

  Why is social engagement & facilitation neglected?

  What do policy-makers need to confidently engage?

- ## Strategy:

  Is energy demand reduction a 'public good' question? (reframe)

  New powers needed? Municipal roles?

- ## Focus:

  Fabric or agency?

  Technology or behaviours / social practices? Or both?

Some questions (2 of 2)

- **Narrative:**

    A positive, constructive message for society?

- **Delivery:**

    Are skills, services & contracts appropriate?

- **Follow-up:**

    Feedback and assistance?

- **Monitoring:**

    Who owns the data? What can be put in the public domain?

Research & policy challenges

• AGENCY: devise simple, clear narratives for good energy citizenship (corollary: social behaviours & practices)

• develop norms & schemes for assessing /acknowledging / rewarding frugal energy behaviours in relation to specific technological / social contexts (persona, demographics, etc)

• monitor actual outcomes & develop policy feedback

• develop education & training for (social) facilitation

• establish CLEAR mixed mode (agency and fabric) metrics

• trial new municipal instruments for facilitating mass retrofit

3 pillars of policy – what's missing?

- standards & regulation (satisfice)

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- markets & pricing (optimise)

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- strategic investment (transform); overcoming path dependencies; developing new solutions

But missing from the equation is:

- Leadership: establishing social practices, conventions & societal narratives

M Grubb, J-M Hourcade & K Neuhoff, 2014, *Planetary Economics: The Three Domains of Sustainable Development*