**LETI - Building Regulations Part L and F Consultation**

**Press release**

LETI have already been in touch with a number press contacts. We encourage Individuals/organisations wishing to approach journalists and media outlets independently, to cc LETI in on emails (admin@leti.london) so that we can keep track of media conversations.

**PRESS RELEASE– for media in the construction industry**

***LETI responds to the proposed Future Homes Standard***

*The Future Homes Standard, which will set standards for energy efficiency and carbon emissions from all new homes, is out for consultation until 10th January 2020. LETI has serious concerns with the proposals and urges a strong industry response. Influencing this standard is the single greatest opportunity individuals and organisations have to reduce carbon emissions.*

*2019 was the year of global climate strikes, the year we collectively acknowledged the climate emergency and the year the UK made a legally binding commitment to be Zero Carbon by 2050.*

*Our homes account for 27% of the UK’s total carbon emissions. If the UK is to be Zero Carbon by 2050, our homes need to be Zero Carbon.*

*The Future Homes Standard could be the single biggest tool in achieving that aim for new build homes. Unfortunately, it only seeks a 20-31% reduction in carbon emissions, which is not sufficient. Worse, it takes a step backwards on energy efficiency. Under the proposals, homes built in the future could be less energy efficient than homes built today, and would therefore need retrofitting to zero carbon standards not long after they’re built. Also embodied carbon is not considered. This is a gross oversight, given that any reduction in embodied carbon would be realised immediately. Finally, it proposes to prevent local authorities from setting higher standards in planning policy, thereby hindering cities from reaching their own zero carbon targets.*

*LETI has several recommendations. Firstly, the Future Homes Standard should target zero carbon in all new homes. Secondly, it should focus on improving building fabric to ensure homes are energy efficient. Thirdly, it should require the use of a metric, other than carbon, based on total energy use which is comparable to the home’s electricity meter. Fourthly, local authorities should retain their powers to set more ambitious and locally applicable targets. Finally, it should set a trajectory for introducing whole life carbon assessment and targets.*

*LETI – the London Energy Transformation Initiative - is a not-for-profit organisation made up of construction industry volunteers. We urge all members of the industry to respond to the government’s consultation. People and organisations can respond individually or become a signatory to LETI’s response at* [*www.leti.london*](http://www.leti.london)*.*

**PRESS RELEASE – for general media**

***The Future Homes Standard – LETI’s response***

*2019 was the year of global climate strikes, the year we collectively acknowledged the climate emergency and the year the UK made a legally binding commitment to be Zero Carbon by 2050. Our homes account for 27% of the UK’s total carbon emissions. If the UK is to be zero carbon, our homes need to be zero carbon.*

*In the next 5-10 years two million new homes will be built across the UK to the Future Homes Standard, which is out for consultation until 10th January 2020. This document will set standards for energy efficiency and carbon emissions. Unfortunately, under the government’s proposals, zero carbon is not being sought and homes built in the future could be less energy efficient than homes built today. Consequently all these homes would have to be retrofitted to zero carbon standard not long after they are built. In addition, the government proposes to prevent local authorities from demanding higher standards, thereby hindering cities from reaching their own carbon emissions targets.*

*LETI – the London Energy Transformation Initiative - is a volunteer network of construction industry professionals. We believe the proposed Future Homes Standard contravenes the UK’s 2050 zero carbon ambition. We believe the standard should target zero carbon in new homes and achieve this through high, energy efficiency requirements. In addition, local authorities should retain their powers to set more ambitious and locally applicable targets.*

*We urge organizations and individuals to sign up to LETI’s response at www.leti.london.*