



# REDUCING PLASTICS IN CONSTRUCTION SUMMIT

2 DECEMBER | 13:00-15:00

## Q&A

<p><b>olgaturner 01:33 PM</b> How does your product affect air quality during construction? Does it off gas a lot? Have you done any testing?</p>	<p><b>James Riley 01:46 PM</b> No affect to air quality during construction 100% Polypropylene</p>
<p><b>Stephen Cousins 01:52 PM</b> Hi Stephanie, what alternatives to plastic packaging are you looking at introducing, eg bioplastics, and how viable are they at present?</p>	<p><b>Stephanie Palmer (Wienerberger) 02:19 PM</b> Hi Stephen, thanks for your question! We are investigating biodegradable alternatives and have considered some bioplastics, but it's quite a minefield. Firstly for technical performance: we need it to be strong enough and be stable in sunlight and rain for several weeks. Secondly because of end of waste treatment: bioplastics can cause issues if they are 'recycled' with traditional plastics. The bioplastics and biodegradable materials often need to be treated in specialist facilities, which have limited capacity in the UK. We want to make sure we are making genuinely good decisions, so it takes a while to properly investigate alternative materials.</p> <p><b>Mark Turner (Action Sustainability) 02:23 PM</b> Also at present bioplastics will be eligible for the Plastic Packaging Tax - except I think the pure corn starch type stuff.</p> <p><b>Stephen Cousins 02:29 PM</b> Thanks Stephanie, really appreciate that</p>
<p><b>Anonymous Attendee 02:07 PM</b></p>	<p><b>Kieran Roche (Valpak) 02:09 PM</b></p>

<p>Hi Kieran, how can we prove that the plastic packaging contain 30% recycled content? Is any standard behind that available?</p>	<p>HMRC has published some initial guidance which I can point you toward separately</p> <p><b>Mark Turner (Action Sustainability) 02:13 PM</b>  HMRC are very proactive in preparing organisations for the Plastic Packaging Tax. You'll find lots of useful content here <a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/register-for-plastic-packaging-tax">https://www.gov.uk/guidance/register-for-plastic-packaging-tax</a></p> <p><b>Nick Ribbons, Zero Waste Scotland 02:26 PM</b>  I believe there may also be a certification scheme for plastic packaging producers but I don't have the details to hand. Happy to look into this offline for you.</p>
<p><b>olgaturner 02:16 PM</b>  What testing was done to show there is no off-gassing? Thanks</p>	<p><b>Emily Skinner (Smile Plastics) 02:25 PM</b>  We use a material and manufacturing solutions company to review and asses our processes. I would have to get back to you on the standard assessed against.</p>
<p><b>olgaturner 02:45 PM</b>  Carl this is great! Please can you share the MVHR provider's details and also have you thought about certifying your homes to WELL (a healthy building certification)? Looks like it could do really well and be a first for a HA to do this too! Drop me a line if so! (olga@ekkist.co)  We'd happily do an initial review for you free of charge!</p>	<p><b>Carl Taylor (Greensquare Accord) 02:59 PM</b>  Yes we are happy to provide the details. We challenged both the Manufacturers we use for MVHR to see what they could produce. If you send your contact details we can provide the contact we are working with in the Company as we are not using one of their standard products so this is currently bespoke to us in a residential setting.</p> <p>As for the accreditation we haven't is the honest answer but happy to talk through as one of the minor drivers for the project was the healthy house agenda. Happy to discuss. drop me an email <a href="mailto:carl@rch.coop">carl@rch.coop</a></p> <p><b>olgaturner 03:01 PM</b>  Perfect! Thank you!</p>
<p><b>Anonymous Attendee 01:34 PM</b>  Does Protec do anything else to reduce their carbon emissions? E.g. renewable energy for your facility or low emission/electric vehicles for delivery and collection</p>	<p><b>James Riley (Protec) 01:53 PM</b>  Yes, we currently have 80% renewable energy currently looking into solar energy options</p>
<p><b>ClaudiaAmos 01:36 PM</b>  How does the 100% recyclable fit with the 60% of PP going back into the products, are the</p>	<p><b>James Riley (Protec) 01:48 PM</b>  The fillers and compounds from the recovered sheets go into the new production, the new</p>

<p>fillers and compounds recycled elsewhere. Thanks</p>	<p>production relies on new fillers and compounds 40% per sheet</p>
<p><b>Anonymous Attendee 02:50 PM</b> In the virtually plastic free houses are products such as shower trays, toilets etc. plastic free as well?</p>	<p><b>Carl Taylor (Greensquare Accord) 02:55 PM</b> Yes. We are using ceramic for the shower, toilet etc and clay pipes.</p>
<p><b>ClaudiaAmos 02:06 PM</b> Kieran, are these EPR costs for house builders only or across the packaging sector?</p>	<p><b>Kieran Roche (Valpak) 02:08 PM</b> EPR costs will fall directly on importers &amp; producers in the first instance. However it is very likely that these fees will be shared across the supply chain indirectly</p>