

Battling the climate emergency one brick at a time

As the world battles with an impending climate emergency, we all have a responsibility to mitigate the damage we do.

With the reduction of CO₂ emissions a primary focus, the housebuilding sector is challenged to find a lower-carbon solution to its new-build requirements.

It's a challenge that Marshalls takes seriously. And you should too.

The size of the opportunity

The average house uses

8,000
BRICKS

Total number of houses built in the UK in 2019:

195,000

1.4bn

The approximate number of bricks used in UK housebuilding in 2019

91%

The percentage of bricks in house building made from traditional clay

Total carbon produced per brick in its lifetime:

602g
CLAY

306g
CONCRETE

28%

less carbon is produced in the manufacture of concrete bricks compared to clay

Total lifetime saving in carbon production by switching to concrete bricks:

49.1%

2.4
TONNES

Total lifetime CO₂ saving per house built from concrete bricks

The impact of making the switch

If UK housebuilders switched to concrete bricks for all the houses built in just one year the lifetime CO₂ savings would be equivalent to:

300,000
cars taken off the road*

Reducing transatlantic flights by almost half a million*

NET ZERO

UK government has committed to "net zero" carbon emissions by 2050

300,000
UK' new housing target per year by 2025

The housebuilding sector cannot meet both its building targets and the required reduction in embodied carbon in the materials it uses using conventional fired clay bricks.

*Based on calculations made from publicly available EPD and housebuilding data

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Marshalls

Creating Better Spaces