

5 Steps to Energy Statement Success

1. Plan – people who arrive at the requirement to undertake an Energy Statement late in the design process are usually unhappy about its impact to the cost, design and amenity of the project. Early appointments save time, money and disappointment.
2. Specify – even though the detailed design isn't on the horizon for some time it is worth thinking about some technical delivery issues that might change building fundamentals, e.g. are the walls thick enough to reach our target U-value?
3. Test – a benefit of the Energy Statement process is that it allows an early test of compliance through the creation of an energy model. An energy model which can be used to test design options to discover what works and what doesn't.
4. Communicate – the Energy Statement should explain clearly what is being offered by the building in terms of energy performance and how this compares to planning policies set by the Local Authority.
5. Listen – the Local Authority may have some inside knowledge about local heat network expansion or how to apply carbon emissions offset costs which can improve both the financial and environmental performance of the project.