Valuing Sustainability

The Commitment of the RICS
About RICS –
The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors

- Professional body for Chartered Surveyors founded in 1868
- International member organisation with HQ in London
- Over 140,000 members in over 140 countries
- 50 national associations with World Regional Offices in Brussels, Hong Kong, New York, Sydney
- 500 accredited courses
- 500 industry research and policy papers each year
- Protection of the public interest: strict **code of ethics** – applies to all members → Controlled by Regulation Department
- Oldest & largest organisation for property professionals worldwide
RICS and Embedding Sustainability
RICS and Embedding Sustainability – where we have come from

- RICS adopts a Sustainability Policy written by the Presidential Commission on Sustainability in 2005.
- RICS signs Vancouver Valuation Accord in March 2007.
- RICS leads the way in sustainable development information.
The Vicious Circle of Blame

Owners / End Users
'We would like to have sustainable buildings but there are very few available.'

Investors
'We would invest in sustainable buildings, but there is no demand for them.'

Designers & Constructors
'We can build or retrofit buildings in a sustainable way, but developers don’t ask for it.'

Developers
'We would ask for sustainable buildings, but the investors won’t pay for them.'

Adopted from: David Cadman

www.rics.org
Towards Sustainable Property Markets
- Breaking the Vicious Circle of Blame

Owners / End Users
'Ve demand and occupy sustainable buildings because they are cheaper to run, increase our well-being and improve our image.'

Investors
'Ve invest in sustainable buildings because that's what occupiers want and because they give better returns and have higher value growth potential.'

Designers & Constructors
'Ve design and construct sustainable buildings and environments because that's what our clients want and what society expects.'

Developers
'Ve develop sustainable buildings because they are easier to sell, achieve higher prices and are much more resistant to obsolescence.'
The Central Role of Valuers in breaking the Vicious Circle of Blame

**Owners / End Users**
- "We demand and occupy sustainable buildings because they are cheaper to run, increase our well-being and improve our image."

**Assessors / Certifiers**
- "We assess and communicate the sustainability performance of buildings because that's the basis for improved decision-making."

**Valuers & Advisors**
- "We recognise the benefits and reflect this in our estimates of market value and calculations of worth as well as in our advice given to clients."

**Designers & Constructors**
- "We design and construct sustainable buildings and environments because that's what our clients want and what society expects."

**Researchers**
- "We find out what works best and why and we empirically prove the benefits because that's what everybody needs to know."

**Educators**
- "We spread the knowledge on sustainable buildings because that's critical for the implementation of sustainable development principles within the profession."

**Policy Makers**
- "We create a supportive legal framework for the benefit of all."

**Insurers**
- "We grant better insurance conditions for sustainable buildings because they offer many loss prevention benefits."

**Investors**
- "We invest in sustainable buildings because that's what occupiers want and because they give better returns and have higher value growth potential."

**Banks**
- "We grant better financing conditions for sustainable buildings because they are less risky."

**Owner Associations**
- "We represent the interests of our members but we also encourage them to improve sustainability performance."

23 September 2008
RICS has established a cross-faculty **Sustainability Working Group** to provide a focal point for all sustainability related activities across the organisation and to give guidance with regard to toolkits for members, research papers and events.

RICS has set up an **EU Advisory Group on Sustainable Property Investment & Management** as well as an **Oceania Sustainable Steering Group** to carry out research, to exchange information and to liaise with decision makers & other stakeholders.

RICS has formed a **Valuation Sustainability Group** to provide practical guidance for valuers on how to integrate sustainability issue into their daily work.
Setting the scene: The EU Advisory Group’s first publication

- To raise and examine the key issues and challenges in the context of property related decision making.
- To illustrate that property professionals need to and do accept their professional responsibility.
- To review how the sustainable development discourse relates to our understanding of the role of valuers and their practices.
- To highlight that the key to facilitating more sustainable property markets lies in how we understand and value our built environment.
Setting the scene: The EU Advisory Group’s first publication

Seven Sections:

- Why is it important to have Sustainable Buildings?
- Why must the Refurbishing of the Existing Stock be a Priority?
- What is Sustainable Property Investment?
- What is the Role of Location in creating Sustainable Property Markets?
- Why are more Sustainable Construction, Investment & Management not yet Mainstream?
- Why does the Valuation Profession have a Central Role?
- Why do we need to turn the Vicious Circle of Blame into Loops of Feedback and Adaption?
Setting the scene:
The EU Advisory Group’s first publication

“It is becoming evident that a property’s economic value also depends on the building’s capability to create and protect environmental, social and cultural values.”
From Theory to Practice: The Valuation Sustainability Group’s first publication

Valuation Information Paper on:

Building Sustainability into the Non-Domestic Property Valuation Process

Key Issues:

- The Role of the Valuer
- Requirements for building and site inspection and other investigations
- Linking Sustainability Characteristics to Value (assessing market response and impacts on valuation input parameters)
- Reporting to Clients

Planned publication date: Spring 2009
The RICS has clearly recognized that a sustainable development of the built environment is in accordance with its public interest role and objectives.

As planners, developers, asset managers, valuers, cost consultants, facilities managers, etc., RICS members are uniquely placed to contribute towards sustainability - all the phases of the property life cycle are represented within RICS.

RICS members are the interface between the public and the property sector.
SB08 Special Forum
David Lorenz

Thank you for your attention