

Region of Hannover | Germany



The present success of the Passive House movement in the state capital of Hanover and in the Hanover Region builds on a long political process relating to climate protection. This started in the 1980s when Hanover opted out of nuclear energy.

Regional progress towards the Passive House Standard in the City of Hanover began with the redevelopment of the city district of Hannover-Kronsberg as an ecological model project within the framework of the EXPO 2000, comprising low-energy buildings and a Passive House housing estate. In 2007, the Hanover City Council passed a resolution concerning "Ecological standards for construction in the municipal sphere of influence" that ardently promotes the Passive House Standard. The "Master plan for 100% climate protection in the City and Region of Hanover" is currently being prepared jointly. The project is based on 20 municipal action programmes and concepts for climate protection as well as the regional framework programme for climate protection. Through region-wide approaches and visionary schemes, this master plan aims for a 95% reduction in greenhouse gases and a 50% reduction in energy consumption by the year 2050 compared 1990 levels. The specific focus of these climate protection efforts will be on energy efficient construction based on the Passive House Standard as well as modernisation and full exploitation of renewable energy potentials in the region.

The extremely successful development of the zero-emissions housing estate zero-e-park in the south-west of the state capital of Hanover constitutes yet another significant milestone, where 300 terraced, semi-detached and free-standing single family houses will be built to the Passive House Standard, complemented by renewables such as solar thermal and hydropower. Due to the high demand, the three construction phases are being developed much faster than was originally planned.

The energy-Fonds proKlima agency has supported the Passive House movement in Hanover for over 15 years. The regional funding body started with the wide-scale introduction of Passive House through initial projects and then provided information and quality assurance to stakeholders through a standardised subsidy programme.

