



## Steve Charter

### SC2 Sustainability Consultancy, Director

Steve Charter's background is in **sustainability strategy** and **innovative and pioneering sustainability projects** working in partnership with local authorities and at the strategic level working with public, education, private and social enterprise sectors.

Since 2005 Steve has led work on significant **sustainable building skills and education projects** in the Kent Thames Gateway (SusCon) for KCC and in Yorkshire for Kirklees Council, and is recognised as having particular expertise in this area. This work and more recent work for Kent CC vocational training unit has involved the development of frameworks and actions plans for comprehensive county-wide sustainable building and sustainable technology skills programmes. (incorporating skills for low carbon performance for existing buildings).

Steve proposed, designed and helped implement the **UK's first local sustainable construction strategy (2000)** for South Somerset District Council and helped establish the Somerset Trust for Sustainable Development (est. 2000, now Ecos Trust) – **the UK's first Development Trust focused on sustainable construction** (Planning and Research Director from 2000-2003).

During his time at STSD Steve led work with Julian Brooks to deliver a number of seminar series on 'Planning for Sustainable Construction' for local authorities, and helped organise 2 major sustainable construction conferences in Somerset and for Surrey County Council.

Whilst working with KCC on the SusCon project Steve was part of group of expert contacts providing critical comments on drafts for a sustainable construction technical appendix for Kent Design Guide. Other relevant work undertaken by Steve includes:

**2009: Kent County Council – draft frameworks for sustainable building skills and sustainable technology skills.**

**2009: UK Green Building Council Sustainability Training and Education Programme Task Group - Steve is a member of this invite-only Task Group (voluntary).**

**2008-2009: Kirklees Council - vision, business planning and stakeholder engagement for Yorkshire Centre for Sustainable Buildings, with Reasons To Be Cheerful.**

**2005-08: Kent County Council – SusCon - concept development, stakeholder engagement & training lead for a major sustainable construction centre in the Kent.**

**2005-08: Kent County Council – Kent Foresight project - advancing a strategic approach to developing inter-related landmark sustainability projects in Kent, as formulated in the draft Kent Sustainable Futures Industries Strategy.**

**2006: Hadlow College - Hadlow College Foresight – writing and presenting a vision document aimed at establishing Hadlow College as a leader in the sustainable land management and sustainable rural economy field.**

**2005: Julian Brooks Associates / Redtree Developers – Sustainability Strategy for Sherford, a new community of 5000+ homes in Devon - working with Julian Brooks Associates to write the Sustainability Strategy for the new settlement of Sherford which received planning permission in 2008.**

**2000-2003: Planning & Research Director, Somerset Trust for sustainable development – including main author of: *Planning for Sustainable Development and Construction* (2001), *Sustainable Design and Construction for schools and educational buildings 2003* (STSD, WWF Sponsored), and *Sustainable Construction for Community Buildings and Village Halls: A Guide to 21st Century Building*, 2002 (STSD) - with Julian Brooks.**

**Contributing author: the Sustainable Housing Forum's first report, [Building Sustainably: How to Plan and Construct New Housing for the 21st Century](#), 2003 (TCPA/WWF).**

**1998-2000: Director, Somerset Sustainable Housing – including main author of *The Somerset Sustainable Housing Study*, 1999 (SSH).**

**1993-5: Leicester Environment City (environ) - Agenda 21 Coordinator, with a key role in developing and implementing both city and county Agenda 21 strategies.**

**1993-5: Visiting Lecturer and co-founder Green Planning course for MA and BA students, University of Nottingham Institute of Planning Studies.**

**1992: 'Planning for Sustainability?' - practically focused RTPI prize-winning MA dissertation (Environmental Planning, University of Nottingham) which analysed the effectiveness and failings of local authority sustainability strategies and implications for planning policy, with Sutton and Leicester used as case studies.**

**MA Environmental Planning (RTPI Approved) – including course prize for Excellence in Examinations and highest dissertation mark.**

**BA (Hons) Economics & Geography**

**Diploma in Applied Permaculture Design**

#### Expertise in:

**Skills and knowledge for sustainable built environment.**

**Local and Regional Sustainability Strategies Sustainable Buildings Skills Centres & Regional Skills Programmes Sustainable Communities Strategies**

**Sustainability & Regeneration Strategy Sustainable Futures Industries (SFI) Sector Development Strategy Design & Specification of Pioneering Sustainability Projects**

**Education for Sustainability Social Enterprise for Sustainable Development**

#### Major Clients include:

**Kirklees Council  
Kent County Council  
South Somerset Partnership (District & County Councils)**

