Future-cast:
Timber construction and whole life carbon

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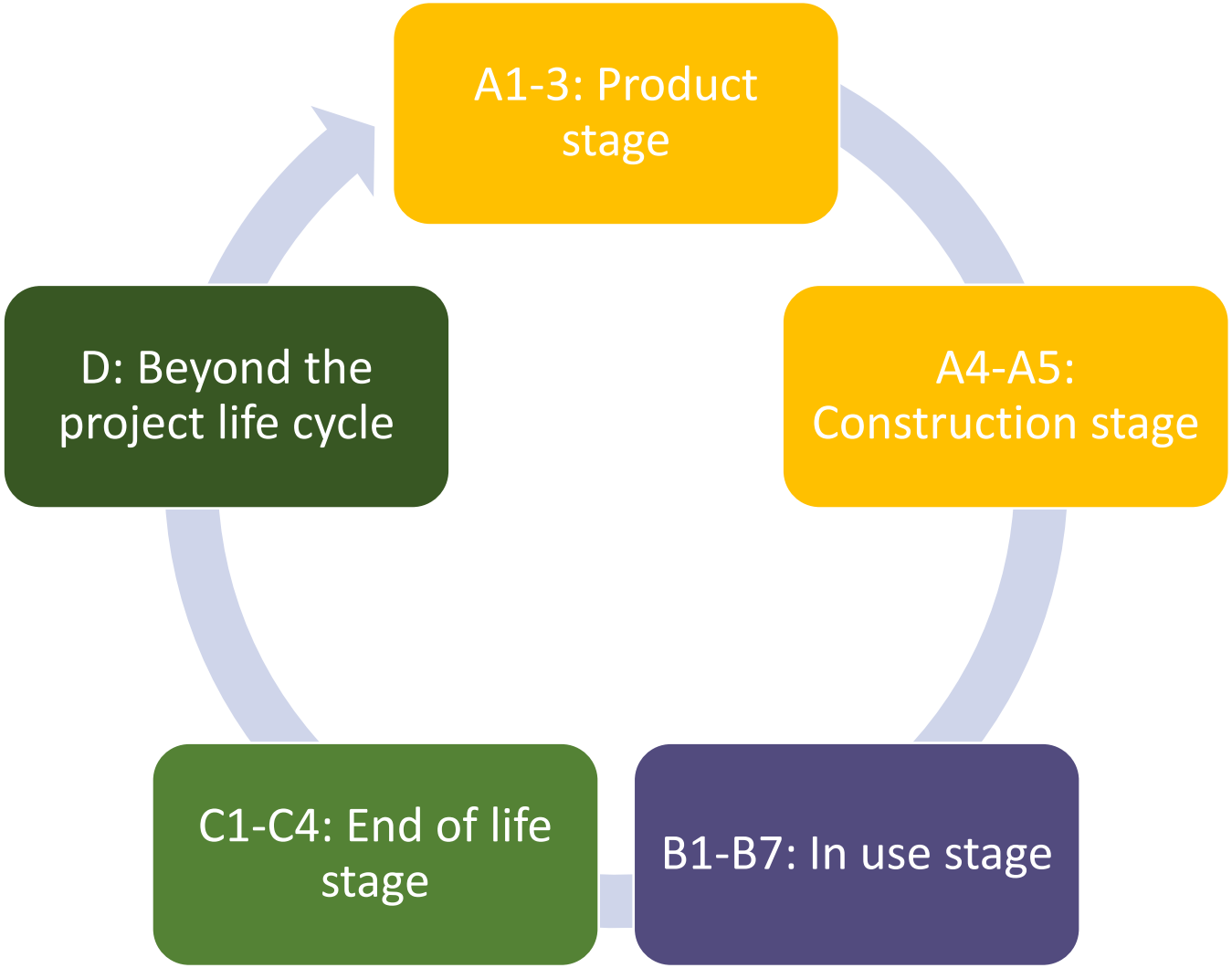
2024 / Structural Timber Conference
London

Chris Gaze

Whole life carbon



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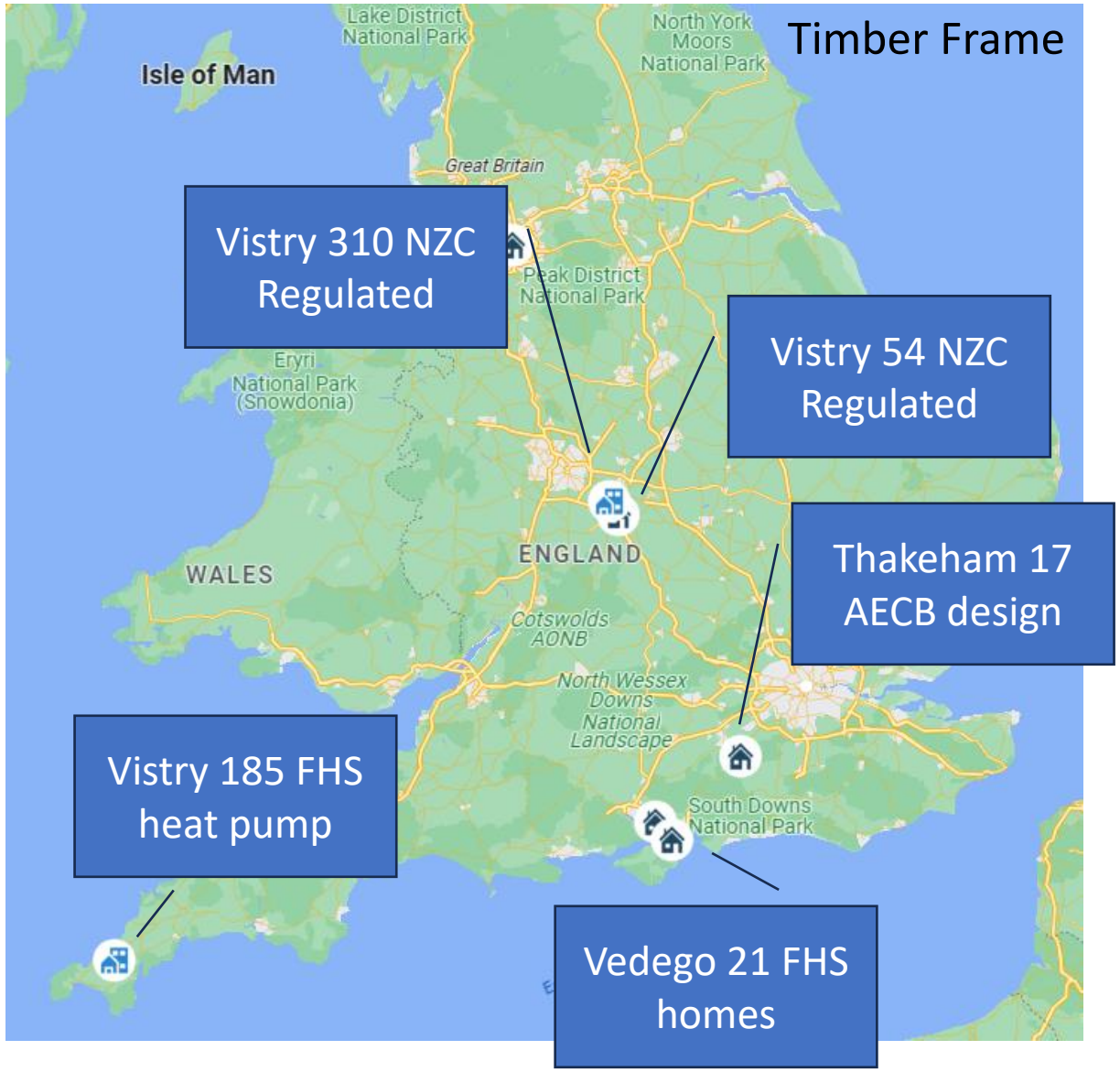
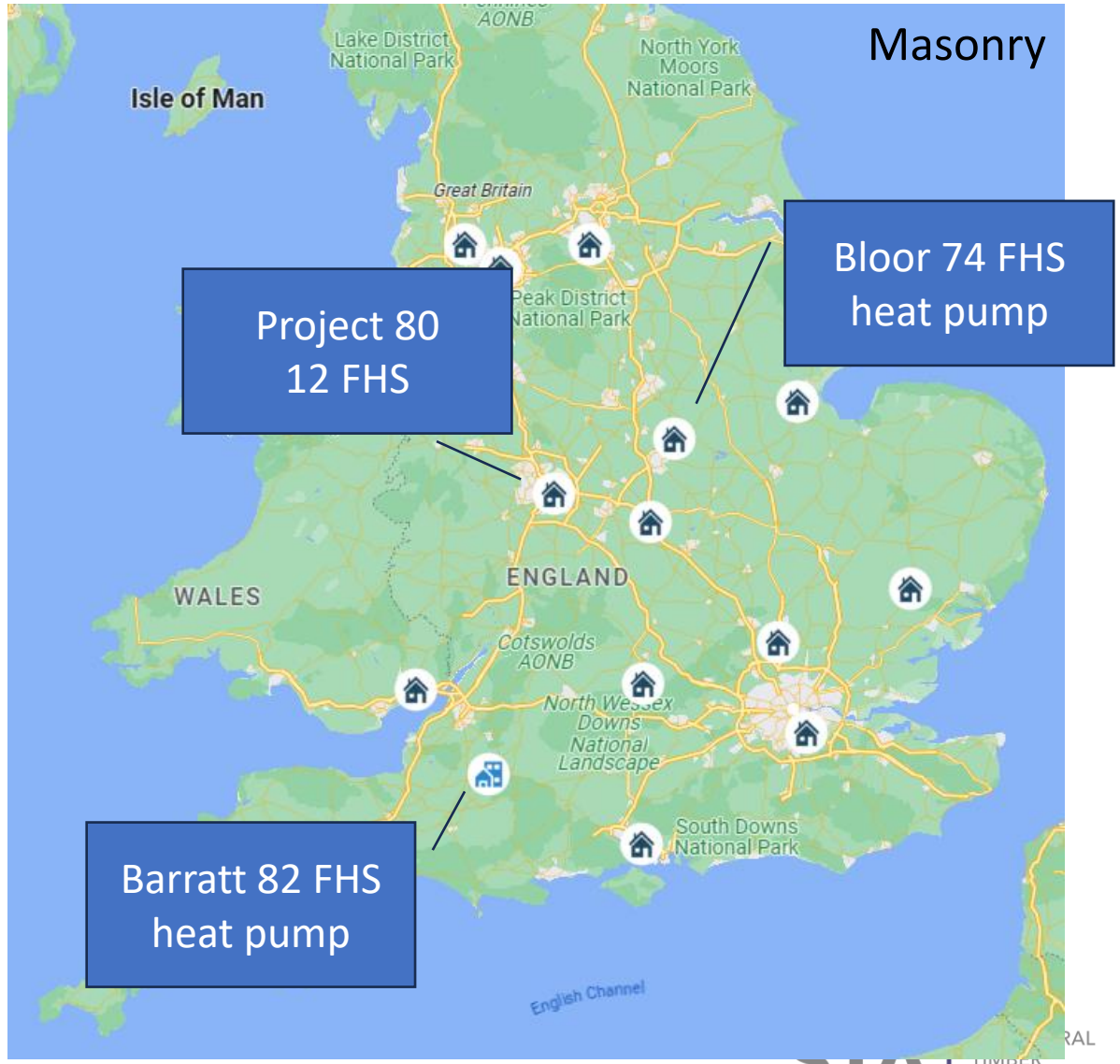
Carbon in-use: FHS Case Srudies (see Future Homes Hub)





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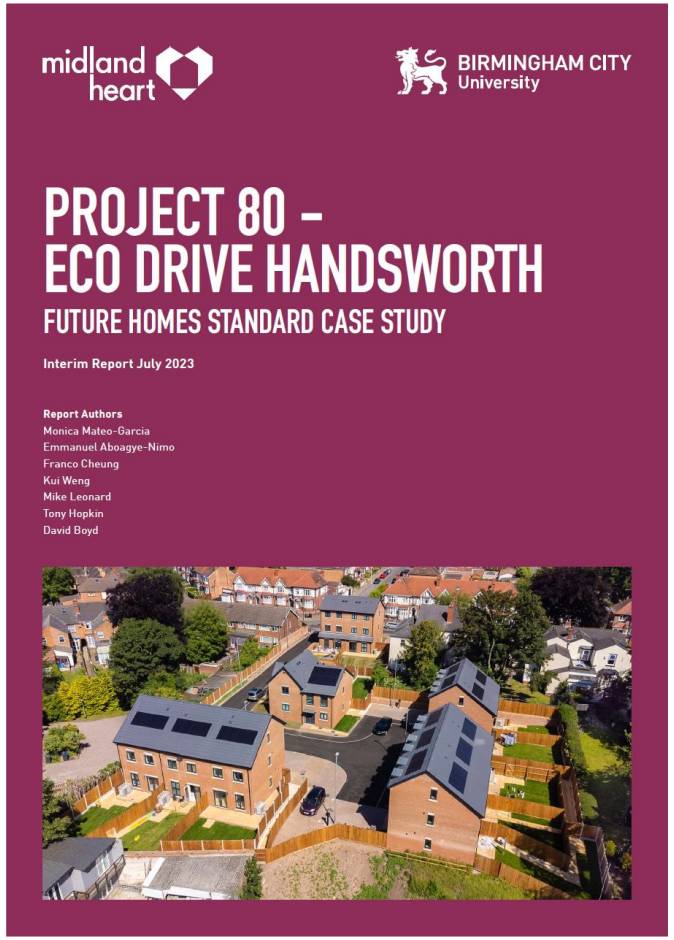
Project 80: Design Specification

	Type 1	Type 2	Type 3
External wall U-value (W/m2 K)	0.13	0.13	0.13
Air permeability (m3/h/m2)	1.5	1.5	5
Y-value	0.028	0.0274	0.028
Ventilation	MVHR	MVHR	IEF

As built: 2.43 & 2.46

As built: 2.58 & 2.98

As built: 4.51 – 4.99 (8 homes)



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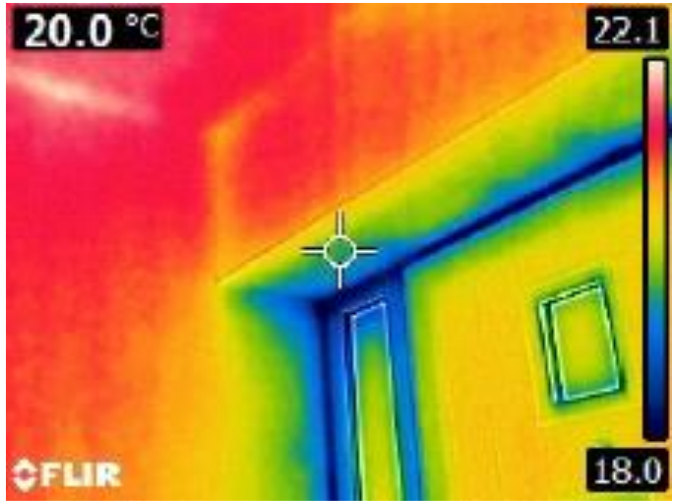
Project 80: Construction and costs

- Fully filled 150mm cavities
  - Clean mortar from behind bricks
  - Placing solid insulation
  - Detailing around windows
  - Xtratherm insulation 382% additional cost (average £2900 per house)
- Type 1 & 2 non-permeable blocks
  - Average £1200 per house
- Type 1 & 2 polymer spray
  - No one else can work in the houses
  - Average £2900 per house
- Improvements will be made
  - Trades will improve
  - Costs will reduce



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Future Homes Hub Details (see guides)

U-value	Insulation	Structure	Description (dims in mm)	Dim
0.19 15% timber fraction	Mineral wool λ=0.032	Lightweight blk	140mm full fill cavity	370
		Timber Frame	Int cavity, low-e BM, 140 stud	342
	PIR λ=0.022	Aircrete	75mm insulation & 50mm cavity	355
		Timber Frame	Low-e BM, 120 PIR in 140 stud	317
0.18 masonry/ 0.17 timber frame 15% timber fraction	Mineral wool λ=0.032	Aircrete	150mm full fill cavity	380
		Timber Frame	Int cavity, low-e BM, 25 PIR over boarding, 140 stud	367
	PIR λ=0.022	Aircrete	85mm insulation & 50mm cavity	365
		Timber Frame	Int cavity, low-e BM, 25 PIR over boarding, 90 PIR in 140	367
0.15 15% timber fraction	Mineral wool λ=0.032	Aircrete	185mm full fill cavity	415
		Timber Frame	Int cavity, low-e BM, 40 PIR over boarding, 140 stud	382
	PIR λ=0.022	Aircrete	85 insulation in cavity & 50 clear. 35 on plasterboard	390
		Timber Frame	Int cavity low-e BM, 25 PIR over boarding, 90 PIR in 140	367

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13

2

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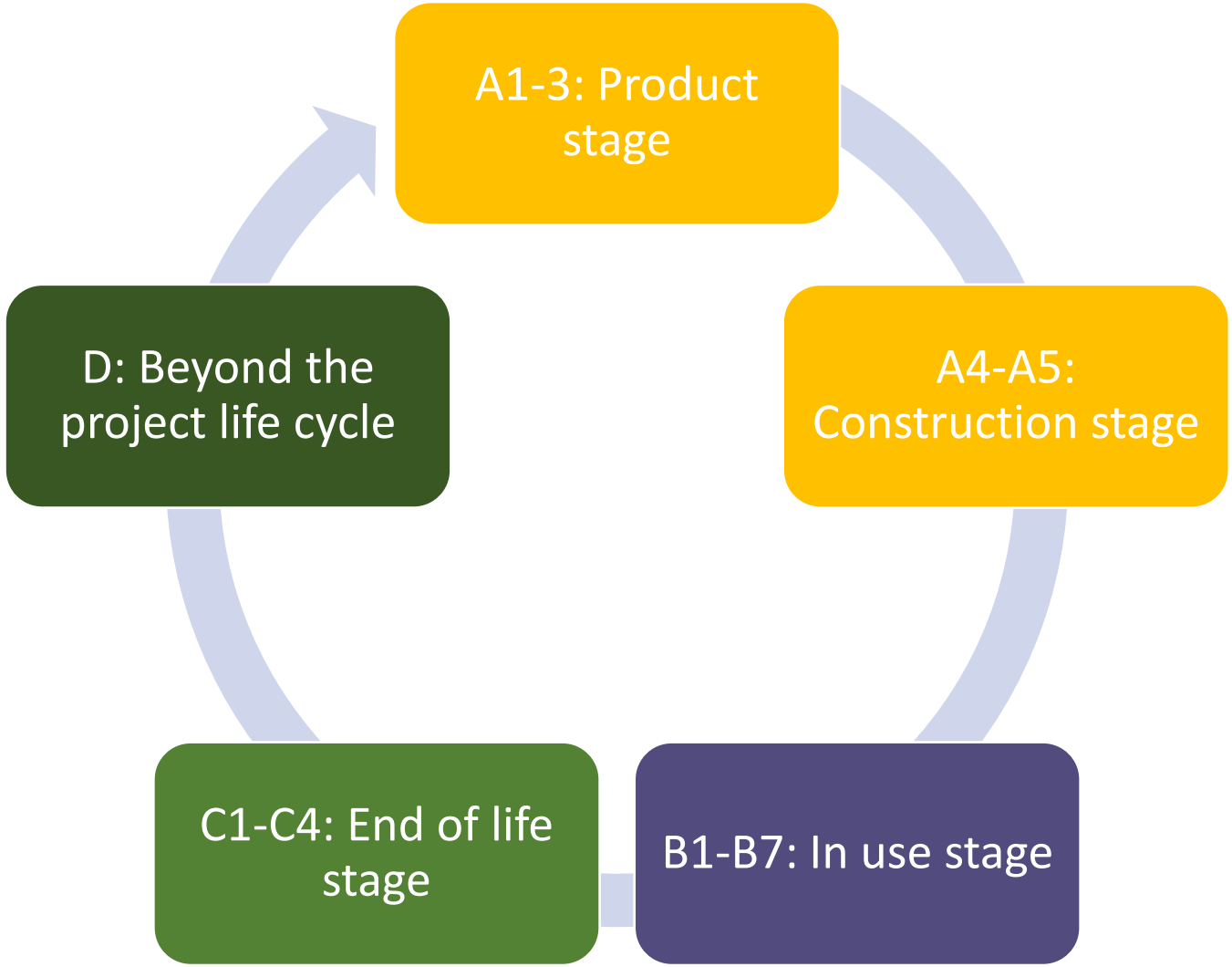
Whole Life Carbon vs Embodied carbon



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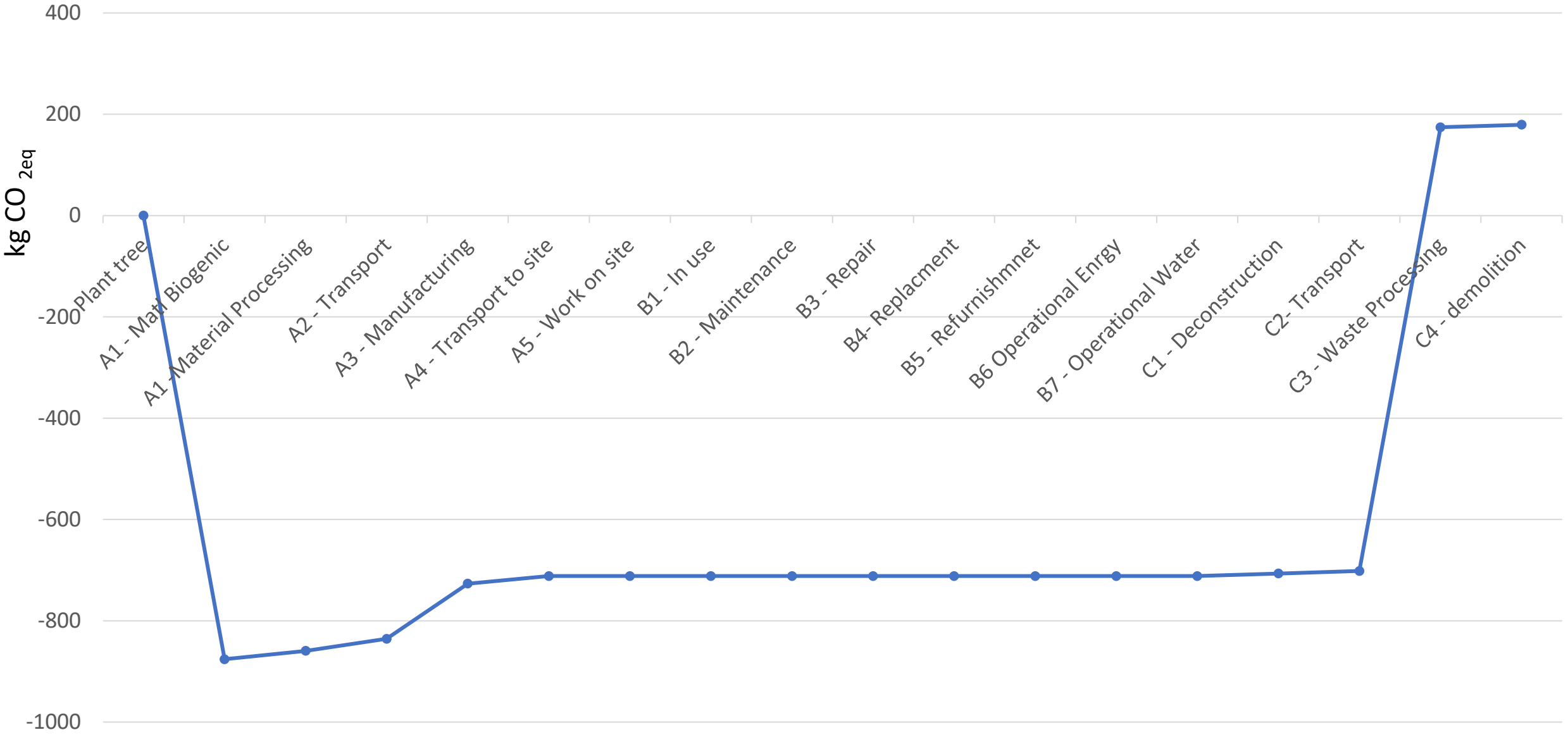
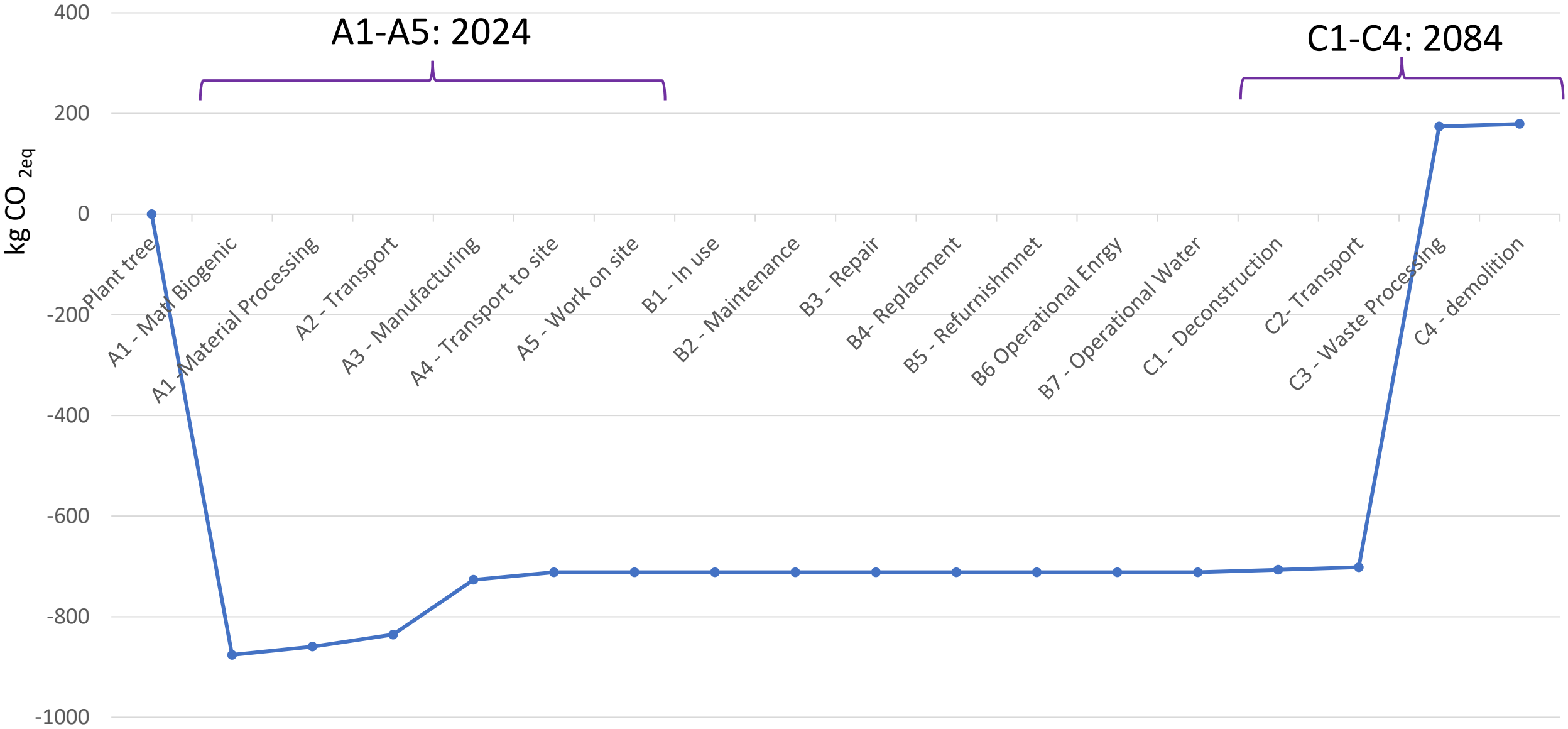
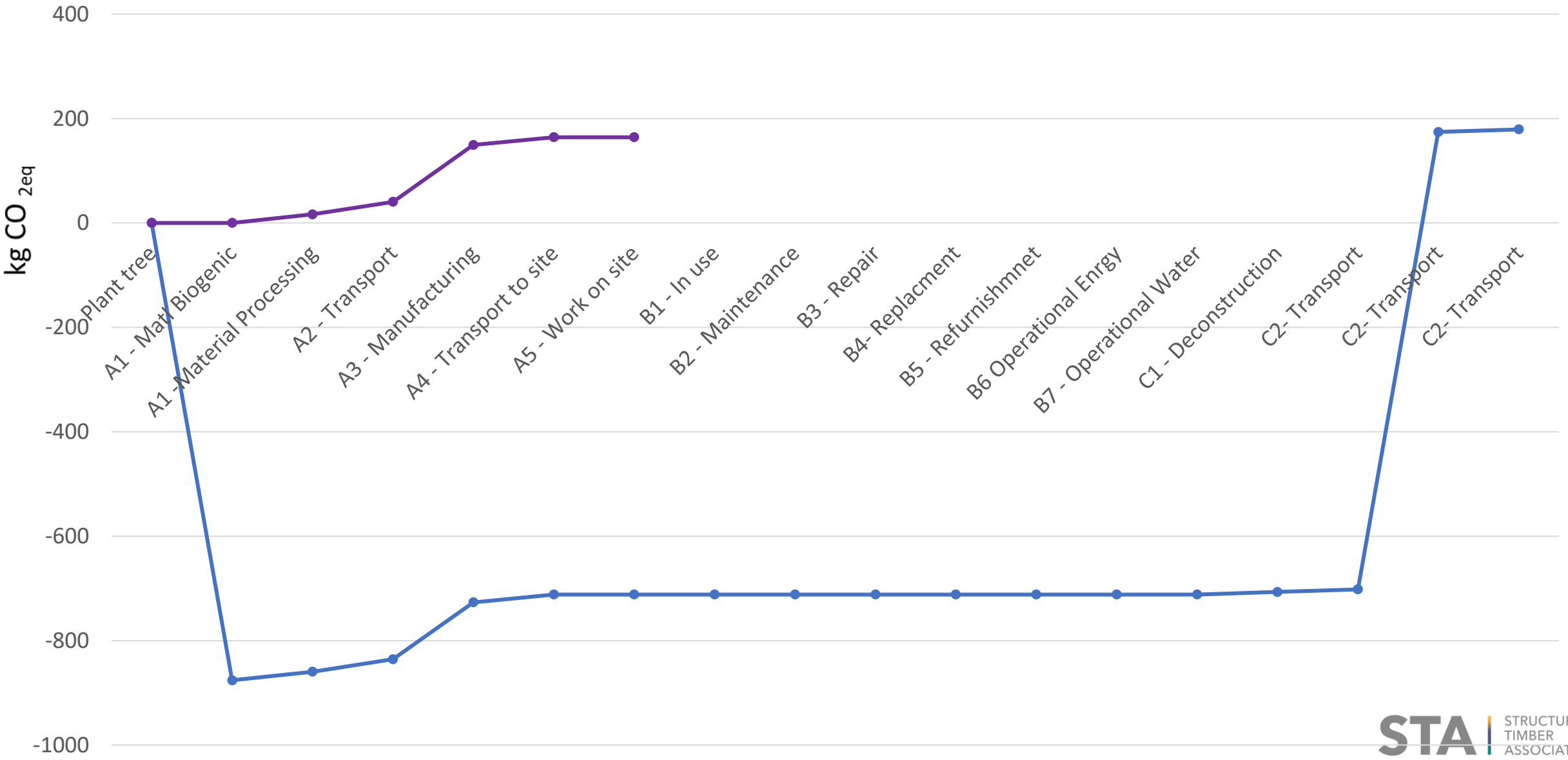
Whole Life Carbon for 1m^3 of timber (indicative only)



Whole Life Carbon for 1m^3 of timber (indicative only)



Upfront carbon only (ignore biogenic carbon)



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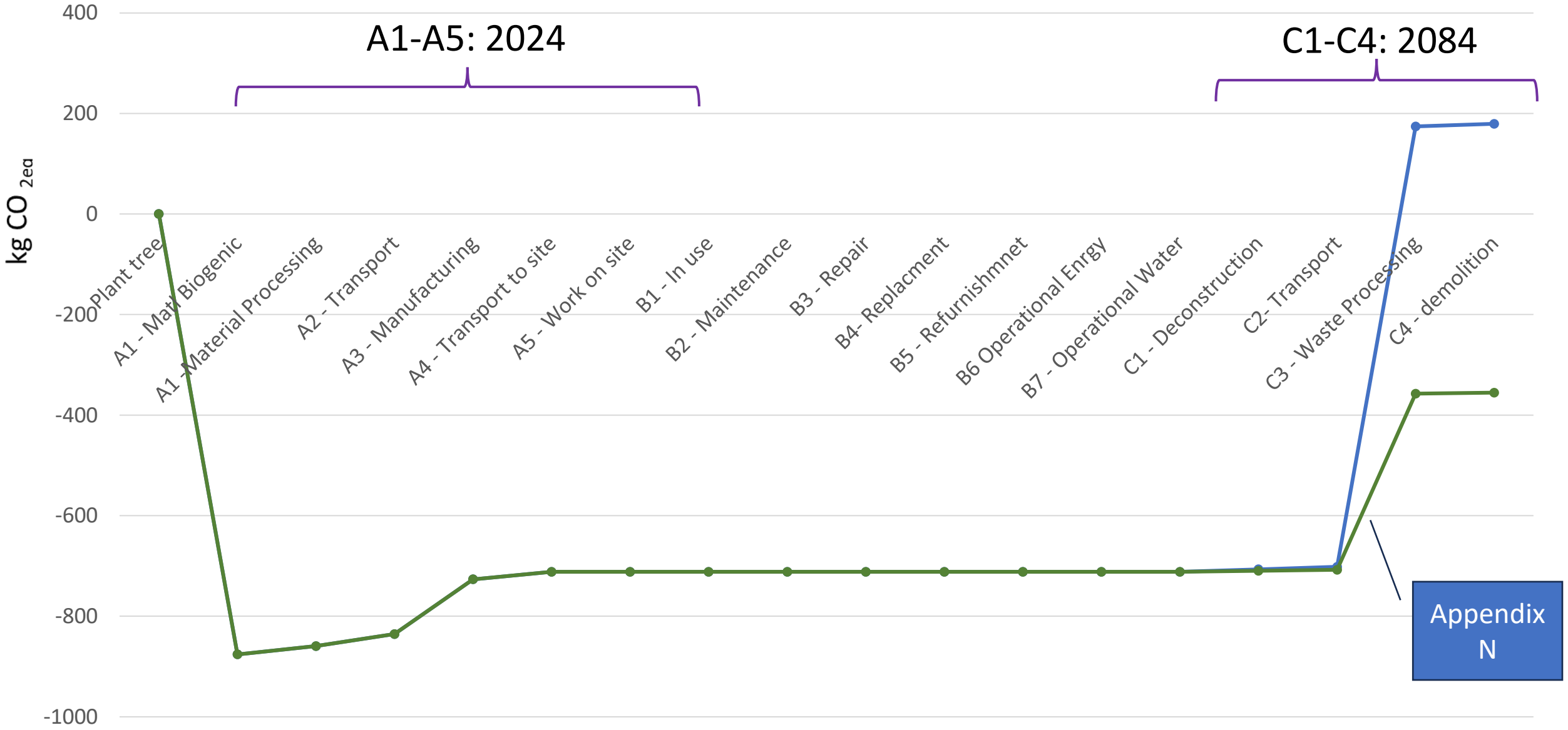
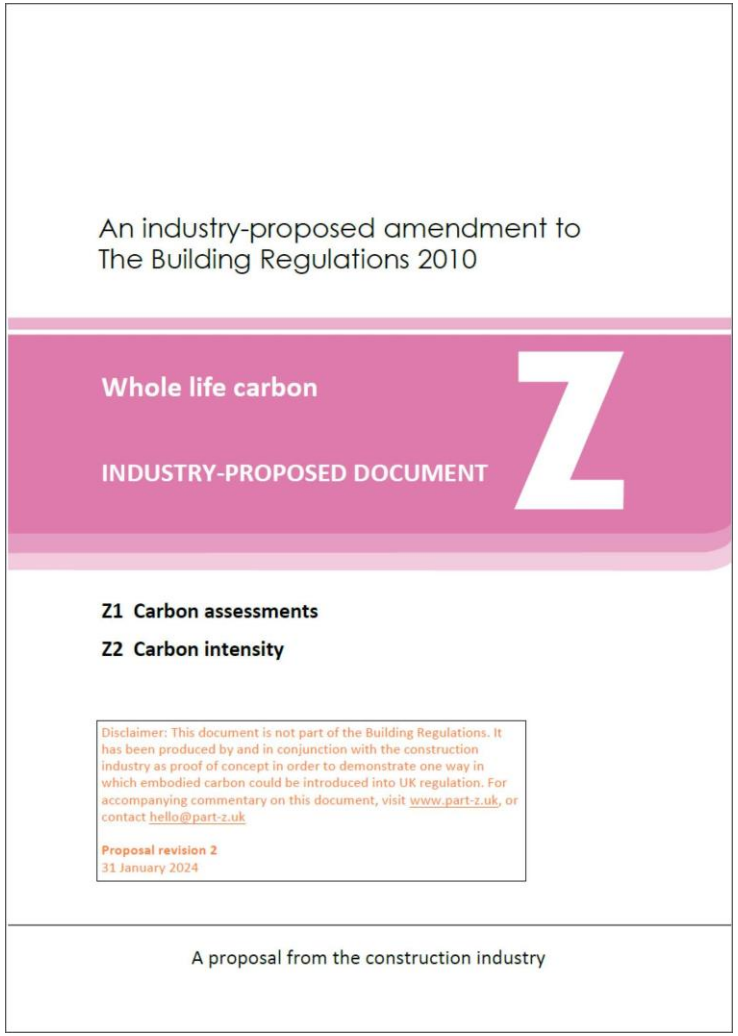
Time Value of Carbon over 60 years



Whole Life Carbon Calculation is coming

- WLCA is coming
  - Significant lobbying (including Part Z campaign)
- Government to seek views – could be this year
- The RICS Professional Standard main calculation "cancels out" the advantages of sequestration
- Benchmark yourselves – perhaps via the Future Homes Hub
- Look to reduce carbon wherever you find it



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Conclusion: Carbon Headlines

- Good whole carbon results
  - Not to be taken for granted
- Compact walls for a given U-value
- Airtight (if you want it to be)
- A dry process which quickly produces a weathertight shell

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