

Standards & Regulations

England Main Changes - Part L 2013:

They came into effect on 6th April 2014.

- New homes need to emit 6% less carbon dioxide (CO₂) than previously
- 9% reduction in CO₂ emissions for new non-dwellings
- Introduction of Fabric Energy Efficiency Standard for new dwellings
- No changes to Window Energy Ratings (WERs) or Window U values in existing dwellings: Minimum band C for WERs
- Maximum Window U value of 1.6 W/m²K
- Introduction of Door set Energy Ratings (DSER) for existing dwellings (minimum band E)
- Restrictions remain in place on the use of centre pane U-values in measuring compliance
- Recognition of the benefits of supplementing existing single glazing with low-e secondary glazing
- No major changes to window requirements in existing non-dwellings

Wales Main Changes - Part L 2014:

Approved Documents for Wales were in force from 31st July 2014.

- 8% aggregate reduction in CO₂ emissions (domestic)
- 20% aggregate reduction in CO₂ emissions (non-domestic)
- Mandatory limiting fabric standards (domestic)
- Consequential improvements extended (triggered by extensions)
- No change for domestic window and door replacements:
- Minimum band C for WERs
- Maximum Window U value of 1.6 W/m²K
- Current exemption for conservatories remains (subject to conditions)

Northern Ireland Main Changes – Part F 2006:

An amendment document went live on 24 February 2014 for use on 25 February 2014.

- Maximum Window U value of 2.2 W/m²K in new dwellings
- Maximum Window U value of 2.0 W/m²K in existing dwellings
- Minimum band E for WERs for existing dwellings
- Conservatories greater than 30 m² floor area
- Require a maximum window u value of 2.2 W/m²K or glass centre pane U value of 1.2 W/m²K in buildings other than dwellings

Technical Booklets F1 and F2

Both documents are revised to broadly cover considerations listed above. There are no additional carbon emission reductions over the 2012 documents.

Republic of Ireland - Revisions to Part L of the Building Regulations:

In July 2006 amendments were introduced which, in effect, brought the requirements for windows in non-housing into line with those which already applied to dwellings. Therefore, all building types now require new and replacement windows to achieve a maximum U value of 2.2 W/m²K.

Scotland Main Changes – Section 6 Energy 2010:

In April 2010, the Scottish Government released the most recent versions of the domestic and non-domestic Technical Handbooks in support of the Building (Scottish) Regulations 2010, which came into effect in October 2010.

- 30% aggregate target reduction in CO2 emissions for all new buildings
- Window Energy Ratings (WERs) or Window U values in existing dwellings:
- Minimum band C for WERs
- Maximum Window, door and roof lights U value of 1.6 W/m²K
- Conservatory exemption moved to a floor area 8 m² or more. With glazed elements not exceeding 2.0 W/m²K.
- Restrictions remain in place on the use of centre pane U-values in measuring compliance
- Recognition of the benefits of supplementing existing single glazing with low-e secondary glazing

