

The Future Buildings Standard consultation 2021 – Key Questions

There are 130 questions in the consultation but we have identified 27* of them as particularly important to respond to. The top 4 are:

Question 11 on Primary Energy - **No**

Question 14 on Natural gas - **No**

Question 22 on Proposed minimum fabric standards for non-domestic buildings - **C**

Question 110 on Fabric energy efficiency for new homes - **C**

The other questions will give you the opportunity to express your opinion on the other big issues, including the insufficient ambition for airtightness and MVHR or the issues associated with the Notional building.

* Questions

1,9,10,11,12,13,14,17,18,19,22,23,24,37,40,50,60,86,87,93,97,104,105,106,109,110,117

Section A: Non-Domestic Buildings

The Future Buildings Standard

Question 1: Our aim is that buildings constructed to the Future Buildings Standard will be capable of becoming carbon neutral over time as the electricity grid and heat networks decarbonise.

Do you agree that the outline of the Future Buildings Standard in this chapter meets this aim?

- a. Yes
- b. No

Interim uplift to Part L standards for non-domestic buildings

Question 9: We would welcome any further suggestions, beyond those provided in this consultation, for improving the modelling process; Part L and Part F compliance; and the actual energy performance of non-domestic buildings. Please provide related evidence.

Question 10: What level of uplift to the energy efficiency standards for non-domestic buildings in the Building Regulations should be introduced in 2021?

- a. Option 1 – average 22% CO₂ reduction
- b. Option 2 – average 27% CO₂ reduction (this is the Government’s preferred option)
- c. No change
- d. Other level of uplift (please specify)

Please explain your reasoning and provide supporting evidence or alternative suggestions where applicable.

Question 11: Do you agree with the way that we are proposing to apply primary energy as the principal performance metric?

- a. Yes
- b. No

If you answered no, please explain your reasoning.

Question 12: Do you agree with using CO₂ as the secondary performance metric?

- a. Yes
- b. No

If you answered no, please explain your reasoning.

Question 13: Do you agree with the approach to calculating CO₂ and primary energy factors, referred to in paragraph 3.5.7 of this consultation document?

- a. Yes
- b. No

If you answered no, please explain your reasoning and provide supporting evidence or alternative suggestions.

Question 14: Do you agree with the proposals for natural gas being assigned as the heating fuel for any fuels with a worse CO₂ emission factor than natural gas?

- a. Yes
- b. No

If you answered no, please explain your reasoning and provide supporting evidence or alternative suggestions.

Question 17: Do you agree with the proposal for connecting to an existing heat network, as presented in the draft NCM modelling guide?

- a. Yes
- b. **No, they give too much of an advantage to heat networks**
- c. No, they do not give enough of an advantage to heat networks
- d. No, I disagree for another reason

If you answered no (b, c or d), please explain your reasoning and provide supporting evidence or alternative suggestions.

Question 18: Do you agree with the proposal for connecting to a new heat network, as presented in the draft NCM modelling guide?

- a. Yes
- b. **No, they give too much of an advantage to heat networks**
- c. No, they do not give enough of an advantage to heat networks
- d. No, I disagree for another reason

Question 19: Do you agree with the proposed changes to the National Calculation Methodology Modelling Guide and activity database?

- a. Yes
- b. Yes, but additional changes should be made
- c. **No**

Question 22: Do you agree with the proposed minimum standards for fabric performance in new non-domestic buildings as presented in Table 2 of this consultation document?

- a. Yes
- b. No, the standards go too far
- c. **No, the standards do not go far enough**
- d. No, I disagree for another reason

Question 23: Do you agree with the proposed minimum standards for fabric performance of new thermal elements in existing non-domestic buildings as presented in Table 3.3 of this consultation document?

- a. Yes
- b. No, the standards go too far
- c. **No, the standards do not go far enough**
- d. No, I disagree for another reason

Question 24: Do you agree with the draft guidance in paragraph 4.15 of the draft *Approved Document L, volume 2: buildings other than dwellings* on reducing unwanted air infiltration when carrying out work to existing non-domestic buildings?

- a. Yes
- b. No

Question 37: Do you agree with the proposal that wet space heating systems in new buildings should be designed to operate with a flow temperature of 55°C or lower?

- a. Yes, through a minimum standard set in paragraph 5.9 of the *Approved Document L, volume 2: buildings other than dwellings*
- b. Yes, through carbon and primary energy credit in SBEM
- c. Yes, by another means
- d. No, the temperature should be below 55°C
- e. No, this standard should not be applied to all new buildings
- f. No, I disagree for another reason

Question 40: Do you agree with the efficiency proposals for replacement fixed building services in existing non-domestic buildings as detailed in paragraphs 5.4 to 5.7 of draft *Approved Document L, volume 2: buildings other than dwellings*?

- a. Yes
- b. No

Question 50: Do you agree with the proposal that when whole wet space heating systems (i.e. boiler and radiators) are replaced in existing non-domestic buildings the replacement system should be designed to operate with a flow temperature of 55°C or lower?

- a. Yes, through a minimum standard set in paragraph 5.9 of *Approved Document L, volume 2: buildings other than dwellings*
- b. Yes, through carbon and primary energy credit in SBEM
- c. Yes, by another means
- d. No, the temperature should be below 55°C
- e. No, this standard should not be applied to all existing buildings
- f. No, I disagree for another reason

Question 60: Do you agree with the proposed approach to energy forecasting, as detailed in paragraph 9.4 of draft *Approved Document L, volume 2: buildings other than dwellings*?

- a. Yes
- b. No, I do not agree with the proposed approach
- c. No, energy forecasting should not form part of the Building Regulations

Section B: Domestic Buildings

Standards for overheating in new residential buildings in 2021

Question 86: Do you agree with the maximum glazing area and shading standards for limiting solar gains in the simplified method as detailed in paragraphs 1.6 to 1.9 of the draft *Overheating Approved Document*?

- a. Yes
- b. No

Question 87: Do you agree with the approach to removing excess heat in the simplified method as detailed in paragraphs 1.10 to 1.13 of the draft *Overheating Approved Document*?

- a. Yes
- b. No

Question 93: Do you agree that the building should be constructed to meet the overheating requirement without the need for mechanical cooling?

- a. Yes
- b. No

Question 97: Do you agree with the protection from falling guidance proposed in Section 3 of the draft *Overheating Approved Document*?

- a. Yes
- b. No

Part L standards for domestic buildings in 2021

Question 104: Do you agree with the proposed minimum fabric standards for existing domestic buildings set out in Table 6.1 of this consultation document?

- a. Yes
- b. **No**

If you answered no, please explain your reasoning and provide supporting evidence.

Question 105: Do you agree with the proposed minimum fabric standards for existing domestic buildings set out in Table 6.1 of this consultation document?

- a. Yes
- b. **No**

Question 106: Do you agree that we should control the primary energy and fabric energy efficiency of new extensions to existing homes when using the SAP method of compliance?

- a. Yes
- b. **No**

Question 109: Do you agree with the proposed minimum fabric standards set out in Table 6.2 of this consultation document, and Sections 4 and 11 of draft *Approved Document L, volume 1: dwellings*?

- a. Yes
- b. **No**

Question 110: What level of FEES should be used for Part L 2021?

- a. Option 1, full fabric specification
- b. Option 2, fabric specification x1.15
- c. **Neither, it should be higher**
- d. Neither, it should be lower

Question 117: Do you agree with the proposals for requirements relating to the assessment of overall energy performance of building services installations and providing information to homeowners, as detailed in Sections 8 and 9 of draft *Approved Document L, volume 1: dwellings*?

- a. Yes
- b. No, I do not agree with providing this guidance
- c. **No, the guidance should be improved**