

# BRIEFING



HBF Briefing: Building Regulations Consultation Package

1<sup>st</sup> February 2012

## BUILDING REGULATIONS CONSULTATION PACKAGE

Communities Minister Andrew Stunell yesterday launched the consultation package regarding proposed changes to the building regulations.

Mr Stunell said changes to the country's building regulations would make new homes, shops and offices warmer and cheaper to run, support growth and take England a step closer to meeting its bold low carbon commitments.

Responses can be provided up until **27<sup>th</sup> April 2012**, other than the proposals related to the Green Deal where responses have been requested by **27<sup>th</sup> March 2012**.

The consultation package consists of four parts (sections)  
These are namely,

- Section 1 - Introduction to the consultation package and proposals on Parts A, B, C, K, M and N, Access Statements, security, Changing Places toilets and Regulation 7
- Section 2 – Part L (Conservation of fuel and power)
- Section 3 - Part P (Electrical safety - dwellings)
- Section 4 - the building control system.

The most important part for members will be Section 2 – Part L (Conservation of fuel and power)

This section sets out detailed proposals surrounding Part L.

These include proposals for tighter carbon dioxide emission standards for new homes and non-domestic buildings, to take the next step towards 'zero carbon' standards, plus tighter performance standards for works to existing buildings. The paper also contains proposals to introduce, on a phased basis requirements for additional energy efficiency

improvements to be carried out when other specified works (eg extensions) are planned, and Green Deal finance is available as an option to meet the up-front costs.

There are two questionnaires/response forms within this section:

- Response Form 1 relates to the proposals for additional 'consequential' improvements in existing buildings, and the deadline for submission of this is **27 March 2012**
- Response Form 2 covers the remaining changes, and the deadline for submission of this is **27 April 2012**.

HBF will be holding member meetings to discuss and formulate an HBF response to Section 2 (Part L - Conservation of fuel and power) and we will be sending out a note to members advising them when and where this will take place.

We will of course be responding to all of the other sections but as they are a light touch affair compared to Part L we will only be holding member meetings if we receive sufficient requests from members.

Therefore, if you are interested in attending a meeting to discuss Sections 1, 3 or 4, probably in London, could you please respond to Rosie at [rosie.hinchliffe@hbf.co.uk](mailto:rosie.hinchliffe@hbf.co.uk). We will advise accordingly. If no meeting/s take place we will of course circulate a draft of our response for you to comment on and to help you formulate your own response.

Links to the consultation sections are shown below

Main summary page (including 'easier to read summary'):

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/buildingregulations/buildingregulationschanges/>

Section one of the consultation (proposals on Parts A, B, C, K, M and N, Access Statements, security, Changing Places toilet and Regulation 7):

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/brconsultationsection1>

Section two of the consultation (Part L - Conservation of fuel and power)

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/brconsultationsection2>

Section three of the consultation (Part P - electrical safety dwellings)

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/brconsultationsection3>

Section four of the consultation (Building Control System)

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/brconsultationsection4>

HBF have in conjunction with NHBC organised a one day seminar on the 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2012 at Austin Court, Birmingham to examine the issues within this consultation package. At this seminar DCLG speakers will be explaining and discussing the proposed changes.

For further details and booking arrangements please contact house builder events team on 020 7960 1646 or e mail: [events@house-builder.co.uk](mailto:events@house-builder.co.uk)

For further information or details on any of the above please contact Dave Mitchell on 020 7960 1600 or e mail [dave.mitchell@hbf.co.uk](mailto:dave.mitchell@hbf.co.uk)

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