

## Part L 2010

### Rethinking Building Design

Part L 2010 will come into force in October 2010 and will apply to most new developments that have not had a substantial start on site prior to this date. The formal changes to Part L will be released in April 2010. The information below details the proposals identified in the consultation document.

#### Key Changes

##### 25% reduction in carbon emissions

- Achieving these targets will be challenging and our design teams approach will need to be fully integrated to reach these targets.
- Existing software will be updated or changed to calculate this reduction.
- Biomass will provide little benefit.

#### What's the impact on façades

- New limits to solar gain will reduce the number of highly glazed buildings.
- Full height glass is still achievable but is likely to require external shading or double skin systems. Northern facades have not been omitted from this requirement which hopefully will change.
- The envelope standards for infiltration and insulation have not changed, however there is a much greater emphasis on thermal bridging as this will proportionally have a greater impact.
- For residential developments a greater number of unit types will need to be pressure tested.

#### Other changes

- The amount of power that fans are allowed to use is being reduced. This is likely to mean bigger fans, bigger ducts and more plant space which could impact on the net lettable area.
- For the first time wasteful occupant behaviour is being considered and it is proposed that centralised switching off of appliances should be considered.
- There will be a design stage submission to building control which will require detailed support documentation and calculations.
- The existing exemption to certain types of buildings may be removed e.g places of worship.
- Party walls are no longer excluded.

There are no substantial changes proposed to the current approach to existing buildings.

Once the formal changes to Part L have been announced our engineers will be working through these to pin point the true implications on future building design. If you would like to know how these changes might affect your project please contact:

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