

# The **Wood Window** Alliance

## **Approved Document L : Conservation of Energy and Power : 2006 England and Wales – (Part L)**

Timber frame housing, timber floors and timber windows all have a significant role to play in the requirements for Approved Document L : 2006 (often known as Part L).

According to UK Government press releases, the measures to make buildings more energy efficient will save one million tonnes of carbon per year by 2010, equivalent to emissions from more than one million semi-detached homes.

Further changes in App. Doc L will take place in 2010 and 2013, finally resulting in Zero Carbon Homes by 2016

Full details of the regulations can be found [here](#) but a summary of the requirements related to windows is:-

### **New Build**

To determine the U-value required for windows and doors, the Whole Building CO<sub>2</sub> Target Emission Rate (TER) must be determined using notional values. The Dwelling Emission Rate (DER) is then determined using actual values and must not exceed the TER. Only with these figures can the U-value for windows and doors be reached.

*The Building Regulations limit the maximum acceptable whole U-value to 2.2 W/m<sup>2</sup>K.*

### **Replacement Windows & Doors**

Replacement windows should be limited to a maximum whole window U-value of 2.0 W/m<sup>2</sup>K or use glass with a centre pane U-value of 1.2 W/m<sup>2</sup>K or better. Alternatively, the window may have a Window Energy Rating\* (WER) performance of E or better. (See note below)

*When replacement windows and doors are used consideration should also be given to compliance with other parts of the Building Regulations notably parts B, E, F, J and particularly part N.*

### **Extensions**

Windows in extensions must achieve a whole window U-value of 1.8 W/m<sup>2</sup>K or better or use glass with a centre pane U-value of 1.2 W/m<sup>2</sup>K or less. Alternatively for the first time, windows must have a WER performance of D or better.

**Wood windows** are double glazed as standard and more than capable of meeting the requirements of Part L. Some Wood Window Alliance manufacturers are able to supply windows double or triple glazed with U-values as low as 1.0W/m<sup>2</sup>k or less.

\* WER's – Window Energy Ratings is a nationally recognised rating system for the thermal performance of windows and uses an energy labelling system such as those used on fridges, washing machines and other white goods.