

ambiente[®]

more than underfloor

THE FUTURE OF HEATING

NEW PART L BUILDING REGULATIONS

An important update to Building Regulations Part L came into effect on June 15th 2022. Part L is part of a series of building regulations and covers the construction of new build properties, extensions, loft conversions and renovations. The Part L uplift sets out new guidance for the conservation of fuel and power in the building of new homes in England and establishes new energy efficiency standards.

This update will greatly impact many contractors and industry professionals and pave the way for a brighter, more environmentally friendly future.

> WHY HAS PART L BEEN UPDATED?

Building regulation changes are fundamental to achieving the government's zero net carbon emissions by 2050 goal — one of the most ambitious targets in the world. After all, the UK housing industry has a huge carbon footprint (homes account for 20% of emissions).

Part L aims to make homes more energy efficient while reducing emissions. The recent changes from June 2022 will help create a seamless transition into the Future Homes Standard in 2025.

> FUTURE HOMES STANDARD

The interim updates to current building regulations are part of a bigger environmental picture and will be a stepping stone to the Future Homes Standard.

From 2025, the Future Homes Standard will require new homes to have CO₂ emissions 75-80% lower than those built to current standards. Domestic properties should be zero carbon ready with no retrofit work required to benefit from the decarbonisation of the electric grid and the electrification of heating.

Any heating that uses fossil fuels (e.g. gas boilers) will be banned in new homes, and the shift will reflect a reliance on heat pumps and alternative power sources. The changes outlined in the Part L revisions are sometimes referred to as 'low-temperature' regulations and will form a large part of the Future Homes Standard when it is implemented.



“NEW
GUIDANCE
FOR FUTURE
HOMES”

> WHAT CHANGES HAVE BEEN MADE TO PART L?

- Enforced 31% reduction in CO₂ from new dwellings, compared to current standards
- Flexibility on how to meet the target. However, the government expects that heat pumps will be the primary source of heating technology in new homes
- Direct electric technology has been taken out due to occupier affordability
- New underfloor heating systems must be designed with a maximum flow temperature of 55°C or lower
- Zones will require self-regulating control devices for underfloor heating systems
- Local authorities will retain the ability to set their own local (higher) energy efficiency standards if they wish
- The government set a format for a home user to inform homeowners how to operate their dwelling efficiently

> TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENT REVISIONS

Transitional arrangements are put in place to define when a construction site should use the latest version and when the previous regulations can be kept when the government releases an updated building regulation.

Below is a statement about the transitional arrangements concerned with Part L building regulations.

“To ensure as many homes as possible are being built in line with new energy efficiency standards, transitional arrangements will now apply to individual homes rather than an entire development, and the transitional period will be one year.”

For transitional arrangements to apply to an individual building, developers will need to both:

- Submit a building/initial notice or deposited plans by June 2022
- Commence work on each building by June 2023
- Where notices or plans are submitted after June 2022, transitional arrangements will not apply, and homes must be built in line with 2021 Part L standards
- Where notices or plans are submitted before June 2022 but work on any individual building does not commence by June 2023, the uncommenced buildings must be built in line with 2021 Part L standards

> TIMELINE OF PART L

Please note that these dates are proposed and planned and could be subject to change.

DECEMBER 2021	Interim Part L regulated
JUNE 2022	Interim Part L (2021) enforcement of the new low water temperature systems with the maximum being 55°C
JUNE 2023	End the transitional period for Part L 2021. Everything now moves to the new interim 2021 regs
2025	Future homes standard to be adopted
2027	EPC minimum temperature is coming in
2030	Electricity will be 4 times cheaper than gas
2035	All fossil fuel heat sources to be phased out by this point
2050	UK net-zero emissions

> UNDERFLOOR HEATING SYSTEMS AND PART L

Since underfloor heating covers a greater surface area than radiators, systems are designed to run at a lower temperature improving running costs through energy savings.

In line with regulations, UFH can accommodate the optimal Coefficient of Performance (COP) for heat pumps when they run at 35°C. Underfloor heating systems can also be fully zoned, ticking a crucial regulatory box and reducing energy wastage.

> BENEFITS OF INSTALLING UFH FOR THE BUILDER

- **Saves time on installation** – Ambiente UFH is, on average, 15% faster to install than traditional radiator systems
- **Efficient heat source** – UFH covers a greater surface area than radiators, so it can run at a lower temperature than radiator systems (35°C as opposed to 80°C), making integration with renewable energy sources more efficient
- **Price** – UFH is an affordable option
- **Tamper proof** – UFH is concealed in the floor screed and, therefore, eliminates the issues associated with radiator vandalism
- **Floor depth** – No increase in floor build required for ground floor screeded applications

> HOW UFH BENEFITS THE HOMEOWNER/ PROPERTY OCCUPIER

- **Health** – Radiant air reduces the movement of dust and mites in the air, making it a healthier and more comfortable environment for people with asthma
- **Safety** – There are no hot surfaces or hard edges with UFH, creating a safer environment for young children and vulnerable people
- **Low maintenance** – UFH requires little to no maintenance. No bleeding or invasive inhibitor dosing is needed
- **Lower energy bills** – UFH is between 15% and 40% cheaper to run than traditional radiator systems
- **No replacements** – The maximum life span of a traditional radiator is 20 years. Ambiente UFH comes with a lifetime warranty on the pipework

Ambiente manufactures and supplies UFH to the trade. Our team is here to help you successfully navigate the Part L changes and what they mean for you, your business and your customers.

If you'd like more information or want to future-proof your projects, call 01707 649 118 or email info@ambienteufh.co.uk

“HEALTHIER
LIVING FOR
ASTHMATIC
PEOPLE”

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