

# Sustainable Construction: What You Need to Know About UK Building Regulations' Part L

## How Technology is Helping Contractors Meet Environmental Demands and Regulatory Compliance

As more and more governmental bodies, businesses and citizens worldwide push for more sustainable ways of living, construction has been one of the areas in focus. The industry has big opportunities to transform how it operates, finding new efficiencies and eco-friendly results.

That's why it's important for UK contractors to know about the latest building standards around sustainability. In this blog, we'll take a look at the amended Part L building regulations.

### What is Part L?

Part L, or Document L, is an amended building standard that decrees all new dwellings should be built with the aim to increase conservation of fuel and power.

This coincides with new building regulations that come into effect June 15th. Although building regulations are a legal requirement and are therefore mandatory, Approved Documents (such as Document L) are suggestions of how to enforce a new building regulation.



In this case, in December 2021, the

The Part L standards have been amended with increased goals to reduce CO2 and other emissions.

government announced new goals of 30% less CO2 than current standards and a 27% reduction of emissions as part of their ambition to achieve net zero. The new regulations have also been designed to preemptively prepare for the 2025 Building Standards, so there will be no need for

retrofitting on new builds between 2022-2025.

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## What does it cover?



Photographic evidence and the collection/recordkeeping of documents will be vital for constructors to show they are building sustainably.

Part L covers all newly-built dwellings, as well as refurbishment to existing buildings. However, retrofits will be done on a case-by-case basis, as many older buildings may require more ventilation than a modern building to ensure safe air circulation.

The document of changes is thorough and contains lots of requirements for information, such as supply chain sourcing and proof of energy efficiency through complex calculations. However, for the purpose of this piece, we will talk about the need for photographic evidence in Part L. As outlined in the new changes, photographic evidence must be provided throughout a project's lifestyle. These photographs must also be able to be traced to a project and particular site location.

## **Technology Lends a Helping Hand**



Trimble Viewpoint's Field View solution lets teams easily capture data from the field, create and share forms, manage documentation and much more.

When it comes to the solutions contractors use to track workflows and manage projects, <u>Trimble</u> <u>Viewpoint</u> has been helping UK contractors drive more efficiency and build better projects for more than 40 years. Our <u>Field View mobile solution</u>, for instance, is used on thousands of construction jobsites worldwide.

To understand how Field View can help, let's firstly discuss what it does. Field View is a tablet and mobile-based field tool for companies to digitise snagging and paper forms.

Any form that you currently use in a paper format, from hot works permit to site inductions, Field View can replicate and enhance. It's worth noting that these capabilities come with Field View out of the box, so there's no need to bolt on extra modules to begin conforming to Part L changes.

#### **Forms**

Create custom, or select from pre-configured forms within Field View to capture and share data live on-site—without going back to the office. Attach and markup photos, electronic signature signoff, and the ability to access supporting documentation are but a few of the form features available.

#### **Tasks**

Create custom tasks with photographic evidence in real-time and mark the exact location. Improve communication and accountability by assigning tasks to teams and subcontractors, then easily track to close with complete visibility at every step.

# Learn How TrimbleViewpoint Can Help Your Organisation:

Trimble Viewpoint has more than four decades of experience helping contractors solve their realworld challenges through the use of technology. Many of us have worked in a variety of roles in the construction industry and have a solid understanding of your construction-specific needs.

This is why Viewpoint is able to help thousands of contractors across the UK and around the world tie together their people, projects and processes. Connect with us today to learn more, or to get your own personal assessment of how technology can dramatically improve your building processes—and your bottom line.

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