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Home Builders Federation

HBF

The HBF Technical department functions across 7 industry workstreams including:

Tall Buildings



Water



Utilities



Highways



National Technical



Health & Safety



in addition to close liaison with FHH, NHBC, Government Departments and Industry working groups.



HBF

Tall Buildings Group

Building Safety Regulator

27 January 2026
BSR under MHCLG

BSR Quarterly
Data Publication
shows; (27/02/26)

Innovation Unit
achieving 12/13-
week SLA

82 New Gateway 2
applications received.
123 total live applications

56% refusal rate
on G2 applications.
80% validated continue
through to full G2 approval

27 decisions
made in 12 weeks



PAS9980;2026 FRAEW
under review



HM Government



Building Regulations

Approved Documents

Part L; Conservation of Fuel & Power

- M Pennycook WMS 'Q1 2026' publication
- 40% PV Floor plan to Roof Area confirmed.
- Exemption and Guidance on lower PV provisions proposed.
- Minimum generation of 720 Kwh/year.
- HEM & SAP 10.3 10/02/26 DESNZ announcement, 3-month delay.
- FHS comes into effect 24 March 2027
- Transitional Arrangement; 24/03/27 to 24/03/28
- FHH 'Future Homes Standard Essentials'
 - 7-piece tool kit launched 04/03/26.
 - 2 FHS conferences planned for 2026



Building Regulations

Approved Documents

Part G; Water Efficiency

- 105, 100, 90, < 80 lpppd areas of water stress
- **5 billion** additional litres of water required each day by 2050
- Call for Evidence on **Water Re-use and Rainwater Harvesting**
- **Secondary Legislation** required to S68 WIA 1991 & Regulation 4 Water Supply Regulations (Water Quality)
- **Water Positive Developments** could become a requirement in Water Stressed parts of the UK
- Defra – **Mandatory Water Efficiency Label (MWEL)** to be introduced 2026
- Part G proposes a **6-month Transitional Arrangement** during 2026

Water Matters & Utilities Group



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

- Considering implementation of SuDS / Schedule 3 FWMA 2010
- **New Vision for Water White Paper.** A ‘new Ofwat’ (incl. DWI, NE, EA, Ofwat) Developers ‘**right to connect**’ is retained. Water Companies Statutory Consultee on new applications
- MWEL introduced during 2026



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

- **Heat Networks Technical Standards** consultation (15 April 2026). 7% by 2035 and 20% by 2050 (+£90bn investment req.)
- 26 January 2026 DESNZ confirms **Ofgem as regulator** for UK Heat Networks
- **EPC Reform.** Partial Response on 21/01/27. New metrics, 10-year validity period

Slow Lane to Adoption Report 14 February 2025

Summer 2025

Ipsos Gov research on adoptions, legal agreement, problems and solutions research incl. local government, developers and consultants

Unadopted Estates

HBF published research on costs, percentages and performance of LPA highways depts on adoptions

Gov Roundtable – Alistair Strathern MP; Housing Estates Bill. Home-building member attendance

DfT Consultation

Manual for streets 3 (December 2025).

Including adoptions, section agreements and design stages

MHCLG Consultations

Dec '25 – Mar '26.

Reducing the Prevalence of Private Estate Management and Enhanced Protection for Homeowners on Freehold Estates

Consistent Messaging from HBF

Highways Group

Standards

Reviewing existing HBF H&S Guidance.

Consideration towards scaffolding, site welfare and drugs & alcohol

Resources & Communication

With HBF/housebuilder, promotions and H&S campaigns.

Increasing awareness of the working group.

Health & Safety Group

Accidents & Incidents

Quarterly housebuilding specific Riddor reporting against HSE All construction Riddor reporting.

Occupational Health

Homebuilding Guidance documents including noise, dust, silicosis, manual handling and COSHH substances

New Guidance

‘Homeowner Health & Safety File Template’ and ‘PV Guidance for installation in New Homes’

HBF Technical Workstreams

Register via our website

<https://www.hbf.co.uk/home-builders-federation-member-meetings/#technical>



The voice of the home building industry.

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