

1 April 2020

Energy Efficiency (Domestic Private Rented Property) (Scotland) Regulations 2020

Earlier this year the Scottish Parliament approved the above legislation. The regulations were aimed to improve the energy efficiency of private rented housing and prohibit the letting of properties with new tenancies that fall below the minimum energy efficiency standards from 1 October 2020.

The intention was of Energy Efficient Scotland, to get all landlords of privately rented homes to ensure that their properties achieve EPC (Energy Performance Certificates) Band E from 1 April 2020 at a change of tenancy, and then EPC Band D from 1 April 2022 at a change of tenancy.

They are designed to tackle the least energy-efficient properties in Scotland, those with a rating of F or G on their EPC, and form part of a framework of standards which will be phased in gradually over time to tackle the energy efficiency of all buildings in Scotland. This framework forms part of Energy Efficient Scotland, a Scottish Government Programme intended to make all our buildings warmer, greener and more efficient, supporting efforts towards eradicating fuel poverty, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, as well as contributing to sustainable economic growth.

However, a letter from Kevin Stewart MSP, to the Local Government & Communities Committee, has stated that due to the current COVID-19 crisis, these regulations will now not come into force on the 1st April 2020.

This may be a short term measure, due to this extraordinary situation, but the implementation of these regulations will be reviewed after this crisis has come to an end.

A copy of the letter can be accessed using the attached link:

[https://www.parliament.scot/S5_Local_Gov/Letter to LGCC Convener - Energy Efficiency - 26 March 2020.pdf](https://www.parliament.scot/S5_Local_Gov/Letter_to_LGCC_Convener_-_Energy_Efficiency_-_26_March_2020.pdf)

The full original report can be accessed using the attached link:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/energy-efficiency-private-rented-property-scotland-regulations-2020-analysis-responses-public-consultation-exercise/>