

NEWS FLASH



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ENERGY PERFORMANCE CERTIFICATE DELAY

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The government has delayed the rollout of energy performance certificates for public and commercial buildings by six months.

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The Department for Communities and Local Government website now states that only buildings with a floor area of more than 10,000 m² will require EPCs in April 2008, rather than all buildings of 500 m² or more, as originally planned.

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The time table adds that as of 1 July 2008 all buildings of 2500 m² and over will require an EPC but buildings below 10,000 m² will not need one until October 2008.

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The six months postponement raises the question about whether the government is really serious about achieving its target to cut Britain's carbon emissions by 60% by 2050.

To look at its recent action one could only conclude that they are not. The latest U-turn will only add to the mounting confusion surrounding the government's environmental policies.

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Only last week the government back-tracked on its targets for renewable energy and this latest climb-down was released 'quietly' via the departmental website, rather than in a public announcement.

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