



# Chartered Institute of Architectural Technologists

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Consultation: Proposed changes to energy and environmental standards  
Scottish Government  
Directorate for Local Government and Housing  
Building Standards Division  
Denholm House  
Almondvale Business Park  
Livingston  
EH54 6GA

**23 October 2024**

## To Whom it May Concern

### Foreword

CIAT is the global membership qualifying body for Architectural Technology professionals. It represents those practicing and studying within the discipline and profession and qualifies Chartered Architectural Technologists. Chartered Architectural Technologists, MCIAT and FCIAT, are qualified to offer full architectural design services and lead and manage projects from inception to completion.

As a design function, Architectural Technology relates to the anatomy and physiology of buildings and their production, performance and processes based upon the knowledge and application of science, engineering and technology, which are compliant with regulatory, statutory and legal requirements.

Architectural Technology achieves efficient and effective construction and robust sustainable design solutions that perform and endure over time.

Our members' competences are innovative, creative and practical. Their fundamental skills include the ability to consider design holistically, contemplating all aspects of the composition. This includes the vision to run and lead projects from inception to completion, evaluating the client requirements balanced with the performance of the building together with its impact on the environment and the safety of its users.

We have notified our members of this consultation and are aware that some have responded directly. In addition, we would offer the following as CIAT's response to the Consultation: Proposed changes to energy and environmental standards.

***CIAT represents 8900 plus members of which 810 are Scottish members who will be directly affected by this consultation.***



**CIAT has** representation on the Scottish Governments Scottish Passivhaus Equivalent Working Group along with other key institutions.

**CIAT has** developed this consultation response through discussions among professional organizations, including the RIAS (representing architects), CIAT (representing architectural technologists), and the think tank Common Weal. It includes insights from architects and industry leaders such as Dr Richard Atkins, Malcolm Fraser, and Professor Lori McIlroy from Strathclyde University.

**CIAT welcomes** this initiative but has a key concern: Housing in Scotland is already governed by various standards, with technical compliance primarily regulated through Building Standards. We firmly believe that establishing a parallel standard through formal Passivhaus compliance will create discrepancies, resulting in confusion and conflict.

**CIAT believes** instead that the single route of Building Standards needs fortified with improved standards for energy and air infiltration, appropriate to Scotland and focussed, and we would be pleased to work with Government to define how this can be achieved.

Kind Regards

Sarah May FCIAT  
Technical Coordinator  
Chartered Institute of Architectural Technologists.