

Building Standards Newsletter

DECEMBER 2024

**National
Customer
Survey**

**Technical
Handbooks –
January 2025
Edition**

**New!
Supporting
Information
Forms**

National Building Standards Customer Survey

What it is:

- A survey commissioned by the Scottish Government
- All users of West Dunbartonshire Council's Building Standards service can complete it
- The survey collects views on the service you have received from us.

What it asks for:

- The survey should only take a few moments of your time
- Your responses help Building Standards identify what we do well and where we can improve our offer to you as our customer

Anything else?

- The survey seeks feedback on your experiences only in relation to the Building Standards service you received, (and not in relation to other services such as Planning/Development Management).
- The survey is designed to be anonymous and does not ask you to provide any personal information. All information you include will be processed according to the council privacy policy.
- If there are any aspects of this survey or any issues you would like to discuss further, please contact us directly at building.standards@west-dunbarton.gov.uk

[Take The Survey](#)

WEB: [Building Standards Building Warrants | West Dunbartonshire Council](#)

EMAIL: Building.Standards@west-dunbarton.gov.uk

PHONE: 0141 951 7930

Technical Handbooks

Latest edition in effect from 01 January 2025.

From 1st January 2025, the latest amendments to the Technical Handbooks will apply. These are available on the Scottish Government website:

[Building standards technical handbook January 2025: domestic](#)
[Building standards technical handbook January 2025: non-domestic](#)

Summary of Changes:

Full details of the changes can be found in the handbooks. Brief points of note are:

- Standard 6.11: Heating systems using Bioenergy and Peat, and secondary heating systems are now excluded from the standard. Minor consequential changes are made to standards 6.1 and 7.1
- 4.14 – changes to require ‘Gigabit-ready physical infrastructure’, including on-site physical infrastructure within the development site
- 2.15 - refers to the section 3 Ministerial Direction specific circumstances and conditions where the provision of an automatic fire suppression system (AFSS) is dispensed with when extending a dwelling or undertaking a conversion to create, or increase the area of, a dwelling
- Appendix A “Defined Terms have now been updated.



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New Supplementary Information Forms

We have new forms available to clarify the information required for the following circumstances:

Disabled Adaptations

The building warrant fee is set at zero for works to alter or extend a dwelling to improve its suitability for use by a disabled occupant.

If this applies to your proposal, please complete and attach the below form to your application through the eBuilding Standards portal. This supporting document for your building warrant application needs to be completed by a healthcare professional who agrees the adaptations are necessary. We do not require an individual's specific medical information.

The form can also be found on our website at: [Building Warrant | West Dunbartonshire Council](#)

Alternative Means of Compliance

The Technical Handbooks expand on regulation 9, detailing the mandatory functional standards. By following the guidance in the technical handbook in full, the mandatory standard is deemed to have been fulfilled.

Should you wish to deviate from the guidance this is known as an alternative means of compliance. In this case, you require to provide detailed supporting evidence. This evidence needs to demonstrate that the design provides equivalence to the technical guidance and therefore achieves the mandatory technical standard.

Coming soon!

The form is currently being finalised and will allow you to submit the supporting evidence as attachments. It will be available on our webpage at : [Building Warrant | West Dunbartonshire Council](#)

Please contact your surveyor for guidance until the form goes live.

WEB: [Building Standards Building Warrants | West Dunbartonshire Council](#)

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