



# National Federation of Glaziers

## *Excellence and Integrity in Glazing*

### ***Window Energy Efficiency***

#### **Security glazing**

Driven by the periodic revision of Building Regulation requirements (in place for replacement windows since 2002), double glazed windows have become much more efficient, providing enhanced comfort and heat retention.

However, very high thermal performance, although providing a warmer environment in the winter, and reducing energy bills, could also cause rooms to become too hot in summer, particularly if insufficient open-able windows have been installed.

It is a requirement of Building Regulations that the replacement windows including at least the **same level of ventilation** as those which are being replaced.

The emphasis on lower 'u' values (a measure of heat retention) for new windows does provide not only better thermal properties, but reduces the daylight transmission.

On a south facing elevation there can be considerable overheating if the highest energy rating windows are used. The move now is to offer ratings greater than 'A' Rating (A+ and A\*). These ratings offer lower 'u' values which are **marginally** better than 'A' Rating. The current Building Regulation only require a 'C' Rating, and it may not be suitable, or necessary to pay more for these higher ratings.

There is much more to consider when purchasing windows than energy ratings, and the consumer needs professional advice. Our members are able to provide this.

***For further information, contact one of our members, or call us on:***

***020 7404 3099***

***John Reed - Principal Executive***