



CLARIFICATION ON THE PROVISION OF BACKGROUND VENTILATION

It is prudent to clarify a significant point relating to information in the **Certass TA TechSheet – Trickle Ventilation in Dwellings** and the Building Regulations Approved Document F Volume 1: Dwellings.

This particular point in question relates to the often mis-quoted “30% rule” that is quoted in the ‘Simplified Method’ (c. 3.8)

People are using Table 3.1 item f, “*Replacing less than or equal to 30% of the total existing windows or door units*”, that proposes this as a Minor category of measure, then by relating this to Diagram 3.1 are concluding that no further ventilation provision is necessary (as per c. 3.10). This route is then being used as justification for not providing potentially appropriate background ventilation when replacement window work is undertaken.

However, Table 3.1 cannot be read in isolation. Table 3.1 is *part* of the **Simplified Method**.

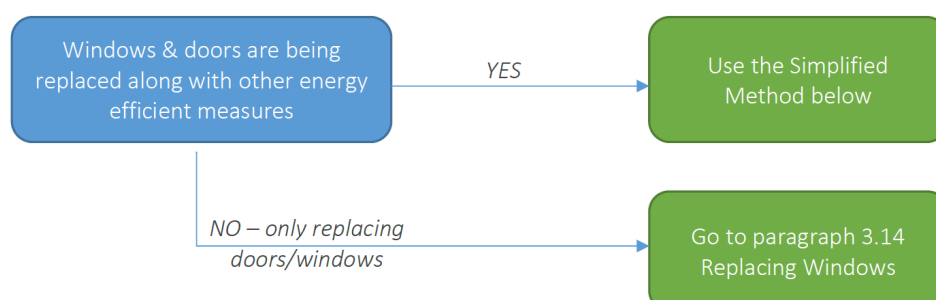
This Simplified Method requires that “When carrying out energy efficiency measures on an existing dwelling, Table 3.1 should be used to calculate the number of major and minor energy efficiency measures involved. This calculation should include all of the following.

- a. Energy efficiency measures fitted since the original dwelling was constructed, to consider accumulation of measures.
- b. Energy efficient measures planned.

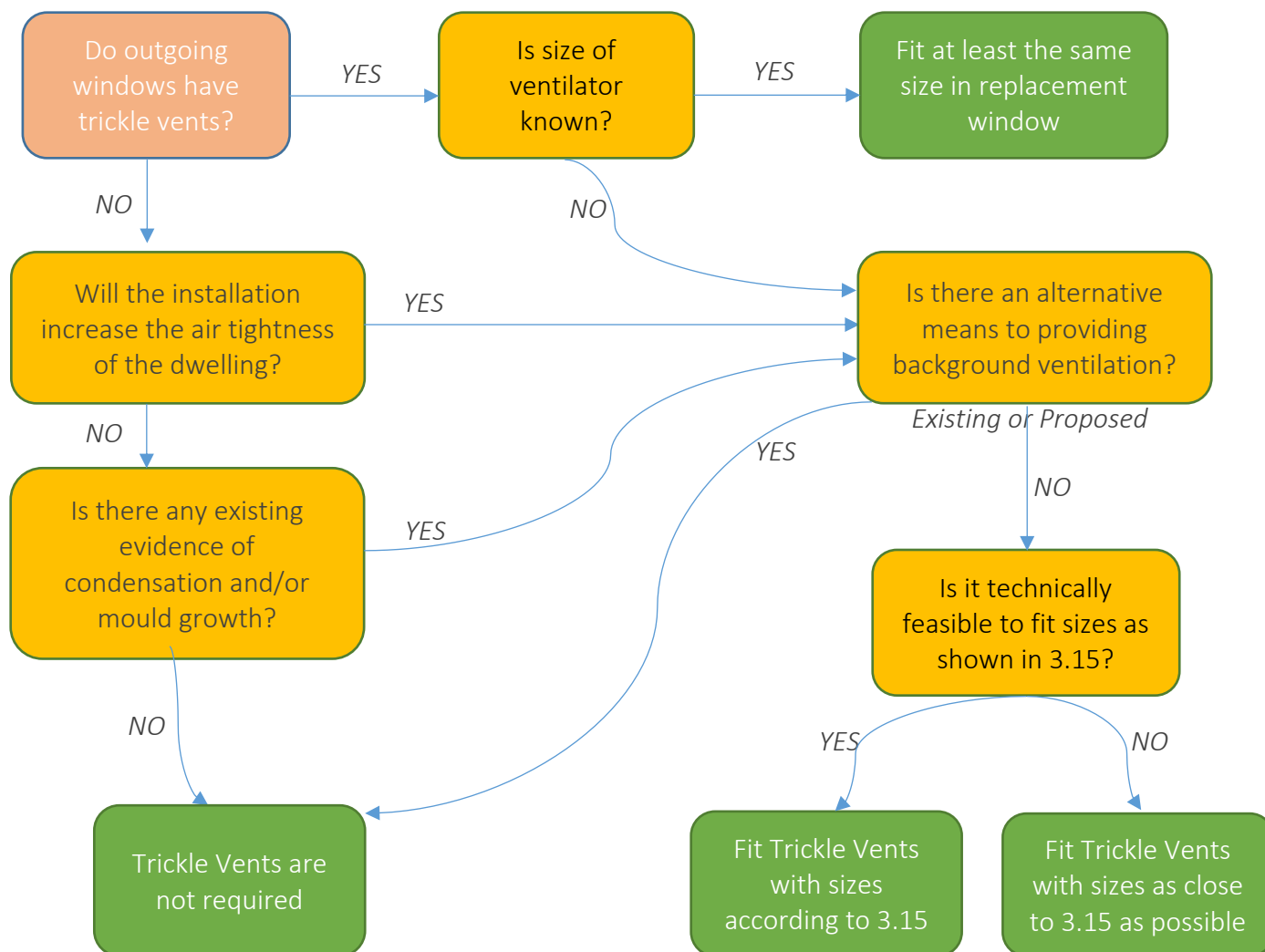
So, unless this full property assessment can, and has been carried out, Note 1 in table 3.1 should be referred to. This states:

1. If the energy efficiency works involve only replacing windows, then the guidance in paragraphs 3.14 to 3.16 may be followed as an alternative means of demonstrating compliance.

The flow diagram on page 2 of the CTA Trickle Ventilation TechSheet reflects this.



Paragraphs 3.14 & 3.15 relate to replacement windows with or without background ventilators. This information (along with other related information) proffered the development of the flowchart on page 6 of the CTA Trickle Ventilation TechSheet (below).



We hope you have found this useful and informative.....

If there are any topics that you think you would benefit from, please let us know as soon as possible and if possible, we will add them to the agenda.