



Proficiency

LEARN MORE

Professionals in efficiency

Your future is with us

THIS MONTH

A different view on 10 year validity for EPCs

Are you ready for the impact of SBEM 6.1

The national organisation supporting and representing energy assessors and associated professionals



Support

Here when you need us with our peer support

Highly regarded industry forum

Extensive knowledge and experience you can draw upon

Help, advice and guidance



Representation

The national voice of energy assessors

Engaging with accreditation schemes and government departments on your behalf

Representing the interests of assessors on the conventions and other similar groups



Other Benefits

Industry leading Find A Member directory to generate enquiries for members

Access to free and reduced cost training or CPD

Discounts on software, training, CPD and registration fees with a number of organisations

Is the EPC 10 year validity too long?

It is time for our industry to have a grown up conversation about this.

Obviously, energy assessors would benefit from EPCs having to be renewed more frequently, but that is a major part of the problem. There is no reason for government to legislate a shorter validity to create more work opportunities for energy assessors. Asking them to do so is just going to be seen as self-serving and at Proficiency we believe this has already proven to be counterproductive.

EPCs (or at least the figures on them) become less accurate over time but picking any age as the age at which they cease to be relevant is essentially arbitrary. If not 10 years, then how long and why?

A different approach is needed to addressing the fact that EPCs are being used that are no longer representative of the building. Just asking for the validity period to be reduced is not the answer.

If we want government to stop out of date EPCs being used, we need to change the message we are giving them.

[Read the full article here](#)

Are you ready for the fallout when SBEM 6.1 goes live?

There are some significant changes in the next version of SBEM and not enough is being said in preparation for them. Non-domestic energy assessors need to know what is coming and need to be preparing their clients for it. With an expected go-live date of 15th June 2022 this is not far away.

The biggest thing to note is that the carbon intensities are finally being updated to reflect the decarbonisation of grid supplied electricity. That is undoubtedly a good thing.

Unfortunately, because it has been left unchanged for so long, 10 years or more of decarbonisation will be corrected for in a single hit. It appears that electricity changes from being (in the region of) twice as bad as gas to slightly better than gas.

Going forward, we will no longer be penalising electricity and promoting gas while government strategy is exactly the opposite. SBEM 6.1 is a major step forwards in bringing the EPC rating into line with reality as grid supplied electricity has been significantly decarbonised. This is something Proficiency (and previously DCHI) has long been arguing for. However, there is a downside.

For some buildings there will be a step change in EPC rating as we move to SBEM 6.1 and that is not being talked about sufficiently. Certain types of building that are not meeting the minimum energy efficiency standard (MEES) using current software could easily exceed it, simply by re-running the EPC in the new software.

How big an issue this will be is dependent on two main factors.

1) The characteristics of the building. This change this will only make a significant difference to some types of building.

2) How long before the changeover an EPC has been produced. It will be much harder to justify having 'failed' a building and exposed a client to additional costs in the months, weeks or even days before it would 'pass' as it stands.

There needs to be open discussion of this so we are well prepared. We are also asking schemes to consider how they are going to approach the lodgement of MEES compliant EPCs in the first few weeks of SBEM 6.1 on buildings that had non-compliant EPCs lodged shortly before the changeover date.

[Read the full article here](#)

An hour of CPD every month included in your membership

As part of Proficiency membership, you are entitled to attend at least an hour of relevant online CPD every month, at no additional cost. 12 hours or more of CPD every year is included for our members.

In addition to this, there are regularly additional topic specific CPD sessions organised in conjunction with industry partners that are either free or at significantly reduced cost to our members. Virtually all of your mandatory annual CPD requirement can be met at zero or minimal cost through your Proficiency membership.

Recent sessions covered developments for Residential Property Surveyors and an update on Retrofit from Trustmark themselves.

Coming soon we have...

5th May 2022 - One hour CPD speaker meeting in conjunction with Elmhurst.

Topics will include:

ECO 4 - PAS 2035 - The Heat and Buildings Strategy - MEES - The Lenders Consultation Recap of the EPC Action Plan - Part L and SAP 10 update - Part O introduction (Available at £20 for non members. Included for members)

10th May 2022 - Two and a half hour Part L and SAP 10 detailed CPD session in conjunction with Stroma (Available at £35 for non members. £15 for Proficiency members).

Attend just a few of these sessions and you will save much more than the cost of your membership.

[For more details or to book](#)

Win business with your directory listing and profile page

The searchable directory of Proficiency members is designed to win you business of the type you want, and in your local area.

Unlike most online directories (many of which cost as much as Proficiency

membership or even more), we always show visitors their closest match. Someone further away cannot jump up the list by paying more, and there is no promotion of national panels ahead of local assessors. The Proficiency directory is all about connecting local clients with local members.

In addition, users can filter for the service they are looking for so you are promoted if you do what they need.

Members also have a unique profile page to give you a web presence to promote yourself and your business, even if you do not have your own website.

Why pay for other directory listings when you can have a full feature listing and a profile page as part of your Proficiency membership? Check out the directory using the link below, then join us and get access to set up your own marketing on it.

[The Proficiency Directory](#)

Discounts with our industry partners

Not that you need any more reasons to join Proficiency, but we also have discounts for members set up with a number of key organisations. These include...

DesignBuilder - Discounts on software and training (plus a dedicated DesignBuilder support section on our forum).

Metropix - Discounts on the full range of one off or subscription packages on their floor plan software.

Stroma - Discounts on training, CPD and annual Retrofit scheme membership fees.

Elmhurst - Discounts on training and CPD plus trial periods on enhanced software options. Discount on new Retrofit scheme memberships.

There are plenty of opportunities for you to save far more than the cost of your membership. The sooner you join Proficiency, the sooner you will start to benefit.

(Even more membership benefits will be coming soon).

[Proficiency Membership Benefits](#)

Support and representation

The Proficiency forum is a powerful resource at your fingertips

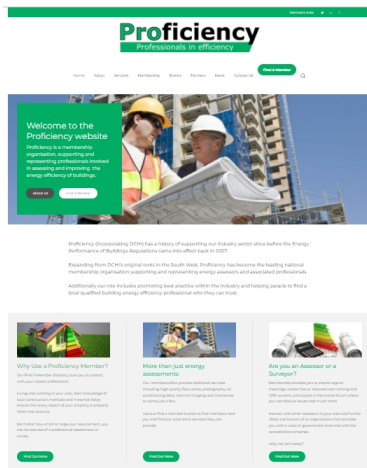
- Ask a question and get knowledgeable advice from your peers - often including evenings and weekends.
- Keep up to date with what is happening in our industry
- Find out about work opportunities
- Hear about other free or low cost CPD you can access

- Be notified about funding sources and/or funded opportunities
- Communicate directly with the assessor representatives on the conventions groups
- Challenge advice you have received from accreditation schemes or other sources
- Request peer review of audit feedback if you think it is wrong
- And much more.....

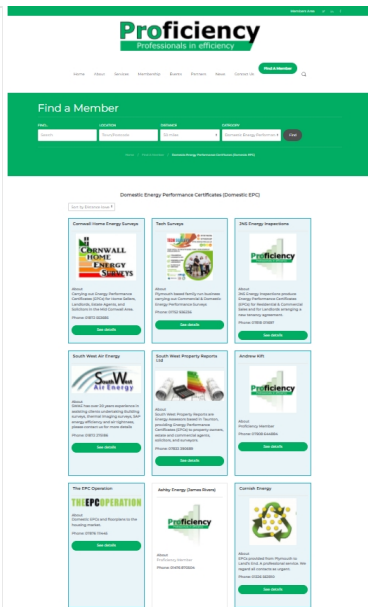
Proficiency members are not alone. There is always somebody to turn to for advice.

Join now and start to feel supported

The all new Proficiency website Your portal to a more successful future



Home
Public facing home page



Find a member
Searchable and filterable directory for generating local enquiries direct to members



Content
Relevant content pages

LEARN MORE

