



**Minutes of the meeting of the HEVAC Air Conditioning Group
on Thursday 9th May 2024
at the FETA offices in Hare Hatch and online**

Present (*bold indicates online attendance*)

Chris Taylor-Hamlin	Chair	Daikin Airconditioning UK Ltd
Arthur Bowles		Airedale International Air Conditioning
David Sowden		Chemours UK Limited
Martin Passingham		Daikin Airconditioning UK Ltd
Matteo Dall'Ombra		Daikin Airconditioning UK Ltd
Chris Yates		FETA
Dyffyd Goode		Fujitsu General Air Cond. (UK) Ltd
David Jones		Mitsubishi Electric Europe BV
Ahmed Kafil		TEV Ltd
Shakil Mughal		Weatherite Air Conditioning Limited
Michael Duggan	Technical Secretary	FETA
Martyn Cooper	Group Secretary	FETA

1 Welcome and introducing any new members or guests.

The chair of the group, David Sowden, was unable to get a reliable internet connection so had asked the vice-chair, Chris Taylor-Hamlin, to chair this meeting.

If joining remotely, members were asked to please ensure their name was correctly displayed as we will use that for the minutes.

2 To note the FETA Competition Law Guidelines

The **FETA Competition Law Guidelines** and the **Guidelines to FETA committee procedures** are available on <https://www.feta.co.uk/members-area/competition-law-and-committee-guidelines>. Attending the meeting will be taken as members' acknowledgement of the guidelines' existence.

3 Minutes from meeting of 23rd January 2024

The minutes are prepared in accordance with the Guidelines to FETA committee procedures.

3.1 Approval for accuracy

The minutes from the January meeting were approved and signed by the chair. A copy is filed at the FETA offices.

Minutes are available to view/download at <https://www.feta.co.uk/members-area/committee-minutes>.

3.2 Matters arising.

There were no matters arising not covered on this agenda.

Technical items

4 Regulations and standards

4.1 F-Gas Regulations

Update on EU and UK review processes.

[The new F-gas Regulation \(EU\) 2024/573](#) was adopted on 7 February 2024, and started to apply on 11 March 2024. It builds on the former F-gas Regulation, that was already successful in reducing emissions. For the most common F-gases, hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), [the quota system](#) generates a steeper reduction in the amounts that importers and producers may place on the EU market, and in 2050 HFCs will be phased out in the EU.

In the UK, it is likely to go through the Climate Change Act as “secondary legislation”. FETA has written to the Labour party this week. One possibly delay, if not put in UK legislation ahead of a general election, is that Labour seems keener on primary legislation rather than secondary legislation.

It seems likely that all political parties are currently of the same thinking and willing to implement the EU regulation into UK law. We may get tangled up in “purdah” (the pre-election period) which could delay it for a while longer.

FETA lobbying activity

FETA is continuing lobbying and talking to DEFRA regularly. We have raised training and Government is looking to make it mandated. There was a view that as more heat pumps are installed in houses it becomes more important that only trained installers are used. However, whereas electrical and gas installations are safety critical it could be argued that heat pumps are not safety critical and so Government may step back from making training mandatory.

Training

CY suggested there was work to do in FETA to gather views on training before the UK consultation. Possible areas to look at are the ACRIB training course; what are manufacturers insisting on for their installations; training that manufacturers are offering already.

Members were asked to feed their views on current training available into [Martyn Cooper](#) by the end of May 2024 so it could inform FETA before we go back to DEFRA.

Action All members / MC

MC and CY will look to produce relevant webinars that could be made available on YouTube.

Action MC / CY

4.2 Ecodesign

Eco-design for Air Handling Units is being updated in Europe. MC is asking the *Department for Business & Trade* what is happening in the UK on this and will report back to this group with the answer.

Action MC

Energy Performance of Buildings Certificates Statistical Release: January to March 2024
[\(repeat of article in April's FETA Newsletter\)](#)

In the quarter January to March 2024, 453,000 Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs) were lodged on the Energy Performance of Buildings Register for both domestic and non-

domestic properties in England and Wales, a 4% decrease compared to the same quarter 2023. You can find the full details [here](#).

4.3 Construction Products Regulation

On Wednesday, 10 April the European Parliament approved the newly revised Construction Products Regulation (CPR). The revised regulation's goal is to make sustainable products the norm in the EU, boost circular business models and empower consumers for the green transition.

The introduction of the UKCA mark is now way down priorities of the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC).

4.4 Per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)

The UK is diverging from the EU significantly on this. PFAS bans in Europe are unlikely until 2028 at the earliest.

4.5 Standards committee updates from A/C Group delegates

An update on current and planned work in standards committees

RHE/17 Testing of air conditioning units *Rodney Ayre*
No report on this

CPL/61/4 Room air-conditioners *Rodney Ayre/ Stephen Benton (BRA)/ Martyn Cooper/ David Sowden*
Nothing significant

CEN/TC 156 Ventilation in Buildings *Alan Green*

Plenary Items:

5 Heat Pump Association Ltd

HPA have started collecting statistics, and are publishing an overview of these on their website. The Chair noted these were very beneficial. Membership continues to grow. HPA are producing a webinar on refrigerants on 22nd May.

6 Consultations and Government Initiatives

Input on Building Regulations consultation.

The Future Homes and Buildings Standards: 2023 consultation on changes to Part 6, Part L and Part F of the Building Regulations for dwellings and non-domestic buildings and seeking evidence on Part O ran from November 2023 to 27 March 2024.

FETA submitted the response to the England consultation on the Future homes & Building Standard which is expected to be implemented from January 2025 onwards. Wales is expected later this year. Scotland timing to be confirmed.

6.1 SSES

Smart Secure Electricity Systems Programme consultation. A consultation package on energy smart appliance, licensing and tariff interoperability proposals to enable a smart and secure electricity system through demand side response. This consultation remains open until 11 June 2024

7 UK-EU trade

DESNZ have confirmed that they would continue to recognise CE which is in line with the announcement made by the Department of Business and Trade in August 2023. No decision has been reached on Construction Products. It is not known when this will be decided on, but DLUHC does not have any legislation to bring in UKCA where DBT and DESNZ did, as far as we are aware.

8 A/C Group funds

(a) *Sinking Fund balance was £2,135.54 on 12th August 2022*

9 Date of next meeting

Tues 24 September 2024

It was agreed that the September meeting will be an on-site meeting with no online participation. This is to give members at least one opportunity a year to network before and after the meeting. CY offered to fund a lunch for delegates at the local restaurant 5minutes walk from the FETA office.

10 Any other business

10.1 ACRIB FETA has three places on the ACRIB board. With the retirement of Graham Wright there is a vacancy. Chris Taylor-Hamlin has agreed to take this on.

10.2 Green building schemes

The chair asked if there was any work required from HEVAC to produce some guidance for members and maybe get a speaker from one or two main ones.

An example is the *CIBSE TM 65 Embodied carbon in building services: A calculation methodology (2021)*.

CY said there was a webinar about 18 months ago on TM 65 and the link to it is <https://vimeo.com/775606019> - the password is FETA.

10.3 Carbon border adjustment mechanism

Consultation on the introduction of a UK carbon border adjustment mechanism is open to middle of June. This consultation seeks views on proposals for the design and administration of the UK carbon border adjustment mechanism (CBAM) from 1 January 2027. This consultation closes on 13 June 2024

CY will be issuing a draft response next week to ask for comments or further input.

Chair Date

(For approval at the next meeting)