



General advice

When installing insulation at your property, the general rule of thumb is that you do not require a building warrant from the Council. This is because you are not proposing any “structural” changes to the property, you are only installing insulation materials.

However, if you are in anyway uncertain, call East Renfrewshire Council on 0141 577 3000 and ask to speak to the Building Standards Officers.

Other things to consider

If you install additional insulation in an existing loft space, you need to ensure that there is ventilation in the roof voids or other void areas to prevent condensation building up within the roof or void structure. You should make sure that ventilation and vapour barriers are included in your installation plans.

Should you require a bespoke design for your property, you should seek the services of an architect to prepare specifications for you or engage an insulation specialist to ensure that the work carried out will actually “improve” the thermal efficiency of your property.

Alternatively, if you are confident that you can progress works yourself, most of the major insulation material manufacturers have technical advice lines. You can phone or email them, and submit your specifications for your particular roof and they will provide you with a specification*free of charge*.

The Insulation manufacturers *Knauf*, have an online tool to allow you to “self design” your insulation. See link below:

www.marmorit.co.uk/uvalue_calculator.php?m8rmorite=24627cea2746d58c151b71234af03171

Alternatively, you could consider using a thermal “multilayer” quilt, ensuring that the manufacturers written installation instructions are followed.

To find out more about insulation products search “insulation manufacturers” in your computer search engine(s) to see what specialist advice is available from Insulation companies.

With all of the information generally available, as the owner of a property you have to satisfy yourself that the works you (or others) carry out on your behalf are to the current standards, and will not cause any problems with condensation dampness at a later date.

Note from the Council's Building Standards Officers:

Please note it is **essential** that you ventilate any roof void or other void area and make sure that (where appropriate) a vapour barrier is installed between the finished plasterboard and any "quilted" or "rigid" insulation materials.

The Council's Building Standards Officers *cannot* offer bespoke advice on the type of insulation or methodology required at your property.

They are appointed by The Scottish Government to be 'Independent Verifiers' - this status maintains their ability to carry out enforcement actions against owners of dangerous or defective properties.

As such, the Building Standards Officers cannot be involved in any kind of design or specification for insulation works, as to do so would compromise their independent status. Their duty and responsibility is to validate specifications submitted under a statutory requirement (where a building warrant is required).

Building Standards Officers would always signpost you to engage with a suitably qualified or competent person to look at your building, the specification required and to supervise works on site - that's if you are not able or confident enough to do so yourself.

Further advice and information

Should you have any questions regarding energy efficiency or wish further information, please contact

<p>East Renfrewshire Council Energy Efficiency & Carbon Reduction Unit 0141 577 8529</p>	<p>Home Energy Scotland 0808 828 2282</p>
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Please Note: Whist care was taken to ensure that the advice contained in this document is accurate; it cannot replace expert advice. It is intended as a guide only and the Council cannot accept any responsibility for any damage or loss incurred by an individual relying on the accuracy of the information.