

FENSA – An Advocate, Not An Obstacle



www.fensa.org.uk

FENSA has clarified its role in the glazing industry, emphasising that it is not a rule-maker but a structured support system that helps installers operate compliantly.

In periods of legislative change, certification bodies can become the visible face of compliance, and therefore the focus of frustration.

However, building regulations are set by government bodies, not by competent person schemes. FENSA, as a government-authorised scheme, monitors compliance with those regulations and provides installers with a recognised route to self-certify their work – helping them to meet legal requirements efficiently and confidently.

Misconception

“The misconception we still hear is that FENSA creates the rules,” says Sam Davies

(pictured), the technical manager at FENSA. “That simply isn’t the case. Regulations are introduced at government level. Our job is to help installers understand them, implement them and stay ahead of them.”

Even without competent person schemes, compliance would remain mandatory – but enforcement would sit directly with local authority building control. Schemes such as FENSA offer an alternative model designed to streamline processes, reduce administrative burden and provide practical technical guidance in one place.

Keeping up to date

Alongside certification, FENSA provides day-to-day support to help installers interpret changes, complete paperwork correctly and avoid costly compliance errors.

“Regulation isn’t optional,”

Davies adds. “What matters is how installers manage it. Our role is to give them the framework, tools, and support they need to operate compliantly and focus on running their business.”

As the sector continues to adapt to higher standards and increased scrutiny, FENSA is positioning itself not as an obstacle to growth, but as part of the infrastructure that supports long-term professionalism and stability. **i**



GGF Appoints Lauren Mawford As Director



www.ggf.org

The Glass & Glazing Federation (has appointed Lauren Mawford as its director, marking a significant step in the organisation's continued evolution and long-term strategic development.

Mawford has been with the GGF for almost four years, working across a range of functions within the federation. During that time, she has developed a detailed understanding of the needs of membership.

In her new role at the helm of the GGF, she will focus on strategic leadership, decision-making and long-term planning. She will lead the team and oversee all key operational areas, including membership, technical, training, consultancy and advocacy.

Working closely with the CEO and Board, she will ensure organisational alignment and delivery against the GGF's strategic priorities.

Delivering value

"I'm incredibly excited to step into the role of director", says Mawford. "A key part of this role is making sure everything we do is aligned and delivering value to our members, while maintaining the high standards the GGF is known for.

"For members, this means a more joined-up experience, clearer communication and a continued focus on technical excellence and standards. It also allows us to think more strategically about how we grow, innovate and deliver long-term value."

A central focus for Mawford will be to ensure the GGF remains the voice of the industry, while strengthening collaboration across the wider GGF group, ensuring closer alignment between businesses, sharing expertise and maximising value for members across the whole organisation.

Women in fenestration

Mawford is also the first woman to hold the position of Director at the GGF. "It's something I'm really proud of," she says. "The industry has traditionally been male-dominated, but we are seeing positive change, not just in representation but in how we think about leadership and diversity of perspective."

Her appointment comes at a pivotal time for the glass and glazing sector, as regulatory, environmental and commercial pressures continue to reshape the built environment. With a strong internal track record and a clear strategic focus, Mawford's leadership will play a key role in shaping the next phase of the Federation's development. **i**

For more information about the GGF and how it can support your business' growth, visit www.ggf.org.uk or call 0207 939 9100.