

Design and access statement

The replacement sash will be purely maintenance as the existing are in a very poor state. We only moved into the house seven weeks ago and while we had no intention of replacing the windows so soon, it has become apparent that we have no choice.

The moisture content of the property is very high, this in turn creates an ideal environment for the Death Watch Beetle, we intend to keep the property well ventilated in the future and will take appropriate action as necessary to maintain the structure of the property but cannot do anything about the damage that has already been done to the windows.

I have had the whole house treated for woodworm, beetle etc. but do need to replace the windows as, while the treatment will work for the common furniture beetle, no effective treatment has yet been found for the Death Watch Beetle that has infected these windows. Apart from or due to the Death Watch Beetle, the windows have reached the end of their useful life and are beyond saving.

All of the windows will be replaced with Treated timber sash widows; they will look exactly the same as the existing. They will also be pretreated for woodworm and rot. In addition the windows will be compliant with current building regulations and be supplied and fitted by a Fensa installer.

I have done quite extensive research on the internet regarding the Death Watch Beetle and note that they have a 12 year life cycle, do not come to the surface if the wood has been surface treated and thrive in a high moisture environment.

I am quite keen to have the widows installed before the winter and as the lead in time for manufacture is 8/9 weeks, time is of the essence. It is also necessary to break the life cycle of the beetle.

The new windows will not affect the character or appearance of the building.
