

# Ban on wood stoves? The truth of it all

No doubt you will have all seen some misleading headlines in recent months about a possible ban on wood stoves. Here, we identify the truth behind the headlines and what you can tell customers who might have seen the headlines.

Firstly, although there were reports that the worst wood burning stoves would be banned, this is not actually correct.

What Defra do say in their Clean Air Strategy is that they “will ensure that only the cleanest stoves are available for sale by 2022”. What they mean by this is that the government will adopt and enforce the forthcoming Ecodesign requirements for wood burning stoves in 2022. This is not a ban, it is the Implementation of well signposted and known new tighter regulations. This happens across all product and industry sectors as a matter of course.

Recent publicity has tended to equate emissions from wood burning with emissions from woodburning stoves. Government statistics have indicated that nationally 40% of wood is burnt on open fires. This rises to 70% when it comes to London, despite the fact that burning wood on an open fire is not permitted under the current Clean Air Act. The Clean Air Strategy clearly recognises that all wood burning is not the same. SIA Ecodesign Ready stoves are designed using improved burn technology, developed by the stove manufacturers to produce 90% fewer emissions than an open fire and 80% fewer emissions than some older stoves.

## Defra's Clean Air Strategy

On the 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2018 the Environment Secretary Michael Gove published a Clean Air Strategy which aims to cut air pollution and save lives, backed up through new primary legislation. Here we demystify the strategy and look beyond the misleading headlines.

The new strategy is a key part of Defra's 25 Year Plan to leave our environment in a better state than we found it.

HETAS, Woodsure and The Stove Industry Alliance have all been consulting with Defra for some time now and once again **Defra has clarified they are not looking to ban stoves.**

The publication of Defra's final version of the Clean Air Strategy 2019 outlines ambitions relating to reducing air pollution in the round, making our air healthier to breathe, protecting nature and boosting the economy. In this strategy, they set a clear direction for future air quality policies and goals. The Clean Air Strategy can be viewed in full by [clicking here](#).

- [No ban on wood stoves | The key points](#)
- The Clean Air Strategy summarises actions to reduce emissions from domestic burning, **clearly identifying there is no intention to ban wood burning stoves.**

What Defra's clean air strategy has concluded and outlined as their actions is set out in section 6 of the report,

“Actions to reduce emissions at home”. This outlines the actions Defra will take to reduce emissions from domestic burning, which they state are:

- We will legislate to prohibit sale of the most polluting fuels
- We will ensure that only the cleanest stoves are available for sale by 2022
- We will make changes to existing smoke control legislation to make it easier to enforce
- We will give new powers to local authorities to take action in areas of high pollution
- We will work across government to look at opportunities to align our work on air quality, cleangrowth and fuel poverty in future policy design
- We will develop a dedicated communications campaign targeted at domestic burners, to improve awareness of the environmental impact of their actions
- We will work with industry to identify an appropriate test standard for new solid fuels entering the market

Town and Country Fires Gas Stoves are all Eco Design Ready.

	Rosedale Inset Eco Results (Wood)	Rosedale Inset Eco Results (Solid Fuel)	Eco Design Limits
Rosedale Inset Eco SC;			
CO Emission (at 13% O <sub>2</sub> )	0.06	0.06	0.12
Hydro Carbon Emission	35	8	120
NOx Emission	67	89	200
DIN Plus Particulates	19	7	40

Currently Town and Country Fires manufacture 5 wood / solid fuel stoves that are Eco Design Ready and are in the process of designing more Eco Design Ready stoves.

Below is a table demonstrating our latest model to go through Eco Design the Rosedale Inset Smoke Control Eco. This table shows the emission limits of the 2022 Eco Design Directive along with the emission results for the Rosedale Inset on wood and solid fuel. As the table demonstrates our Eco Design ready stoves are significantly under the 2022 requirements.

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The Eco Design Directive for Gas stoves was implemented on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018