

Part P – Electrical Safety

From the 1 January 2005 electrical installations in dwellings become a “controlled service” under the Building Regulations.



The new regulation, Part P – Electrical Safety, requires fixed electrical installations in dwellings to be suitably designed, installed, inspected and tested to provide reasonable protection to people from fire or injury. Also sufficient information shall be provided so that persons wishing to operate, maintain or alter an electrical installation can do so with reasonable safety.

Part P applies to electrical installations in:

- Dwellings
- Combined dwellings and business premises having a common supply (e.g. shops).
- Common access areas and shared facilities in blocks of flats (e.g. Laundry rooms, but not lifts).
- Outbuildings such as sheds, detached garages and greenhouses.
- External situations associated with buildings (e.g. fixed lighting and pond pumps).

Compliance with Part P can be achieved via one of the following options:

1. Self-certification by the person carrying out the electrical installation. Note, Self-certification can only be given by a person who is registered with a government approved, competent persons scheme. See Note 1. *This option is preferred by government and is likely to be the simplest and most economical.*

2. Submitting a Building Regulation application to the Council for the fixed electrical work only. See Note 2. This application will be in addition to that submitted for other work controlled by the Building Regulations and an additional charge will be payable. Note: *Where this option is chosen the Council will arrange for a registered and competent person (acting as our agent) to carry out an inspection of the installation before covering up; and for an inspection and test of the completed installation.*

Statement of Intent. (Please indicate how you intend to comply with Part P.)

I intend to follow option ... detailed above in connection with the electrical installation at:

Proposal

Location

Name.....Signature.....Date.....

Note 1.

Government approved competent persons self-certification schemes for electrical safety in dwellings: BRE Certification Ltd www.partp.co.uk , British Standards Institution www.kitemarktoday.com , ELECSA Ltd www.elecsa.org.uk , NAPIT Certification Ltd www.napit.org.uk , NICEIC Certification Services Ltd www.niceic.org.uk . Defined competence schemes (for persons who do electrical work as an addition to their main activity e.g. gas installers, kitchen & bathroom fitters): ELECSA, NAPIT, NICEIC as above, CORGI Services Ltd, www.corgi-gas-safety.com , Oil Firing Technical Association www.oftec.org.uk . For the latest information on approved competent persons self-certification schemes see “Building Regulations” at www.odpm.gov.uk

Note 2.

Applications must include full details of the proposed work including an “electrical installation diagram and specification” showing compliance with BS 7671 (the IEE Wiring Regulations) e.g. cable types, circuits, fuses/circuit breakers, earthing and bonding conductors; and fixed electrical appliances.