

Part P Electrical Safety

From the 1st January 2005 electrical installations in dwellings become a 'controlled service' under the Building Regulation.

The 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.

See Note 1. Self certification can only be given by a person registered with a government authorized competent persons scheme. This option is preferred by the Government and Folkestone & Hythe District Council and is likely to be the simplest and most economical.

2. Submitting a Building Regulation application to Folkestone & Hythe District 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. Where this option is chosen Folkestone & Hythe District Council will arrange for a registered and competent person (acting as out 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 and return this form with your Building Regulation application.

I intend to follow Option ____ detailed above in connection with the electrical installation at:

Address: _____
Proposal: _____
Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Note 1 - Government approved competent persons self-certification schemes for electrical safety in dwellings: British Standards Institution (www.kitemark.com), ELECSA Ltd (www.elecsa.org.uk), NAPIT Certification Ltd (www.napit.org.uk), NICEIC Certification Services Ltd (www.niceic.org.uk).

Defined competent schemes for persons who carry out electrical work as an addition to their main activity (e.g. gas installers, kitchen and bathroom fitters): ELECSA, NAPIT, NICEIC as above, Gas Safe Register (www.gassaferegister.co.uk), APHC (www.aphc.co.uk), Oil Firing Technical Association (www.oftec.org.uk).

For the latest information on approved competent persons self-certification schemes see 'Building Regulations' at www.communities.gov.uk.

Note 2 - Applications must include full details of the proposed work including an 'electrical installation diagram and specification' showing compliance with BS7671 (the IEE Wiring Regulations) e.g. cable types, circuits, fuses/circuit breakers, earthing and bonding conductors, and fixed electrical appliances.