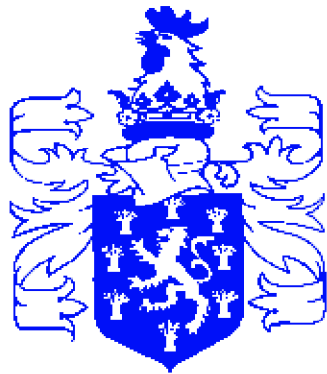


# SOUTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL

## BUILDING CONTROL



## BUILDING CONTROL APPROVED DOCUMENT PART P ELECTRICAL SAFETY IN THE HOME GUIDANCE NOTE 9

### Building Regulations Part P - Electrical Safety

From 1 January 2005 the design, installation, inspection and testing of electrical installations will be controlled under the Building Regulations. The new Part P will apply mainly to dwelling houses and flats including gardens and outbuildings such as sheds, detached garages and greenhouses.

- Small jobs such as provision of a socket-outlet or a light switch on an existing circuit will not need to be notified to Building Control (although there will be some exceptions for high risk areas such as kitchens and bathrooms). This work should still however be certified by a competent person.
- All work that involves adding a new circuit to a dwelling, or electrical work in kitchens and bathrooms or in 'special locations' (see table) will need to be either notified to Building Control with a building regulation application, or carried out by a competent person who is registered with a Part P Self-Certification Scheme.

There are two routes available to applicants to ensure they comply with Part P:-

1. Use an electrician/installer who is registered with a Competent Person's scheme, in which case a building regulation application will not be required for the electrical work.

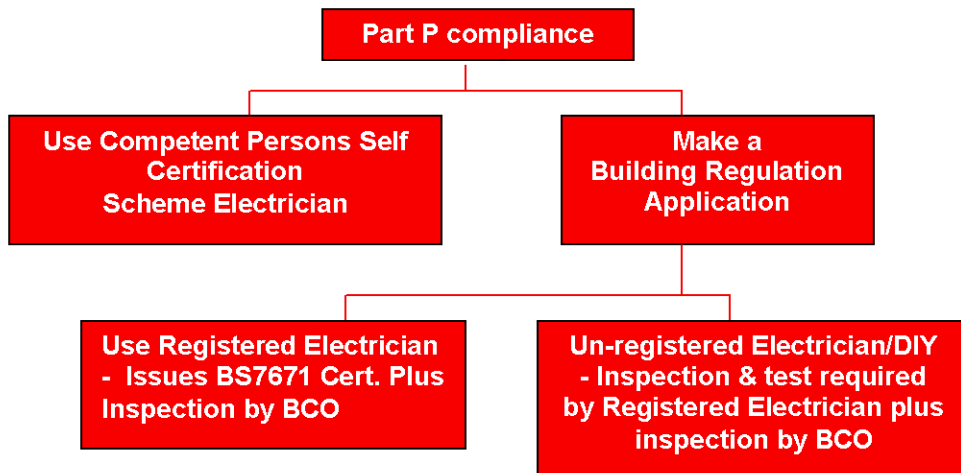
**We would strongly encourage the use of electricians/installers who are part of a Competent Person Scheme.**

2. Submit a Building Regulation application to the Local Authority:

A. Where an electrician registered with a recognised trade body such as NICEIC, ECA & NAPIT (who need not be registered under a competent persons scheme) tests the work and issues a design, installation and test certificate under BS7671. Building Control will accept the certificate as evidence that the work complies with Part P. Additional inspections by Building Control may also be carried out in conjunction with the acceptance of a certificate (a list of those electricians competent to inspect and test will be available on the internet at [labc-services.co.uk](http://labc-services.co.uk)).

B. Where the work is carried out by an unregistered electrician or is a DIY installation, the applicant is required to have the work inspected and tested by a registered electrician as in A above.

The diagram below shows the various routes to ensure Part P compliance:



## Should I notify Building Control?

Except as identified in the chart below, notification of proposals to carry out electrical installation will be given to a building control body before work begins, unless the work is undertaken by a person registered with a Part P self certification scheme.

Whether or not work is notifiable is dependant on the nature of installation work proposed and its location within a dwelling. The location is important because some 'special installations or locations', such as kitchens, bathrooms and gardens may pose a greater risk to people.

### Some Typical Examples of electrical works

### Notifiable?

	Within a bath/shower room, Kitchen or a special location / installation	Other Installations within a Dwelling
Complete new/rewire of installation	Yes	Yes
Consumer unit change	Yes	Yes
Installing a new shower circuit	Yes	Yes
Installing a new cooker circuit	Yes	Yes
Installing a storage heater, including final circuit		Yes
Installing an additional light	Yes	No
Installing an additional socket	Yes	No
Addition of fused connection unit to ring final circuit	Yes	No
Installing or upgrading main or supplementary equipotential bonding	Yes	No
Replacing a damaged cable for a single circuit	No	No
Replacing a damaged socket outlet	No	No
Replacing a light fitting	No	No
Connecting a cooker to an existing connection unit	No	No
Connecting a storage heater to an existing connection unit	No	No
Installing a light fitting in an outbuilding such as a greenhouse or fixed garden lighting	Yes (special Installation)	N/A
Taking a new supply out to an outbuilding such as a garden shed	Yes (special Installation)	N/A
Installing a socket in an outbuilding such as a garage or garden shed	Yes (special Installation)	N/A
Installing a pond pump, water feature, pond heater etc. including supply	Yes (special Installation)	N/A
Installing extra low voltage lighting (not CE marked sets)	Yes (special Installation)	Yes (special Installation)
Installing a solar photovoltaic power supply	Yes (special Installation)	Yes (special Installation)
Installing ceiling or floor heating	Yes (special Installation)	Yes (special Installation)
Installing a small scale generator	Yes (special Installation)	Yes (special Installation)
Hot air sauna, swimming pool	Yes (special location)	Yes (special location)
Installing an additional socket in a motor caravan	N/A	N/A

## Competent Person's Schemes

There are currently five full scope schemes in operation, who can carry out any electrical work and five defined-scope schemes for other trades who can carry out a limited amount of electrical work (for example gas fitters and kitchen fitters, alarm installers and electric garage door fitters)

### Full scope schemes

BRE Certification Ltd  
British Standards Institution  
ELECSA Ltd  
NAPIT Certification Ltd  
NICEIC Certifications Services Ltd

### Defined scope schemes

CORGI  
ELECSA schemes Ltd  
NAPIT Certification Ltd  
NIC Certification Ltd  
OFTEC LTD

## Building Regulation Applications

If you intend to submit a full plans application for notifiable electrical work we will require a note on the plan which states: "All electrical work required to meet the requirements of Part P (Electrical Safety) must be designed, installed, inspected and tested by a person competent to do so".

Prior to completion, the Council should be satisfied that Part P has been complied with. This may require an appropriate BS7671 Electrical Installation Certificate to be issued for the work by a person competent to do so.

**Building Regulation Charges - Please refer to separate charges sheet.**

## Useful Guidance

Information on the new Part P can be found on the following web sites.

ECA – [www.eca.co.uk](http://www.eca.co.uk)  
LABC – [www.labc-services.co.uk](http://www.labc-services.co.uk)  
ELECSA – [www.elecsa.org.uk](http://www.elecsa.org.uk)

NAPIT – [www.napit.org.uk](http://www.napit.org.uk)  
IEE – [www.iee.org](http://www.iee.org)  
NICEIC – [www.niceic.org.uk](http://www.niceic.org.uk)

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