



Notification Number: 2012/100/UK

Changes to Part P (Electrical safety - Dwellings) of the Building Regulations

Date received : 13/02/2012

End of Standstill : 14/05/2012

Message

Message 001

Communication from the Commission - SG(2012) D/5388

Directive 98/34/EC

Notificación - Oznámení - Notifikation - Notifizierung - Teavitamine - Γνωστοποίηση - Notification - Notification - Notifica - Pietiekums - Pranešimas - Bejelerentés - Notifika - Kennisgeving - Zawiadomienie - Notificação - Hlášenie-Obvestilo - Ilmoitus - Anmälan - Нотификация : 2012/0100/UK - Notificare.

No abre el plazo - Nezahtuje odklady - Fristerne indledes ikke - Kein Fristbeginn - Viivituste perioodi ei avata - Καμμία έναρξη προθεσμίας - Does not open the delays - N'ouvre pas de délais - Non fa decorrere la mora - Neietekmē atlikšanu - Atidėjimai nepradedami - Nem nyitja meg a késéset - Ma' jiftaħ il-perijodi ta' dawmien - Geen termijnbegin - Nie otwiera opóźnień - Nao inicia o prazo - Neotvorí oneskorenia - Ne uvaja zamud - Määräaika ei ala tästä - Inleder ingen frist - He ce предвижда период на прекъсване - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare.

(MSG: 201200388.EN)

1. Structured Information Line

MSG 001 IND 2012 0100 UK EN 13-02-2012 UK NOTIF

2. Member State

UK

3. Department Responsible

Department for Business, Innovation and Skills
Knowledge & Innovation Group
1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET.

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3. Originating Department

Building Regulations & Standards Division
Communities & Local Government
Eland House



2 Bressenden Place
London SW1E 5DU

4. Notification Number

2012/0100/UK - B00

5. Title

Changes to Part P (Electrical safety - Dwellings) of the Building Regulations

6. Products Concerned

The Building Regulations provide for the health, safety, welfare and convenience of those in and around buildings and the sustainability of buildings for current and future generations. In order to do this they set standards through both technical and procedural requirements for those carrying out building work. Therefore this notification has relevance for services including design and construction services for controlled building works and related construction products.

7. Notification Under Another Act

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8. Main Content

The Building Regulations 2010 provide for the health, safety, welfare and convenience of those in and around buildings and set technical and procedural requirements for those carrying out building work. Statutory guidance on ways of meeting the functional requirements of these regulations are provided in Approved Documents.

The Part P requirement in Schedule 1 of the Building Regulations 2010 is that "reasonable provision shall be made in the design and installation of electrical installations in order to protect persons operating, maintaining or altering the installations from fire or injury". Approved Document P 2006, contains the statutory guidance demonstrating how to comply with this requirement.

The proposed revision to Approved Document P will significantly reduce the amount of work that is notifiable and allow for third-party certification of notifiable work.

The technical guidance in Approved Document P currently refers to BS 7671:2001. We propose also to update the guidance so it refers to BS 7671:2008.

9. Brief Statement of Grounds

Electrical shocks and fire in the home present a significant health and safety risk to people. Since 1 January 2005, all electrical work in dwellings has been required to meet with minimum standards to comply with Part P of the Building Regulations. The reasons for introducing Part P were to improve the quality of electrical installation work and reduce electrical accidents rates.

However, with respect to Part P there was some criticism of its cost and bureaucracy. This concern focused on the costs associated with the regime's operation – for example, building control fees and notification – rather than concern about the cost of the work required to comply with the minimum technical standard set out in Approved Document P.



The primary objective is to ensure that electrical work in new and existing homes is carried out in ways to minimise the risks associated with electrical shock in a proportionate and cost-effective way; by reducing overall complexities and costs in a way that continues to deliver the safety benefits sought; and ensuring the technical guidance refers to current installation standards.

10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts

No Basic Text exists

11. Invocation of the Emergency Procedure

No

12. Grounds for the Emergency

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13. Confidentiality

No

14. Fiscal measures

No

15. Impact assessment

Yes

16. TBT and SPS aspects

TBT aspect

No - The draft is in conformity with an international standard

SPS aspect

No - The draft is not a sanitary or phytosanitary measure

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