Unit 308: Career awareness in building services engineering

Handout 5: Competent person scheme (CPS)

**Learning outcome**

The learner will:

1. Understand the requirements to become a qualified operative in building services engineering.

**Assessment criteria**

The learner can:

2.2 Identify the areas in building services that run competent person schemes.

2.3 Define the term competent person scheme (CPS).

**Range**

**Areas**: Gas, hot water, cold water, electrical, air conditioning, solid fuel, environmental technologies, oil.

**Term competent person scheme (CPS)**: To enable self-certification of own work carried out.

# Competent person scheme (CPS)

You can join a competent person scheme to self-certify certain types of building work if you work in the building trade as an installer. This is instead of getting Building Regulations approval.

This means:

* You do not have to use a local council or approved building inspector to check your work.
* Your customers benefit from lower prices, as there are no building control fees.

Membership is voluntary – you can still use local councils and building inspectors if you prefer.

Competent person scheme operators and installers must follow certain rules to make sure their work complies with Building Regulations.

You will be assessed to make sure you meet the level of competence required before you are approved.

If you become a member, there will be ongoing inspections of your work to make sure standards are met.

The following is a list of areas in building services that operate competent person schemes:

* gas
* hot water
* cold water
* electrical
* air conditioning
* solid fuel
* environmental technologies
* oil.