



Building Control Services

Advice Note 16 – Installation of unvented hot water storage systems

Do the Building Regulations apply to the installation of unvented hot water systems and is a notification required?

Such an installation is building work as defined by regulation 3 (1) (b) and is therefore controlled by the building regulations **except** where:

- a) The hot water storage vessel is 15 litres or less;
- b) The installation is only for space heating;
- c) The installation is only for an industrial process.

How to comply with the Building Regulations:

1. Notification, usually in the form of a building notice, is required. Forms and advice notes can be obtained from our office or downloaded directly from our web site -see below for contact details.
2. A charge is made that is based upon the cost of works (see table 3 of our Charges leaflet), and payment must accompany the notification.
3. The person carrying out the work must be a "Competent person" for this work. This means they are likely to be approved by the CITB, the Institute of plumbers, or be Registered Operatives employed by companies included on the list of Approved Installers published by the BBA.
4. The person carrying out the work must comply with Regulation G3, guidance being given in Approved Document G.
5. The installation is subject to approval by Building Control Services. We need to decide whether an inspection is necessary. Where we inspect we would check whether the installation complies with the guidance in Approved Document G3.
6. Finally, copies of the installer's certification are required before we sign the job off as satisfactorily complete.

Contacts for bodies referred to above:

CITB: www.citb.org.uk

Institute of plumbers: www.plumbers.org.uk

British Board of Agreement: www.bbacerts.co.uk

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