

**Part P Key Information**  
from  
**The Electrical Safety Council**

- Part P was introduced in **2005** to reduce the number of electrical accidents, deaths and fires in UK homes.
- It is **the only legal framework in England** which protects the consumer from unsafe electrical work in the home.
- This is important because **every week in the UK, one person dies** from an electrical accident and well over a quarter of a million **(350,000) are seriously injured every year**. (Data source Ipsos MORI's Capibus 6<sup>th</sup> May 27<sup>th</sup> May 2011).
- Government figures also show that **almost half of all electrical fires** in UK homes – more than 20,000 each year – are caused by electricity. (Data source: CLG fire stats 2010/11).
- According to government figures **Part P has contributed to a 17.5% reduction in fires** attributed to mains wiring faults (Data source CLG 2004-2007);
- The **benefits of Part P** range from householder protection and consumer care, to improved contractor skills and the sustainability of buildings.
- Under Part P, **20,000 more** electrical contractors are having their competence assessed and samples of their work checked regularly. (Data source: CLG Competent Persons Scheme Statistical Information).
- It has helped reduce the number of unregulated persons undertaking electrical work. Today, there are over 38,000 Part P contractors (Data source: CLG Competent Persons Scheme Statistical Information).
- Many more individuals carrying out electrical installation work in dwellings have undertaken electrical training than was previously the case;
- It makes it easier for householders to identify competent electrical contractors.
- Part P has a **heritage factor** – it helps ensure that not only the current residents but also those who will live in that home in future can be protected from fire and electric shock.
- Part P contractors offer some kind of **warranty** on their work, which means consumers also have some financial protection.

- A **survey of registered contractors** found that **85% of electricians** supported Part P - but with some improvements.
- An ESC **survey of MPs re Part P** showed that **79%** agreed that all electricians carrying out work in domestic premises should be registered with a government-approved competent person scheme.
- The ESC's recommendations on the future of Part P aim to **reduce the complexities of Part P without compromising safety.**
- The ESC's submission to government has included the suggestion that homeowners should be able to use a Part P registered contractor as an alternative to inspection by a building control body. This should **reduce consumer costs and ensure homeowner's safety.**
- The ESC has set up an e-petition to raise awareness of, and strengthen the case for, the retention of Part P. It can be found at:  
<http://epetitions.direct.gov.uk/petitions/20652>.

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