Part P – Electrical Safety
Guidance Note
July 2007

Approved Document P was introduced to the Building Regulations on 1st January 2005, and amended on the 6th April 2006. Part P was introduced to check that electrical works were designed, inspected and tested by a person competent to do so.

The current requirements apply to:
- Dwelling houses and flats,
- Dwellings and business premises with a common supply,
- Common access areas in blocks of flats, such as corridors and staircases,
- Shared amenities of blocks of flats (e.g. laundries and gyms).

Notifiable electrical works consist of:

The installation of a new circuit.

The addition to, or modification of any circuit in or around Kitchens and special locations and installations, which are:
- Locations containing a bath tub or shower basin
- Swimming pools and paddling pools
- Hot air saunas
- Electric floor or ceiling heating systems
- Garden lighting or power installations
- Solar photovoltaic (PV) power supply systems
- Small scale generators such as microCHP units
- Extra-low voltage lighting installations, other than pre-assembled, CE-marked lighting sets.

Non-notifiable electrical work (subject to conditions) consists of:

Replacing accessories such as socket outlets, control switches and ceiling roses.
Replacing the cable for a single circuit only, where damaged, for example by fire, rodent or impact.
Re-fixing or replacing the enclosures of existing installation components.
Providing mechanical protection to existing installation components.
Work that is not in a kitchen or special location and does not involve a special installation and consists of:
- Adding lighting points (light fittings and switches) to an existing circuit,
- Adding socket outlets and fused spurs to an existing or radial circuit.
- Installing or upgrading main or supplementary equipotential bonding.
Options for Notifiable Work

Electrical Works – as part of an extension or new build house.

Option 1
Use a Competent Person (Part P qualified electrician)

Should you use a Part P qualified electrician for electrical works within an extension or new build property etc, the electrician will complete works without having to notify Building Control. The Part P electrician will register the installation with his approved body, who will then inform Building Control, to enable us to check which properties have had works completed across the Borough. Once Building Control have received details for the installation, we will be in a position to issue completion letters for the works (subject to all other works being completed on site).

Option 2
Use a Registered Electrician (NICEIC, ECA, NAPIT etc)

Should you use a Registered electrician (who is not Part P qualified), your details will automatically be added to your Building Regulations file for your extension/new build. No additional fees are required beyond your extension fees. The Registered electrician must then forward the BS 7671 installation certificate for the works to Building Control, to enable us to issue completion letters for the works (subject to all other works being completed on site).

Electrical Works Only.

Option 1
Use a Competent Person (Part P qualified electrician)

Should you use a Part P qualified electrician, the electrician will complete works and issue an electrical installation certificate without having to notify Building Control. The Part P electrician will register the installation with his approved body, who will then inform Building Control, to enable us to check which properties have had works completed across the Borough.

Option 2
Use a Registered Electrician (NICEIC, ECA, NAPIT etc)

Should you use a Registered electrician (who is not Part P qualified), you must make a Building Notice Application, and send it to building control together with the correct fee, based on schedule 3 of our fee sheet (estimated cost). The application will then be registered, and the Registered electrician must then forward the BS 7671 installation certificate for the works to Building Control, to enable us to issue completion letters for the works.