

# Now's the time to get gas checks says regulator

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- HSE says regular checks can keep homes safe – and cut costs ☐☐
- Help is available for those struggling to pay for checks☐

☐Recent domestic gas incidents have attracted significant media coverage. HSE is reassuring people they need to be careful but not unduly concerned. ☐

☐Gas incidents can be devastating but remain extremely rare. There were 25 gas related fire and explosion incidents reported in 2020/2021, despite there being over 22 million households using gas across the country. ☐

☐HSE recommends homeowners get all gas appliances (boilers, cookers, and fires), flues, and pipework regularly maintained and serviced every year by a qualified engineer listed on the Gas Safe Register. ☐

☐The Gas Safe Register is the official list of gas businesses which are registered to work safely and legally on boilers, cookers, fires and all other gas appliances. By law, anyone working with gas in domestic or commercial premises must be listed on the register. Gas Safe registered businesses can be found on their [website](#). ☐

☐Getting household gas appliances and pipes checked in summer can ensure your home is safe while also helping to keep bills lower in winter. ☐

☐That's the message from the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) who are encouraging people to get gas checks now before the weather turns colder later in the year and households use more gas. ☐

☐Gas appliances should be regularly checked to prevent gas leaks and stop carbon monoxide being released. Regular servicing can also help gas appliances run more efficiently and in turn save money on household bills.☐

☐Help is available for those struggling to pay for checks. In some circumstances, suppliers can offer free gas safety checks through the Priority Services Register. For further advice and information homeowners can contact their gas supplier (the company they pay their bills to).☐

☐John Rowe, HSE policy lead for gas safety, said: "Gas is an incredibly safe way of fuelling your house. Serious incidents are still extremely rare, although of course for those involved they can be devastating.☐ ☐

☐"We should all be careful and not unduly concerned about using gas in our homes. We're encouraging householders to get a gas check. Doing so could save them money in the long run but will also keep them safe. The summer months are perfect time to get your appliances checked so come winter you know they are working safely and efficiently."☐☐

For more information on gas health and safety visit HSE's [website](#).

#### Notes to editors:

1. The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) is Britain's national regulator for workplace health and safety. We prevent work-related death, injury and ill health through regulatory actions that range from influencing behaviours across whole industry sectors through to targeted interventions on individual businesses. These activities are supported by globally recognised scientific expertise. [www.hse.gov.uk](http://www.hse.gov.uk)
2. HSE news releases are available at: <http://press.hse.gov.uk>
3. HSE is happy to facilitate any media interview requests

#### Tips to keep gas safe:

1. Only use a Gas Safe registered engineer to fit, fix and service your appliances. You can find and check an engineer at [GasSafeRegister.co.uk](http://GasSafeRegister.co.uk) or call 0800 408 5500.
2. Know the six signs of carbon monoxide poisoning – headaches, dizziness, breathlessness, nausea, collapse and loss of consciousness.
3. Check gas appliances for warning signs that they are not working properly - lazy yellow flames instead of crisp blue ones, black marks or stains on or around the appliance and condensation in the room.
4. Fit an audible carbon monoxide alarm. This will alert you if there is carbon monoxide in your home.
5. Check both sides of your engineer's Gas Safe Register ID card. Make sure they are qualified for the work you need doing. You can find this information on the back of the card.
6. Have all your gas appliances regularly serviced and safety checked every year. If you rent your home, ask for a copy of the landlord's current Gas Safety Record.
7. If you smell gas call 0800 111 999. More information on what to do if you smell gas can be found at: [What To Do in a Gas Emergency – Gas Safe Register](#)