



Making a positive difference
for energy consumers

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Email: foi@ofgem.gov.uk

Date: 25 June 2020

Dear Stephanie

Request reference number: FOI-101-2020

Thank you for your correspondence of 04 June 2020 in which you requested information about the need for testing gas appliances for CO, the MoU that exists between Ofgem and HSE and to ask questions about the communications between Ofgem and HSE.

We have considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("FOIA").

Disclosure

We hold the information that you have requested and answer your questions as follows:

1. Has Ofgem recently considered whether or not the gas emergency services could or should test gas appliances for CO?

Ofgem has had informal discussions internally and also in response to external queries from you and others about whether the role of the gas emergency service should be extended.

2. If so, who was involved in these discussions and what conclusions did Ofgem reach?

Stephen Brown, Matthew Pearson, Rebecca Pickett and Peter Bingham. Jonathan Brearley was briefed following the meeting we had with you and others in December 2019. We considered there was insufficient justification to extend the scope of the existing gas emergency service as currently provided for under Gas Transporter Standard Licence Condition 6.

3. If no, why hasn't Ofgem considered whether or not the gas emergency services could or should test gas appliances for CO?

Ofgem does not consider there is sufficient justification to extend the scope of the existing gas emergency service.

4. Has Ofgem discussed with HSE using GD2 funding to help the gas emergency services test gas appliances for CO?

No.

5. If no, what plans are there if any, to have such a discussion?

None.

6. If there are no plans for such a discussion, why is this?

Ofgem does not consider there is sufficient justification to extend the scope of the existing gas emergency service.

7. If yes, what discussions have taken place?

Not applicable.

8. Finally, would Ofgem consider or support a project or trial of the gas emergency service testing gas appliances for CO or undertaking a sweep test after relighting the gas appliances?

In principle we would have no objection to one or more operators of the gas emergency service trialling initiatives that they considered may be to the overall benefit of consumers, providing they were to be done with agreement of the HSE and in close co-operation with and support of the wider gas industry.

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Yours sincerely,

Emily Hardisty
Information Rights and Correspondence Officer