

competence of the installer. We would always advise that work requiring such competency should be carried out by an appropriately qualified person. Should you still wish to make an application to us please note there is a charge for this process. You will be expected to supply a full specification and be responsible for the commissioning of any tests required as well as providing access for any inspections.

2. Use an installer registered as a competent installer, in which case you do not need to make a Building Regulations application. Your installer should then ensure the work complies fully with the Regulations and will supply you with a certificate confirming this when the installation is complete.

Current competent persons schemes for installation of solid fuel appliances are shown below

- Ascertiva Group Ltd
- Association of Plumbing and Heating Contractors (Certification) Ltd
- Benchmark Certification Ltd
- Building Engineering Service Competence Association Ltd
- ECA Certification Ltd
- HETAS Ltd
- NAPIT Registration Ltd

Following this leaflet will help you stay safe.



More information is available from:

✉ Building Control, South Somerset District Council, Brympton Way, Yeovil, Somerset, BA20 2HT

💻 [www.southsomerset.gov.uk/buildingcontrol](http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/buildingcontrol)

☎ 01935 462462

💻 [building\\_control@southsomerset.gov.uk](mailto:building_control@southsomerset.gov.uk)



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**If you would like this document translated into other languages or into Braille, large print, audio tape or CD, please contact:**

☎ **01935 462462**

Dokument ten jest na życzenie udostępniany w językowych polskim.

Este documento encontra-se disponível em Português, a pedido.

## Building Control Services

### Solid Fuel Appliances



### Guidance Leaflet - 13



## Building Regulation 2010 - Approved Document J 2010

This advice note has been compiled to assist surveyors on the key aspects of the installation of a solid fuel appliance. The guide assumes that relevant foundations, damp course etc have been inspected and is intended for use on new installations only.

### Some key issues to consider on installation are –

#### Hearth Construction

Is a 125mm structural hearth required? Or is this an appliance where the hearth temperature is less than 100°C and a 12mm non-combustible material will comply?

#### Hearth Dimensions

Projection to the side of an appliance should be 150mm, and 225mm to the front of the appliance. If the installation is an open fire or an appliance that can be used with its door open, the front projection is increased to 300mm.

#### Fireplace Recesses

For an open fire, a prefabricated chamber or a masonry recess should be used.

#### Wall Adjacent to Hearth

Solid non-combustible materials are required. Particular care must be taken on timber frame buildings, where uninsulated fluepipes may require a shield.

#### Ventilation

Ventilation requirements vary according to the size of the appliance; you should also take into

account the air permeability of the building.

#### Mechanical Air Extraction

Mechanical extraction is not allowed in the same room as the appliance.

#### Separation of Combustible Material

For a BS1856 compliant factory made metal chimney refer to manufacturers' information on separation. In the case of a masonry chimney maintain a minimum 40mm from the outer surface of the chimney (unless non-structural timber). Structural timber may be built into the chimney, as long as it remains 200mm from the inside face of the flue.

#### Flue Size

Flue sizes depend on your type of appliance. You must seek further guidance to ensure that you have the correct flue size. Oversized flues can be unsafe.

#### Notice Plate

Ensure notice plate is completed and in a suitable position e.g. adjacent to chimney, hearth, electrical consumer unit, or water stop cock.

#### Flue Outlet Position

In general for a woodburning stove the minimum total height of a flue should be 4.5m, and for an open fire it is a 5.5m minimum height. Special precautions must be taken where roof surfaces are readily ignitable e.g. thatch, shingles or similar.

#### Access

Can the flue be cleaned through the appliance? If not, are access points and a debris collection space provided? A maximum of 4 bends up to 45° are allowed. Concealed

flues are to have a suitable inspection hatch with additional hatches within 1.5m of any joint.

#### Carbon Monoxide Detection

To be provided in the room containing the appliance, within 1m and 3m from the appliance, and 300mm from any wall (ceiling mounted) or 150mm from any ceiling (wall mounted).

Provision of a carbon monoxide alarm should not be regarded as a substitute for correct installation and regular servicing.

#### Testing

The following tests should be undertaken by a suitably qualified operative. This may be a HETAS registered installer or an appropriately trained chimney sweep who is a member of a trade association such as NACS or APICS:

- i) A visual test of the flue, or if not visible a coring ball or sweeping test.
- ii) For any appliance other than an open fire, a spillage test.
- iii) A smoke test of the flue

#### Demonstrating compliance and notification of work

The provision or alteration of a controlled service or fitting constitutes building work under the Building Regulations. There are two routes available to those wishing to provide new or alter existing solid fuel appliances.

1. Submit a building regulation application to the local authority, or private building control body. This process still requires an appropriate level of experience and