

Demand for Electrical Inspectors

Background

The inspection, testing and certification of electrical installations underpins electrical safety, both at home and in the workplace, ensuring that safety is not limited to installation work. NAPIT have always promoted the use of competent, professional inspectors and testers to consumers and industry.

There is an increasing drive towards regular periodic inspection and testing and the use of Electrical Installation Condition Reports (EICR). Employers and Landlords have obligations to ensure the electrical safety of systems and equipment in their properties. These are stated in the Electricity at Work Regulations, the Landlord and Tenant Act and other associated legislation. Competence is required by this legislation and the use of an independent, registered inspector is often the most suitable way of ensuring compliance.

Work Opportunities

Private Rented Sector

The Landlord and Tenant Act 1985 puts a duty on landlords to ensure electrical safety in their properties. The Minister of State for Housing and Planning has stated that the Government will carry out work to consider legislative amendments for undertaking electrical safety checks in the private rented sector in England.



Current requirements

England:

The Assured Shorthold Tenancy Notices and Prescribed Requirements (England) Regulations 2015 requires tenants to be provided with the How to Rent Guide which tells them that their landlord should provide them with a copy of electrical inspections and recommends checks every five years or on change of tenancy.



Scotland:

The Housing (Scotland) Act 2014 requires an EICR to be carried out at least every five years by a competent person. The associated statutory guidance lists NAPIT members as suitably competent to complete these reports.



Wales:

The Housing (Wales) Act 2014 requires Landlords or their agents to be licensed with Rent Smart Wales by November 2016 and makes it a condition that any person issued with a license must comply with the Code of Practice, which in turn states that an EICR should be carried out at least once every five years by a competent electrician.



Industry Initiatives

Home Safety Guidance

The Home Safety Guidance documents are a self-declaration support package for Landlords that guides them on what safety checks to have done and where to find a competent person. The electrical safety section of the forms recommends that an EICR be carried out by a registered competent electrician every 5 years or within the time frame recommended on the EICR.



TrustMark

TrustMark promotes competent electricians to consumers needing repair and maintenance work which may involve inspection and testing – this is available through NAPIT membership.



Owner occupied



Insurance Companies



Commercial & Industrial

In commercial and industrial work the Electricity at Work Regulations 1989 puts an obligation on employers and building owners to ensure electrical safety. Insurance companies are increasingly linking their premiums to risk based evidence of electrical safety and are looking for a register of competent electricians to carry out EICRs in this sector.

All sectors

Insurance companies are also interested in a service for the provision of EICRs following damage to all property types from fire, flood and other incidents so they can obtain reliable advice on remedial works under their policies.



NAPIT's promotion of the scheme

- Online search facility for identifying electrical inspectors by scope of work.
- Promotion of Electrical Inspectors to Local Authorities, Landlord Forums and Letting Agents for use when requiring EICR's.
- Direct link through to the Electrical Inspector register on the Home Safety Guidance website.
- Active online and media advertising.

NAPIT | registration

For more information please call **0345 543 0330**
or email **info@napit.org.uk**
www.napit.org.uk/schemes/inspection-testing-scheme.aspx