

Health & Safety

Whilst work is being carried out in your home there will be some disruption, however we will try to minimise this wherever possible. It is also inevitable that there will be some hazards associated with the work and we ask that you take note of these;

Children and Pets

We would ask that children and pets are kept away from the work area at all times.

Hazards

Although toolboxes, power leads and tools will be restricted to the work area, please be vigilant at all times.

Dust

Some dust is inevitable whilst the work is carried out, however the contractor will try to ensure this is minimised. Should a member of your household suffer from any illness that could be aggravated by dust please make the Customer Liaison officer aware of this.

Smoking

We kindly request that you do not smoke in your home for one hour prior to any visit by NDH staff or contractors and for the duration of the time that they are in your home.



Compliance

North Devon Homes are required by law to perform a gas safety check every year. This is to ensure that your boiler remains safe to use. Due to the importance of this check, if you do not allow our contractors access to the boiler, you will be in breach of your tenancy agreement, so please ensure when you are contacted, you make an appointment and allow them in.

If you have any questions or need any further information, please contact the Planned Maintenance Team on 01271 312500.



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Home Improvement

Gas Heating Installation



A guide to having gas central heating installed in your home



Ensuring your home is properly maintained is a major priority for NDH & allowing NDH the opportunity to maintain the property is also part of your tenancy. Every year we invest money carrying out planned maintenance on your home updating and replacing areas such as kitchens, bathrooms and front doors.

Gas Heating

Your current heating system will be replaced by a condensing gas boiler. These boilers are very efficient as they work by recovering the waste heat normally lost through the flue system.

The most suitable place to fit the boiler is usually in the kitchen if space is available, the boiler needs to be fitted on an outside wall with space to install the flue. If there is no space in the kitchen we will look at cupboards and other alternative spaces.

Here is a brief indication of the process we will follow when fitting new gas heating in your home:

- You will receive notification in the form of a letter or phone call informing of the works to be completed during the next 12 months.
- A pre work survey will be required. This will be completed by your patch surveyor, your customer liaison officer and our contractors representatives. The contractor will contact you directly to arrange this visit.
- An appointment will be made with you by the contractor for the boiler to be fitted.

Once the work has been carried out, your patch surveyor will visit you to check the work has been done to the correct specification

Your Customer Liaison Officer will contact you to carry out a customer satisfaction survey. Your feedback is very important to us.

When an appointment is made with you please ensure you are home on the specified day, if the appointment is inconvenient please contact us to rearrange as soon as possible. Details of who to contact to confirm or rearrange will always be contained in the letter. A huge amount of time and money is wasted each year trying to access homes and chasing those who have missed appointments, please help us to work more efficiently by responding to communications and keeping appointments.

Frequently asked questions:

Will I be without heating?

Yes, we will ensure you have temporary heating (if needed) and water at the end of each day. You may be without hot water for one night.

Will there be any changes to my rent?

No, there will be no change to your rent.

Can I refuse the works?

No, a heating upgrade is classed as essential maintenance and must be done to maintain the decent home standard. Please speak with your Customer Liaison Officer if you have any questions or concerns.

Will you need access to the loft?

Yes, we will need to move around in your loft so please ensure there is space to do so.

How long will the work take?

The work will take between 1 and 5 days. The gas engineers will do the main body of the works and the handyman will do the building, pipe painting and making good works. We will discuss timescales with you at the pre work survey.

Why do I need an asbestos survey?

We do hold asbestos information on all our properties, on some occasions we need further information for specific works. We may arrange for a specialist contractor to contact you to arrange a visit for further information. We are unable to carry out the heating works until we have all the information needed to pass to the contractors and staff.

All members of NDH staff and our contractors carry and present identification when they call at your home. Should you have any concerns or doubts about anyone calling at your home **do not let them in and call us on 01271 312500.**



Members of the Customer Forum have formed a new support service to help other tenants.

If you feel it would be helpful to have an informal chat to another tenant no matter how small, large or silly you think your query is, please call them on **07811 273 671** or **07740 410 970** from 9am to 9pm 7 days a week.

Our Contractors Code of Conduct

In order to ensure that our service to you is consistent, we have introduced a Contractors Code of Conduct for all our contractors to comply with. This includes items such as;

Communication

- Make convenient appointments to carry out work.
- Introduce themselves and produce an identity card.
- Advise of any delay or postponement of a visit/appointment.

Courtesy

- Maintain a professional and respectful manner at all times.
- Contractors should not use offensive language, use radios or use customers facilities.
- Reconnect and test services such as electricity, gas and water at the end of each day. Where this is not possible customers should be notified.

Cleanliness/Tidiness

- Clear away any rubbish from works at the end of each day.
- Always use dust sheets or other protective measures.

Security

- Ensure customers homes are secure at all times.
- Keep safe all materials and equipment.
- Repair any damage to internal decorations caused by work.
- Always carry a photo Identity card.
- Comply with Health & Safety legislation and relevant codes of practice at all times.

