

Gas Service Pipe Alteration – Note for Guidance

You have contacted ESP Utilities Group Ltd (ESPUG) for a quotation to alter the existing gas service pipe which connects your gas meter to the gas main outside of your property. It is likely that the gas meter installation will also require relocating in conjunction with this work.

ESPUG assume that you have done so because the existing gas service pipe and/or gas meter installation (the “**gas supply installation**”) will be affected by building work at your property which requires that the gas supply installation be re-located to a new position so as to avoid the site of the building work.

We would like to make you aware that it is a contravention of both gas industry legislation (including The Pipelines Safety Regulations 1996 for the service pipe, The Gas Safety (Installation and Use) (Amendment) Regulations 2018 (for the meter installation), and the Building Regulations should the building work that you are proposing compromise the integrity of the gas supply installation, either during construction or upon completion.

For your information specific requirements are that:

- a gas service pipe should not be installed within the cavity of a cavity wall or in a space between the floor and ceiling below (unless it is to pass through the wall or floor from one side to the other and take the shortest practicable route within a sealed sleeve of a suitable material).
- where a gas service pipe is installed such that it passes through a cavity wall, solid wall, solid floor or space between the floor and ceiling it must:
 - be of a non-combustible material;
 - take the shortest possible route;
 - be enclosed in a sleeve and not contain mechanical joints;
 - the annulus between the sleeve and wall, or the sleeve and floor, should be sealed with a fire resistant material so as to prevent the passage of gas;
 - be sealed between the pipe wall and sleeve bore such that both normal movement of the pipe is allowed for and the passage of gas is prevented .
- a gas service pipe must not be installed in an unventilated void.
- a gas service pipe must not be installed under the foundations nor floor of a building, under the base of a load bearing wall or under a floating raft foundation.
- a gas meter installation must not be located within a building without prior agreement with ESPUG (this is only permitted in exceptional circumstances, and in any event the meter must not be located more than a maximum of 2 metres from the gas service pipe entry point in to the building which must be above ground level.

Your builder should be fully aware of these requirements and should not proceed with the building works until the gas supply installation has been altered in accordance with our quotation.

ESP Utilities Group Ltd own and operate the gas supply installation to your property and only personnel employed or authorised by ESPUG are permitted to undertake the alteration of the gas supply installation.

You should be aware that if you choose to ignore these requirements and proceed with the building work at your property without ESPUG having first completed the necessary alterations to the gas supply installation then the gas supply will be cut off.