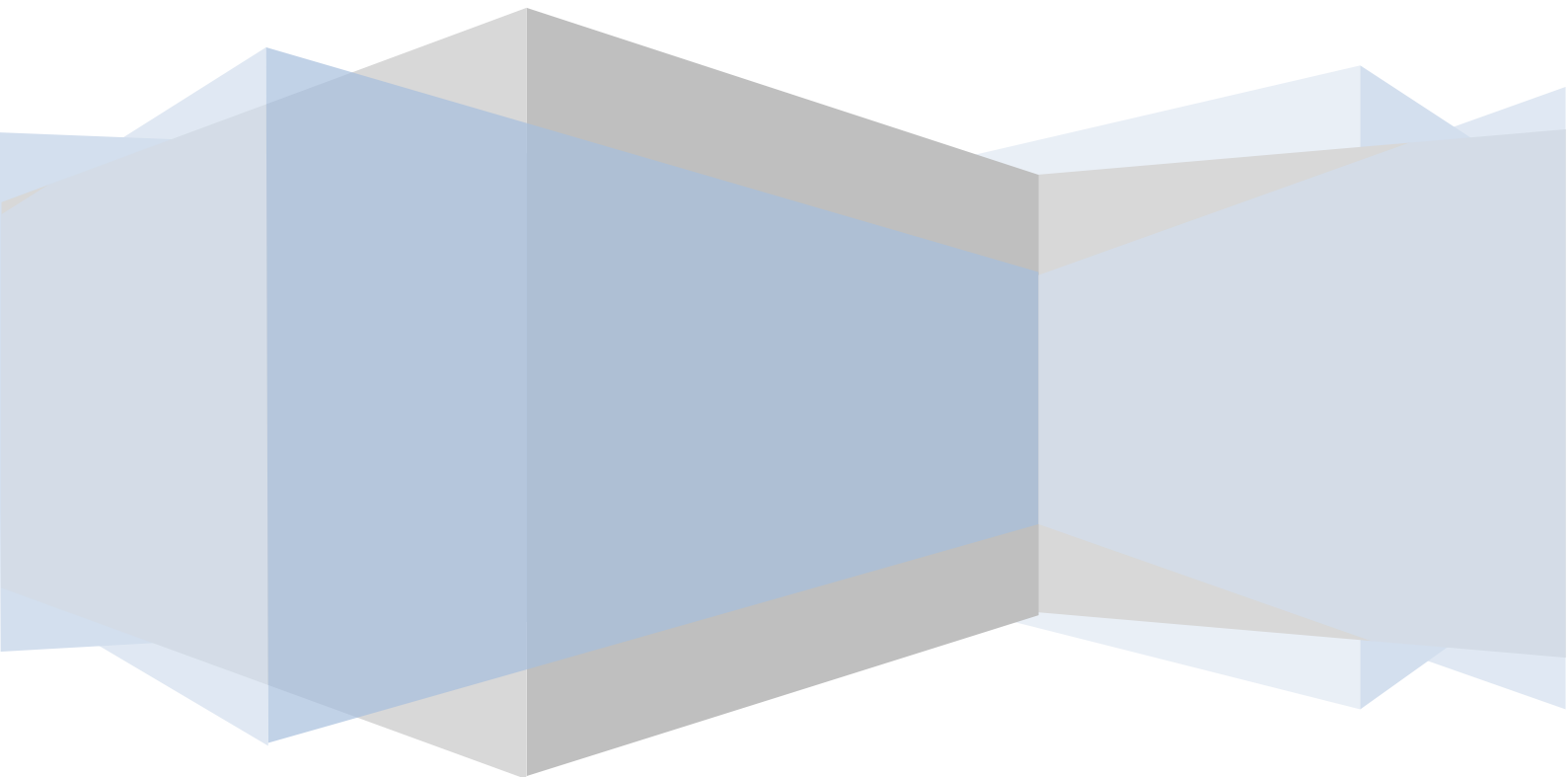




GAS SAFETY INSPECTION POLICY & PROCEDURE

April 2022



All Policies are available on tape, in braille, and translation into most languages. Please ask a member of staff if you would like this policy in a different format.

Date of Policy Review: April 2022
Date of Committee Approval: 19 April 2022
Date of Next Review: April 2027

SCOTTISH HOUSING REGULATOR STANDARDS	STANDARD 1: The governing body leads and directs the RSL to achieve good outcomes for its tenants and other service users STANDARD 2: The RSL is open about and accountable for what it does. It understands and takes account of the needs and priorities of its tenants, service users, and stakeholders. And its primary focus is the sustainable achievement of these priorities. STANDARD 6: The governing body and senior officers have the skills and knowledge they need to be effective. CHARTER OUTCOMES: 1: Equalities; 2 Communication; 4 Quality of housing; 5 Repairs, maintenance, and improvements; 13 Value for money
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1. INTRODUCTION

Cathcart & District Housing Association (CDHA) has a duty of care to its tenants to ensure that no tenant's health and safety is put at risk through the use of its gas appliances.

The purpose of this policy is to: -

- 1.1 Set out a long-term strategy whereby CDHA will ensure that it installs gas appliances that comply with current building and health and safety regulations;
- 1.2 Set out procedures minimising the risk to tenants from the use of faulty gas appliances (see Procedures No. 1 and 3);
- 1.3 Set out procedures for gaining access to tenants' homes to carry out annual gas servicing (see Procedure No. 1);
- 1.4 Develop CDHA's IT system to ensure easily retrievable and up to date information is maintained on all gas-supplied properties and maintain the Gas Safety database to ensure that this is fit for purpose (see Procedure No. 2);
- 1.5 Set out procedures to ensure that Gas Safety repairs are reported, categorised, and completed (see Procedure No. 3);
- 1.6 Set out procedures for the employment and monitoring of Gas Safe (formerly CORGI) registered Gas Maintenance Contractors to carry out Gas Safety work (see Procedure No. 4);

2. LEGAL & REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Under Regulation 36 (Duties of Landlords) of the Gas Safety (Installation & Use) Regulations 1998 (GSIUR), any gas appliance in a property (other than a gas appliance which a tenant is entitled to remove should they vacate the property) that is owned by CDHA and is rented to a tenant must be checked for Gas Safety within 12 months of its installation and within every subsequent 12 month period thereafter until the appliance is removed or replaced.

Landlord obligations as defined in the Gas Safety (Installation & Use) Regulations 1998

36. (1) In this regulation –

“landlord” means –

(a) in Scotland, the person for the time being entitled to the landlord's interest under a lease;

"lease" means –

(a) a lease for a term of less than 7 years; and

(b) a tenancy for a periodic term; and

(c) any statutory tenancy arising out of a lease or tenancy referred to in sub-paragraphs (a) or (b) above,

and in determining whether a lease is one which falls within sub-paragraph (a) above

“tenant” means a person who occupies relevant premises being—

(a) in Scotland, the person for the time being entitled to the tenant's interest under a lease.

(2) Every landlord shall ensure that there is maintained in a safe condition -

(a) any relevant gas fitting; and

(b) any flue which serves any relevant gas fitting,

so as to prevent the risk of injury to any person in lawful occupation or relevant premises.

(3) Without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (2) above, a landlord shall -

(a) ensure that each appliance and flue to which that duty extends is checked for safety within 12 months of being installed and at intervals of not more than 12 months since it was last checked for safety (whether such check was made pursuant to these Regulations or not);

(b) in the case of a lease commencing after the coming into force of these Regulations, ensure that each appliance and flue to which the duty extends has been checked for safety within a period of 12 months before the lease commences or has been or is so checked within 12 months after the appliance or flue has been installed, whichever is later; and

(c) ensure that a record in respect of any appliance or flue so checked is made and retained for a period of 3 years from the date of that check, which record shall include the following information -

(i) the date on which the appliance or flue was checked;

(ii) the address of the premises at which the appliance or flue is installed;

(iii) the name and address of the landlord of the premises (or, where appropriate, his agent) at which the appliance or flue is installed;

(iv) a description of and the location of each appliance or flue checked;

(v) any defect identified;

(vi) any remedial action taken;

(vii) confirmation that the check undertaken complies with the requirements of paragraph (9) below;

- (viii) the name and signature of the individual carrying out the check; and
 - (ix) the registration number with which that individual, or his employer, is registered with a body approved by the Executive for the purposes of regulation 3(3) of these Regulations.
- (4) Every landlord shall ensure that any work in relation to a relevant gas fitting or any check of a gas appliance or flue carried out pursuant to paragraphs (2) or (3) above is carried out by, or by an employee of, a member of a class of persons approved for the time being by the Health and Safety Executive for the purposes of regulation 3(3) of these Regulations.
- (5) The record referred to in paragraph (3)(c) above, or a copy thereof shall be made available upon request and upon reasonable notice for the inspection of any person in lawful occupation of relevant premises who may be affected by the use or operation of any appliance to which the record relates.
- (6) Notwithstanding paragraph (5) above, every landlord shall ensure that -
- (a) a copy of the record made pursuant to the requirements of paragraph (3)(c) above is given to each existing tenant of premises to which the record relates within 28 days of the date of the check; and
 - (b) a copy of the last record made in respect of each appliance or flue is given to any new tenant of premises to which the record relates before that tenant occupies those premises save that, in respect of a tenant whose right to occupy those premises is for a period not exceeding 28 days, a copy of the record may instead be prominently displayed within those premises.
- (7) Where there is no relevant gas appliance in any room occupied or to be occupied by the tenant in relevant premises, the landlord may, instead of ensuring that a copy of the record referred to in paragraph (6) above is given to the tenant, ensure that there is displayed in a prominent position in the premises (from such time as a copy would have been required to have been given to the tenant under that paragraph), a copy of the record with a statement endorsed on it that the tenant is entitled to have his own copy of the record on request to the landlord at an address specified in the statement; and on any such request being made, the landlord shall give to the tenant a copy of the record as soon as is practicable.
- (8) A copy of the record given to a tenant pursuant to paragraph (6)(b) above need not contain a copy of the signature of the individual carrying out the check if the copy of the record contains a statement that another copy containing a copy of such signature is available for inspection by the tenant on request to the landlord at an address specified in the statement, and on any such request being made the landlord shall make such a copy available for inspection as soon as is practicable.
- (9) A safety check carried out pursuant to paragraph (3) above shall include, but shall not be limited to, an examination of the matters referred to in sub-paragraphs (a) to (d) of regulation 26(9) of these Regulations.

(10) Nothing done or agreed to be done by a tenant of relevant premises or by any other person in lawful occupation of them in relation to the maintenance or checking of a relevant gas fitting or flue in the premises (other than one in part of premises occupied for non-residential purposes) shall be taken into account in determining whether a landlord has discharged his obligations under this regulation (except in so far as it relates to access to that gas fitting or flue for the purposes of such maintenance or checking).

(11) Every landlord shall ensure that in any room occupied or to be occupied as sleeping accommodation by a tenant in relevant premises there is not fitted a relevant gas fitting of a type the installation of which would contravene regulation 30(2) or (3) of these Regulations.

(12) Paragraph (11) above shall not apply in relation to a room which since before the coming into force of these Regulations has been occupied or intended to be occupied as sleeping accommodation.

Under Regulation 39 (Exception as to Liability) of GSIUR, CDHA will be deemed not to be guilty of an offence under Regulation 36 should it be able to show that "all reasonable steps" were taken to prevent the offence from taking place, i.e. to have documented evidence of access attempts. Should a tenant refuse to provide access under the terms of the tenant's Scottish Secure Tenancy Agreement CDHA will arrange for force access after serving 7 days notice on the tenant to carry out the annual servicing.

In addition, there are other obligations placed on CDHA under the Health & Safety at Work Act 1974 and the Housing (Scotland) Act 2001.

In formulating and implementing this policy, CDHA is committed to meeting statutory requirements, the Scottish Social Housing Charter, and Good Practice.

3. INTERNAL MANAGEMENT

CDHA will appoint a gas point of contact, generally the Maintenance Assistant (MA) under the supervision of the Senior Maintenance Officer, to liaise with external bodies in relation to gas issues and to set up a Gas Safety Management System. This system will allow the MA to keep an accurate log of all gas appliances within the Associations properties, appliance servicing records, contractor monitoring arrangements, gas incidents, and other issues as required by this policy. The MA will be provided with appropriate training to permit effective discharging of duties. Part of these duties (day-to-day recording of information and updating records etc) may be carried out by other staff members.

4. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY

CDHA will expect all contractors and subcontractors carrying out Gas Safety work to comply with its Equalities and Diversity Policy. A copy of each contractor's policy must be made available for CDHA's approval. This will be made available by contractors as part of their tender returns and form part of the tender evaluation process.

5. MAINTENANCE FUNDING

Funding for gas servicing and maintenance will be funded from CDHA's cyclical maintenance fund. In order to ensure budgetary certainty, CDHA will employ Gas Maintenance Contractors on a long-term servicing and maintenance contract. The contract will be subject to continuous review throughout the duration of the contract. Contractors will be monitored on the following criteria: -

- 5.1 Number of repairs carried out;
- 5.2 Completion times and concentrating on instances where the ordering of parts delayed timeous completion;
- 5.3 Number of repeat repairs;
- 5.4 Number of out-of-hours call-outs and corresponding completions;
- 5.5 Frequency of different types of repair;
- 5.6 The servicing programme and any access problems;
- 5.7 Any tenant complaints and compensation where repairs fall within qualifying categories under the Right to Repair Regulations (Scotland) 2002.
- 5.8 Tenant satisfaction.

CDHA's Senior Maintenance Officer will be responsible for monitoring expenditure against the budget, and reporting to the Finance & Audit Sub Committee.

6. GAS SAFETY STRATEGY

CDHA will ensure that any gas appliances installed or maintained within its properties meet the following criteria: -

- 6.1 Specifications/designs to comply with current requirements with regard to both legislative and normative requirements and ensure notification to relevant control bodies such as Building Control, Health & Safety Executive (HSE), and the Gas Safe Register are carried out when required;
- 6.2 CDHA will check for Gas Safety within 12 months of its installation and within every subsequent 12 month period thereafter until the appliance is removed or replaced, any gas appliance in a property (other than a gas appliance which a tenant is entitled to remove should they vacate the property) that is owned by CDHA and is rented to a tenant.
- 6.3 CDHA will provide a 10 month Gas Safety check programme in order to ensure a maximum number of appliances are checked within the specified 12 month period.
- 6.4 Any engineers working on Association gas appliances are Gas Safe registered and hold valid accredited certificates of competency under the Accredited Certification Scheme (ACS) in areas of gas work being undertaken. Records will be kept of all named operatives and their areas of certified competence in a competence matrix attached to this policy.

- 6.5 CDHA will maintain a database of all gas appliances including details of Manufacturer and model, flue type, date of installation, date of the last service, the engineer who carried out the service, and any remedial works carried out. The database will also be used as a tool to organise annual servicing and record instances of no access.
- 6.6 CDHA, in compliance with GSIUR, will keep electronic records of all Gas Safe CP12 Gas Safety certificates in the housing management system, for a minimum period of 3 years and will ensure that tenants are served with a copy of the CP12 certificate within 28 days of the annual service being carried out.
- 6.7 CDHA will ensure that all gas repairs are recorded within its computerised maintenance package and have procedures in place to ensure the completion of reported repairs.
- 6.8 CDHA will ensure adequate quality control of servicing and repairs by ensuring that servicing and maintenance contracts have provision for 10% quality control of services and repairs by the contractor. CDHA will also arrange outwith the contract, to carry out a further 10% of services and repairs to be independently checked by an independent consultant.
- 6.9 CDHA will ensure that all void properties have been checked for Gas Safety prior to re-letting.
- 6.10 CDHA will ensure that the provisions of the Right to Repair Regulations are met through clauses within servicing and maintenance contracts.
- 6.11 For health and safety reasons CDHA will discontinue the planned replacement of gas fires. Any fires condemned during the course of the annual inspection's regimes will be removed with tenants being offered compensation.

7. POLICY REVIEW

CDHA will review this policy every 3 years, more regular reviews will be considered where, for example, there is a need to respond to new legislation/policy guidance. Reviews will incorporate changes to legislation and regulations, tenant feedback, the Scottish Social Housing Charter, and good practice.

Gas Safety Procedure

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this Procedure is to ensure that CDHA complies with its legal obligations for gas safety as a landlord, under the Gas Safety (Installation & Use) Regulations 1998.

2.0 SCOPE

This Procedure covers all tenanted properties managed by CDHA containing gas appliances & supplies. It begins when an appliance or supply has been identified in the service sequence and concludes when a service record has been produced, logged, filed, and updated on the gas database.

3.0 DEFINITIONS

Gas appliance refers to: Gas fires (with or without back boilers), wall mounted gas boilers, gas tumble dryers, gas cookers, and hobs.

Gas supply refers to: Gas supply pipework and/or gas meter (for which a soundness test will be carried out and certification produced).

4.0 PROCEDURE

Register of Appliances

- 4.1 The Maintenance Assistant will ensure that a record is maintained within the system, of all gas appliances installed in CDHA's managed properties, their previous service date, and copies of the landlord's electronic certificates. This will be the master copy of information from which budgets and the annual planned servicing programme will be derived.

Obligation to Service Appliances

- 4.2 The Maintenance Assistant will ensure that an annual service & safety check is carried out on all gas appliances in CDHA's tenanted properties and all properties managed by CDHA. This obligation will be met through the implementation of a planned maintenance servicing programme. *Note: Void properties will also be serviced prior to the commencement of any new tenancy agreements.*

Programming and Preparing of Gas Appliance Service List

- 4.3 CDHA's Gas Maintenance Contractor will run a services due report and programme all required services. To ensure that all properties have a service carried out by their anniversary date all properties will be serviced on a 10 month cycle, to allow for any no access or forced entry actions.

Notification

- 4.4 The contractor will postcard customers giving 5 working days' notice of their intention to visit and carry out the service.

Implementation of Job Orders

- 4.5 CDHA's Gas Maintenance Contractor will prepare job orders from their database to ensure all properties are serviced within the contractual timescales.

Execution of the Works

- 4.6 CDHA's Gas Servicing Contractor will carry out the servicing in accordance with Gas Safe Register requirements and the work instructions for servicing the gas appliances and supply pipework.
- 4.7 During the course of the gas service visit, the Gas Engineer will carry out a safety inspection of any non-association gas appliances in the property and check (or replace if required) the carbon monoxide detector (battery models only).

- 4.8** In the event of no access, the Gas Engineer will complete a maintenance visit slip and deposit it at the premises in accordance with the contract requirements and will email CDHA to inform the Maintenance Assistant that no access has been gained. Following 2 access attempts, the tenancy details will be passed to the Maintenance Assistant for further action. The contractor will provide reports on a weekly basis for completed services and properties where 2 and 3 no access visits have been carried out.

Certification and Recording of Inspection

- 4.9** Following completion of the Appliance Servicing & Safety check the Gas Engineer will:
- complete a Landlord's Inspection Service Record (CP12,), or electronic equivalent.
 - issue a copy record to the tenant;
 - The Gas Engineer will forward an electronic copy to CDHA for recording and filing.
- 4.10** In the event of the property being void, the Gas Servicing Contractor will ensure that the original landlord's safety record is forwarded to CDHA. A copy should also be provided for inclusion in the void pack that is passed to the relevant Housing Officer for issue to the new tenant as part of the sign-up process.

Notification and Rectification of Unsafe Appliances

- 4.11** In the event that a non-Association appliance is found to be unsafe, the Gas Engineer will address the issue all as per Gas Safe Register working practices. In addition, the Gas Engineer will inform CDHA.

Logging of Completed Inspection/Servicing

- 4.12** The Gas Maintenance Contractor will ensure that gas service job orders are logged as complete and the gas safety certificate is electronically issued to CDHA within **7 working days** of the completed service.
- 4.13** Following the return of the Gas Appliance Service/Safety Record to the Maintenance Assistant will at least weekly ensure that:
- the Gas Appliance Inspection/Servicing date is logged on to the gas safety database
 - the Inspection Servicing Record is filed in the relevant files.
 - Produce quarterly reports for the Senior Maintenance Officer detailing those over 365 days and where there are outstanding service/safety records to be provided by the Gas Maintenance Contractor.
 - Ensure that the gas servicing database is updated to show new properties, change of ownership, or appliances.

5.0 No Access & Forced Entry Arrangements

- 5.1** As a final mechanism to ensure CDHA's compliance with its statutory obligations, we will consider forcing entry to carry out this work. Every effort will be made to avoid this, through written correspondence and other appropriate methods of communication.
- 5.2** Between each of the actions detailed below, a maximum of 7 days should be allowed.
- 5.3** Action 1 – The contractor will send a letter to tenants giving 5 working days' notice of service visit.
- 5.4** Action 2 – Engineers will attend each property, carding each time a visit is made, up to a maximum of two visits per property. No Access cards will again encourage tenants to call the Gas Maintenance Contractor or Association to arrange suitable access for this work and the Gas Maintenance Contractor will email CDHA's Maintenance Assistant all no access calls immediately after each visit for action.
- 5.5** Action 3 – On receipt of the 'No Access' email the Maintenance Assistant will organise for the tenant to be telephoned to arrange access and a letter issued confirming the appointment this is **letter 1** and should be sent by normal first-class mail. The letter will give 5 days' notice to contact CDHA to arrange access for this work. 7 days after the 2nd no access visit by an Engineer, tenancies where access has not been provided or gained, will enter into the "No Access" process. Tenant to be telephoned and access arranged and letter sent by normal first-class mail either confirming an appointment or giving tenant 5 days notice to contact Maintenance Assistant to arrange access for this work. (Copy of letter at Appendix 1)

- 5.6** Action 4 – Failure by the tenant to contact the Maintenance Assistant within 5 days of the action 3 letter above, will result in the Maintenance Assistant contacting the Housing Officer to ascertain if there are extenuating circumstances such as serious health issues which may impair the tenant's ability to allow access, to assess any risks which may be present during forced entry, to gain alternative contact numbers/email addresses or to ascertain any other circumstances why access has not been provided – such as abandonment, custodial sentences or long term hospital stays. Where no contact has been made and no circumstances exist the Maintenance Assistant will telephone the tenant to arrange access and issue **letter 2** after 5 days from the issue of **letter 1** (copy at Appendix 2)
- 5.7** Action 5 – In addition, the Maintenance Assistant will attempt to contact the tenant by phone and/or email to make arrangements for access for this work. When calling by telephone, 3 attempts will be made (one a.m., one p.m., and one late call, and dates/times noted). If after a further 3 days no contact has been made the Maintenance Assistant will issue **letter 3** (Copy at Appendix 3)
- 5.8** Action 6 – Where the intended action to be taken is to force entry, the standard pro forma (Copy at Appendix 6) should be fully completed and countersigned by a Senior Officer of CDHA prior to proceeding with arrangements to force entry. **In addition to this, clarification should be sought that a Scottish Secure Tenancy (SST) agreement has been signed by the current tenant and a copy is on file. Where no signed SST is present, the Maintenance Assistant will start the process to get a Sheriff's Warrant and no attempt to force entry will be made until this has been awarded and instruct the housing officer to serve and abandonment on the property.**
- 5.9** Action 7 – Following the efforts made by the Maintenance Assistant in points 5.6 and 5.7 above, and with no response, action will be taken to make a forced entry and carry out the service. At this stage, a letter giving at least 7 days' notice of CDHA's intention to force entry will be issued to the tenant. Copies of this letter will be posted standard 1st class.
- 5.10** Action 8- This will be followed by a forced access letter which will be both hand delivered by Housing Officer and sent registered letter. This letter will note CDHA's intention to gain entry by force if no access is provided on a specified date and time, the consequences and costs associated with non-cooperation, and also the tenant's legal obligations under their tenancy agreement with CDHA (copy at Appendix 4).
- 5.11** Action 9 – Ensure that the Forced Entry Procedure is fully adhered to during the action to force entry and carry out the gas service/safety check. In addition to this, the following actions should be carried out:
1. The lock changed (if the tenant is not present and entry has been forced).
 2. Notification left pinned to the door (Copy at Appendix 5) that the locks have been changed and the service/safety check carried out, along with details of what the tenant must do next (contact the office to retrieve the new keys).
 3. Minimum 2 staff members (exclusive of Gas Engineer) to remain in attendance whilst gas service is carried out, property vacated, and secured all as Forced Entry Procedure. **Where there is no gas supply (quantum meter) present at the time of forced entry and service, the supply piping from the meter will be disconnected on CDHA's side of the meter. The tenant will have to contact CDHA direct to have this supply reinstated and the appliance serviced during the same visit.**
- 5.12** Action 10 – When forcing entry, a member of the Housing Association staff present will photograph any pre-existing damage as well as record what was done in the house and any damage caused by the HA and/or its contractors as a result of the process of forcing access.
- 5.13** Action 11– If a tenant makes, then breaks an arrangement for access the HA will move on to the next stage as if no arrangement had been made. If access is gained at any point the process will stop.
- 6.0 Heating Breakdown Procedure**
- 6.1** If a customer requires an engineer for breakdowns or emergencies, during normal working hours they will contact Cathcart & District Housing Association and an order will be raised and forwarded to the contractor. Outwith normal working hours and holiday periods, customers will contact the Contractor's Call Centre, free phone 0800-595-595 to request an engineer to attend.

- 6.2 Call Centre will raise job on the system under the Gas Maintenance contract and allocate an engineer to call within agreed contract timescales.
- 6.3 The engineer will attend and complete the repair to fully restore heat and hot water. If the engineer cannot restore heat they will provide a minimum of two electric convector heaters. If asbestos is suspected the CHA Asbestos management procedure will be followed.
- 6.4 Where an engineer identifies boiler faults that are unable to repair the contractor will forward a Boiler Replacement Request to the Maintenance Assistant. The Maintenance Assistant may arrange for an independent gas auditor to inspect the boiler and report back prior to requesting authorisation to issue an order to replace the boiler.

7.0 QUALITY ASSURANCE

All contractors instructed by CDHA to work with gas appliances will demonstrate to CDHA that they are on the Gas Safe register of gas installers.

Copies of Heating Engineer's Gas Safe registration cards will be provided to CDHA annually. Only engineers who have submitted copies of their cards may work on Association's gas appliances. This information will be requested by the Maintenance Assistant as part of the Approved List audit information, on an annual basis from each contractor who works on gas appliances for CDHA, be it of a servicing or installation nature.

At least 10% of Gas services/safety checks will receive a quality assurance inspection from an independent competent inspector.

8.0 MONITORING AND REVIEW

- 8.1 The Maintenance Officer is responsible for ensuring that this procedure is followed by all appropriate staff.
- 8.2 The Housing Maintenance Manager will ensure that this Procedure is reviewed at least every five years.

APPENDIX 1: GAS SERVICING LETTER 1

Date
Name & Address

Dear

**Re: Gas Safety (Installation & Use) Regulations 1998
Annual Service Visit**

Cathcart & District Housing Association is required to carry out annual servicing of all its gas appliances, i.e. your boiler and/or gas fire, under the above regulations. This is in the interests of your own Health and Safety to ensure that there are no leaks from gas appliances of natural gas or carbon monoxide, which may have tragic consequences for you and your household.

Please contact the Association's Maintenance department within 7 days from the date of this letter to make an appointment. Appointments can be made at any time of the day during normal working hours.

Please ensure that you keep to this access arrangement and, if you have a card or key electricity or gas meter, that there is sufficient credit to allow the service to be carried out.

Under the terms of Section 5.12 of your Tenancy Agreement, you are obliged to allow access to the Association to carry out essential maintenance work. If you do not make suitable access arrangements by XX, the Association will then arrange to force access to your property and cap your gas meter until the gas service can take place. This is to ensure the safety of you and all other local residents.

I trust that this will not be necessary and that you will contact the Association by the deadline given and provide access to City Building LLP to carry out this essential work.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

APPENDIX 2: GAS SERVICING LETTER 2

Date
Name and Address

Dear

**Re: Gas Safety (Installation & Use) Regulations 1998
Annual Service Visit**

As you have not provided access to the gas engineer we must remind you that under the Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 1998, Cathcart & District Housing Association, as Landlord has a legal obligation to ensure that appliances and pipework installed by us are maintained in a safe condition to prevent the risk of injury to any person. This inspection is vital to your safety and the safety of your family and neighbours.

You must contact the Association's offices within 7 days from the date of this letter, giving a firm date when the Contractor can gain access to your property.

Please also note that under the terms of your Tenancy Agreement, you must allow the Association entry to your home to carry out inspections of this kind. Failure to contact this office by **XX** to arrange an appointment will result in the Association arranging to force access to your home and capping your gas meter.

If your gas inspection has been completed by the time you receive this letter or if you have already made an arrangement to give us access, please contact us immediately so that we can halt any further action.

PLEASE CONTACT THIS OFFICE AS A MATTER OF URGENCY.

Yours sincerely,

APPENDIX 3: GAS SERVICING LETTER 3

HAND DELIVERED

Date
Name & Address

Dear

**Re: Gas Safety (Installation & Use) Regulations 1998
Annual Service Visit**

We refer to the above and would advise you that Cathcart & District Housing Association intends to force entry to your property to enable the Association to fulfil its obligations in terms of the Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 1998.

You have previously received letters from this Office advising you about the Association's obligations to inspect appliances and pipework installed in your property and to ensure that they are in a safe condition. Your failure to allow access presents a risk of injury and danger to any person within the property. This inspection is vital to your safety and the safety of your neighbours.

An appointment has been arranged on **(Date)** between the hours of **(Time)** and **(Time)**. If you do not allow access the Association will arrange to force access to your home and carry out the service or cap your gas meter as appropriate.

Please note that no further warning will be given prior to the forced entry being carried out. If you wish to stop this action it is imperative you contact us immediately with access arrangements. On completion of the Gas Service action will be stopped, however you may be liable for costs incurred to date.

If your gas inspection has been completed by the time you receive this letter or if you have already made an arrangement to give access, please contact us immediately so that we can halt any further action.

Yours sincerely,

APPENDIX 4: FORCED ENTRY LETTER

By hand & recorded delivery

DO NOT IGNORE THIS LETTER

Date

Name & Address

Dear

**Re: Gas Safety (Installation & Use) Regulations 1998
Annual Service Visit – Forced Access**

Cathcart & District Housing Association is required to carry out annual servicing of all its gas appliances, i.e. your boiler and/or gas fire, under the above regulations. This is in the interests of your own Health and Safety to ensure that there is no gas or carbon monoxide leaks, which may have tragic consequences for you and your household.

To date, the Association's Gas Engineers, City Building (Glasgow) LLP, have tried unsuccessfully on at least two occasions to gain access which you have not provided. Refusal to permit access is in breach of Section 5.12 of your Tenancy Agreement. City Building (Glasgow) LLP will call again on **(Date)** to complete the work.

Under the terms of your Tenancy, the Association is entitled to force entry to your property if access is refused at this time. To this end, a joiner and a staff member from the Association will be in attendance to force entry. You will be liable for the full cost of this visit which will be in the region of £200, including any damage reasonably caused in forcing entry and for previous missed appointments.

Please note that when we arrive at your property with the joiner and you provide access on the day a cost of 1 hours labour will be charged.

Your co-operation in providing access will therefore be appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

APPENDIX 5: FORCED ENTRY AND LOCK CHANGE NOTICE

Notice to be pinned to door following Forced Entry & Lock change

GAS APPLIANCE SAFETY AND SERVICING

LOCK CHANGE

ADDRESS:

A Service Engineer called to service your gas appliance and was **UNABLE** to gain access despite our advance notice, and previous correspondence.

In order to carry out this work, entry has now been forced to the property and the locks have been changed.

You may collect the new set of keys from your **Housing Officer** at 3-5 Rhannan Road, during office hours:

Office Opening Hours:

9.00 am-5.00 pm - MONDAY to THURSDAY

8.30 am-3.30 pm – FRIDAY

You chose not to give us access despite various requests. As a result, CDHA is not responsible for any inconvenience which you experience as a result of the lock change

Your **Housing Officer will be required to confirm your identity before the issue of the new set of keys.**

APPENDIX 6: PRO FORMA FOR AUTHORISATION TO FORCE ENTRY

Authorisation for access by forced entry to carry out Gas Servicing Repairs

To: _____ **Senior Officer**

The following tenant has failed to give us access to their home to enable us to carry out a gas service/safety check. Authorisation is sought to force entry to the property to carry out the outstanding gas works. The information provided below details our attempts to inform the tenant of our requirements to access their home.

Your authorisation is sought to force entry to the house on the date given below should the tenant not voluntarily give access that day.

Tenant Ref. No.		
Tenant's Name		
Stage 1 – Date of Contractor's first no access		dd/mm/yy
Stage 2 - Date of Contractor's second no access		dd/mm/yy
Date of Contractor's final warning letter		dd/mm/yy
Stage 3 – date 5 day letter issued to tenant		dd/mm/yy
Date checked with Housing Officer		dd/mm/yy
Housing Officer's Notes		
Stage 4 – Date tenant was phoned to attempt to arrange access		dd/mm/yy
Stage 5 – I confirm that a signed copy of the SSTA is on file		dd/mm/yy
Stage 6 – Date of letter notifying date of proposed forced entry		
Stage 7 - Date and time of forced entry		dd/mm/yy hh/mm

Signed _____ **Housing Officer**

Date _____

APPENDIX 7: EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Cathcart & District Housing Equality Impact Assessment

Name of policy to be assessed	Gas Safety Inspection Policy and Procedure	Is this a new policy or a review?	Review
Person completing the assessment	Emma Connelly	Date of Assessment	08.04.22

1. Briefly describe the aims, objectives, and purpose of the policy	The policy outlines Cathcart & District Housing Association’s approach to Gas Safety Management. The main aim of the policy is to implement effective gas safety management systems and procedures, ensure the safety of those living and working in the Association’s premises and ensure that the Association meets the requirements of The Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 1998.
2. Who is intended to benefit from the policy? (e.g. staff, applicants, tenants, staff, contractors)	Staff, tenants, and local residents (<i>neighbours</i>)
3. What outcomes are wanted from this policy? (e.g. benefits to customers)	The intended outcome of the policy is to mitigate gas-related hazards and be a responsible landlord and employer in terms of gas safety. We will ensure that gas appliances are safe to use and minimise the risk to tenants and staff from using faulty gas appliances.

4. Which protected characteristics could be affected by the policy (tick all that apply)		
Minority Ethnic: X		Age:
Gender:		Religion/belief:
Disability: X		Transgender:
Sexual Orientation:		Maternity/Pregnancy:
Marriage/civil partnership:		Socio-economic status:
5. If the policy is not relevant to any of the protected characteristics listed in part 4. State why and end the process here.		
There were no adverse impacts identified for some groups with protected characteristics. Any differential impacts can be adequately mitigated by existing procedures and operational practice.		
6. Describe the likely positive or negative impacts the policy could have on the groups identified in part 4.	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts
	The policy will have a positive impact as it will ensure the safety of tenants and residents.	Minority Ethnic – letters are written in English and could be restrictive for those where English is not the person's first language. Disability – letters are written in English and could be restrictive for those with learning disabilities.
7. What actions are required to address the impacts arising from this assessment?		1. Letters will be written in plain English and a translated version or another format will be provided where needed

Signed: Emma Connelly

Date: 08.04.22