

# Gas Safety

## Information Sheet for Duty Holders



***This sheet has been given to you to tell you why we have spoken to you today and explain what actions might be taken next.***

Officers from Warwick District Council are visiting premises like yours as part of a coordinated project which aims to reduce the number of people being harmed by exposure to a gas called carbon monoxide (CO). In 2007/2008 there were 14 fatalities from CO poisoning arising from flammable gas, but on average CO poisoning from all fuel types kills 40 people per year. Carbon monoxide (CO) is a toxic gas which can be emitted from a faulty heating or cooking appliance, or from any appliance burning a combustible fuel, e.g. gas (mains or bottled), solid fuel (coal, wood, etc.), petrol, oil, or paraffin. It cannot be seen or smelt and special equipment is required to test it. CO can cause harm even in small amounts because it is taken up in preference to oxygen by red blood cells in the body. Low level exposure to CO over a prolonged period of time can cause neurological damage.

We are looking at who is involved in the supply, fitting and maintenance of certain types of appliances. We may ask you for information about who you use to fit or service any appliances, or ask you if you recommend any particular people or companies. This may include information on your customers.

By law, you must be on the **Gas Safe** Register to carry out gas work in Great Britain and the Isle of Man. If not registered, people could be breaking the law and putting other people at risk. After April 2009, you must look for the yellow **Gas Safe** Register triangle and not the orange CORGI registration badge.

- If you are recommending any particular companies or individuals, you need to check that they are **Gas Safe** registered
- If you are directly involved in the fitting or servicing of appliances, you are breaking the law if you are not **Gas Safe** registered
- If you are legally responsible for maintaining appliances in a safe state, you must use a **Gas Safe** registered fitter

**We may take enforcement action if you do not.**

Further information can be found on the following websites:

<http://www.gassaferegister.co.uk>

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/gas/>

<http://www.co-gassafety.co.uk/prevention.html>