

SELECT

WRITTEN SUBMISSION

A submission by SELECT, the Trade Association for the Scottish electrical installation industry.

Statistics indicate that more than two thirds of all accidental domestic fires are caused by electricity and that the private rented housing sector is most at risk.

SELECT believes that the Housing (Scotland) Bill offers the opportunity to improve conditions in the private rented housing sector and raise standards of electrical safety.

Currently, gas appliances and fittings are legally required to be inspected and tested but there is no similar requirement for electrical appliances and, more importantly, installations.

Given that the Housing (Scotland) Bill is already proposing changes to the Repairing Standard, SELECT believe electrical safety could be improved by introducing a requirement for mandatory five-yearly safety checks by a registered electrician of electrical installations and appliances in private rented housing.

Making such an improvement would help protect properties from fire, improve safety standards for tenants and not place any significant burdens on landlords.

SELECT is aware that the Electrical Safety Council has submitted a similar but more detailed submission proposing mandatory electrical safety inspections. Their input has the full support of the electrical industry in Scotland.

SELECT

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www.select.org.uk