



Working Together for a Cleaner
and Safer Environment

HETAS Competent Person Scheme
Conditions of Registration and Guidance
England and Wales

For Businesses and Installers Involved in the Installation of
Wood, Biomass and Solid Fuel Burning Equipment
Solar Thermal, Plumbing and Sanitary Ware

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Introduction

These Conditions of Registration and Guidance, England and Wales reflect the MHCLG Competent Person Self-Certification Schemes - Conditions of Authorisation – 1st April 2016.

<https://www.gov.uk/building-regulations-competent-person-schemes>

In order to operate safely and efficiently, solid fuel, multi-fuel wood burning and biomass appliances, associated systems, and plumbing systems need to be correctly installed and maintained by competent individuals. Appliances and systems must operate in a safe and energy efficient manner as described in the various Building Regulations, Approved Documents, Codes of Practices and Standards.

To achieve this objective, HETAS has developed training and registration schemes that support installers and businesses involved in these types of work, helping them to work safely and efficiently and in compliance with the various regulations and laws that apply to the work involved. These Conditions of Registration and Guidance define a Competent Person Self-Certification Scheme meeting the requirements of the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) Conditions of Authorisation for Competent Person Self-Certification Schemes for England and Wales. HETAS is named in the relevant Statutory Instrument as authorised to operate the scheme.

HETAS is recognised as the industry official lead body for solid fuel, wood and solid biomass products and services within the UK.

The HETAS Competent Person Scheme (CPS) aims to ensure that users of solid fuel, wood and solid biomass burning equipment as well as any plumbing and heating works have work and installations undertaken/supervised by a competent installer working for a Registered Business, and can expect that the work will be carried out safely and to a good workmanship standard. The scheme includes the monitoring of work undertaken by Registered Installers to ensure that standards are maintained.

Only a competent and Registered Installer can carry out then self-certify that the work on the installation that relates to its safe and efficient operation has been installed in accordance with relevant regulations and standards. The Competent Persons Register is available throughout the country to organisations (including all Local Authorities) involved with the use of solid fuel and associated heating and plumbing installations.

Explanation of Terms Used in These Conditions

HETAS CPS (Competent Person Scheme) ~ a self-certification scheme operated by HETAS

Registered Business ~ A business accepted by HETAS as meeting the CPS requirements

Registered Installer ~ An individual Operative with competence in installing, registered through a Registered Business

Notifiable Work ~ Building work that is required to be notified to the Local Authority. For example, the installation, replacement or alteration to the position of a fixed combustion appliance is Notifiable Work

Notification ~ Process to inform Local Authority of the installation and self-certification of a Controlled Service, as an alternative to applying for a Building Notice

Controlled Service ~ Building work defined in the Building Regulations requiring notification. Flues and fixed combustion appliances are controlled services

Building Regulations ~ Statutory Instrument for Building and Buildings, England and Wales

Approved Documents ~ Guidance documents supporting the Building Regulations

Building Notice ~ For work not self-certified by a Registered Installer, an application made to a Building Control Body (such as a Local Authority) for Building Regulations approval.

Conditions of Registration

1 Summary Requirements

The HETAS CPS meets the requirements of the MHCLG Conditions of Authorisation for self-certification. These conditions apply to HETAS as the scheme operator and to the Registered Business, and are reflected in these rules of registration with HETAS. The MHCLG conditions can be found here <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/competent-person-schemes-conditions-of-authorisation>

- 1.1 Registered Businesses may apply for HETAS listing in categories of work where they have proven competence through training and assessment. The Registered Business can only self-certify work through the HETAS CPS in categories where they have demonstrated their competence and have approval from HETAS. Registrants can check their listed areas of competence at <https://www.hetas.co.uk/find-installer/>
- 1.2 The Registered Installer must only undertake work for which they and the business are competent. The Registered Installer must demonstrate their competence against HETAS requirements, National Occupational Standards (NOS) and/or under a Minimum Technical Competence (MTC), and where required prove their competence on a 5 year re-assessment cycle (refer to 3.7 below). See <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/competent-person-scheme-current-schemes-and-how-schemes-are-authorised>. Completion of HETAS training (or equivalent) can satisfy this requirement. <https://www.hetas.co.uk/trade/training-courses>.
- 1.3 Notifiable Work contracted between the Registered Business and their customer must be specified in a formal contract, including any work sub-contracted to a third party by the Registered Business.
- 1.4 The Registered Business must ensure that any work carried out under their HETAS registration in any of their categories of competence is covered by the relevant contract, adheres to the statutory requirements of the Building Regulations, the Health and Safety at Work Act, and any other relevant legislation and standards as required by the country, state or region where the work is carried out, and is carried out in a safe, professional and workmanlike manner.
- 1.5 Any Notifiable Work must be carried out by a competent Registered Installer on behalf of the Registered Business. The Registered Business must ensure that the approved Registered Installer is competent in all the categories relevant to that work. For any work that requires testing, adjustment or commissioning to achieve safe and/or efficient operation, those activities must be done and verified by the competent Registered Installer. Any person involved in the work who is not registered with HETAS, or who is working outside the competencies for which they are registered, must be properly and adequately supervised by a Registered Installer with all the relevant competencies.
- 1.6 A Registered Business must maintain Public Liability Insurance cover appropriate for its activities and to at least £2m.
- 1.7 On completion of notifiable work, the Registered Businesses must notify HETAS in full and within the times specified in 11.3 of the work carried out. Notification of the installation affirms that the work and any associated ancillary equipment has been installed in accordance with these HETAS Conditions of Registration, and that the work complies with Regulations 4 and 7 of the Building Regulations, and all relevant Requirements (typically J, G & L) etc.
- 1.8 The Registered Business must have systems in place to ensure where a complaint is received there is a process to receive record and deal with the complaint. Where a complaint cannot be resolved by the Registered Business, their customer can raise it with HETAS where our complaints policy will be followed <https://www.hetas.co.uk/consumer/complaints-policy/>
- 1.9 Registered Businesses must pay all subscription fees and any other fees due to HETAS by the due date. New applicants must agree to undergo a period of probationary registration.
- 1.10 HETAS reserves the right to refuse or remove registration to any applicant, and to refuse re-registration to any business seeking renewal of registration, where they fail to meet and/or to agree with the requirements of these conditions.

1.11 HETAS reserves the right to amend or extend these scheme Conditions of Registration at any time, including:

- updates to the Competent Person Scheme regime from the governments of England or of Wales or other regulatory authorities, and
- any other changes which HETAS deems important to protect consumers and/or installers and/or to improve the scheme

Any changes to these rules will be published on our website at www.hetas.co.uk

2 Business Registration

2.1 Business Registration is only available to those businesses which employ or sub-contract work to a competent Registered Installer listed under their Business Registration. This may be a sole trader.

2.2 Where the Registered Installer supervises others, the Registered Installer must as a minimum be present during all "critical" points of the installation, typically:

- Inspection prior to installation, including testing of existing systems (or chimney if applicable).
- Lining of the chimney or installation of system chimney (if applicable)
- Fitting the register plate, and connecting the flue to the appliance.
- Installation and/or testing of key safety components
- Testing & commissioning.

The Registered Installer should consider what additional supervision to apply, e.g. written instructions, where they are not present for long periods or the work is complex.

2.3 Business Registration may be applied for in one or more areas of competence, provided competent installer(s) work within the business. The current areas of work are listed on the CPS Application Form and available on the HETAS website.

2.4 Installation of appliances and associated products / services will be declared as meeting the requirements of regulation 4 and 7 of the Building Regulations by the Registered Installer and notified to HETAS by the Registered Business. In England and Wales, HETAS will then notify the relevant Local Authority of the work that has been self-certified by the Registered Installer. This is instead of the householder or installer having to apply to Building Control for a Building Notice.

2.5 HETAS can also register a Specialist Registered Business, although this may not include approval for self-certification under the Competent Person Scheme for England and Wales and may not be valid in respect of the carrying out of any installation works (see Section 4). The scope and wording of registration will be specified by HETAS at the time of application. The appropriate parts of these rules will apply.

2.6 The Registration Scheme includes the inspection and monitoring of Registered Businesses to ensure that standards are maintained. Businesses and a sample of Installers will be inspected/assessed following application and you must agree to on-going inspections as requested by HETAS. An application fee is charged to cover this together with an annual registration fee. For current fees, please contact us at info@hetas.co.uk

2.7 The Registration Scheme requires the Registered Business to have systems in place to ensure:

- i. work is carried out under a formal contract between the business and their customer
- ii. any work sub-contracted to a third party is covered under a sub-contract agreement, confirming competence of the contractor
- iii. any complaints received are actioned appropriately
- iv. all complaints received over at least the previous six years concerning compliance with Building Regulations, together with the details of the action taken to resolve these complaints, are recorded and made available to HETAS on request.

Template documents can be found here:

<https://www.hetas.co.uk/trade/schemes/forms-and-documentation/>

- 2.8 HETAS reserves the right to refuse registration to any applicant if it feels there is a substantial reason to do so. HETAS reserves the right to reject applications to register for business names which HETAS considers inappropriate or could potentially prevent clear distinction from or between other businesses. The word "HETAS" shall not be used as or as part of the name of any Business, any website domain name or email address operated by the Business or any product or service.
- 2.9 Registered Businesses will, at the request of HETAS, provide installation information relating to their customers to enable quality control checks. Where the installation work involves design of systems or ordering of bespoke components, the Registered Business shall retain copies for at least two years after the date of installation and shall make these available to HETAS on request.
- 2.10 Registered Businesses must inform HETAS within ten Business Days of any circumstance relating to:
- i. changes in contact details
 - ii. changes in business name or legal status
 - iii. changes relating to any of their Registered Installers including termination/withdrawal of employment or of sub-contract arrangements
 - iv. the addition and/or removal of work categories.
 - v. significant changes in workload, e.g. increasing the number of sub-contractors or taking on larger contracts.
- HETAS may charge an administration fee for changes in business name and/or business address.
- 2.11 HETAS Registered Businesses must notify all applicable solid fuel/biomass installation work through the HETAS self-certification scheme.
- 2.12 Details of all installation works must be notified to HETAS on completion of the installation, within 7 days for paper certificates, 10 days if using the online notifications. This may be either using the manually completed HETAS certificate of compliance or by the electronic means made available by HETAS. In either case, any Registered Business must ensure that the work is undertaken and verified by Registered Installers with the relevant competencies. The notification is only valid where the works have been carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Building Regulations applicable to the locality where the work was undertaken.
- 2.13 Registered Businesses must ensure that they only install appliances that meet the efficiency requirements as laid down in the current guidance documents covering Building Regulations applicable to the locality where the work is undertaken, such as the Domestic Building Services Compliance Guide. The HETAS Guide and website lists gross efficiencies for approved appliances to assist in complying with this requirement.
- 2.14 CE marking. Under the Construction Products Regulation, or other similar regulations (e.g. the machinery directive), any solid fuel heating appliance placed on the market since 1st July 2013 and manufactured in small batches or in continuous production must have a CE mark and the availability of a Declaration of Performance.
- 2.15 Registered Businesses should, where appropriate, recommend the use of HETAS Approved Products and Services if such a product or service meets their customers' needs. Any appliance on the HETAS Approved list complies with the relevant standards and regulations. Appliances marked as DEFRA Exempt can be used in Smoke Control Areas when operated correctly and when burning a fuel specified by the appliance manufacturer.
- 2.16 For self-certification under the CPS, Public Liability Insurance cover appropriate for the activities of the business must be at least £2,000,000. The policy must clearly state the activities of the business e.g. Installation of solid fuel appliances. Where they offer a design service or give professional advice, businesses should also hold adequate Professional Indemnity insurance appropriate to their scope of work for at least £250,000. All Registered Businesses employing Registered Installers must maintain the legally required insurance cover to person and property.
- 2.17 Registered Businesses must ensure that all work undertaken complies with the Statutory Requirement of the Building Regulations for the country or region, Health and Safety legislation, and any other relevant legislation. Additionally any works undertaken should comply with the appropriate British Standard Code of Practice and/or any European Codes and Regulations which may apply.

- 2.18 MHCLG recommend that consumer contracts from CPS businesses include a provision that “the installer will rectify any work that is non-compliant with the Building Regulations for six years after completion.” Registered Businesses shall for at least two years after the date of installation retain copies of the following and shall make these available to HETAS on request:
- i. Contract or equivalent schedule of work defining scope of installation performed for the customer
 - ii. If installation work is subcontracted to a separate HETAS Registered Business, the sub-contract or equivalent schedule of work defining scope of installation carried out by that other business
- 2.19 Registered Businesses will be expected to have available for use by their Registered Installers the latest versions of the following (as applicable for the type of work):
- i. latest version of the HETAS Guide to Approved Products and Services (printed or online)
 - ii. appropriate sections of the relevant Building Regulations guidance (**Approved Documents**)
 - iii. any relevant British or European Standards and Codes of Practice
 - iv. for England and Wales, any domestic heating compliance guide or equivalent for the locality
 - v. HETAS Technical Handbook
 - vi. copies of HETAS Technical Bulletins
 - vii. **Water Regulations handbook.**
- 2.20 Any business seeking registration must fully complete an Application Form and submit it together with any application and registration fees due. A further fee will be payable on annual renewal of registration.
- 2.21 Registered Businesses must nominate a responsible individual who will be fully responsible for HETAS certification requirements and compliance for the business and for communications.
- 2.22 Businesses who meet the conditions outlined above will be issued a Certificate of Registration to cover their registration with the scheme. This remains the property of HETAS, and must be returned to them if for any reason registration ceases.
- 2.23 HETAS will handle personal data given to it by Registered Businesses and applicants in accordance with its Data Protection policy and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). The HETAS Privacy Notice is published on-line at <https://www.hetas.co.uk/privacy-policy>. Where Registered Business or applicants act as Data Controller in giving personal data of customers or third parties to HETAS, HETAS will act as Data Processor in accordance with the attached Data Processing Annex to this document.
- 2.24 Registered Businesses will be able to promote their business as being HETAS registered. They also have the benefit of the use of the relevant scheme logo. Use of the logo must be clear and never misleading. The Registered Business must only use the HETAS logo supplied by HETAS for the particular scheme(s) that they are registered on. Other HETAS logo use is not permitted at any time. All businesses must comply with rules and guidelines for logo use issued by HETAS. The HETAS logo must not be used so as to imply applicability to other trades carried out by a business which are not covered by its registration with HETAS.
- 2.25 Installer Businesses will be listed on the HETAS website through the “Find Installer” search. Those with the relevant accreditation may also be listed through the “Find Servicing” search, alongside registrants on the HETAS Approved Servicing scheme. Any Business not wishing to be listed on these searches must make the request in writing, for consideration, giving their reasons for being hidden from the search facility.
- 2.26 CPS Registration is separate from the HETAS Approved Chimney Sweep scheme. Businesses will only be registered as HETAS Approved Chimney Sweeps, and will only be listed on the HETAS website through the “Find Chimney Sweep” search, where they qualify for Approved Chimney Sweep registration and subscribe to the HETAS Approved Chimney Sweep Scheme.

2.27 It is requested that Registered Businesses have access to adequate insurance and products.

3 Registration of Competent Installers

- 3.1 Individuals seeking HETAS registration as installers under the Competent Person Scheme must work for or operate a bona fide HETAS Registered Business.
- 3.2 Installers may apply to be registered for one or more areas of competency under their HETAS Registered Business. HETAS is authorised to offer categories including solid fuel, biomass, solar thermal, heating systems, plumbing and sanitary ware. The full list of competences currently within scope of the HETAS scheme is shown on the Application Form and available on the HETAS website.
- 3.3 HETAS can also register Specialists under a HETAS Registered Business although, if the competencies held are not valid in respect of carrying out installation works, the individual's registration will not include approval for self-certification under the Competent Person Scheme for England and Wales (see Section 4). The scope and wording of registration will be specified by HETAS at the time of application.
- 3.4 An annual fee is charged for the registration of each installer within the HETAS Registered Business. Please contact us at info@hetas.co.uk for details of current fees.
- 3.5 The Registration Scheme includes the inspection and monitoring of Registered Installers and Businesses to ensure that standards are maintained. Installer's work may be inspected/assessed following application and/or at subsequent inspection visits.
- 3.6 Applicants/registrants must possess appropriate qualifications/experience as listed in the current Minimum Technical Competence (MTC) document. This covers all types of work that can be included in registration. For solid fuel/biomass work this can be met by the relevant HETAS courses. Demonstration of competence may be supported by other qualifications, eg NVQs. Evidence of other qualifications for additional competencies, or suitability to request an "experienced worker route" assessment, will need to be provided, and must be agreed by HETAS.
- 3.7 Registered Installers for combustion appliances must successfully complete the appropriate HETAS Training Course and Assessment (or equivalent) every 5 years, to ensure that they are up to date with appropriate Building Regulations and safety related subjects. This is stipulated in the MTC annexes 5a to 5d for solid fuel and biomass (domestic and non-domestic). This requirement is confirmed by MHCLG, refer to <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/competent-person-scheme-current-schemes-and-how-schemes-are-authorised>
- 3.8 Applicants seeking registration must fully complete an Application Form. The Registered Business must submit this form along with any fees due.
- 3.9 Registered Installers will be issued with a personal Identification Card. The card is valid for 12 months and will indicate which categories of competence the installer is registered for. It should be available for inspection by any customer. The card remains the property of HETAS and must be returned to HETAS if the individual and/or business registration ceases for any reason.
- 3.10 Registered Installers must inform HETAS of any changes to their employer within 10 business days. The new employer must contact HETAS, provided the business is already registered, to add the installer to their registration and pay the required fees. If a Registered Installer is no longer engaged by a Registered Business and does not register as a sole trader Registered Business, the Installer's HETAS Registration will terminate immediately.
- 3.11 Work on un-vented systems, and other specialist areas of competence requires additional training and/or assessment not covered by standard HETAS courses. Anyone intending to undertake these categories of work must be competent to do so. HETAS may require the Registered Installer to demonstrate competence by some form of certification or assessment.

- 3.12 Maintaining Competence – Registered installers must keep themselves up to date with any changes to Building Regulation, Standards or Technical Revisions. HETAS provides routine information through newsletters, technical bulletins, on-line and technical handbooks. Registered installers must keep up to date with legislation and changes to standards etc in between their 5-yearly re-assessment for combustion appliances.
- 3.13 HETAS provides a Technical Helpline for the support of its registrants. This service is subject to the following restrictions:
- i. Help given to Registered Installers is based on information provided to HETAS by or on behalf of the registrant. The support given is based on the information provided to us. The installer is on site and must utilise the information competently in relation to site conditions.
 - ii. HETAS cannot assess or control the correctness of the information provided to it, and the interpretation or application of its advice by the recipient.
 - iii. HETAS may not be aware of project specific conditions such as (but not limited to) building construction, fabric, specific local Building Control requirements, properties and quality control of building materials, or the specifications and configuration of other building components.
 - iv. HETAS does not accept any liability for losses and/or damages of whatever kind (and sustained by whomever) that might result from the above.
- 3.14 A Registered Installer may only apply that Registration to work carried out within a customer contract held by the corresponding Registered Business. If an individual operative has been registered with two or more businesses as a Registered Installer, the individual must state clearly on all documents which of their registrations is applicable. HETAS will, on request from a Registered Business, supply details of notifications submitted to HETAS in their name by their Registered Installers.
- 3.15 HETAS will handle personal data given to it by Registered Operatives and applicants in accordance with its Data Protection policy and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). The HETAS Privacy Notice is published on-line at <https://www.hetas.co.uk/privacy-policy>. Where Registered Operatives or applicants act as Data Controller in giving personal data of customers or third parties to HETAS, HETAS will act as Data Processor in accordance with the attached Data Processing Annex to this document.

4 Specialist Businesses or Operatives

- 4.1 Individual Installers seeking registration under the HETAS Competent Person Scheme must work for or operate a bona fide HETAS Registered Business. This may be a sole trader.
- 4.2 Businesses or their Operative(s) who specialise in a specific area of work can become registered with HETAS provided they meet the conditions of the relevant scheme.
- 4.3 Businesses (or Operatives within a Registered Business) seeking Registration as Specialists must have an in depth specialist knowledge and experience relating to the area of work for which they wish to be registered. They must also have a considerable understanding of the legal and best practice requirements for their specialist area. Applicants will need prior approval from HETAS for the wording associated with their particular area of work and how HETAS lists the business on the register.
- 4.4 Some specialist areas of work will not be appropriate for inclusion on the Competent Persons Register. In this case the business may not be listed on the HETAS web site as a CPS registrant.
- 4.5 Even if a Registered Business has been accepted onto the Competent Person Scheme, if one or more of their Operatives have not been accepted by HETAS for carrying out installation work, those individual Operatives are not permitted to self-certify installations through the HETAS Competent Person Scheme. Examples could include a specialist or HETAS Approved Servicing Technician registering through a business which already has HETAS Registered Installers.

5 Business and Installer Monitoring

- 5.1 To check that Businesses and their Installers are capable of providing customers with the required standards of work, an inspection of a representative installation relating to the business's areas of registration will be undertaken at intervals to be specified by HETAS from time to time. Application to join HETAS CPS will require assessment of an initial installation prior to full registration, followed by at least two further annual inspections of relevant installations. Frequency of routine inspection beyond 2 years will be under a risk-based approach with at minimum an inspection every 3 years. In any case, applicants and registrants must consent to be inspected as often as HETAS requires.
- 5.2 The risk-based monitoring will consider the following where available:
- i. results from site installation visits by a HETAS nominated inspector
 - ii. complaints received
 - iii. feedback from HETAS Technical and Training staff
 - iv. visits to the Registered Business premises
 - v. postal, email or telephone questionnaire to individual customers.
 - vi. information received by HETAS that has a bearing on the risk presented by the business.
- 5.3 Additional inspections not covered by the standard registration fees may be required if there are complaints, non-compliances or significant changes to the way the business operates. Examples may include:
- i. Complaint inspections, whether or not those relate directly to issues raised by the complainant
 - ii. Repeat visits to properties already inspected, due to the original state of that installation not allowing a satisfactory inspection, or significant concerns over completion of remedial work
 - iii. Additional monitoring at other properties, due to the state of an installation not allowing a satisfactory inspection and/or significant faults which raise concern, requiring further monitoring of an installer's competence
 - iv. Changes to the scope of a business's registration which mean that regular inspections are no longer sufficient evidence of all the relevant competencies and require additional inspections to be scheduled.

These additional inspections are not covered by the standard registration fees and will be charged at the rate set by HETAS to cover additional costs. Details of current charges are available on request through info@hetas.co.uk.

- 5.4 Businesses must supply names and contact details of customers, and the type of work they have undertaken involving solid fuel, biomass or other areas of competence, as requested by HETAS. HETAS may also use notification data to contact customers. This information will be used to monitor the performance of the Registered Business. HETAS will handle personal data about consumers in accordance with its Data Protection policy and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). The HETAS Privacy Notice is published on-line at <https://www.hetas.co.uk/privacy-policy>
- 5.5 The Registered Business is responsible for ensuring access to the property selected for inspection. The Registered Business is responsible for the attendance of the Registered Installer who carried out and commissioned the installation, unless HETAS confirm in advance that the Installer is not required to attend.
- 5.6 Businesses will be informed of the results of any monitoring carried out by HETAS.
- 5.7 Any work found to be below standard must be rectified to the satisfaction of HETAS and must comply with the relevant regulations and standards within a stated time period and without charge to the customer.
- 5.8 Failure to provide an appropriate installation for inspection within the monitoring period will result in a review of the Business Registration and/or Installer Registration category. If the Business has not carried out any recent installations of work notifiable through HETAS, HETAS may at its discretion accept inspection of equivalent work in other categories, such as solid fuel or biomass appliances or heating systems in projects not subject to Building Regulations.

- 5.9 Where an existing Registered Business is not currently carrying out installations, HETAS may choose to apply one or more of the following:
- i. Carry out an inspection visit of servicing and maintenance activity, against recognised industry standards
 - ii. Reduce or change competencies allocated to the Registered Installers and the Registered Business
 - iii. Apply conditions to continued Registration
 - iv. Transfer Registration to an alternative HETAS scheme such as the HETAS Approved Servicing scheme
 - v. Suspend or cancel Registration.
- 5.10 Where an inspection visit has been requested by a HETAS appointed inspector, the Registered Business will be liable to a postponement fee where:
- i. If it cancels or fails to fulfil any arranged appointment in writing to the inspector, unless it gives at least five clear Business Days' notice.
 - ii. Where a second appointment date is arranged and the business fails to provide a suitable confirmation and site details to the inspector within the requested time.

6 Application and Registration Fees

- 6.1 Businesses applying for registration with the HETAS CPS must complete an application form, provide evidence of at least one suitably qualified installer (and in any case, all competent installers that will undertake work), provide evidence of appropriate public liability insurance, and declare acceptance of the rules for registration. A completed form must accompany the following fees (or, if payment in instalments has been agreed by HETAS, a mandate for continuing instalments):
- i. an initial application fee, plus
 - ii. the first year's registration fee, plus
 - iii. the operative fee for each associated competent installer

Once the business has demonstrated that it meets the requirements for registration, the applicant will be allocated a business number and will be listed as "Awaiting PRA". This is awaiting a pre-registration assessment (for a probationary period) whilst the business offers an appropriate installation for site inspection. Following a successful site inspection, a final approval decision will be given to the new business. The business will now be "live" and the date of inspection recorded by HETAS for renewal purposes as the scheme start date.

Note: should the application process result in a decision not to register, or the application be cancelled for any reason, only the first year's Business fee and installer fee will be returned. The applicant has the right to appeal the decision, see section 9.

- 6.2 A new Business Registration fee plus a fee for each Registered Installer must be received by the renewal date, to ensure continued registration with the HETAS scheme.
- 6.3 Any additional Registered Installers, employed or sub-contracted, that join under the business must pay the additional annual operative fee, with further subscriptions to be paid annually on the anniversary of business registration thereafter.
- 6.4 Where there are complaints from customers of HETAS registrants, HETAS may, at its discretion, inspect the installation to confirm whether there are grounds for complaint, and to see if the work is in compliance with regulations and standards and is safe. In cases where HETAS deem it necessary for an on-site inspection to take place HETAS may charge the registrant a reasonable sum for that inspection as per the Complaint Policy and any subsequent inspections. As these are considered additional inspections not covered by the normal registration fees. Invoices for additional inspections must be paid in full. Should payments remain overdue at the time of annual registration, renewal cannot be processed until outstanding invoices have been paid in full.
- 6.5 If for any reason the Registration of a Business is withdrawn, following a non-compliant inspection visit for example, no refund of any fees will be made by HETAS.
- 6.6 If for any reason a Business or an installer wishes to resign from the Scheme, no refund of any fees paid will be made by HETAS.

- 6.7 If for any reason an application to add an Installer to an existing Business Registration is refused, the fee paid for that additional operative at the time of application will be refunded.
- 6.8 The annual subscription fees and other charges will be set by HETAS and may be varied at any time. Please contact us at info@hetas.co.uk for details of current fees.
- 6.9 HETAS may choose to carry out credit checks on new applicants and existing registrants. Registered Businesses agree to provide evidence of creditworthiness if requested by HETAS. Credit information will be held confidentially by HETAS in accordance with our Privacy Policy.
- 6.10 If HETAS permits a business to pay its annual Registration fees in instalments, the business is still liable to pay the remaining instalments even if Registration ceases part way through without completing twelve months Registration. Payment arrangements for the remainder of that Scheme year must be left in place.
- 6.11 Entitlement to additional registrant benefits (from HETAS or from industry partners) received from being enrolled with the HETAS scheme may be withdrawn if fees and charges are not paid or if registration with HETAS ends for any reason.
- 6.12 By applying for and then renewing their registration on the scheme, Businesses and Operatives agree to comply with the current scheme Conditions of Registration as published by HETAS – see <https://www.hetas.co.uk/app/uploads/Forms-and-Documents/installer/installerEngWales/HCPSEWconditionsOfRegistration.pdf>. Printed copies of current Conditions of Registration are available on request. It is the responsibility of Registrants to keep themselves updated on the scheme Conditions of Registration.

7 Resignation from the Scheme

- 7.1 Businesses or Installers may resign from the scheme, provided 28 days' notice is given in writing to HETAS. No refund of any subscriptions already paid to HETAS will be made. Outstanding fees (e.g. for complaint or other inspections) must be paid in full.
- 7.2 In the event of an outstanding customer complaint, Businesses must undertake any remedial work identified by HETAS before their resignation becomes effective.
- 7.3 Following resignation from the Scheme, Businesses and Installers must not describe themselves as being HETAS Registrants by any means, and must not display Certificates of Registration and/or HETAS logos.
- 7.4 Businesses and Installers must return their Certificates of Registration and Identification Cards along with any unused certificates of compliance to HETAS within 15 days of their resignation.

8 Withdrawal of Registration

- 8.1 Businesses and/or their registered Installers may be removed from the Register where HETAS believes on the balance of probability that there is a significant reason to do so. This may include for example:
 - i. Businesses and/or Installers failing to comply with the Statutory Requirements of the Building Regulations, Health and Safety at Work Act and any other relevant legislation.
 - ii. Work undertaken by the Business or Installers, or on their behalf, is found to be of a standard which HETAS considers unacceptable, e.g. does not meet the requirements of a standard or approved guidance.
 - iii. Businesses fail to rectify work found to be defective during inspection or complaints investigation.
 - iv. Businesses fail to comply with the scheme Conditions of Registration
 - v. Businesses become insolvent or cease trading.
 - vi. Business and/or Installers act in such a manner so as to bring HETAS and/or the Scheme into disrepute. This includes aggressive and/or violent behaviour.
 - vii. Business and/or Installers misuse the HETAS logo or trademarks or wilfully misrepresent their Registration scope and obligations.
 - viii. Failure to pay any fees or subscriptions or outstanding invoices by the due date.

- 8.2 HETAS reserves the right to publish details of any withdrawal of Registration and the reasons for doing so.
- 8.3 Businesses and Installers, whose Registration is withdrawn for any reason by HETAS, can appeal against the decision. An appeal must be made in writing to HETAS within 15 days of the notice of withdrawal being served. Appeals against withdrawal of Registration will be considered under the Appeals Procedure. Refer to Section 9 below.
- 8.4 During the period of an appeal i.e. from the date of the initial loss of registration to the date of notification of the results of the appeal, Businesses or Installers will be considered to be suspended from the Register. During such a period, the Business or its Installers must abide by the obligations of membership but must not describe themselves as being HETAS Registered by any means, use their Scheme ID cards, or display HETAS Registration Certificates and/or Logos. Certification/notification of installations cannot take place during this period unless directly related to the suspension and with the written agreement of HETAS.
- 8.5 In respect of applicants, registrants and appellants, HETAS may use probationary or conditional registration where there are circumstances it feels warrant such restrictions. Any such period will be time limited and a reason for such action will be given in writing.

9 Rules for Refusal, Suspension or Removal of Registration, Disciplinary Action and Appeals

- 9.1 Where it appears to HETAS that a scheme registrant or applicant may be in breach of the rules of Registration, does not meet the required standards, or HETAS is in receipt of relevant information for example from another scheme or enforcement agency, HETAS may refuse, defer or suspend registration by notice whilst it investigates the matter. Where a suspension is in respect of any registration competency, it may also apply to other related competences and/or other registrations held by the business/installer with HETAS.
- 9.2 Compliance: Applicants, Registrants and their employees must meet the required standards and comply with the HETAS rules and relevant industry standards in respect of any work carried out by them, under their management, direction, or supervision, through their sub-contractor or agent, or inspected by them. Applicants and Registrants should understand that an inspection may be carried out by HETAS (or its agent) and the Applicant/Registrant must provide to HETAS such documents and other information as it shall require.
- 9.3 Complaints: Where HETAS receives a customer complaint and the Registrant refuses to remedy and provide evidence as requested, HETAS may take disciplinary action. Where this is the case and it results in suspension or removal of registration, the disciplinary process applies. Note; HETAS will charge for inspection visits in relation to justified complaints at a rate determined by HETAS from time to time.
- 9.4 Deferral of application: Applications may be deferred by HETAS if they are submitted while the applicant or any business in its control:
 - i. is the subject of an investigation into their work or conduct or
 - ii. is suspended from the scheme or
 - iii. is the subject of any pending or threatened prosecution or
 - iv. is the subject of a pending first stage review or
 - v. is the subject of an appeal panel hearing.
- 9.5 Probationary Registration: HETAS may, at its discretion, register an applicant or registrant for a probationary period. This can be for all or some categories of Registration or areas of work on a probationary basis. HETAS may terminate or extend probation at any time. At the end of the probationary period, the Applicant shall cease to be a Registrant and be removed from the Register unless HETAS extends the probationary period. Probationary Registration may be stated on the Applicant's Certificate of Registration and Identity Card. Probationary registration may only be granted for a period of up to six months (at the discretion of HETAS) after which they must comply with the requirements or cease Registration.

- 9.6 Conditional Registration: HETAS may, at its discretion, impose Conditional Registration. This may apply to applicants or existing registrants and in respect of all or some categories of Registration or work. If the conditions are not met within the specified time, registration may be removed or refused. Conditional Registration may be stated on the Certificate of Registration and Identity Cards. Conditional Registration may only be granted for a period of up to six months (at the discretion of HETAS) after which they must comply with the requirements or cease Registration.
- 9.7 Decisions following a breach of Registration conditions: HETAS will decide a course of action where an Applicant, Business or Registered Installer has failed to: follow the requirements of the scheme, declare an unspent conviction (see: www.hetas.co.uk/professionals/unspent-convictions-declaration-form), or fails to carry out remedial work to an acceptable standard. In making those decisions HETAS may take into account all matters of which it is aware including (without limitation) those relating to periods prior to the date of the Application and any other records. HETAS shall give written Notice to the Applicant of its decision stating:
- i. the reasons for the decision including details of any records taken into account;
 - ii. the effect of the decision; and
 - iii. the procedure for applying for an appeal where applicable.
- 9.8 Appeal: HETAS's objective is to administer the CPS scheme in a fair and unbiased way whilst complying with all relevant scheme standards, legislation and regulations. Where a registrant or applicant formally requests to appeal a registration decision by HETAS (removal of Registration or rejection of an application to the scheme) the following process will be offered:
- i. First Stage Review of the decision. A first stage review will include at least two senior HETAS employees, of whom one at least will not have been involved in the decision making process so far. This review will decide whether correct procedures have been followed by HETAS in making decisions to date. The outcome of this first review is not limited to upholding a previous decision or not. It may offer alternative suggestions or outcomes thus avoiding the need for a full appeal hearing.
 - ii. Appeal Hearing. Where the first stage review upholds the original decision, but the appellant wishes to continue with their appeal, the appellant will be given the opportunity to submit evidence that they do meet all the requirements for registration on the scheme
 - iii. HETAS will assess any evidence submitted by the appellant and decide whether there are reasonable grounds to set up a final Appeal Hearing.
- 9.9 Appeal Hearing: Where HETAS decides there are reasonable grounds, subject to receipt of the relevant deposit (see 9.12 below), within 15 Business Days of that decision it will set up an Appeal Hearing at its offices where an Appeal Panel will meet and hear the case. The panel will include:
- i. a Technical expert (who may be a HETAS member of staff, or an agent of HETAS) whose role is to offer and demonstrate by reference to normative documents if necessary, technical clarification for the benefit of all parties. The expert will not be directly involved in the final decision
 - ii. a representative from HETAS not previously involved in the case
 - iii. two other persons with sufficient experience to hear the case
 - iv. the appellant may bring legal or other professional representation and HETAS may be represented by an appropriate person where necessary.
- 9.10 Each party will present its case and each may be cross examined. A decision will be arrived at by the panel, based on what it sees as most probable bearing in mind the information provided to it. The panel members may be guided on matters relating to the rules of registration by a HETAS registration representative in order to facilitate a final decision. The decision of the Appeal Panel is final and will be notified to the appellant within 10 business days in writing.
- 9.11 The result of the appeal may not be limited to a decision on registration status alone and will be binding on all parties. The decision may include directions as to remedial work. The parties will be notified of the result of the Appeal Panel's deliberation within 10 Business Days of the hearing.

- 9.12 Appeal Panel Costs: The cost to HETAS is considerable and HETAS will only convene a final Appeal Panel if a deposit has been paid. Details of the current deposit required are available on request from info@hetas.co.uk. If the appellant's account already has outstanding debts to HETAS, those must also be paid along with the appeal deposit. Where the appeal is found in favour of HETAS then the deposit is not refundable. Where the appeal is found in favour of the appellant, then the deposit is returned. No other costs or fees will be paid by HETAS to the appellant or anyone acting on their behalf.
- 9.13 Advertisement. HETAS reserves the right to publish, advertise, or share with other competent person schemes, such details of the results of its disciplinary and/or appeals procedures it considers necessary to protect the image of HETAS and the industry.

10 Complaints Process

- 10.1 HETAS is concerned with the safety, efficiency, technical standard and compliance with relevant Building Regulations of the work carried out by its Registrants. A requirement for continued HETAS registration is that the work of Registrants must comply with relevant Building Regulations, Approved Documents, British and EU Standard and general Regulations as applicable to the region or country where the work is carried out and/or relevant Industry Codes of Practice. If the work of any Registrant is found to be below these standards, HETAS requires the Registrant to remedy any defects at no additional cost to the customer and to ensure that relevant standards are achieved.
- 10.2 Complaints about the work of HETAS Registrants may arise from time to time. The complainant should first inform the Registered Business of the problem, allowing them a reasonable period of time in which to respond to the complaint. If this does not resolve the problem satisfactorily, or the Registrant fails to respond to the complaint within a reasonable period of time, the complainant may (subject to any applicable exclusions) invoke the HETAS Complaints Policy. Refer to the current publicly available policy available on request or via the HETAS website: <https://www.hetas.co.uk/consumer/advice-hub/complaints-concerns>.
- 10.3 Where the Registrant refuses to co-operate in the complaints policy and is subsequently removed from the register, HETAS may inform other CPS Schemes of the removal in line with Government Competent Person policy.
- 10.4 Even if a complaint about the work of a HETAS Registrant falls outside the scope of the HETAS complaints process, or the complainant chooses to pursue their case through a different route, HETAS may still assess the information received and its relevance to monitoring of the Registrant.
- 10.5 HETAS holds a Compliance Guarantee in line with MHCLG Conditions of Authorisation (Condition 17) which may be invoked where non-compliances to Building Regulations are identified with a notified installation and the responsible registered business is unable to rectify because they are no longer trading. However, where a responsible operative is re-registered on the scheme, or the business has applied for new or transfer of registration, HETAS may look to recover any associated costs or require rectification directly under the new company.
- 10.6 Where HETAS awards work to a registered company under its Compliance Guarantee, it will expect the process to be followed in full and to a satisfactory standard. Where it is deemed that the work is not completed, not undertaken satisfactorily, or the business fails to meet compliance or obligations in any quotation or contract, HETAS may review Registration and look to recover any financial losses incurred. Where part costs are awarded and the contract not fulfilled, HETAS will require funds to be returned in full and a revised proposal agreed. The Complaints Process (for non-compliant work) and/or disciplinary process may be initiated.

11 Certification of Installations

- 11.1 Registered Businesses must notify to HETAS all applicable installation work undertaken. This must be on an original HETAS paper Certificate of Compliance purchased from HETAS, or via the HETAS web site where online notifications can be purchased. Details of the purchase and the costs of the Certificates of Compliance and online notifications can be found on the HETAS website.
- 11.2 The paper certificates are supplied as a three part form. After completion, the top white copy should be sent to HETAS. The pink copy should be given to the customer and the yellow copy should be retained by the installing company. When notifying online a certificate of compliance will be sent to the customer directly by HETAS.
- 11.3 HETAS is obliged to notify the works carried out to the Local Authority for the relevant area within a statutory limit of thirty days. To achieve this, it is vital that the completed Certificate of Compliance or online notifications are returned to HETAS as soon as possible, no later than 7 days after completion of works if notifying by a posted certificate or within 10 days if using the HETAS on-line notification system.
- 11.4 HETAS owns the copyright in its documents and forms and these must not be copied (whether physically or electronically) without HETAS's consent. If HETAS identifies that a Registered Business has self-certified more paper Certificates of Compliance than they have purchased certificates from HETAS, HETAS reserves the right to invoice the business for the difference (by way of a reasonable estimate of the losses suffered by HETAS) and/or remove the business and its installer(s).
- 11.5 Registered Businesses shall safeguard their stock of HETAS forms and documents against improper use and shall notify HETAS in writing immediately it becomes aware of any loss or misuse.
- 11.6 Registered Businesses and their Registered Installers can only certify their own installations commissioned by their own Registered Installer(s). If a separate HETAS Registered Business is used as a sub-contractor, there must be a contract and suitable controls in place. All notifiable work must be self-certified by the Registered Business whose Registered Installer commissions that work and who has all the relevant competencies. Each Registered Business must ensure that all work notified is signed off by the designated Registered Installer who has supervised the work and including details of the Registered Business taking responsibility for the installation.
- 11.7 Registered Businesses must ensure that customers and householders are provided with safety and operating instructions for their installations. General safety leaflets are available to installers through the HETAS shop and further details are available to view on the HETAS website. HETAS may choose to contact customers and/or householders with additional information.

HETAS Competent Person Scheme

Registration Schemes for
Businesses and Installers Involved in the Installation of
Wood, Biomass and Solid Fuel Burning Equipment
Solar Thermal, Plumbing and Sanitary Ware

Conditions of Registration and Guidance

England and Wales

