

IMPORTANT CHANGES TO GAS SERVICE AND METER INSTALLATIONS

GAS METER BOX AND GAS SERVICE PIPE INSTALLATIONS FOR NEW BUILD HOMES

The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) have recently carried out site checks on installed gas services and meter boxes and have raised concerns with regard to the integrity and safety of the installations.

As such there are proposed changes to the Gas Industry Technical Standard (IGE TD/4) covering meter box and gas service pipe installations to address these problems. These changes would affect installers of gas networks.

In order to address these expected changes British Gas has implemented the following changes with immediate effect to all new sites quoted from 1st July 2016

Boxes:

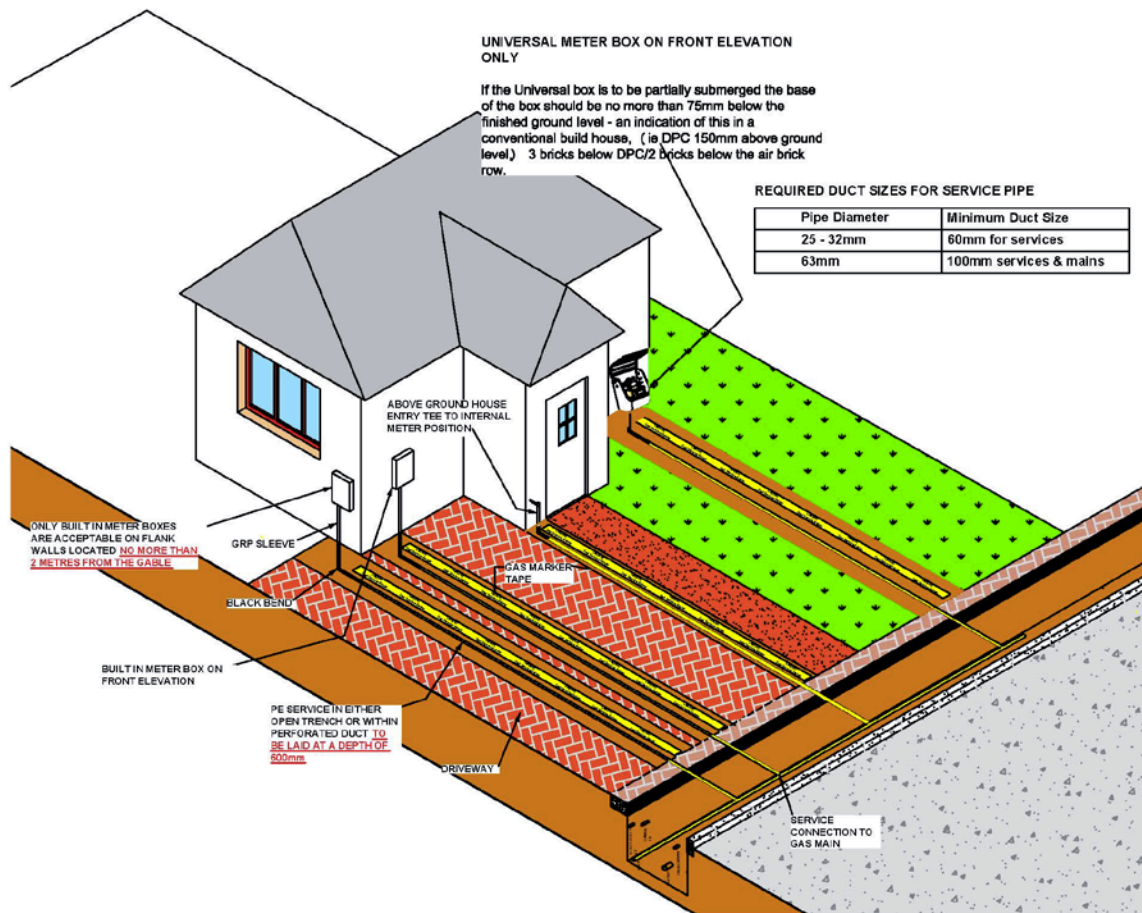
- Make the installation of a cavity wall / recessed gas meter box the first choice in almost all cases
- Alternatives to a cavity box may be used in some circumstances, for example, gas meters to be located internally in the home
- A last resort design choice is a universal meter box where it is physically not possible to accommodate a cavity / recessed wall box or internal installation
- The semi-concealed meter box has been withdrawn

Services:

End the current common practice of the house builders' ground worker pre- installing dead gas service pipes. Instead these will be installed in either the service duct or in an open trench by a qualified Gas Industry Registration Scheme operator at the time it is to be connected to the live main

- There are now two options going forward.
 1. Services are installed in an open trench, with the service installed by British Gas service providers. Following gas service installation, developer will need to backfill the trench with fine fill, suitable marker tape and reinstate the evacuation.
 2. The developer installs approved gas duct with pull cord ducting and British Gas service provider installing gas service. Ducting will need to be backfilled with fine fill and marker tape reinstate the excavation, including evidence of depth of cover. (Ducting currently not provided)

Please see the following guidance drawing:



Recessed / Cavity box

Okay for all situations



Universal

Okay for front elevations of terraced houses and around low level flats



Semi-Concealed

No longer available