

PROGRESS UPDATE: Review of Carbon Monoxide Awareness

SCRUTINY MONITORING – PROGRESS UPDATE	
Review:	Scrutiny Review of Carbon Monoxide Awareness
Link Officer/s:	N/A
Action Plan Agreed:	September 2021

Updates on the progress of actions in relation to agreed recommendations from previous scrutiny reviews are required approximately 12 months after the relevant Select Committee has agreed the Action Plan. Progress updates must be detailed, evidencing what has taken place regarding each recommendation – a grade assessing progress should then be given (see end of document for grading explanation). Any evidence on the impact of the actions undertaken should also be recorded for each recommendation.

Recommendation 1:	That correspondence is sent to local MPs and the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government urging that legislation is extended to make it a requirement that carbon monoxide alarms are fitted in all properties, and public buildings, such as Community Halls, for gas appliances as well as solid fuel burning appliances. In addition to this, legislation should be extended to make the installation of carbon monoxide alarms in all forms of holiday home, including caravans, with gas and solid fuel burning appliances a legal requirement.
Responsibility:	Scrutiny Team
Date:	September 2021
Agreed Action:	Report and letter sent to local MPs and the Secretary of State for Housing Communities and Local Government signed by Cabinet Member and Select Committee Chair.
Agreed Success Measure:	Support Secured
Evidence of Progress (March 2022):	<p>Letters were sent and positive responses received from both local MPs.</p> <p>Alex Cunningham MP gave a commitment to I will write to the government in support of the Select Committee recommendations.</p> <p>Matthew Vickers MP also gave a commitment to discuss this report with colleagues in the Government and advised that following consultation on the Social Housing Green Paper, there are plans to extend legislation to properties owned by social landlords alongside a requirement for carbon monoxide alarms to be installed in rooms with fixed combustion appliances. The consultation receiving an overwhelming support for a renewed focus on tenant safety and parity between the social and private sector housing sectors. In addition, the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government were analysing responses to a consultation which sought views on extending the 2015 Regulations to require private and social landlords to install a carbon monoxide alarm in any room used as living accommodation where a fixed</p>

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	<p>combustion appliance (for example a boiler) is used (excluding gas cookers). Further information at: https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/domestic-smoke-and-carbon-monoxide-alarms</p> <p>Lord Greenhalgh Minister of State for Building Safety and Fire also responded that the Government has consulted on proposals to extend building and housing regulations to require the provision of carbon monoxide alarms to oil and gas heating installations and to social housing. The Government response to this consultation and next steps to be announced in due course. A more detailed summary of activities to raise awareness can be found in the annual report of the Cross Government Group on Gas Safety and Carbon Monoxide Awareness at http://www.hse.gov.uk/gas/domestic/cross-government-group.htm</p>
<p>Assessment of Progress (March 2022): (include explanation if required)</p>	<p>1 – Fully Achieved</p>
<p>Evidence of Impact (March 2022):</p>	<p>Support secured; plans to extend legislation as set out above</p>

<p>Recommendation 2:</p>	<p>That, working with Cleveland Fire Service, information on Carbon Monoxide poisoning be publicised through existing platforms, including Stockton News and through work with schools, to raise awareness as part of carbon monoxide awareness week, including the promotion of mobile ‘mini-detectors’.</p>
<p>Responsibility:</p>	<p>Communications Team</p>
<p>Date:</p>	<p>November 2021</p>
<p>Agreed Action:</p>	<p>Stockton News article to tie in with Carbon Monoxide Awareness Week 22-28 November 2021.</p> <p>Working with Cleveland Fire Service to share Social Media posts.</p> <p>KYIT article in November 2021, including the promotion of mobile ‘mini-detectors’.</p> <p>Correspondence with local schools and colleges and offer provision of any awareness materials.</p> <p>Take report to Home Safety Association meeting.</p>
<p>Agreed Success Measure:</p>	<p>Engagement</p>
<p>Evidence of Progress (March 2022):</p>	<p>Carbon Monoxide Awareness Week promoted in the November 2021 Stockton News: https://www.stockton.gov.uk/media/1963442/stockton-newsletter-nov-2021_lowres-updated.pdf</p>

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Are you carbon monoxide aware?

22-28 November marks Carbon Monoxide Awareness Week. Carbon Monoxide is a silent, odourless, poisonous gas which can kill.

Many chronic conditions can be the result of poisoning that has gone undetected. Symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning can be likened to flu-like symptoms, which is why it may not be detected straight away.

The gas leaks into homes most often through gas boilers, wood and coal fires, barbeques or gas heaters. The best way to prevent the gas leaking into your home is to have these items regularly serviced and flues swept.

A carbon monoxide alarm can detect any leaks and prevent poisoning as quickly as possible.

If you think you may have a carbon monoxide leak, get fresh air as soon as you can and call the Gas Emergency Helpline on **0800 111 999** when it is safe to do so.



Shared Carbon monoxide Awareness Week posts throughout the week (example below) in light of Fire Service not sharing any of their own posts.

 Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council
28 November 2021 · 🌐

👍🔥 If you've got a gas fire then it is important to get it serviced to check everything is in working order.

⚠️ Remember, carbon monoxide is invisible, odourless and can be deadly!



👍 3

4 shares

Article in KYiT, including promotion of mobile detectors:

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	<p style="text-align: center;">[REDACTED]</p> <p>22-28 November marks Carbon Monoxide Awareness Week. Carbon Monoxide is a silent, odorless, poisonous gas which kills up to 30 people each year in the UK.</p> <p>Many chronic conditions can be the result of poisoning that has gone undetected. Symptoms of Carbon Monoxide poisoning can be likened to flu-like symptoms, which is why it may not be detected straight away.</p> <p>The gas leaks into homes most often through gas boilers, wood and coal fires, barbeques or gas heaters. The best way to prevent the gas leaking into your home is to have these items regularly serviced and flues swept.</p> <p>For Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council staff, a mobile carbon monoxide detector may be suitable to detect leaks in client or residents' homes. These can be carried on your person during visits and alert you if you come into contact with high levels of carbon monoxide.</p> <p>If you think you may have a carbon monoxide leak, get fresh air as soon as you can and call the Gas Emergency Helpline on 0800 111 999 when it is safe to do so.</p> <p>The report was discussed at Home Safety Association, and it was agreed to consider again in the spring to discuss a campaign aimed at students seeking to raise awareness around the dangers of carbon monoxide.</p>
Assessment of Progress (March 2022): (include explanation if required)	1 – Fully Achieved
Evidence of Impact (March 2022):	<p>Stockton News magazine is sent to 90,000 household across the Borough.</p> <p>The posts on social media reached a total of 8,000 people, and had a total of 75 engagements.</p> <p>The KYiT article ran for two weeks and is sent to all staff digitally or available as paper copy to those without computer access.</p>

Recommendation 3:	That all Housing Associations are encouraged to follow best practice and to consider using body worn 'mini-detectors' where appropriate when entering other people's homes/dwellings. In addition, the promotion of body worn 'mini-detectors' to Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council employees who regularly enter other people's homes/dwellings, such as registered carers.
Responsibility:	Scrutiny and Communications Teams
Date:	November 2021
Agreed Action:	<p>Report and letter sent to Housing Associations signed by Cabinet Member and Select Committee Chair.</p> <p>KYIT article in November 2021, including the promotion of mobile 'mini-detectors'.</p>
Agreed Success Measure:	Support secured; engagement

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Evidence of Progress (March 2022):	<p>Letters sent to Housing Associations.</p> <p>Article in KYiT around Carbon Monoxide Awareness, including promotion of mobile detectors:</p> <p style="background-color: black; color: black;">[REDACTED]</p> <p>22-28 November marks Carbon Monoxide Awareness Week. Carbon Monoxide is a silent, odorless, poisonous gas which kills up to 30 people each year in the UK.</p> <p>Many chronic conditions can be the result of poisoning that has gone undetected. Symptoms of Carbon Monoxide poisoning can be likened to flu-like symptoms, which is why it may not be detected straight away.</p> <p>The gas leaks into homes most often through gas boilers, wood and coal fires, barbeques or gas heaters. The best way to prevent the gas leaking into your home is to have these items regularly services and flues swept.</p> <p>For Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council staff, a mobile carbon monoxide detector may be suitable to detect leaks in client or residents' homes. These can be carried on your person during visits and alert you if you come into contact with high levels of carbon monoxide.</p> <p>If you think you may have a carbon monoxide leak, get fresh air as soon as you can and call the Gas Emergency Helpline on 0800 111 999 when it is safe to do so.</p>
Assessment of Progress (March 2022): <small>(include explanation if required)</small>	1 – Fully Achieved
Evidence of Impact (March 2022):	Awareness raised.

Assessment of Progress Gradings:	1 Fully Achieved	2 On-Track	3 Slipped	4 Not Achieved
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