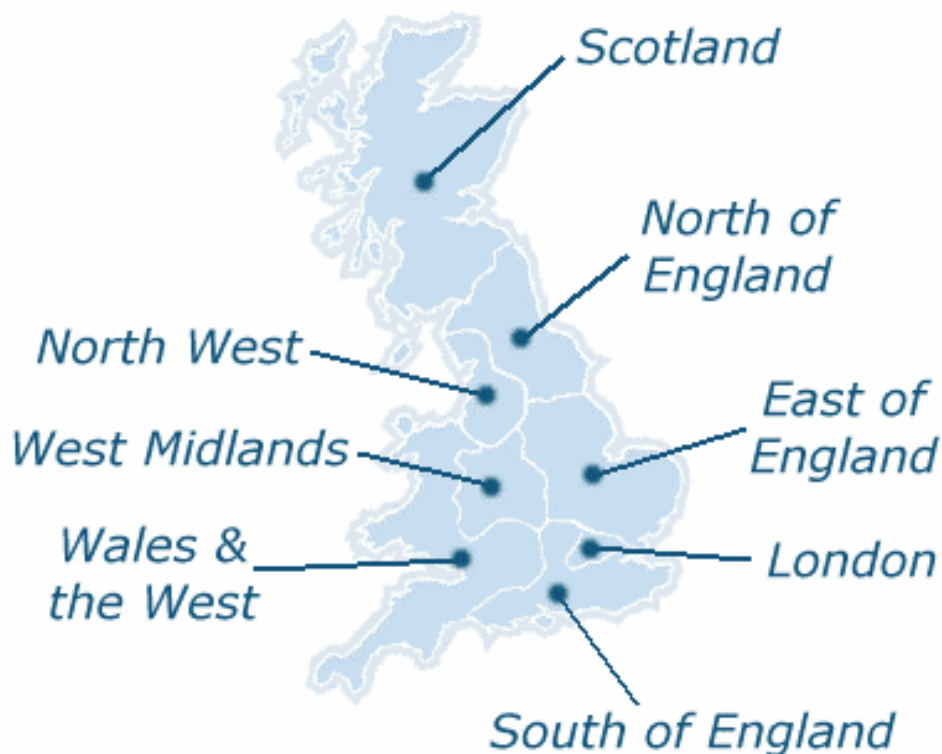


How do I arrange for a gas connection to a number of properties?

There are three ways in which to obtain a gas connection:

1. Using a Gas Transporter (GT)

The following GTs currently operate only in specific areas of the UK, as outlined in the UK Gas Distribution Map below. To obtain a connection from one of these GTs you need to contact the relevant GT for your area.



| Network name | Network owner | Number of properties | Connection provider | Telephone number |
|------------------|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| East of England | National Grid | 4 or less | National Grid | 0870 903 9999 |
| | | More than 4 | Fulcrum | 0845 641 3010 |
| London | National Grid | 4 or less | National Grid | 0870 903 9999 |
| | | More than 4 | Fulcrum | 0845 641 3010 |
| North of England | Northern Gas Networks | | Northern Gas Networks | 0870 300 7677 |
| North West | National Grid | 4 or less | National Grid | 0870 903 9999 |
| | | More than 4 | Fulcrum | 0845 641 3010 |
| Scotland | Scotland Gas Networks | | Scotland Gas Networks | 0845 026 0015 |
| South of England | Southern Gas Networks | | Southern Gas Networks | 0845 026 0015 |
| Wales & the West | Wales & West Utilities | | Wales & West Utilities | 0870 165 0597 |
| West Midlands | National Grid | 4 or less | National Grid | 0870 903 9999 |
| | | More than 4 | Fulcrum | 0845 641 3010 |

The following GTs operate on a national basis and generally provide new gas networks for new housing estates. They may also be able to offer connections for infill customers.

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| ESP Ltd | ES Pipelines, Hazeldean, Station Road, Leatherhead, Surrey, KT22 7AA |
| | 01372 227560 |
| GTC Pipelines | Woolpit Business Park, Woolpit, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP30 9UQ |
| | 01359 240363 |
| Independent Pipelines Ltd | Ocean Park House, East Tyndall Street, Cardiff, CF24 5GT |
| | 02920 304040 |
| SSE Pipelines | NHG, PO Box 123, Slough, SL1 2PF |
| | 01753 695631 |

- ◆ To obtain a connection from a GT you need to notify the GT within a reasonable time of the details of the premises to be connected and the date the connection is required.

2. Using a Utility Infrastructure Provider (UIP)

You can employ a UIP that is competent to carry out gas connections work. Although some UIPs carry out one-off domestic connections, they tend to specialise in the construction of new housing estate networks and larger non-domestic one-off connections at present. The work undertaken by a UIP must be carried out in accordance with the standards and procedures laid down by the GT that will ultimately adopt and maintain the connection. It is not permitted for non-licensed persons to operate their own networks. Some UIPs may also procure a connection from a GT on your behalf as your agent.

You can obtain a list of UIPs engaged in this type of work by visiting the Society of British Gas Industries (SBGI) website:

http://www.sbgi.org.uk/index.php?fuseaction=sbgiContact.memberCompanies&con_id=8010284

There is an independent registration scheme, operated by Lloyds Register, for companies engaged in independent connections work. Registered companies have demonstrated competence in particular areas of connection work and are subject to ongoing audit and inspection by Lloyds Register and all GTs recognise the scheme as appropriate for assessing competence. A list of registered companies is available at:

http://www.lr.org/market_sector/utilities/girs.htm

Registration is voluntary and both registered and unregistered companies can, by arrangement with the relevant GT, make connections to gas networks. You should note that registered companies can generally provide connections in a shorter time period than non-registered companies as their registered status means that they can follow a simpler process of adoption with the relevant GT.

3. Using a Licensed Gas Supplier

Licensed gas suppliers can arrange for the installation of a connection to your premises by either the local GT or a UIP. The gas supplier can pass on the charge for arranging the connection. This charge may include an arrangement fee.

There is full competition in the supply of gas within Great Britain, and customers are now able to buy gas from any gas supply company licensed to sell gas within Great Britain. A list of licensed companies is available from the Ofgem website www.ofgem.gov.uk or by contacting energywatch on 0845 906 0708.

Pipework from the meter to your gas appliances

Pipework from your meter to your gas appliances will not normally be provided by connection arrangements you make with the GT/UIP/gas supplier. In all cases, a qualified CORGI registered engineer is required to install them for you. UIPs who carry out connections may also be CORGI registered and may offer to carry out this work as part of the connection.

For more information on arranging the installation of pipework between your meter and your gas appliance you can contact CORGI for a list of companies certified to carry out this type of work or you can obtain their details from the Yellow Pages/telephone directory.

Emergency services

All first call emergency services are provided via a national telephone number, 0800 111 999. If you smell gas contact this number immediately.

There is no differentiation in the level of emergency service provided between the different licensed GTs.