



What's the problem?

The law rightly commits Housing Associations each and every year to check that gas appliances and flues in their properties are safe. This is vital to keep people protected from the threat of gas explosions and carbon monoxide poisoning - both those living in the home where the gas appliances are **AND** those living in neighbouring homes who could be unwittingly at risk if safety checks aren't carried out.

But, the law doesn't allow social landlords a swift and efficient way to make sure that it can carry out the checks it is legally required to make. In fact, it can take associations up to **four months** to follow the due legal process to a point where they have free access to service boilers and carry out other gas safety checks.

How can you help?

The Gas Access campaign aims to give Housing Associations the same timely access as their Local Authority counterparts. Councils have the same legal duty as social landlords to check gas services in their properties on an annual basis. Unlike Housing Associations, the law gives Local Authorities the right to enter their homes using a warrant that they can get from a Magistrates Court on the day they apply for access.

Currently, it can take housing associations up to four months to legally enter a property with an outstanding gas certificate if the current tenant refuses entry.

Home Group is working with CORGI Technical Services, the UK's most trusted gas safety provider, and the Association of Gas Safety Managers (AGSM), to change the law.

Together, we are lobbying Government to make it easier for housing association representatives to undertake proper health checks and services on gas appliances.

Close to **half a billion pounds of public cash will be wasted** over the next decade in the drawn out process of gaining legal access to properties. This is money which could be directly re-invested into providing quality social housing for your tenants.

We need your help to bring about legal change.



Get on board

We would like as many Housing Associations as possible to join the campaign, so if you would like to get involved we need you to get backing from your Chief Executive.

The campaign is already off to a strong start, as you can see from the wall of support on the website <http://www.gasaccessscampaign.org>. Every organisation that signs up to support the campaign will receive a 'Media Pack' containing logos, infographics, pre-prepared social media messages and campaign letter templates. To receive your pack, contact us at, info@gasaccessscampaign.org.

What to do ...

Direct support:

Speak to your Chief Executive or Legal Department and let them know what it is we're trying to do.

Once you have their backing, send us your logo to add to our wall of support.

Send your name and logo to info@gasaccessscampaign.org and we will upload it and send you a media pack.

Lobby your MP

You can also help by directly lobbying your local MP and/or the Housing and Planning Minister, Brandon Lewis. There are two ways to do this ...

1.) Follow the campaign on Twitter - [@gasaccess](https://twitter.com/gasaccess). Our media pack contains some useful infographics and pre-prepared tweets for you to share on your social media accounts.

We've also created a list of MPs which you can follow and use to send out your personalised messages.

2.) Add your company logo to our pre-prepared letter template in your media pack and send to your MP.

Case Studies

We know Home Group is not the only Housing Association facing this challenge, we want to hear your case studies. You can send your stories to info@gasaccessscampaign.org or tweet us - [@gasaccess](https://twitter.com/gasaccess).

We want to know ...

- how many times are your gas safety teams refused access to a property?
- How often do they have to make multiple visits?
- How often have you had to get legal orders to enter a property?
- How many times has this failed to result in you getting access?
- Have you taken matters further, maybe sought a possession order?
- What is the cost to your business of failed gas safety visits?

We will work with you to provide the media with case studies on the challenges that gas access brings to our sector.

Share

We need you to use your social media and digital channels to raise awareness of this issue with a variety of people - colleagues, your local MPs, your stakeholders, and your customers/tenants.

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Contact us at ... info@gasaccessscampaign.org to receive your media pack.

