

Edwina Hart AM MBE

*Minister for Social Justice and Regeneration
Y Gweinidog dros Gyflawnder Cymdeithasol ac Adfywio*



Our ref: MB/EH/0801/06
Your ref:

Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government

Jocelyn Davies AM
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Cardiff Bay
Cardiff CF99 1NA
Switchboard: 029 2082 5111
Fax: 029 2089 8131
Email: ps.edwina.hart@wales.gai.gov.uk

Bae Caerdydd
Caerdydd CF99 1NA
Switsfwrdd: 029 2082 5111
Ffacs: 029 2089 8131
E-bost: ps.edwina.hart@wales.gai.gov.uk

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Dear Jocelyn

At First Minister's questions on 3 October you asked whether urgent consideration could be given to ensuring that all homes have a carbon monoxide detector. The First Minister has asked me to reply to you as home safety relates to my portfolio.

Whilst health and safety is not generally devolved and there are no regulations requiring the installation of carbon monoxide detectors in homes, the Assembly Government remains concerned at the health risks posed by carbon monoxide.

Carbon monoxide detectors provide a useful means of protection but are no substitute for properly maintained appliances and flues.

New research in a review of domestic gas safety by the Health & Safety Executive (HSE) suggests that faulty gas appliances are still being used in many homes and that public awareness of CO poisoning risks is worryingly low.

My officials are working with the HSE in that review to produce proposals that will put in place a modern, effective gas safety regime.

Edwina Hart

