## Department of Education Sport and Culture



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## By email

Registered Gas Safety Engineers, IoM

Dear Sir/Madam

## Registration renewal of Isle of Man gas safety qualifications

As technicians or employers in the gas sector I write to provide you with an update regarding the registration renewal of gas safety qualifications for Isle of Man based workers.

Due to difficulties arising from the Covid-19 pandemic we are aware of a small number of expired or expiring qualifications and we have been working with the Department's current Contracted Training & Assessment Provider EDS to arrange a further visit for renewal training. This has proved to be difficult due to border closures, restrictions on gatherings and practical issues in delivering the training in a safe manner for all concerned.

The Department is aware of the rolling six month registration extension applied by Gas Safe from March 2020 and we have been in dialogue with them with regard to our unique local situation. Gas Safe previously advised the Department that further or geographic specific extensions were not planned but we have contacted them again recently to formally request a short term extension for IoM based gas workers, highlighting practical, cost and other issues in our having to otherwise send engineers to UK Assessment Centres. Such difficulties are further compounded by this week's announcement concerning the prohibition in England on gatherings of more than 6 people from next week.

We await Gas Safe's response to this extension request but in the meantime they have advised that any Isle of Man based workers whose qualifications have expired/are shortly due to expire may contact them directly claiming exceptional circumstances. They will deal with each application individually. We have notified the Head of Health & Safety at DEFA of the current situation and our Minister has likewise been kept informed.

Gas Safe can be contacted by email via <a href="mailto:register@GasSafeRegister.co.uk">register@GasSafeRegister.co.uk</a>, by telephone on 0800 408 5566 / 0800 408 5577 or at the following address: Gas Safe Register, PO Box 6804, Basingstoke, RG24 4NB.

For information, we are currently within a tender exercise for selection of a new Training and Assessment Provider and further details will be communicated in due course.

Yours faithfully

Andy Wade

Head of Corporate & Training Services