

# YOU SAID, WE DID

## ELECTRICAL SAFETY POLICY 2024

Thank you to everyone who took part in the consultation on our new Electrical Safety Policy. We had 41 responses from residents to our online survey about the draft policy. The feedback has been invaluable in shaping our new Policy. Here is how we have responded to your suggestions:

### You said

### We did



*“The Policy is complicated and hard for me to understand”*



We will produce an easy read summary version of the policy document that will be available for residents to access via our website or directly from a member of staff on request.



We have also produced a new Energy Service Standard that is available on our website. This accompanies the Electrical Safety Policy and clearly sets out what tenants can expect from SDC when we carry out our electrical safety checks.



*“The Policy says that electrical installations will be checked every 5 years. That doesn’t happen as mine hasn’t been checked for 7 years. This is a concern for me”*



The legislation for frequency of electrical safety checks in social housing is changing. Previously Stroud District Council was legally required to carry out electrical safety checks every 10 years on each property. This legally changes to every 5 years from November 2026. A project is underway to ensure the Council is meeting the revised legislation. Our Policy and Service Standard targets reflect the new 5-year requirement.



We will improve our communications with tenants about the change from 10-year testing to 5-year testing. This will include website updates and information within our tenant newsletter, ‘Your Home Matters’ (Winter 2025).



*“The Policy states fire alarms to be inspected so many months/ years after installation. Would it not be better to have an annual inspection?”*



We have provided refresher training on smoke alarm inspections to surveyors, operatives and officers who attend properties, so that alarms can be checked whenever an SDC employee attends a property, in between the legally required inspection programme.



We will include a reminder to tenants to regularly test alarms as part of our tenant communications.

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The Electrical Safety Policy for Stroud District Council sets out our principles for compliance with all aspects of electrical safety within Stroud District Council housing stock. We have a statutory responsibility to minimise and, where possible, eradicate risk associated with electrical installations, equipment and work activity whilst simultaneously ensuring full compliance with statutory requirements. Your feedback has helped shape how we will achieve this.

### **Other Ways to Get Involved!**

There are lots of ways for you to get involved and have real influence on the types of services we provide and the role we play in your community.

Your views matter to us and there are several ways in which you can have your say or get involved. If you would like to get involved please contact the Resident Engagement Team [resident.involvement@stroud.gov.uk](mailto:resident.involvement@stroud.gov.uk) or call 01453 766 321. Thank you