



NHBC

Raising standards with inspection

| A guide to NHBC's inspection process |



Inspection

NHBC's Key Stage Inspection Service

Plots registered with NHBC automatically benefit from our Key Stage Inspection Service. Developed in response to the changing needs of the industry and customers' expectations, it focuses on key stages of construction and identifies sites that need extra attention. The service fits in with the build programme allowing our inspectors to carry out extra inspections on sites that require them, to ensure that construction meets NHBC Standards.



Key Stages

Inspection is focused on specified key stages for each plot, so that our inspectors are on site at the times when their independent quality control function can be most effective.

The site manager is responsible for notifying the inspector in advance (normally 24 hours) when the stages opposite are ready for inspection. Because of the complexity of some flat developments, routine key inspections are made

frequently for superstructure. This inspection includes a regular check on construction progress both at the head of build and work taking place at lower levels. If problems are found during inspection these are reported in the site record book.

A telephone call diversion system provides cover through our network of inspectors as and when necessary. Booking inspections is always possible even though your regular inspector may not always be available.



Site Record Book

Site managers are given a Site Record Book providing a clear breakdown of the inspector's findings and a record of the stages which have passed Key Stage Inspection. This enables site managers to maintain a good level of communication with their inspector, in turn helping to achieve targets and meet customer expectations.

Risk assessment

In addition to Key Stage Inspections our inspectors make an initial assessment of each site based on criteria including ground conditions, site exposure, the complexity of the design specification, professional input, and the past performance of each company and site manager. We then judge the level of risk the site is likely to pose - in other words, the likelihood of there being any problems as the building work progresses. Those sites with a high level of risk are then targeted with extra inspections. The assessment is adjusted accordingly during construction depending on the standard of work being produced.



Key Stage Inspections

For Plots

- Foundations excavated
- Superstructure
- First Fix (pre-plaster)
- Pre-handover
- Drainage (NHBC Building Control sites only)

For Apartments

- Foundations
- Basement
- Drainage (NHBC Building Control sites only)
- Roof
- Means of escape (NHBC Building Control sites only)
- Pre-handover



Building Control - helping you comply with Building Regulations

NHBC can provide building control on all your projects, housing, commercial and mixed use schemes, helping you meet your obligations under the Building Regulations. Our service can be tailored to suit your specific needs so all schemes, from one-off units to complex projects, can be handled efficiently. Building Control inspections are integrated with our key stage inspections for Buildmark and as a result, using NHBC is convenient and minimises site disruption. For more information on all aspects of our building control service, please contact us on 0870 241 4306, or visit our website at www.nhbc.co.uk.



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