From the Director of Health Estates
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Department of Health
An Roinn Sláinte
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BY EMAIL
To: HSC Trusts Chief Executives

For info:
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Related Document
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Dear Colleagues,

UPDATE TO ESTATE BEST PRACTICE GUIDANCE
HEALTH TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM 02-01 MEDICAL GAS PIPELINE SYSTEMS

SUMMARY
This letter is to inform you of the following updated guidance documents:

Health Technical Memorandum 02-01: Medical Gas Pipeline Systems
- **Part A: Design, Installation, Validation and Verification**
- **Part B: Operational Management**

This 2026 edition supersedes all previous versions and represents a significant update to guidance relating to the governance, design, installation, operation, maintenance and assurance of Medical Gas Pipeline Systems (MGPS). These documents have been added to the Estates publications registry as relevant guidance (https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/publications/estates-and-facilities-publications).

ACTION
Chief Executives of HSC Trusts are asked to:

- Disseminate this letter to relevant stakeholders including Capital Development Teams, Estates and Facilities Managers and those with responsibility for the safe operation of Medical Gas Services within the Trust.

- Ensure Capital Project Teams, Authorising Engineers (MGPS), Authorised Persons (MGPS) and Design Consultants adopt the revised HTM 02-01 as relevant guidance for medical gas system management, new developments, major refurbishments, modifications and lifecycle replacement programmes.

BACKGROUND

Medical gas pipeline systems provide essential critical infrastructure for the safe delivery of healthcare services. The revised **HTM 02-01: Medical Gas Pipeline Systems** reflects current best practice in medical gas system governance, risk-based design, system resilience, sustainability and lifecycle asset management,

incorporating lessons learned from recent healthcare operational experience, updated standards and resilience reviews.

Where revised HTM 02-01 guidance makes reference to Legislation in England, Scotland or Wales, Health and Social Care organisations should ensure application within the Northern Ireland legislative and governance framework, including but not limited to **Health and Safety at Work (Northern Ireland) Order 1978**, **Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2000**, **Pressure Systems Safety Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2004**, **Building Regulations (Northern Ireland)**, the **Climate Change Act (Northern Ireland) 2022** and any applicable Departmental guidance and policy.

This revision of **HTM 02-01: Medical Gas Pipeline Systems** reflects current best practice for medical gas pipeline systems in healthcare premises. Health and Social Care organisations should review and follow the guidance, where appropriate and proportionate for their organisation.

This revised guidance aligns with the Department's wider sustainability and resource efficiency objectives outlined in previous correspondence in 2024 (**Ref: CM 02/2024**), which had requested organisations to improve stewardship of medical gases, reduce avoidable wastage and support carbon reduction initiatives across Health and Social Care.

ENQUIRIES

Should you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact:

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Yours sincerely

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