



*Legionella bacteria*

**What is Legionella?**

- The bacterium Legionella pneumophila is common in natural water sources such as rivers. It may also be found in purpose-built water systems such as hot and cold water systems.
- If conditions are favourable, the bacteria may grow increasing the risks of Legionnaires' disease and it is therefore important to control the risks - The Control of Legionella bacteria in water systems (L8).

**In October 2013 HSE amended the Approved code of Practice L8 – Legionella control**

**How does this affect me?**

- Paragon HA has had a legionella risk assessment carried out across the site to comply with the guidance and demonstrates compliance under the Health & Safety at Work Act 1974

**What do I have to do?**

- As the person/s living in the property you have a duty to inform the Paragon HA if the hot water is not reaching 50 degrees or above
- If you leave the property for 2 weeks vacant you must run the cold taps for 5 minutes and the hot taps for 2 minutes to flush all stagnant water out of the pipework
- You have a duty to inform the landlord if the property is going to be vacant for 4 weeks or longer
- You should clean and descale the showerheads every 3 months