

WRITTEN QUESTION E-1091/09  
by Ashley Mote (NI)  
to the Commission

Subject: Compact fluorescent light (CFL) risks to care homes

What does the Commission say to managers of care homes in the UK, who are already obliged by law to provide adequate lighting, especially in areas where problems of mobility arise, when CFL bulbs are forced on them?

Will they not then be breaking EU health and safety regulations if a CFL bulb, when turned on, fails to provide immediately the light required to meet minimum legal standards?

Many of these care homes are large, old houses converted for multiple occupancy care purposes. They have old and special light fittings which cannot easily be changed, and should not be changed if the level of lighting is thus reduced. Are they expected to incur substantial expense to install entirely new electrical circuits, possibly involving structural alterations, to accommodate CFL bulbs?