

Passport to Fire Safety



Dame Judith Hackitt's Remarks



‘the current system of regulation for high-rise and complex buildings is broken’

‘the current regulatory system for ensuring fire safety in high-rise and complex buildings is not fit for purpose.’



The Clean Slate Position

Is this really how we
want to start again?



What's in the System Already?

The random list:

1. Legislation
2. Government guidance documents
3. Other guidance documents and technical guides
4. Academic studies
5. British Standards
6. International standards
7. Building Regulations with guidance (ADB)
8. Procedural guidance



What's the Real Question?

So, from this background and introduction, I ask the question:

'how hard is it for fire engineers, fire consultants, fire risk assessors et al to follow the fire safety history of a building from its conception to reality and on to demolition?'



Or a more practical real question?



How can it be that Building Control, the local Fire and Rescue Service and the building management company cannot put their hands on the original fire strategy, fire engineering design report and the 'as built' plans for a development that's only 6 years old?



What is in place already?

- RIBA plan of work (framework)
- Building Standards Customer Journey and Building Warrants (Scotland) and Fire Safety Design Summaries (FSDS)
- Design and Plans (design)
- Fire Strategy (design)
- Fire engineering solution (design if needed)
- Submission and consultation (process)
- Preliminary fire risk assessment (process - procedural guidance document)



What is in place already?

- Evacuation strategy (design and process)
- Emergency Plan (design and process)
- Regulation 38 information – Scotland - Fire Safety Design Summaries (process)
- Fire risk Assessment (process)

For change of use and material alterations, some or all of these should be iterated.

Do we follow these processes already?



What would the new passport to fire safety look like?

It could be in any format you like:



What would the new passport contain?

Design and Plans



Production of fire strategy with contracted fire engineer/fire consultant



Holistic Fire Engineering (HFE) process (third party independent fire engineer/fire consultant)



Formal submission –consultation stage with BC and F&RS



Sign-off for final plans



What would the new passport contain?

Preliminary fire risk assessment



Evacuation strategy and emergency plan



Regulation 38 information production (in a common template style)



Fire risk assessment



Fire log, notices, audits and inspection details etc.



What would the new passport do?



- It stays with the building for the life of the building
- It holds all the information on fire safety for the building throughout its life – nothing is removed
- It gives a full audit trail and history of the building
- Nothing should be removed and nothing must be 'lost or missing'.



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- There would be no more searching for clues, second guess or ‘back engineer’



What would the new passport do?



Most importantly:

It becomes the reference material for future architects, F&RS personnel, fire risk assessors, fire engineers and anyone else who may be involved at some time in the evolution of the building over its lifetime.



What is Holistic Fire Engineering? Check it out!



Paul Bryant



<https://www.kingfell.com/holistic-fire-engineering>



Dr Bob Docherty – Flamerisk Safety Solutions Ltd

Questions?

www.flamerisk.co.uk

www.ifsm.org.uk



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