This document contains amendments to the following Approved Document:

**Approved Document B: Fire safety**

*Volume 1 – Dwellinghouses*

*Volume 2 – Buildings other than dwellinghouses*

December 2018
Introduction


The Approved Document takes effect on 21 January 2019 for use in England*. The 2006 edition of Volume 1, as amended in 2007, 2010 and 2013, and Volume 2, as amended in 2007, 2010, 2013 and November 2018, will continue to apply where a building notice or an initial notice has been given to, or full plans deposited with, a local authority before 21 January 2019 and either the building work to which it relates:

(a) has started before that day; or

(b) is started within the period of two months beginning on that day.

Please note that “building notice”, “initial notice” and “full plans” have the meanings given in the Building Regulations 2010.

* This approved document gives guidance for compliance with the Building Regulations for building work carried out in England. It also applies to building work carried out on excepted energy buildings in Wales as defined in the Welsh Ministers (Transfer of Functions) (No. 2) Order 2009.
The Building Regulations 2010
Approved Document B: Fire safety
Volume 1 – Dwellinghouses

List of amendments
December 2018

B2: Guidance
Page 23
Paragraph B2.v: Delete ‘(see paragraphs 7-20)’ and insert ‘(see paragraphs 10 to 23)’.

Section 3: Wall and ceiling linings
Page 24
Paragraph 3.8: Delete ‘(see Appendix A, paragraph 17)’ and insert ‘(see Appendix A, paragraph 20)’; delete ‘in Appendix A, paragraph 20’ and insert ‘in Appendix A, paragraph 23’.

Section 9: Space separation
Page 43
Paragraph 9.8: Delete ‘(see Appendix A, paragraphs 7 and 13)’ and insert ‘(see Appendix A, paragraphs 10 and 16)’.

Appendix A: Performance of materials, products and structures
Page 53
Replace paragraphs 1 and 2 with the following text.

Introduction
1 Much of the guidance in this document is given in terms of performance classifications in relation to British or European Standards. In such cases, it will be necessary to demonstrate that a system or product can meet the relevant performance classification. This will be achieved if the system or product:
   a. is in accordance with a specification or design that has been shown by specific test(s) to be capable of meeting that performance classification; or
   b. has been assessed from relevant test evidence, in lieu of a specific test(s), as being capable of meeting that performance classification; or
   c. has been designed by using relevant design standards that are capable of meeting that performance classification.
2 Any test evidence used to demonstrate the fire performance classification of a product or system should be carefully checked to ensure that it is applicable to the intended use. Small differences in detail, such as fixing method, joints, dimensions, the introduction of insulation materials and air gaps (ventilated or not), can significantly affect the performance.

3 Assessments should not be regarded as a way to avoid a test where one is necessary. They should only be carried out where sufficient relevant test evidence is available. Relevant test evidence is unlikely to be provided by test standards which have different classification criteria.

4 Where it is proposed to assess the classification of a product or system in lieu of carrying out a specific test (as in paragraph 1(b)), this should be done in accordance with the relevant standard for extended application for the test in question and should include details of the test evidence that has been used to support the assessment.

For performance classifications where there is no specific standard for extended application, assessment reports should be produced in accordance with the principles of BS EN 15725:2010 and should include details of the test evidence that has been used to support the assessment. Further information on best practice is provided in the Passive Fire Protection Federation’s Guide to undertaking assessments in lieu of fire tests.

5 Tests and assessments should be carried out by organisations with the necessary expertise. For example, organisations listed as “notified bodies” in accordance with the European Construction Products Regulation or laboratories accredited by UKAS for the relevant test standard can be assumed to have the necessary expertise.

Note: Standard fire tests do not directly measure fire hazard. They measure or assess the response of a material or system to exposure to one or more aspects of fire conditions. Performance in fire tests is only one of a number of factors that should be taken into account.

Pages 53 to 57: Paragraphs 3 to 21: **Renumber** as paragraphs 6 to 24.

Page 56: Paragraph 14: **Replace** ‘see paragraph 9’ with ‘see paragraph 12’.
Paragraph 19: **Replace** ‘in paragraphs 11 to 16’ with ‘in paragraphs 14 to 19’.
Paragraph 20: **Replace** ‘in paragraphs 11 to 16’ with ‘in paragraphs 14 to 19’.

Page 62: Table A7, column 1, item 3: **Replace** ‘paragraph 13(a)’ with ‘paragraph 16(a)’.
Page 63: Table A8, column 2, item 1: **Replace** ‘paragraph 13(b)’ with ‘paragraph 16(b)’.
Appendix B: Fire Doors

Page 64  Insert new note in paragraph 1 as follows.

The requirement (in either case) is for test exposure from each side of the door separately, except in the case of lift doors which are tested from the landing side only.

**Note 1:** Both BS 476-22 and BS EN 1634-1 acknowledge that it may not always be necessary to carry out tests from both sides of a doorset. Clause 13.4 of BS EN 1634-1 gives more detailed guidance on this issue, and Annex C of the guidance sets out the rationale for that guidance. Clause 13.4 of BS EN 1634-1 should be followed regardless of whether the doorset is being classified to BS 476-22 or BS EN 1634-1.

Note 1: **Renumber** as ‘Note 2’.

Note 2: **Renumber** as ‘Note 3’.

Page 65  Table B1, note 1: **Replace** ‘paragraph 5’ with ‘paragraph 8’.

Appendix E: Definitions

Page 68  Definition ‘Class 0’: **Replace** ‘paragraph 13’ with ‘paragraph 16’.

Page 69  Definition ‘External wall (or side of a building)’: **Replace** with the following.

* External wall
  The external wall of a building includes a reference to:
  (i) anything located within any space forming part of the wall;
  (ii) any decoration or other finish applied to any external (but not internal) surface forming part of the wall;
  (iii) any windows and doors in the wall; and
  (iv) any part of a roof pitched at an angle of more than 70 degrees to the horizontal if that part of the roof adjoins a space within the building to which persons have access, but not access only for the purpose of carrying out repairs or maintenance.

Page 69  Definition ‘Material of limited combustibility’: **Replace** ‘paragraph 9’ with ‘paragraph 12’.

Definition ‘Non-combustible material’: **Replace** ‘paragraph 8’ with ‘paragraph 11’.

Page 70  Definition ‘Thermoplastic material’: **Replace** ‘paragraph 17’ with ‘paragraph 20’.

Appendix F: Standards and other publications referred to

Page 72  After BS EN 13823:2002, **insert** the following standard.

BS EN 15725:2010
Extended application reports on the fire performance of construction products and building elements

Page 73  Under Passive Fire Protection Federation, **insert** the following publication.

*Guide to undertaking assessments in lieu of fire tests* 2000 ISBN: 1 870409 90 6

Page 75  Note: no amendments are provided for the index. Some paragraph numbers in the index will become incorrect because of the renumbering of paragraphs in Appendix A.
The Building Regulations 2010
Approved Document B: Fire safety
Volume 2 – Buildings other than dwellinghouses

List of amendments
December 2018

B2: Guidance
Page 62  Paragraph B2.v: Delete ‘(see paragraphs 7 to 20)’ and insert ‘(see paragraphs 10 to 23)’.

Section 6: Wall and ceiling linings
Page 64  Paragraph 6.10: Delete ‘(see Appendix A, paragraph 17)’ and insert ‘(see Appendix A, paragraph 20)’; delete ‘in Appendix A, paragraph 20’ and insert ‘in Appendix A, paragraph 23’.

Section 8: Compartmentation
Page 76  Paragraph 8.29: Delete ‘(see Appendix A, paragraph 6)’ and insert ‘(see Appendix A, paragraph 9)’.

Section 13: Space separation
Page 98  Paragraph 13.9: Delete ‘(see Appendix A, paragraphs 7 and 13)’ and insert ‘(see Appendix A, paragraphs 10 and 16)’.
Appendix A: Performance of materials, products and structures

Replace paragraphs 1 and 2 with the following text.

Introduction

1 Much of the guidance in this document is given in terms of performance classifications in relation to British or European Standards. In such cases, it will be necessary to demonstrate that a system or product can meet the relevant performance classification. This will be achieved if the system or product:

   a. is in accordance with a specification or design that has been shown by specific test(s) to be capable of meeting that performance classification; or

   b. has been assessed from relevant test evidence, in lieu of a specific test(s), as being capable of meeting that performance classification; or

   c. has been designed by using relevant design standards that are capable of meeting that performance classification.

2 Any test evidence used to demonstrate the fire performance classification of a product or system should be carefully checked to ensure that it is applicable to the intended use. Small differences in detail, such as fixing method, joints, dimensions, the introduction of insulation materials and air gaps (ventilated or not), can significantly affect the performance.

3 Assessments should not be regarded as a way to avoid a test where one is necessary. They should only be carried out where sufficient relevant test evidence is available. Relevant test evidence is unlikely to be provided by test standards which have different classification criteria.

4 Where it is proposed to assess the classification of a product or system in lieu of carrying out a specific test (as in paragraph 1(b)), this should be done in accordance with the relevant standard for extended application for the test in question and should include details of the test evidence that has been used to support the assessment.

For performance classifications where there is no specific standard for extended application, assessment reports should be produced in accordance with the principles of BS EN 15725:2010 and should include details of the test evidence that has been used to support the assessment. Further information on best practice is provided in the Passive Fire Protection Federation’s Guide to undertaking assessments in lieu of fire tests.

Note: Regulation 7(2) limits components used in or on the external walls of certain buildings to materials achieving European classification Class A2-s1, d0 or Class A1 (see Section 12). Assessments cannot be used to demonstrate compliance with this requirement.

5 Tests and assessments should be carried out by organisations with the necessary expertise. For example, organisations listed as “notified bodies” in accordance with the European Construction Products Regulation or laboratories accredited by UKAS for the relevant test standard can be assumed to have the necessary expertise.

Note: Standard fire tests do not directly measure fire hazard. They measure or assess the response of a material or system to exposure to one or more aspects of fire conditions. Performance in fire tests is only one of a number of factors that should be taken into account.
Pages 117 to 121
Paras 3 to 21: **Renumber** as paras 6 to 24.

Page 120
Para 14: **Replace** ‘see paragraph 9 above’ with ‘see paragraph 12 above’.
Para 19: **Replace** ‘in paragraphs 11 onwards’ with ‘in paragraphs 14 onwards’.
Para 20: **Replace** ‘in paragraphs 11 onwards’ with ‘in paragraphs 14 onwards’.

Page 130
Table A7, col 1, item 6: **Replace** ‘paragraph 13(a)’ with ‘paragraph 16(a)’.

Page 131
Table A8, col 2, item 1: **Replace** ‘paragraph 13(b)’ with ‘paragraph 16(b)’.

**Appendix B: Fire Doors**

Page 132
**Insert** new note in para 1 as follows.

> The requirement (in either case) is for test exposure from each side of the door separately, except in the case of lift doors which are tested from the landing side only.

**Note 1:** Both BS 476-22 and BS EN 1634-1 acknowledge that it may not always be necessary to carry out tests from both sides of a doorset. Clause 13.4 of BS EN 1634-1 gives more detailed guidance on this issue, and Annex C of the guidance sets out the rationale for that guidance. Clause 13.4 of BS EN 1634-1 should be followed regardless of whether the doorset is being classified to BS 476-22 or BS EN 1634-1.

**Note 2:** **Renumber** as ‘Note 2’.

**Appendix E: Definitions**

Page 141
Definition ‘Class 0’: **Replace** ‘paragraph 13’ with ‘paragraph 16’.

Page 143
Definition ‘Material of limited combustibility’: **Replace** ‘paragraph 9’ with ‘paragraph 12’.

**Appendix H: Standards and other publications referred to**

Page 152
After BS EN 13823:2002, **insert** the following standard.

> BS EN 15725:2010
> Extended application reports on the fire performance of construction products and building elements

Page 153
Under Passive Fire Protection Federation, **insert** the following publication.

> Guide to undertaking assessments in lieu of fire tests 2000 ISBN: 1 870409 90 6

Page 154
**Note:** no amendments are provided for the index. Some paragraph numbers in the index will become incorrect because of the renumbering of paragraphs in Appendix A.
List of approved documents

The following publications give practical guidance on how to meet the Building Regulations. You can find the date of the edition approved by the Secretary of State at www.gov.uk.

- **Approved Document A**  
  Structure

- **Approved Document B**  
  Fire safety  
  Volume 1: Dwellinghouses  
  Volume 2: Buildings other than dwellinghouses

- **Approved Document C**  
  Site preparation and resistance to contaminants and moisture

- **Approved Document D**  
  Toxic substances

- **Approved Document E**  
  Resistance to the passage of sound

- **Approved Document F**  
  Ventilation

- **Approved Document G**  
  Sanitation, hot water safety and water efficiency

- **Approved Document H**  
  Drainage and waste disposal

- **Approved Document J**  
  Combustion appliances and fuel storage systems

- **Approved Document K**  
  Protection from falling, collision and impact

- **Approved Document L1A**  
  Conservation of fuel and power in new dwellings

- **Approved Document L1B**  
  Conservation of fuel and power in existing dwellings

- **Approved Document L2A**  
  Conservation of fuel and power in new buildings other than dwellings

- **Approved Document L2B**  
  Conservation of fuel and power in existing buildings other than dwellings

- **Approved Document M**  
  Access to and use of buildings  
  Volume 1: Dwellings  
  Volume 2: Buildings other than dwellings

- **Approved Document P**  
  Electrical safety – Dwellings

- **Approved Document Q**  
  Security – Dwellings

- **Approved Document R**  
  Physical infrastructure for high-speed electronic communications networks

- **Approved Document 7**  
  Materials and workmanship