



**BUILDING STANDARDS**

**TECHNICAL HANDBOOKS**

**2019 CHANGES SUMMARY**

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## Introduction

The 2019 Technical Handbooks are published on 12 July 2019.

The main changes are to the provision for fire safety within Section 2 (Fire) in both the Domestic and Non-domestic Handbooks. These changes form part of the output from the Ministerial Working Group on Building and Fire Safety and the 2018 consultation on fire safety.

A further change under standard 3.12 introduces provision of 'Changing Places Toilets' in larger non-domestic buildings.

A number of minor corrections and updating website hyperlinks have also been made.

The guidance comes into force on 1st October 2019.

Application of the 2019 Handbooks is confirmed in a letter to Local Authorities and Building Standards Managers, also issued on 12 July 2019.

The handbooks are available, free of charge, in electronic format only. They can be viewed or downloaded from The Scottish Government website at <https://www.gov.scot/policies/building-standards/monitoring-improving-building-regulations/>

This summary guide is set out to facilitate ease of referencing across the Sections where material changes have been made.

Minor typographical changes are out with the scope of this document.

<b>DOMESTIC</b>		<b>SECTION 2 - FIRE</b>
<b>SUBJECT</b>		<b>DESCRIPTION OF CHANGE</b>
General and Annex 2B	Cited standards	All references to British Standards reaction to fire removed. References changed to European Classification system for reaction to fire throughout. Annex 2B redrafted accordingly
General	Cited standards	References to other key British Standards, European Standards and publications updated
General	Alternative solutions	Alternative guidance throughout recognising BS 8414 (and BR 135) as an alternative full scale facade fire test to external wall cladding/insulation exposed in the cavity having a European Classification A1 or A2. BS 9414 referenced to provide additional information on the application of results from BS 8414 tests
<b>CLAUSE</b>	<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION OF CHANGE</b>
<b>2.0 Introduction</b>		
2.0.1	Background	Scottish fire statistics updated
2.0.5	Latest Changes	Summary of changes – replicated in this table
2.0.7	Alternative Approaches	Guidance amended on the status of the Technical Handbooks including the use of fire engineered solutions and engineered timber
2.0.8	Relevant Legislation	Clarification on the use of the Technical Handbook guidance for new build House in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) designed as flatted accommodation and traditional halls of residence. Additional guidance provided where care services are provided in a domestic setting
2.0.9	Annexes	European reaction to fire classification and sub-indices explained
<b>2.2 Separation</b>		
2.2.9	Openings and service penetrations	Guidance on the activation of fire dampers clarified
2.2.10	Junctions	Guidance clarified on junctions between separating walls and floors and external walls
<b>Standard</b>		
<b>2.4 Cavities</b>		
2.4	Cavities	<b>Standard amended</b> to clarify that spread of fire and smoke in cavities should be inhibited whether or not the fire spread is visible
<b>CLAUSE</b>	<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION OF CHANGE</b>
2.4.1	Cavity barriers	Guidance clarified on the use of open state intumescent cavity barriers for ventilated cavities
2.4.2	Dividing up cavities	Exclusion e. removed. Insulation material exposed in cavity to be European Classification A1 or A2 where storey height more than 11m
2.4.4	Cavities in external walls of domestic buildings with a storey more than 11m above	Insulation material exposed in cavity to be European Classification A1 or A2 where storey height more than 11m

	ground level	
2.4.7	Junctions	Guidance on junctions simplified
<b>2.6 Spread to neighbouring buildings</b>		
2.6.4	External wall cladding	Explanation of external wall cladding expanded to include composite panels, timber panels, spandrel panels and infill panels
2.6.5	Combustibility	Guidance clarified on thermal insulation in a structural frame not more than 1m from a boundary
<b>2.7 Spread on external walls</b>		
2.7.0	Introduction	Best practice guidance on green roofs and walls cited
2.7.1	External Wall Cladding	Explanation of external wall cladding expanded to include timber panels, spandrel panels and infill panels. External wall cladding to be European Classification A1 or A2 where storey height more than 11m
2.7.2	Specified Attachments	New clause on Specified Attachments to external walls – fire spread via balconies, solar panels and solar shading
<b>2.8 Spread from neighbouring buildings</b>		
2.8.0	Introduction	Best practice guidance on green roofs and walls cited
<b>2.9 Escape</b>		
2.9.9	Escape routes - general principles	Option for single escape stair removed for high rise domestic buildings
2.9.10	Escape routes - options	Guidance on automatic smoke ventilation updated. Option for single escape stair removed for high rise domestic building. Additional note on provision of automatic smoke ventilation in protected lobbies
2.9.24	Escape routes - refuge within buildings	Reference to standard 2.14 and evacuation alert systems
<b>2.11 Communication</b>		
2.11.0	Introduction	Scottish fire statistics updated and reference made to amended Tolerable Standards
<b>2.12 Fire and rescue service access</b>		
2.12.3	Operating spaces for high reach appliances	Minimum dimension between operating space and building amended
<b>2.14 Fire and rescue service facilities</b>		
2.14.1	Introduction	Background note to evacuation alert systems
2.14.2	Number and type of facilities	Introduction of provision of evacuation alert systems and storey identification/ dwelling indicator signage in high-rise domestic buildings
2.14.8	Evacuation alert	New clause introduced for evacuation alert

	system for use by the fire and rescue services	system for use by fire and rescue services in a high rise domestic building
2.14.9	Storey identification signs and dwelling indicator signs	New clause introduced for storey identification signs and dwelling indicator signs in a high rise domestic building

<b>APPENDIX A</b>		DOMESTIC and NON-DOMESTIC
<b>DEFINED TERMS</b>		
	<b>DESCRIPTION OF CHANGE</b>	
Defined Terms	Definition of 'non-combustible' updated	

<b>APPENDIX B</b>		DOMESTIC and NON-DOMESTIC
<b>LIST OF STANDARDS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS</b>		
<b>DOCUMENTS</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION OF CHANGE</b>	
British Standards	All references to British Standards reaction to fire removed	
European Standards	European Standards updated	

NON-DOMESTIC		SECTION 2 - FIRE
SUBJECT		DESCRIPTION OF CHANGE
General and Annex 2E	Cited standards	All references to British Standards reaction to fire removed. References changed to European Classification system for reaction to fire throughout. Annex 2E redrafted accordingly
General	Cited standards	References to other key British Standards, European Standards and publications updated
General	Alternative solutions	Alternative guidance throughout recognising BS 8414 (and BR 135) as an alternative full scale façade fire test to external wall cladding/ insulation exposed in the cavity having a European Classification A1 or A2. BS 9414 referenced to provide additional information on the application of results from BS 8414 tests
CLAUSE	SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION OF CHANGE
<b>2.0 Introduction</b>		
2.0.1	Background	Scottish fire statistics updated
2.0.5	Latest Changes	Summary of changes – replicated in this table
2.0.7	Alternative Approaches	Guidance amended on the status of the Technical Handbooks including the use of fire engineered solutions and engineered timber
2.0.8	Relevant Legislation	Clarification on the use of the Technical Handbook guidance for new build Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) designed as flatted accommodation and traditional halls of residence
2.0.9	Annexes	European reaction to fire classification and sub-indices explained
<b>2.1 Compartmentation</b>		
2.1.14	Openings and service penetrations	Guidance on the activation of fire dampers clarified
2.1.15	Junctions	Guidance clarified on junctions between compartment walls and floors and external walls
<b>2.2 Separation</b>		
2.2.7	Junctions	Guidance clarified on junctions between separating walls and floors and external walls. Insulation material exposed in cavity to be European Classification A1 or A2 where storey height more than 11m
<b>Standard</b>		
<b>2.4 Cavities</b>		
2.4	Cavities	<b>Standard amended</b> to clarify that spread of fire and smoke in cavities should be inhibited whether or not the fire spread is visible
CLAUSE	SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION OF CHANGE
2.4.1	Cavity barriers	Guidance clarified on the use of open state intumescent cavity barriers for ventilated cavities
2.4.2	Dividing up cavities	Exclusion e. removed. Insulation material exposed in cavity to be European Classification A1 or A2

		where storey height more than 11m
2.4.6	Cavities in external walls of non-domestic buildings with a storey more than 11m above ground level	Replace previous clause on combustibility. Insulation material exposed in cavity to be European Classification A1 or A2 where storey height more than 11m
2.4.9	Junctions	Guidance on junctions simplified
<b>2.6 Spread to neighbouring buildings</b>		
2.6.4	External wall cladding	Explanation of external wall cladding expanded to include composite panels, timber panels, spandrel panels and infill panels
2.6.6	Combustibility	Guidance clarified on thermal insulation in a structural frame not more than 1m from a boundary in shared residential accommodation
<b>2.7 Spread on external walls</b>		
2.7.0	Introduction	Best practice guidance on green roofs and walls cited
2.7.1	External Wall Cladding	Explanation of external wall cladding expanded to include timber panels, spandrel panels and infill panels. Table 2.9 Reaction to fire of external wall cladding more than 1m from boundary replaced. European Classification A1 or A2 introduced for certain entertainment and assembly buildings, hospitals, residential care buildings and all other non-domestic buildings with a storey at a height of more than 11m
2.7.2	Specified Attachments	New clause on Specified Attachments to external walls – fire spread via balconies, solar panels and solar shading
<b>2.8 Spread from neighbouring buildings</b>		
2.8.0	Introduction	Best practice guidance on green roofs and walls cited
<b>2.9 Escape</b>		
2.9.23	Protected Lobbies	Exemption for protected lobbies introduced to shared residential accommodation
<b>2.11 Communication</b>		
2.11.0	Introduction	Scottish fire statistics updated and reference made to amended Tolerable Standards
<b>2.12 Fire and rescue service access</b>		
2.12.3	Operating spaces for high reach appliances	Minimum dimension between operating space and building amended

**NON-DOMESTIC****SECTION 3 - ENVIRONMENT**

CLAUSE	SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION OF CHANGE
<b>3.12 Sanitary Facilities</b>		
3.12.0	Introduction	Addition of text emphasising the benefit of variety in provision of sanitary facilities. Removal of awareness note on Changing Places Toilets which

		are now addressed in clause 3.12.13
3.12.1	Number of sanitary facilities	Removal of commentary on Changing Places Toilets which are now addressed in clause 3.12.13
3.12.13	Changing Places Toilets	New clause setting out situations where a Changing Places Toilet (CPT) should be provided as part of new development; guidance on the form and facilities within a CPT; reference to further information on CPTs