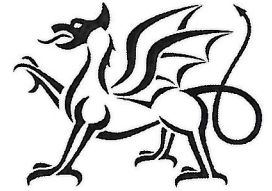


Lesley Griffiths AC/AM
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Ynni, Cynllunio a Materion Gwledig
Cabinet Secretary for Energy, Planning and Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref
Ein cyf/Our ref LG/02370/18

David John Rowlands AM
Chair - Petitions committee.
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Cardiff Bay
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5 December 2018

Dear David

Thank you for your letter of 26 November, regarding the petition received from John Newman in relation to fire sprinklers.

The matter the petitioner refers to relates to guidance for the installation and commissioning requirements for automatic fire suppression systems within Approved Document B (Fire Safety) of the Building Regulations 2010. The petitioners request is to make it mandatory that the design, installation and maintenance of residential and domestic fire suppression systems is conducted only by those that are members of appropriate third party certification schemes.

The current guidance states third party certification schemes for fire protection products and related services are an effective means of providing the fullest possible assurances, offering a level of quality, reliability and safety.

As guidance, it is possible for compliance with the requirements of the building regulations to be met in some other way, other than third party accreditation, such as proving competence of installing and commissioning fire suppression systems to the building control body (local authority building control or private approved inspector), even though not registered with a third party certification scheme.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Work is currently underway on a review of the fire safety requirements of the building regulations following the independent enquiry undertaken by Dame Judith Hackitt following the Grenfell Tower fire in London.

Fire suppression systems form a crucial part in the fire safety provisions within buildings, particularly in high rise buildings. We will therefore investigate, as part of this work, whether there is sufficient evidence to justify that those registered with third party certification schemes should be considered as the only method of meeting compliance with the requirements of the building regulations for the installation and commissioning of fire suppression systems.

Regards
Lesley

Lesley Griffiths AC/AM

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Ynni, Cynllunio a Materion Gwledig
Cabinet Secretary for Energy, Planning and Rural Affairs