

Recommendation 14:

14) While we recognise the importance of the combustible cladding ban and the discontinuation of the use of desktop studies, we remain concerned that there is a lack of consensus around the efficacy of the wider testing regime. We reiterate our call for a review of product testing, including the performance of materials in real-life scenarios such as windows, vents or other openings, leading to the implementation of a regime that can command wider industry support and bring reassurance to residents. (Paragraph 65)

49. The Building Safety Bill will enable us to progress our commitment to radically strengthen oversight of the regulatory regime for construction products. The Bill will make sure a wider range of construction products are subject to strengthened safety regulations. It will also strengthen the powers available to the Government, paving the way to create a new national regulatory function that will have oversight of the construction products regulation. We are developing options for how this new national regulatory function could be implemented.
50. We are establishing a Construction Products Standards Committee to provide advice to the Secretary of State for Housing on whether voluntary industry standards for construction products should also become UK regulatory standards, a role currently undertaken by the European Commission. The Construction Products Standards Committee will also provide advice and recommendations on the conformity assessment process and product test standards. In particular the Construction Products Standards Committee will advise on:
- the assumptions and weaknesses within the current testing regime, including the effectiveness and accuracy of current tests;
 - ways to improve the testing regime and new tests to address the weaknesses; and,
 - innovation in how construction products are tested.

Putting Resident Safety First

Recommendation 15, 16 & 17:

15) In its response to this report, the Government should outline how guidance will be changed to ensure residents have a right to the most effective fire safety measures. (Paragraph 70)

16) We now call on the CMA to investigate these “usurious” charges for interim fire safety measures, as part of its ongoing work into the leasehold sector. (Paragraph 71)