



**Fire Protection  
Association**

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## FPA endorses Building a Safer Future

FPA has welcomed the interim report and recommendations made by Dame Judith Hackitt's Independent Review of Building Regulations and Fire Safety and the proposed direction of travel.

Jonathan O'Neill OBE, Managing Director of the FPA said Dame Judith appears to have quickly identified all of the prime areas of concern that have troubled many parts of the sector for many years. She has set the professional bodies particular challenges which we wholeheartedly support however a significant gap in resourcing has built up over the past 25 years and having stripped out these skill sets from the industry it will take time, effort and investment to recreate the base of competence needed. O'Neill went on to explain that the Fire Sector Federation (FSF) competency framework provided is a very good starting point and FPA would work collaboratively with the sector to ensure the competence frameworks she had identified as lacking are available as soon as is practicably.

Hackitt's recommendation to significantly restrict the use of desktop studies is particularly welcomed as were the comments and concerns regarding testing and approvals. The FPA has recently been working closely with insurers to examine the current test protocols for cladding and detection and the standards for residential sprinkler systems with its results due to be published in 2018.

O'Neill concluded by highlighting the FPA's London based event on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2018 which will seek to address issues raised in the Hackitt review. Programme highlights include:

- Building Regulations and guidance
- Competence in Fire Risk Assessment
- Cladding systems, structure and function
- Evacuation policies and procedures
- Passive fire protection
- Fire alarm systems
- Sprinkler systems
- Q&A with our expert panel

### Information for Editors:

The Fire Protection Association (FPA) is the UK's national fire safety organisation and we work to identify and draw attention to the dangers of fire and the means by which their potential for loss is kept to a minimum.

Since our formation in 1946 we have attained an unrivalled reputation for quality of work and expertise in all aspects of fire including research, consultancy, training, membership, publications, risk surveying



**THE UK'S NATIONAL FIRE SAFETY ORGANISATION**  
Protecting people, property, business and the environment

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and auditing. Our products and services are designed to assist fire, security and safety professionals achieve and maintain the very highest standards of fire safety management.

Our engineers, scientists and consultants have a vast knowledge of fire and risk prevention as well as an in-depth understanding of fire behaviour and the consequences of poor risk management. They work with research companies, government bodies, industry and the insurance community on projects of varying scale and complexity.

Internationally renowned fire behaviour experts, who hold PhDs in a wide range of fire safety and behaviour related topics, are often available for comment on life, business and property protection issues.

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