



Rt Hon James Brokenshire MP  
Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government  
2 Marsham Street  
London  
SW1P 4DF

3<sup>rd</sup> August 2018

Dear Secretary of State,

First of all please accept our thanks to both Chandru Dissanayake and Andrew Pattison for their presence at the Fire Door Industry Response meeting. We felt that their speeches gave vital context to the discussions that followed; ensuring that we do not forget the course of events which has led us here. It also confirmed our determination to ensure that the fire door industry as a whole acts in the most appropriate way. We are a responsible industry, and it is clear that there are serious issues which need to be addressed. Regarding the outcome of our discussions. The brief given was clear and I will address each of the objectives in turn

***With regards to the immediate action required to stop the supply of fire doors that are inconsistent with the current building regulations***

It was agreed by the attendees of the meeting that the only fire doors which will be supplied will be those which can demonstrate consistent furnace test performance to the appropriate standard from both sides. Supply of fire doors which do not meet these criteria will be suspended.

Queries were strongly raised as to whether the MHCLG understand the impact that this will have. It may result in a spike in demand for other types of fire door which in themselves may have similar testing issues.

The impact of this suspension will be particularly felt in the new build residential housing sector, both private and public sector.

***With regards to a consideration on how to deal with any issues with fire doors already supplied***

We are unanimously committed and fully determined to bring to government a comprehensive proposal to deal with the complex issue of the fire doors already installed. Early estimates, which will be refined through further work, indicate that the total cost of remedial work would be a minimum of £500m; a cost which clearly the industry is not capable of bearing, and which would result in its demise.

The issue will be quantified by an analysis of doors – representative of their particular constructions - on the market from the meeting attendees together with the risk associated with their use and location. The practicalities of remedial work will then be reviewed as a matter of urgency.

It was unanimously agreed that information pertaining to the mode of failure of the doors thus far tested is essential in order to focus efforts on remedial work and future testing, and we request that this is provided by MHCLG.

It was acknowledged that this information should be provided to the company which owns the doors tested; however there were comments from said companies that this information has not yet been provided by the MHCLG. A further request from the group is that an anonymous summary of modes of failure identified in the tests be provided for discussion in open forum.

As the original Manse Masterdor company has ceased trading we were told that this detailed test evidence would be made available by the MHCLG.

***With regards to a plan of how the industry can shape it's future***

We commit to a radical review of the broader operations of the fire door industry in order to ensure consistent and high performance to the expected standards to include;

- A short term action of establishing a minimum specification of doors which are compliant with building regulations; demonstrating consistency of fire resistant performance from both sides.
- An identification of areas in which MHCLG involvement will be required. For example, engagement with testing houses and certification bodies to review the fire door approval procedure.

It was agreed, that in order to address the general issue of shaping the industry a task force would be set up, consisting of ACDM and Glass & Glazing Federation members and other interested parties, with an initial meeting scheduled for Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> August.

We commit to providing updates and further proposed actions following this meeting by Friday 10<sup>th</sup> August

Yours sincerely



Ben Penson

Chair

Association of Composite Door Manufacturers

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