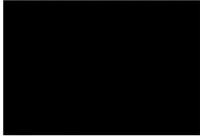




Department for  
Communities and  
Local Government

Mr C S Todd  
C S Todd & Associates Ltd



Our Ref:  
Your Ref:

25 September 2013

Dear Colin

**Fire Safety in Purpose Built Blocks of Flats**

Thank you for your letter of 18 September.

I confirm that the Department considers that the Local Government Association's guidance on fire safety in purpose built blocks of flats to be the most appropriate guidance document to use when considering how to comply with regulatory requirements, under both the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 and the Housing Act 2004. It was produced with the specific needs of those responsible for the safety of these types of building in mind and builds on existing good practice and guidance, including the more generic DCLG fire safety risk assessment for premises providing sleeping accommodation.

The Secretary of State's response to the Coroner's Rule 43 report following the inquiries into the deaths which occurred in at Lakanal House in July 2009 sets out background and purpose of the guidance. Following the Local Government Association's consultation with those involved in its development earlier this year, we wrote to all English fire and rescue authorities in July 2013 confirming that the sector remained satisfied that guidance remained appropriate in the light of the Coroner's findings as set out in the Rule 43 reports.

Fire Safety Policy Team  
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I attach links to the correspondence referred to above for ease of reference:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/lakanal-house-response-to-coroners-recommendations>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fire-and-rescue-bulletin-352013>

Yours sincerely  
Louise Upton

Louise Upton  
Head of the Fire Safety Policy Team

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