## OPUS 2 INTERNATIONAL

Grenfell Tower Inquiry

Day 84

December 8, 2020

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Phone: +44 (0)20 3008 5900

Email: transcripts@opus2.com

Website: https://www.opus2.com

1	Tuesday, 8 December 2020	1	0.	Has Kingspan ever performed a like-for-like properly
2	(10.00 am)	2	۷.	instrumented BS 8414 test where the only parameter
3	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Good morning, everyone. Welcome to	3		varied between two otherwise identical tests was the
4	today's hearing. Today we're going to continue hearing	4		thickness of the foil facer or the presence of
5	evidence from Mr Pargeter of Kingspan.	5		perforations in the foil facer?
6	So would you ask Mr Pargeter to come back in,	6	Α.	No, not that I'm aware.
7	please.	7		Now, I want to turn back to where we were yesterday when
8	MR ADRIAN WESTLEY PARGETER (continued)	8	Q.	we stopped, and I want to ask you about the 2014 test,
9	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Good morning, Mr Pargeter.	9		by which I mean the one in July 2014.
10	THE WITNESS: Good morning.	10	٨	Yes.
11	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Ready to carry on?	11	о. О.	Can we go, then, first, to your third witness statement
12	THE WITNESS: Yes.	12	Ų.	at {KIN00022610/56}, and let's look at the middle of
13		13		
14	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Thank you.	14		page 56, where we can see the Inquiry's question 85(a).
	Yes, Mr Millett.			Question 85 relates back to paragraph 4.42 of your
15	Questions from COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY (continued)	15		second witness statement, where you say that the
16	MR MILLETT: Good morning, Mr Chairman. Good morning,	16		July 2014 test may have used K15 produced for
17	members of the panel.	17		a development project.
18	Good morning, Mr Pargeter.	18		The question under (a) is:
19	Can I go back to some evidence that you gave late	19		"When, specifically , did it come to your knowledge
20	yesterday afternoon. You were telling us about 13785	20		that:
21	tests.	21		i. there was some confusion as to the insulation
22	A. Yes.	22		board tested?"
23	Q. You said and I'll try and summarise it that the	23		And your response to that appears on page 56 just
24	13785 test proves a difference at a much lower output of	24		below that at paragraph 7.16. You say:
25	fire, and you said that the more fire output you put on	25		"In October/November 2014. As explained in
	1			3
1	it, the less likely there is going to be any type of	1		paragraph 45 above, at this time I was Product
2	difference, particularly from a facer which is a 20th of	2		Development Manager and I was involved in discussions
3	a millimetre thick in aluminium. I'm sorry I can't at	3		about this test because it was relevant to our research
4	the moment put my hand on the transcript, but that was	4		and development work looking at a low lambda version of
5	the thrust of your evidence yesterday.	5		K15. I was not involved in discussions or decisions to
6	A. That's correct.	6		use this test to support the use of standard K15 in
7	Q. As a matter of fact, to your knowledge, did Kingspan	7		buildings over 18 metres and I only made the connection
8	ever obtain an independent expert opinion to support	8		that the test I was involved in from a product
9	what you have told us?	9		development perspective in July 2014 was being used to
10	A. Not that I'm aware, no.	10		support the use of standard K15 when it was raised by
11	Q. Because we found no evidence in the record that the	11		Insulation UK's solicitors in early 2019 during their
12	opinion that you expressed yesterday afternoon in your	12		disclosure exercise for the purposes of the Grenfell
13	evidence was commonly held within the technical team; is	13		Tower Inquiry."
14	that correct?	14		Now, just to be completely clear, are you saying
15	A. No, I don't think so.	15		here that in July 2014, because of your involvement in
16	Q. Well, who in the technical team to your knowledge at the	16		the development of the low lambda product at that time,
17	time held the same opinion that you expressed to us in	17		you knew at that time that the product being tested in
18	evidence yesterday afternoon about the 13785 tests?	18		that test was not standard K15 but a development
19	A. At the time the 13785 tests were done?	19		product?
20	Q. At any time between 2014 and 2019.	20	Α	Yes, that's what I understood that test was.
21	A. I think Adam Heath may have been of the same opinion,	21	Q.	
22	after seeing the 13785 tests, for example.	22	ų.	only discovered that the July 2014 test was being used
23	Q. Do you know of any documents where this opinion was	23		to support the use of standard K15 in early 2019 during
24	recorded?	24		the disclosure exercise?
25		25	٨	
∠ ೨	A. No, just in the test reports that we've got.	∠3	A.	That's correct.
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Q. Right. You're absolutely sure about that, are you? Q. Did you look at any of the email chains and 2 2 A. Yes. correspondence, communications internally, on the 3 Q. Right. 3 subject? 4 4 Now, let's continue. At the bottom of page 56, A. Not at that point, I don't --5 I showed you the paragraph, I just want to identify the 5 Q. So you wouldn't have been able to tell simply by looking 6 6 at the test report who within your organisation was precise sentence I want to ask you about. You say in 7 7 the fourth line: involved, such as, for example, Tony Millichap? 8 8 "I was not involved in discussions or decisions to A. Yes. Correct. 9 9 Q. I'm right, aren't I? use this test to support the use of standard K15 in 10 buildings over 18 metres ..." 10 A. Yes. 11 11 Now, are you saying that there were indeed 0. So when you suspected Ivor Meredith of being a sole 12 discussions and decisions on that topic? 12 actor, you didn't think about Tony Millichap? 13 A. Well, there must have been, because we did rely on that 13 A. No, I didn't. 14 test in the literature. 14 Q. And you didn't think about anybody else, for example 15 Q. Indeed. Do you know who was involved in those 15 Richard Burnley, the UK managing director? 16 16 discussions and decisions? No, I didn't. 17 A. At the time, I thought it probably would have been Ivor 17 Q. Or Peter Wilson, the UK divisional director? 18 using that test to support it, and providing it to the 18 A. No. 19 19 marketing teams for doing the routes to compliance Why is that? 20 20 A. I just didn't think they would have understood that document. 21 21 Q. When you say, "At the time, I thought it probably would 22 have been Ivor", at what time? 22 Q. Really? Okay. 23 23 A. At the time when we understood that that test was being Now, I just want to read you or show you a part of 24 24 used. So I understood then in February 2019, we Tony Millichap's evidence about knowledge of the 25 25 confirmed that that was that test that was being relied July 2014 test being used to market standard K15. It's 1 1 on which was in the literature. {Day82/76:3} onwards. It goes over the page to page 77. 2 2 Q. Right. So in 2019, when you say you first discovered Just as Ms Grange was fair to Mr Millichap in giving him 3 3 a lot of run-up to it, I'll do the same for you. If you this, you thought, looking back on it, it would have 4 4 go to page 76, line 3, she puts to Mr Millichap this: heen Ivor? 5 A. Yes. 5 "Question: Now, in fairness to you, we want to put 6 6 Q. I see. Who else? this to you: were you saying that you shouldn't have 7 7 A. I didn't think anyone else at the time. a marketing campaign because it wasn't a compelling 8 8 Q. So did you think in February 2019 that Ivor Meredith 9 would have been a sole actor in using the July 2014 test 9 "Answer: I had pointed out that if we were moving 10 in K15's marketing literature for standard K15? 10 to that product, which was fully the intention, then 11 11 A. Potentially, yes, yes. obviously that product needs to be identified as 12 Really? A sole actor, solely responsible? 12 a different product. 13 13 A. I think he would have provided the report to the teams "Question: Who had you pointed that out to? 14 14 in the marketing teams to use in the literature. "Answer: I've seen that in a couple of --15 15 definitely the fire focus group, I think predominantly, Q. Did you, in February 2019, investigate that question and 16 16 find out whether he really was a sole actor, as you so the senior team responsible. 17 suspected, or whether there was anybody else involved? 17 "Question: Right. 18 A. I looked back at it, because obviously it happened on my 18 "Did any of these men know that the test that had 19 19 watch, which I was really disappointed about, and tried been carried out was actually on a research and 20 to work out where that error had occurred. I looked at 20 development product, do you know? How widely was that 21 the report; the report referenced it as K15 and not as 21 information known within Kingspan? 22 22 a development product or a low lambda product. "Answer: Yes, I believe it would have been. 23 23 Q. Which report, the July report? I mean, Richard Bromwich was the most senior 24 24 A. The test report, yes. And then just looking back at the representing the sales efforts. He will have been kept

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documents, I thought that was probably the likely case.

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abreast of those developments. I don't recall, but

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there:

1 I believe he would have been invited to the fire focus 2 group. I'm not sure if he attended. 3 "Question: Right. What about Adrian Pargeter, did 4 he know that it was a trial product that was different 5 to that that you were selling? 6 "Answer: Yes, I believe it was common knowledge. 7 "Ouestion: Did you disagree in the event with the 8 plan to promote and market standard K15 on the basis of 9 the test that you knew not to have been on that K15? 10 "Answer: It's difficult to recall the exact 11 chronology." 12 Then it goes on. 13 Do you agree with Mr Millichap's evidence that it 14 was common knowledge that a test on an R&D product was 15 being used to market standard K15? 16 A. I don't think it was common knowledge. 17 Q. Do you dispute what Mr Millichap says, that you 18 personally knew that fact? 19 A. I didn't understand that that test was what was being 20 represented in the literature. 21 Q. So you dispute what he says in his evidence, do you? 22 A. I do, yes. 23 Q. Now, let's look at some documents. 24 Your role, as you told us, in marketing and 25 promotion of K15 began in November 2014, didn't it? 1 A. Yes. 2. Q. You told us that in your statement, your second 3 statement, at paragraph 4.17 {KIN00020824/22}. Δ You've told us that you were unaware that the 5 July 2014 test that you had been involved in from 6 a product development point of view had been used to 7 market standard K15 until you discovered that in early 8 9 So does it follow from that -- I think it must do --10 that at no time between your taking over your role as 11 marketing and promotion head/chief in 2014 and early 12 2019, in all those years, did you discover this fact?

4 "One of the main promotional documents created since 5 2014 was the guide entitled 'Routes to Compliance: Fire 6 Safety: for facades incorporating Kingspan Kooltherm K15 7 Rainscreen Board on Buildings with a habitable storey 8 18m, or greater, above ground level', the first issue of 9 which was published in August 2015. As explained at 10 paragraph 4.26(d) of my First Witness Statement, this 11 document aimed to explain the various routes available 12 to achieve compliance including Option B under the ADB 13 and the use of desktop studies."

{KIN00020824/23}, and let's look together at

paragraph 4.19 there in the middle of the page. You say

Just so that everyone else is clear, option B, of course, is the alternative route to compliance, where you don't have a non-combustible product or a product of limited combustibility.

- 18 A. That's correct.
- 19 Q. Yes.

20 Let's then look at paragraph 4.21 at the bottom. 21 You say this:

> "My role in preparing the technical content of the first issue of this bulletin was limited as by the time I took over as Head of Technical in May 2015 most of the drafting and compilation of relevant test data had

> > 11

already been completed by Ivor Meredith (Technical
Project Manager) and Tony Millichap (Head of
Technical )."

You see that?

5 A. Yes.

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Q. Then it goes on to say that you worked with the team toensure the document:

"... reflected the guidance provided in BCATGN18 [Technical Guidance Note 18] and also became involved in the reviewing of drafts of the Route to Compliance document. The first issue of the Routes to Compliance document was signed off by me from a marketing perspective, following reviews by John Garbutt as he was the Divisional Marketing Director for Kingspan as this was a significant piece of literature. It was also sent to Richard Bromwich (Commercial Director) and Richard Burnley (UK Managing Director) on 24 July 2015 before final sign off."

Now, that's a long bit of background, but I want to examine it a little bit with you.

Let's look at the document, {KIN00000086}. This is the final form as issued, but can we take it that this is also the document you signed off before it went to Mr Bromwich and Mr Burnley?

A. Yes, that's correct.

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Q. Let's examine that a little bit more closely still.

Let's start by looking at the routes to compliance

fire safety technical bulletin released in August 2015.

This is at {KIN00000086}. Let's have that up. I want

moment. That is the document dated August 2015, and at

Before we go deeper into the document, can I take

you to your second witness statement, please, at page 23

to have that up just to put it on the screen for the

that time you were by then head of technical and

marketing, so you had both roles.

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A. Correct.

Q. Yes.

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A. No, I didn't.

- 1 Q. I take it that the changes they made were either minimal
- 2 or none at all.
  3 A. If any, yes.
- 4 Q. Can we look at page 17 {KIN00000086/17}. We can see the
- 5 heading at the top of the page, "Appendix B, Large Scale
  - Test Data", and we looked at this yesterday. Under it,
- 7 it says:

- 8 "Build-ups incorporating Kingspan Kooltherm K15
- 9 Rainscreen Board successfully tested to BS 8414-1:2002
- and BS 8414-2:2005, in accordance with the performance
- 11 criteria set out in BR 135."
- Now, the first build-up we can see, as we saw
- yesterday, is on the left -hand side of those diagrams.
- That's the 2005 test, isn't it?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. And I think you agreed yesterday that that in fact is
- a misleading representation there, because in fact the
- 18 K15 in that test was not K15 as sold in August 2015.
- You accepted that that was misleading in that respect.
- 20 A. I accepted that fact --
- 21 Q. That fact, yes.
- 22 A. -- was misleading.
- 23 Q. Looking at the third build-up in the bottom right-hand
- 24 corner, we can see a terracotta tile cladding with
- a steel frame with report number 291642. That was

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- a reference, wasn't it, to the BRE classification report
- 2 for the July 2014 test?
- 3 A. I believe so, yes.
- 4 Q. If you go to the diagram above it on page 17, you can
- 5 see that the K15 is said to be "80mm Kingspan Kooltherm
- 6 K15 Rainscreen Board". But again, it wasn't, was it?
- 7 It wasn't K15; it was the development product.
- 8 A. That's correct.
- $9\,$  Q. So in that respect also, this technical bulletin was
- 10 false and misleading?
- 11 A. That was inaccurate.
- 12 Q. Well, it was false and misleading.
- 13 A. It was definitely inaccurate. I wouldn't say it was 14 misleading, but it was inaccurate.
- 14 misicaumg, but it was maccurate.
- $15\,$  Q. Well, you say it was inaccurate but not false and
- 16 misleading. I don't want to spend hours debating the
- semantics of fraud with you, but I just want to understand really how you come to that distinction .
- Let's break it down.
- 20 Do you agree that the statement, "80mm Kingspan
- 21 Kooltherm K15", was erroneous?
- 22 A. Yes, I agree.
- 23 Q. Do you agree that anybody reading that would fall into
- error, because they would think it was K15 as being sold

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when in fact it wasn't?

- 1 A. Yes, I'd agree.
- Q. Do you accept that there would thereby be misled?
- 3 A. Yes, I'd accept that.
- 4 Q. So you agree with me that it's a false statement which
- 5 would be apt to mislead somebody who didn't know the
- 6 truth?
- 7 A. Yes, I agree.
- 8 Q. Thank you.
- 9 Now, given that you knew, in July 2014, because of
- your involvement in the development of the low lambda
- product, that the product being tested was not standard
- 12 K15, you must have known when you signed off on this
- document on 24 July 2014 that this statement here, which
- 14 I've just shown you, was false and misleading.
- 15 A. No, I didn't make the connection that that was that test
- 16 at the time.
- 17 Q. Did you read this document when you signed it off?
- 18 A. Yes, I did.
- 19 Q. Did you read page 17, appendix B, when you signed it
- 20 off?
- 21 A. Yes, I did.
- 22 Q. Did you look at the diagrams on that page when you
- 23 signed it off?
- 24 A. Yes, I did.
- 25 Q. Can you explain how you didn't spot, when you read the

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- third diagram on that page, when you signed it off, the
- 2 fact that it stated that Kingspan K15 rainscreen board
  - was used in the test for report 291642?
- 4 A. I just assumed that that was a test on the standard
- 5 product and not the development test we'd done
- 6 earlier --

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- 7 Q. I don't understand that.
- 8 A. -- incorrectly.
- 9 Q. You knew as at July 2014 that the test that you had done
- at that time, which resulted in that report, which has
- a number there, was done on a research and development
- product; you have told us that a number of times.
- 13 A. Yes, I did, but I didn't make that connection for this report.
- 15 Q. Explain.
- 16 A. I just assumed this was done on the standard product,
- this particular one, and I didn't make the connection
- that that test was the development test, and that was
- 19 an error.
- 20 Q. What test did you think it was?
- 21 A. I just thought it was a standard product.
- $22\,$   $\,$  Q. But there had only been one successful  $\,8414\,test\,$  on the
- standard product, and that was the 2005 test, which is
- 24 the subject of the diagram on the top left -hand side,
- 25 isn't it?

1 A. Yes. 1 Pembridge, Herefordshire ..." 2 2 Q. So you would have realised, looking at this, that this Then in the next line, he says: 3 3 test was a different test? "This would also be a good opportunity for you to 4 4 A. I didn't realise it. meet our new Head of Technical Adrian Pargeter." 5 Q. I can't understand that. 5 6 6 A. It was an error on my part. a copied party, did you read it? 7 7 O. Well, it's quite a fundamental error, isn't it? A. I believe I did, yes. 8 8 A. I just assumed it was a standard test. 9 9 Q. Well, you say you just assumed it was a standard test, 10 and I'm sorry to press this a little bit, but I'm afraid 10 11 that's just not really a credible answer, and I would 11 which had been posed by the NHBC. 12 just like you to explain how you made the assumption, 12 given that you had read this document thoroughly --13 13 well, maybe you didn't. Did you read it thoroughly? 14 14 15 15 A. I think I did, yes. 16 16 Q. Yes, I mean, you were head, and this was an important 17 document that had gone through a number of drafts and 17 18 you were sending it to Burnley and Bromwich for their 18 this certificate?" 19 19 final sign-off. And it says: 20 20 A. That's correct. 21 21 Q. And it was going to the market as a positive piece of 22 22 advice about how safely to apply K15 above 18 metres, so 23 23 I'm going to assume, unless you tell me otherwise, that 24 24 you did read it thoroughly. 25 25 Having read it thoroughly, you need to explain to us 17 19 1 how it was that you assumed that report number 2916421 the July 2014 test? 2 2 was not the report for the test done in July 2014 on A. That's my understanding now, yes. 3 a research and development product? 3 4 4 A. I think I just relied on the data that was provided and not your understanding when you received this email? 5 I didn't look into that element of it deeply. 5 6 6 Q. It stands out from the page, though, that here are at 7 7 least two successful 8414 tests, forget the one at the 8 8 top right-hand corner. You must have known at the time that there was only one successful 8414 test in relation 9 9 have been done. 10 to standard K15, and that was in 2005, and even that 10 11 11 wasn't in relation to standard K15. A. Just, yes, just taking over. 12 A. No, I didn't make that connection. 12 Just, admittedly, I agree, it's the end of May, and 13 O. Right. presumably you had only just stepped into the role at 14 Let's look a little bit more into the detail. 14 15 Can we go to an email chain a little earlier in 15

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16 2005, this is May, {NHB00001109}. This is an email at 17

the top from Ivor Meredith to various members of the 18 NHBC and Kingspan, including you, Mr Pargeter. Can you

19 see that you're copied in on it?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. It goes to Graham Perrior of the NHBC, and it says:

22 "Hi Graham.

23 "We would welcome a chance to catch up and as 24 discussed previously and would be happy to extend the 25

invitation for you to visit our production facilities in

Just pausing there, when you received this email, as

Q. Then you can see that there is a set, towards the bottom of page 1 and over to page 2, of questions and answers, and the answers are in red from Mr Meredith to questions

I just want to look at point 2, over the page on page 2 {NHB00001109/2}, please, with you. It says

"During a previous meeting it was mentioned that a BR135 Certificate exists for the Terracotta fire test. It would be most helpful if you could send a copy of

"Attached to previous correspondence as sent on the

Now, given that this is May 2015, it's clear, isn't it, that Kingspan had only undertaken one large-scale fire test using a terracotta rainscreen for which it had a test report as at this date, and that was

Q. Well, it's your understanding now, you say; why was it

Because I don't think I was 100% sure just what tests

had been done. I was aware that that test on the

terracotta for the development test had been done, but

I don't think I was fully aware of other tests that may

Q. But you were head of technical, at this stage.

that stage, but were you not interested to get a grip on

precisely what tests had been done on K15?

16 A. I think, yes, I would have been.

17 Q. And you would no doubt in that role, being new to the 18 role and presumably being quite keen to carry it out to

19 the best of your ability, have discovered that the test

20 being referred to was indeed the test done in July 2014.

21 A. I didn't make that connection, no.

22 Q. You didn't make that connection? What connection did

23 you make?

24 What did you think Mr Meredith was talking about 25 when he refers to a BR 135 certificate for the

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1 terracotta test which had been attached to previous A. The classification report, yes. 2 2 correspondence? Q. Perhaps we can get there simply by looking at page 6 3 3 A. I just assumed he was talking about a test on the {NHB00001087/6}. If you look at the system, the 4 4 standard product. "Description of product" under paragraph 2.2, you can 5 Q. But why? 5 see the system as built comprises the system that was 6 6 A. Because I wasn't fully aware of what we had and hadn't tested in July 2014, doesn't it? 7 7 done at that stage. A. Yes, it does. 8 8 Q. Were you not interested to see it? Q. So although I'm unable, I think, to provide the precise 9 9 A. I can't say that I did. date to you as a simple means of identifying what this 10 Q. That would have been a pretty slack approach for 10 is about, nonetheless I think you accept that you were 11 somebody new to a senior job. Was that how you normally 11 copied in, it looks like, on an email chain in late 12 12 May 2015 which identifies the BRE test for the July 2014 13 13 A. No. I -test and shows what it was; yes? 14 14 Q. No. Α. 15 15 Now, he says, "Attached to previous correspondence Q. Yes. 16 as sent on the 28th". 16 If we go to the next attachment, {NHB00001088}, that 17 If you scroll down two emails in the chain -- so 17 is the BRE test report 297099, as you can see, also 18 this is the chain that comes to you -- to page 3 18 issue 2, also 14 April 2015. You see that? That's the 19 19 {NHB00001109/3}, please, you can see that here is the test report that goes with the classification report 20 20 email which Ivor Meredith is referring to, which he that is also for the July test, isn't it? 21 sends to Graham Perrior and Ian Davis at the NHBC, 21 A. Yes. 22 22 copied to others at the NHBC:  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{Q}}.$  On this document we can see the date for the July test , 23 23 "We trust all is well. it's on page 5 {NHB00001088/5}. "Date of test", if we 24 "Please find attached revised BS 8414-2 Report which 24 just go over to that, "7th July 2014". 25 25 includes 12mm CP board Sheathing and relevant BR 135 Now, going back to the email, if we can, to the 23 1 1 Classification . We will follow with an update and NHBC, and we can go back to the one at the end of May if 2 2 address your questions below." you like, which is at {NHB00001109}, we can see there 3 Now, the Kingspan document that we have been given 3 that there's no mention at all to the NHBC that this 4 Δ doesn't have the attachment, but the corresponding NHBC test was only on a research and development product and 5 document, the incoming email to them, does. I just want 5 not reflective of standard K15, is there? 6 to show you that. It's {NHB00001086}, just so that you 6 A. That's correct. can be clear about what it is that's being sent. That's 7 7 Q. Do you accept that this chain demonstrates that you were 8 8 the email from NHBC's disclosure. aware that the July 2014 test was being relied upon by 9 9 If you go to {NHB00001087}, you can see the Kingspan to support the use of standard K15 by virtue of 10 10 attachment, and there it is, and it is BR 135 it being sent to the NHBC at the end of May 2015? 11 11 classification report number 291642. That's the number A. Like I say, I didn't make the connection that that was 12 for the classification report that we saw in the bottom 12 that test at the time. 13 13 right-hand corner diagram in the August routes to Q. I mean, it's right, isn't it, that the only reason to 14 compliance document, isn't it? 14 send these two documents, the test report and the 15 15 A. Yes. classification report, to the NHBC was in order to 16 Q. And it is clear from this that the issue date is 16 indicate to them that standard K15 was covered by 17 14 April 2015, and that's issue 2, and if you go down to 17 a relevant BS 8414 test? 18 page 2, you can see the test date, just so that we're 18 A. That's correct. 19 clear. My fault, that's the date of the report. But 19 Q. But you say you didn't spot the point? 20 the date of the actual test is on page 14. 20 A. No.

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Q. Let's go on.

If we go to the email chain with the BBA,

14 August 2015, {BBA00000951}, if we go to the top of

the chain, this is an email from Dan Ball, 14 August

2015, to Gayetree Ramkorun, and it's copied to you,

at all?

actually on there.

(Pause)

I have misled you by accident. The test isn't

But do you, looking at that, recognise this document

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1 among others, isn't it? Q. Yes, and one can look over to page 6 {BBA00000201/6} and 2 2 A. Yes. it is. see the rest of it, which would confirm that, and then 3 3 Q. Again, would you have seen this, opened it, read it, three further constructions: construction 2, 4 4 when you received it? construction 3 and construction 4. 5 A. I may not have done, but I possibly could have done. 5 Construction 2 is a build-up using the Carea mineral 6 6 O. Right. composite grooved panels, isn't it? 7 7 The attachments are the classification report, A. 8 8 BR 135, 291642, so again the July 2014 test, and other Construction 3 was the July 2014 terracotta test, wasn't 9 9 documents, and Dan Ball, who is the technical project 10 leader, says: 10 A. Yes. 11 "These are the new reports/constructions that we 11 Q. And construction 4 is the Kingspan test done in 2015 12 wish to add to the re-issue of the K15 cert (second to 12 with the Taylor Maxwell terracotta tiles in April 2015, 13 13 21 April 2015, isn't it? be issued under the Kooltherm combo) Gayetree and we 14 have permission from others to use their reports as 14 15 15 well, all attached. - see Adam's email below well Q. I mean, if you're in doubt about that, I can show you 16 Gayetree." 16 your schedule that you attach to your fourth witness 17 Now, we can see from the attachments that they 17 statement. 18 include the BR classification 291642, as I've just shown 18 A. No, I was aware of the April test. 19 19 you, so it follows from this, doesn't it, that here is Q. For the record, that is confirmed at {KIN00022357}. 20 20 Kingspan sending the July 2014 BR 135 class report to Now, this certificate, of course, doesn't list the 21 21 the BBA, that's what they're doing? report numbers, rather unusually, I think. But if we go 22 22 A. Yes, that's correct. to the next issue of this certificate, we can see that 23 23 Q. And you can see that happening; yes? it does. It's {BBA00000200}. 24 24 A. Yes, I can. This is another issue of this certificate, it's 25 25 Q. Didn't you wonder why Dan Ball was doing that, given an amended version, and you can see that from the bottom 25 1 1 that, as you would have it, the K15 in that test was of page 1, "Date of First issue: 8 October 2015", and 2 2 a low lambda product and not a K15 standard product? then it says underneath that: 3 3 " Certificate amended on 16 November 2015 ..." A. No, again, I didn't make that connection at the time. 4 So we know that there was an amendment then. 4 Q. Right. So no connection in the May email run, no 5 connection in the August email run, and no connection in 5 If we go to the equivalent "Behaviour in relation to 6 6 fire" section at the bottom of page 5 {BBA00000200/5}, the August document that you signed off in 2015? 7 7 A. That's correct. again we can see paragraph 8.2., if you look there, and 8 8 Q. Right. it says there: 9 9 Let's then look at the certificate, {BBA00000201}. "When tested to BS 8414-1:2002 or BS 8414-2:2005. 10 This is the BBA certificate for K15, re-issued on 10 the specific cladding constructions including the 11 11 8 October 2015, as you can see from the bottom of that product described in the test reports referred to in 12 page on the screen there. If you go to page 5 12 Table 4 of this Certificate met the criteria given in 13 {BBA00000201/5}, please, so this is only three months or 13 BRE Report BR 135:2013 and so are permitted for use 14 above 18m by the national Building Regulations." 14 so after the August document, we see section 8 here, 15 15 "Behaviour in relation to fire", and under 8.2 it says: If you go to the top of page 6 {BBA00000200/6}, you 16 "When tested to BS 8414-1:2002 or BS 8414-2:2005, 16 can see the table that's referred to, table 4 -- there 17 the following specific cladding constructions met the 17 it is -- and you can see the third test listed in that 18 criteria as stated in BRE Report BR 135:2013." 18 list is numbered 291642, which was the July 2014 test; 19 19 Then there are four constructions set out over the yes? 20 bottom of page 5 and the top of page 6. Construction 1 20 A. That's correct. 21 21 Q. So it looks as if by mid-August 2015 the BBA were being 22 22 "60 mm K15 insulation board ..." given the July 2014 test and the class report for the 23 23 "6 mm cement particle boards mechanically fixed ..." low lambda test, and certainly that was the case by the 2.4 That's the 2005 test, isn't it? 24 end of November or mid-November 2015, but not being told

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that the product being marketed was not the product

A. Correct.

3 Q. Did you see the BBA certificate when it came back to you 4 with this amendment? 5 I would have looked at the certificate, yes. 6 Q. Would you not have noticed that there, in table 4, was 7 the test number for the test report for the July 2014 8 test? 9 A. I just -- again, I didn't make that connection, that 10 that was that test. I thought that was still a standard 11 test and we could rely on it. 12 O. Right. 13 A. But that was incorrect. 14 Q. So we now have four occasions on which you didn't make 15 this connection. 16 A. Yes. 17 Q. Right. 18 Let's go to {KIN00002289}. This is an email 19 exchange that you had with Richard Smith from 20 MD Insurance Services in April 2016. So this is the 21 next year. I think we need to start at page 2 22  $\{KIN00002289/2\}$ , to see what it is that you're 23 responding to. Here is an email from him to you on 24 18 April 2016 at 15.40, "Meeting between Kingspan and 25 MD Insurance". He says: 1 "Good afternoon Adrian ... 2 "Following our brief catch up at Ecobuild, I feel it 3 would be useful if we cold meet up to further develop 4 our processes of how we deal with high rise buildings 5 and cladding over 18m. 6 "You will no doubt be aware that although we apply 7 BCA guidance note 18 we seem to be more pro-active than 8 other warranty providers that we me (sic) know. 9 However, perhaps on occasion we can still become unstuck 10 with some of these schemes particularly where the 11 standard detail has changed but not significantly . 12 "Some of the areas where we require some support are 13 as follows. 14 "We would benefit from accessing [your] database of 15 test results that confirms that the build up of 16 construction that we are providing a warranty for meets 17 B4 of the Building Regulations." 18 Now, that's a bit of the background. 19 MD were a warranty provider for high-rise buildings, 20 weren't they, or insurer? 21 A. MD Insurance, yes.

Q. Now, you respond, if you go to page 1 {KIN00002289/1},

also on 18 April, and you say, "It was good to catch

up", et cetera, and then you say in the third paragraph:

"We can certainly arrange to have access to our test

1 report data you can access this via this drop box link." 2 Then you sent him a Dropbox link there, and then you 3 helpfully identify what's in it. 4 If you look at the third and fourth bullet points 5 down, you can see: 6 •" BS 8414-2 (Report No 297099): 80mm K15 onto 7 a 12mm cement particle board behind non-combustible 8 cladding (Taylor Maxwell Terracotta). 9 •" BR 135 (Report No 291642): Based on Report 10 297099. This shows that the system met the performance 11 criteria of BR 135." 12 So just pausing there, those were the test reports 13 and the classification report for the July 2014 test, 14 weren't they? 15 A. That's correct. 16 Q. And then underneath that block of bullet points, we can 17 see you say: 18 "I have also included our current BBA certificate 19 for reference (please note the certificate code has 20 changed)." 21 To cut a long story short, Mr Pargeter, you are 22 clearly representing to MD that the July 2014 test could 23 be relied on to support warranties being granted for the 24 use of standard K15 on high-rise buildings, aren't you? 25 That's correct. 31 1 Q. And given that you have accepted that the July 2014 test 2 did not involve standard K15 then being sold and 3 therefore insured by MD, potentially, you must have 4 realised at the time that there was a discrepancy in 5 that respect? 6 A. No, I didn't. It's the same issue. We've got these 7 test reports. I missed it at the beginning, and because 8 I've missed it then, we've just carried -- I've just 9 carried on referring to them in that mistaken belief 10 that it was a standard product, or not appreciating the 11 fact that it wasn't. 12 Q. Well, there are now at least five occasions when you are 13 actively involved in either identifying or actively

14 representing that the July 2014 test was on standard 15 K15. Are you telling us that on not one single one of 16 those occasions did you stop and ask yourself, "Well, 17 hang on, this isn't standard K15, it was an R&D 18 product"? 19 No, I didn't. 20 Q. Can you explain why that is?

21 A. I think I was just moving forward with the test

22 programme, we'd done a second test with the terracotta, 23 we'd done a third test, and I just didn't think about

24 making that connection with that one.

25 You are head of technical and marketing. That blended 32

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tested.

A. That's correct.

- 1 role required you -- is this right? -- not only to
- 2 understand exactly what it was that was being tested,
- 3 but to ensure that what was being sold was as tested?
- 4 A. That's correct.
- 5 Q. And that is the key focus of your job.
- 6 A. It's one of the focuses of my job, yes.
- $7\,$   $\,$  Q.  $\,$  And you would have it that you fell  $\,$  down in that key
- 8 focus?
- 9 A. Certainly on that one report, yes, I did.
- $10\,$  Q. We're dealing with fire safety . That's the purpose of
- 11 these tests, isn't it?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. And so your error, as you must have realised at the
- time, if you had made an error, would have had
- 15 a profound effect on the safety of the use of this
- 16 material above 18 metres?
- 17 A. I think in hindsight, looking at it, it wouldn't,
- because we've got other tests and subsequent tests on
- terracotta that we know was on standard product, and
- 20 in fact was on thicker product, so potentially a greater
- 21 fire load from the insulation perspective, which passed.
- So, you know, I would have thought that that test would
- also pass with the standard product. So I don't think
- 24 that error from my point of view created any risk from
- a fire perspective.

- 1 Q. Well, that's an argument based on hindsight, isn't it?
- 2 A. Yes, and I'm looking back at this in hindsight.
- 3 Q. Really what I'm asking you to do is to accept at the
- 4 time that you didn't make such a fundamental error in
- 5 matters of life safety; this was a deliberate --
- 6 A. No, it wasn't deliberate at all.
- 7 Q. -- failure on your part?
- 8 A. No, it wasn't deliberate failure.
- 9 Q. You would have us believe that it was simply
- 10 carelessness?
- 11 A. I think it was lack of attention to detail, I'd agree
- $12\,$  with that. And also, if it was deliberate, then I would
- $13 \hspace{1cm} \text{have understood that that test couldn't be relied on} \\$
- and, for example, once we'd got the second terracotta test, theoretically we didn't need that first test. S
- test, theoretically we didn't need that first test. So had I been doing it sort of deliberately and, let's say,
- at risk, if you like, of it not being representative,
- then we could have just dropped that test immediately we
- got the second test, because we didn't need it anymore,
- and we didn't do that because I was unaware of that
- and we didn't do that because I was unaware of tha
- 21 first test
- $22\,$   $\,$  Q.  $\,$  Where did your assumption or thought, erroneous as you

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- 23 say it was, that standard K15 had been tested
- in July 2014 come from?
- 25 A. Just my own assumption.

- 1 Q. But you had always known, as you told us yesterday in
- 2 some detail, that the July 2014 test was on
- 3 a development product?
- 4 A. Yes, that was true, I just didn't make the connection
- 5 that that was that test.
- 6 Q. Well, given that you knew that the July 2014 test was on
- 7 a development product, what I'm struggling to
- 8 understand, Mr Pargeter, is how that knowledge could
- $9 \hspace{1cm} \text{somehow be converted into an assumption that what had} \\$
- 10 been tested was standard K15?
- 11 A. I just didn't make the connection that they were the
- 12 same test, and I agree, you know, I should have done.
- 13 Q. It's right, isn't it, that there were a number of
- desktop studies for standard K15 that relied on
- the July 2014 test, weren't there?
- 16 A. Yes, I would think so.
- 17 Q. We can just look at an example of one, because you give
- one in your second statement. Can we look at page 79,
- please, of the second statement {KIN00020824/79} at
- paragraph 9.6(a). This is the desktop study for Putney.
- There are a number of them in there, but if you go to
- 9.6(a), you can see that you refer to a meeting there,
- and if you go to item (v):
- 2.4 "... Kingspan would continue liaising with Exova on
- 25 the Putney Plaza project and include the NHBC in

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1 correspondence ..."

- 2 Let's just look at the Putney Plaza desktop study.
- 3 It's at {KIN00000193}, please. It's done by Exova.
- 4 It's issue 2. It's dated 12 November 2015. If we go to
- 5 page 7 {KIN00000193/7} -- and this is a report given to
- 6 Kingspan -- we can see a table with a heading which is
- 7 "Supporting Documentation", and it says:
- 8 "The following reports and drawings have been used
- 9 in this assessment of the ventilated external wall
- system which is proposed for use on high rise buildings
- in Putney Plaza development."
- There, in the fifth box down, you can see
- 13 "Kingspan K15 Phenolic Foam Insulation"; do you see
- 14 that?
- 15 A. Yes
- 16 Q. And we can see the BBA certificate, and then underneath
- 17 that the BRE report 220876 to BS 8414-1, that's the 2005
- 18 test . Then underneath that, two down, the BRE
- 19 report 297099 to BS 8414-2. That's the July 2014 test,
- 20 isn't it?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. And then BRE report 218611. But we can see from that clearly that the 297099 test is the July test.
- 24  $\,$   $\,$  If you go to page 8 {KIN00000193/8}, there's a bit
- $25\,$  more. Under paragraph 2 there, Exova have a heading

1 "BRE Test Report No 297099":

> "A fire test in accordance with BS8414-2 (where the façade system is mounted onto a steel structure rather than a masonry wall) was carried out on a Kingspan K15 insulated system with a sheathing board of 12mm cement particleboard and a ventilated Terracotta tile facing."

There is a reference a little lower down to the facing being Taylor Maxwell (Argeton) Classico.

You were clearly aware of this report at the time, weren't you, because you discussed it in a meeting with the NHBC, didn't you?

12 A. Correct, yes.

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- 13 Q. Again, is this another occasion on which you didn't spot 14 the fact that, although the report clearly says that
- 15 the July 2014 test had been carried out on
- 16 a Kingspan K15 insulated system, in fact it had been
- 17 carried out on a research and development system?
- 18 A. That's correct.
- 19 Q. It's another occasion on which this point was missed by 20
- you. 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. Again, do you explain that that was just another
- 23 emanation of the same error?
- 24 A. It is, yes.
- 25 Q. Right.

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Just going back to your third witness statement, if 2 we can, please, page 56 (KIN00022610/56), 3 paragraph 7.16, which I showed you to start with, the fourth line down, you say:

> "... I only made the connection that the test I was involved in from a product development perspective in July 2014 was being used to support the use of standard K15 when it was raised by Insulation UK's solicitors in early 2019 during their disclosure exercise for the purposes of the Grenfell Tower Inquiry."

12 On all the documents we've seen, I've got to suggest 13 to you that that's simply not true, is it?

- 14 A. It is true. It is true. I just simply wasn't aware
- 15 that that was that development test.
- 16 Q. Well, if it was true, then you must accept that you had 17 radically failed to a fundamental level in your
- 18 obligations of safety in the role you held.
- 19 A. I certainly regret the fact that I missed that, but
- 20 I don't think, you know, it was a fundamental effect on
- 21 fire safety, that error. And maybe I didn't look into
- 22 it any further because we'd got other tests that were on
- 23 the standard product, which gave me comfort not to look
- 2.4 at it into any deeper detail, but I do -- I regret that,
- 25 because that shouldn't have happened on my watch, and it

1 did.

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2 Q.  $\,\,$  I now want to ask you some questions about class  $\,$  0 and 3 K15, so a different topic. I would like to take you 4 through the class 0 testing system which you say K15 has 5 achieved.

Can we go first, please, to your third witness statement at paragraph 3.40 on page 29 {KIN00022610/29}, at the top there. You say:

"As far as it has been possible for Insulation UK's solicitors to piece together the chronology, it appears that at the time of transfer to new technology K15 in 2006, reliance was initially placed on BS 476 testing undertaken on two composite phenolic insulation products produced at Kesteren in order to support the Class 0 and Low Risk claim of K15. These products were called DL 2000 and DL 3300."

17 Can I just ask you, why has it proved necessary for 18 Kingspan's solicitors to piece together the chronology 19 of class 0 testing?

20 Well, it wasn't the solicitors that pieced it together, 21 it was the processing team and the -- and my team as 22 well, looking into historic records which provided the

23 evidence which the solicitors then pieced together.

24 They didn't do the work.

25 Well, forgive me, but you say, "As far as it has been

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1 possible for Insulation UK's solicitors to piece 2 together the chronology ..."

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. So is that wrong and it wasn't --

5 A. They didn't piece it together; they put together the 6 pieces that we'd investigated.

7 Q. I see.

8 On the basis that it was your team that had done the 9 piecing together, does that tell us that Kingspan didn't 10 in fact know what testing it was relying on in 2006 when 11 it made claims about the fire safety of its product to

12 the general public?

13 A. I'm not sure I can speak back to 2006, but what we were 14 doing as part of the exercise was to -- is to go all the 15 way back and find what test evidence there was within 16 our systems. So the upshot of that is that it looks as 17

though we can only be relying on those -- I don't know 18 whether they're products or reports, DL2000 and DL3300,

19 but that's what we could tell from the evidence we'd

20 found.

21 Does that tell us that Kingspan's testing records were, 22 to put it neutrally, less than perfect, requiring

23 an exercise of archaeology in order to put them together 24 to understand them?

25 A. Yeah, there was -- there were files and reports kept in

38

- different places, on people's personal drives, R&D were
- 2 keeping records, whoever was sort of taking testing
- 3 processing had got records. There was no overall
- 4 central database where, going back into 2006, we could
- 5 find records.
- 6 Q. I thought you told us yesterday that one of your first
- 7 jobs when taking on the role of product development
- 8 manager was to rearrange the record-keeping?
- 9 A. That was -- so that was in 2014/15, yes.
- 10 Q. Indeed.
- 11 A. So records for then are easier to find, but going back
- 12 to 2006 --
- 13 Q. I see. So when you took over the role in 2014 and
- cleaned up the record-keeping, you only did it
- 15 prospectively --
- 16 A. Yeah, going forward, yes.
- 17 Q. Right, but didn't put them together historically?
- 18 A. No, no.
- 19 Q. Let's look at the initial reliance on the DL2000 and
- 20 DL3300 products. Those are numbers in test reports
- which you have exhibited, I think, to your third witness 21
- 22 statement, aren't they?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24~ Q. We can look at them, they are at {KIN00022645}, and I'll
- just put one of them up for you. This is the

- $1 \qquad \quad \text{Warrington fire Research document for a BS 476-7 test} \, .$
- 2 You see that?
- 3 A. Yes
- 4 Q. That's one of the tests you're referring to.
- 5 If you go to paragraph 3.40 of your third statement
- 6 {KIN00022610/29}, you can see there, which we've just
- 7 looked at, that the products were called DL2000 and
- 8 DL3300, and you have a footnote 14, and you have
- 9 exhibited those test reports.
- 10 To cut a detailed and long story as short as I can,
- 11 what are DL2000 and DL3300?
- 12 A. I believe they were products manufactured from the
- 13 Kesteren facility .
- 14 Q. Right.
- 15 A. So it was from that facility those tests were taken
- 16 from.
- 17 Q. Just focusing on DL3300, I think you do say in your
- witness statement at paragraph 3.40 that that one was
- manufactured -- they were both manufactured at Kesteren,
- 20 were they?
- 21 A. I believe so.
- 22 Q. Right.
- Is DL3300 the same as K15 sold at any time?
- $24\,$  A. I'm not sure exactly the -- if there's any differences
- between the Kesteren and the new technology product, but

- 1 I know that was all the records we could find at the
- 2 time that we could possibly have been relying on in that
- 3 period. So I think it's very similar, but I wouldn't
- 4 know the differences between them.
- 5 Q. Right.
- 6 How does DL3300, which was produced on a different
- 7 line in the Netherlands and tested in 2003, allow you to
- 8 say that new technology K15 produced at Pembridge from
- 9 September 2006 was class 0?
- 10 A. Just on the basis that it was a similar product.
- 11 Q. Right. Again, it's a different product, isn't it?
- Similar, maybe, but different.
- 13 A. Like I say, I'm not aware of the details. This is back
- in 2006, so I'm just pulling together the information
- that we have been able to find.
- 16 Q. Right. And the same with DL2000, that's not the same as
- 17 K15, is it, that's sold at any time after 2006?
- 18 A. Again, I think the foam technology is the same, but what
- I wouldn't be aware of is exactly what the facer was on
- 20 each of them.
- 21 Q. Right.
- Would you accept this: although DL3300 and DL2000
- were deemed to be class 0 products, they weren't
- representative of what was being sold to customers after
- 25 2006?

43

- 1 A. I'm not sure how close, like I say, they were. They
- $2 \qquad \quad \text{were just the test reports we could find that could} \\$
- 3 possibly have been relied on --
- 4 Q. Right.
- 5 A. -- to make that claim.
- 6 Q. Why would they have been relied on to make that claim?
- 7 A. Because we couldn't find any other evidence --
- 8 Q. I see.

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- 9 A. -- at around that time.
- 10 Q. So, to be clear, you're not saying, are you, that the
  - class 0 certificates from 2003 on DL2000 and DL3300 were
- reliable class 0 certificates or class 0 tests for K15
- 13 sold after 2006?
- 14 A. Say that question again, sorry?
- 15 Q. You're not saying, are you, that the class 0 tests done
- in 2003 on DL2000 and DL3300 were reliable class 0 tests
- for the purposes of K15 sold by Kingspan after 2006?
- 18 A. I can't say that that's exactly what was relied on at
- the time in the -- you know, in our literature and going forward, because it was very difficult to piece it
- 20 forward, because it was very difficult to piece it
- together. So I think they possibly could be, but we can't make that connection historically.
- 23 Q. Right.
- Then let's move to May 2007. Can we go back to your
- 25 third witness statement -- we're on it actually -- at

1 page 29 {KIN00022610/29}, paragraph 3.41. You say: 2 "I understand that new technology K15's Class 0 3 classification was subsequently supported by tests 4 undertaken in May 2007 on the foil facer of K15." 5

Now, when new tech K15 was first introduced and marketed in and from 2006, had it passed tests under BS 476-6 or BS 476-7?

- 8 A. I think the part 7 it had achieved, but I don't think we 9 found any records for a part 6 that would have met the 10 class 0 criteria on the product.
- 11 Q. So is this the case -- and I appreciate you were not --
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- 13 Q. -- at Kingspan at the time -- is it the case that when 14 it was first launched or first being sold after 2006,
- 15 K15 didn't actually have a true class 0 pass?
- 16 A. I think it's true we can't find any evidence of that 17 from -- like I say, the record-keeping was all over the
- 18 place, so we can't find anything. That doesn't mean to
- 19 say there wasn't anything, but we can't find it.
- 20 Q. Right.
- 21 So when you say that new tech K15's class 0
- 22 classification was supported by tests undertaken in
- 23 May 2007, we don't read that as a reference to
- 24 corroborated; these are new tests, is that what you're
- 25 saying? New tests and a new classification?

- 1 A. Sorry, which bit are we looking at again, sorry?
- 2 Q. Paragraph 3.41. You say that the new technology --
- 3 A. Oh, yes, on the foil facer.
- 4 0. Yes.
- 5 A. Yes, that's correct.
- 6 Q. Yes. You say it was subsequently supported by tests 7 undertaken in May 2007.
- 8 A. That's correct, we've got reports in May 2007 on the 9 facer for K15 which --
- 10 Q. Yes, but you're not saying that they're confirming past
- 11 tests, are you, because you don't have the records to
- 12 say that?
- 13 A. Yes, that's correct.
- 14 Q. Now, you then exhibit, as part of your statement, part 6
- 15 and 7 tests from some people called Bodycote, who were
- 16 effectively part of Warringtonfire; is that right?
- 17 A. I think that's who they were before Warrington took them 18 over or -- I'm not sure of the history of that, but I've
- 19
- seen Bodycote reports, but I think it's Warringtonfire.
- 20 Q. As you said in your statement, the testing was on the 21 foil facer only; is that right?
- 22 A. That's correct, yes.
- 23 Q. So there was no test of K15 as a composite product,

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- 2.4 foil facer and foam core?
- 25 A. No, not that we could find.

1 Q. No.

2 Just help me with this broad question: how could 3 testing of the foil facer alone be representative of the

4 entire rigid board insulation product that you were

- 5
- 6 Because in the ADB for England and Wales, the definition
- 7 for class 0 on a composite product allows you to test
- 8 either the surface or the product of a composite
- 9 product, and K15 is a composite product. So it was
- 10 belief then and belief now still that you can test the
- 11 facer and, if it achieves class 0, then that's fine to 12 claim that then for the product on which that facer is
- 13 a composite with.
- 14 We're going to come and examine that view or position,
- 15 as you have just described it, a little bit later when
- 16 we look at some documents later in the story.
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. From your knowledge, that view of ADB, that
- 19 interpretation of ADB, was that something held within
- 20 the business when you came to it?
- 21 Α.
- 22 Q. Who held that view when you came to it?
- 23 Oh, so ... certainly John Garbutt, the marketing
- 24 director, he was under that impression; I think Ivor was
- 25 under that impression; I think most of the technical

47

- 1 team were under that impression, that that was
- 2 an interpretation of ADB, because it's quite -- it goes
- 3 back quite a way, like 2007, if not before, that that
- 4 was feasible. So I know it was a generally held view
- 5 that that was a way to claim class 0 for a -- from ADB.
- 6 A way to claim class 0?
- 7 A route.
- 8 Q. A route?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. We'll come back to that answer later on when we look at
- 11 some of the arguments in a little bit more detail.
- 12 It's right, I think, just at this stage, that you're
- 13 then proceeding to sell composite products on the basis
- 14 that they are class 0, but based only on a test of
- 15 a part of the product, the foil facer?
- 16 A. On the foil facer, yes, that's correct.
- 17 Q. Now, let's go back to the tests that you refer to,
- 18 May 2007, on the foil facer. These are your
- 19 exhibit AP3, and let's look at those. It's
- 20 {KIN00000256}, please. This is the BS 476-7 test done
- 21 in August 2009, it looks like. That's the date of the
- 22 report. That's the part 7 test.
- 23 Can we look at the part 6 test as well, which is
- 24 {KIN000000261}. I'm not sure we need them both up at
  - the same time, so let's start with the part 7 test and

48

1 just identify, if we can, on that document -- it 2 probably doesn't matter -- what it is that we're looking 3 4 The test sponsor is in both cases  $% \frac{1}{2}\left( \frac{1}{2}\right) =\frac{1}{2}\left( \frac{1$ 5 Kingspan Insulation. Let's stick with the document 6 that's on the screen, this is the part 6 test, and the 7 general description of test product is the same in both 8 reports. 9 So let's go back to 256, which is the part 7 test, 10 because there is more in that I want to show you, and go 11 to page 5 {KIN00000256/5}, please. 12 Now, this is the "Description of Test Specimens" 13 there, and in the first box you can see the general 14 15 "A perforated reinforced aluminium foil composite 16 which was tested stapled to calcium silicate based 17 board." 18 Do you see that? 19 A. Yes. 20 "The sponsor of the test has stated that the facing is 21 utilised on products referenced 'Koolduct' and 22 'Kooltherm'." 23 By "foil composite", is it just the facer of the 24 product, that's the foil facer you're referring to? 25 That was tested. 49 1 Q. That was tested. 2. A. Yes. 3 Q. Then a little bit down the boxes under the section on Δ the left -hand side, it reads, "Aluminium foil composite" 5 in vertical. Do you see there is a long rectangular box 6 on the left -hand side, can you see that, which is in 7 landscape? 8 A. Yes, sorry.

9 Q. "Aluminium foil composite." 10 11 Q. And then it says in the top box or top square "Coating", 12 can you see that? 13 A. Yes. 14 Q. A little bit above that, "Product reference", it says 15 "Coated Foil ". 16 A. Yes. 17 Q. So it's telling you that what's tested, I think, is the 18 aluminium foil composite, where the product is coated 19 foil, which then has a coating of its own, and what we 20 see is the elements of the coated foil? 21 A. Yeah, the foil itself or the facer is made up of 22 different materials --23 Q. Exactly. 24 A. -- and foil is -- aluminium foil is part of that 25 make-up. 50

Q. Yes, thank you. 2 Now, if we go over the page to page 63 {KIN00000256/6}, underneath the text box there are some 4 notes, and note 1 says: 5 "The sponsor of the test has provided this 6 information but at the specific request of the sponsor, 7 these details have been omitted from the report and are 8 instead held on the confidential file relating to this 9 investigation." 10 If we go back to see what note 1 refers to, back 11 a page to page 5 {KIN00000256/5}, do you see it says 12 "Note 1", "Name of manufacturer", so that's been made 13 confidential. 14 15 Q. Can you help us as to who the manufacturer of this 16 coated foil was? 17 A. I couldn't be sure, but one of the -- or the current 18 manufacturer of the facer is a company called Lamtec. 19 Right, okay, we see their name elsewhere. 20 A. Yes. 21 Then if we go back up to the top of the text box on 22 page 5, we can see on the left -hand side a box that says 23 "Coating", and I've shown you that, but let's just look 24 at it in a little bit more detail. 25 Going to the right-hand heading, you can see things 1 like "Product reference", "Generic type", "Name of 2 manufacturer", "Application rate/thickness", 3 "Application method" and "Flame retardant details ". 4 If you look further to the right again into the 5 furthermost box on the right, you can see that all of

6 those topics relating to coating have the text "See 7 Note 2 below", do you see that? 8 A. 9 Q. Then if you look at note 2 below -- and the same in fact 10 applies also to foil and glass reinforcement -- it says 11 on page 6 {KIN00000256/6}: 12 "The sponsor of the test was unable to provide this 13 information." 14 Then it goes on: 15 "The sponsor has confirmed that some of the 16 components were manufactured by other parties. They 17 have also confirmed that they were not able to obtain 18 from the manufacturers some details that would normally 19 be included in Bodycote warringtonfire test reports. 20 The description of the specimens given above is 21 therefore, not as complete as would normally be the case 22 for descriptions included in Bodycote warringtonfire

test reports, and the description may not fully comply

with the requirements of the standard. In all other

respects, however, the tests were conducted fully in

52

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24

accordance with the requirements of the standard and the test results are valid."

Now, the same note appears in the same form in the  $\frac{1}{2}$ 

- other report for part 6 that I've shown you very briefly.
- Do you accept that these reports tell you nothing
  about the coating other than its physical dimensions and
  that it's aluminium?
- $9\,$  A. It tells you there's some glass scrim, I think I saw  $10\,$  there.
- 11 Q. Yes.
- $12\,$   $\,$  A. There's some description of it , but like it said there,
- 13 not all the full details are provided.
- 14 Q. No. So they are either worthless or of very limited
- 15 use, given the poverty of information given on the face
- of the certificate?
- 17 A. I think it's to protect, you know, our IP, our ...
- you know, we work with these facer suppliers to develop
- products which work with our products, and we don't want
- 20 to give too much information away in a test report for
- 21 our competition to potentially see and see how it's
- done. So I think that's the reason for withholding some
- of the information. But then, at the end, you know, the
- requirements of the standard and the tests are still
- valid.

53

- Q. Yes, but the report is not transparent as to precisely
   what it is that's going into your product.
- 3 A. It's not transparent on the detail or the manufacturer,
- I agree, but on the make-up and the thickness and the
- 5 key characteristics, I think it's fairly clear.
- 6 Q. Well, looking at note 2, there are some components that
- 7 you didn't know, I think, and couldn't tell Bodycote,
- 8 but some components that you did know but wouldn't tell
- 9 Bodycote; is that fair?
- $10\,$  A. I think that's correct. I mean, it's a test I wasn't
- 11 involved in, but I think that's a fair reading of that
- 12 document.
- $13\,$   $\,$  Q.  $\,$  So some information was not given to  $\,$  Bodycote in
- relation to the material they were testing which, but
- for commercial sensitivities, could have been given to
- 16 them?
- 17 A. Yes, I would read into that, yes.
- 18 Q. Why was Kingspan testing coated foil?
- $19\,$  A. I think that's just -- that's part of the build-up.
- $20\,$   $\,$  Q. Is the foil on standard K15 as being sold to the public
- at that time and later coated?
- 22 A. I'm not sure on the exact layers, but I think it's got
- a layer above the aluminium to stop the aluminium from
- oxidising, so that could be what the "coated" reference
- 25 is.

- 1 Q. Do you know?
- 2 A. No.
- 3 Q. Now, we've seen also, if we go back to page 5
- 4 {KIN00000256/5}, that the substrate onto which the foil
- 5 being tested was stapled was calcium silicate based
- 6 board, wasn't it?
- 7 A. Yes
- 8 Q. Now, calcium silicate is a non-combustible board, isn't
- 9 it?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. It's not a combustible phenolic foam.
- 12 A. No, that's correct.
- 13 Q. Did you make any of your customers, or do you know
- whether Kingspan at this time made any of its customers
- or anybody that was likely to rely on the class 0
- certification for K15 aware of the fact that Bodycote
- Warringtonfire had tested the foil on a non-combustible
- 18 substrate, as opposed to the phenolic foam forming the
- 19 rest of the product?
- 20 A. I think we would have claimed that the product got
- 21 class 0 based on its facer performance. We wouldn't
- 22 have said necessarily it was based on its facer
- performance, but we would have based the claim on the
- facer performance. So I'm not sure whether we would
- have made it explicit to customers that that's how it's
  - 55
- 1 tested.
- $2\,$   $\,$  Q.  $\,$  Did you see a document that said that,  $\,$  although K15 had
- 3 been tested to class 0, in fact only the foil facer part
- 4 of K15 as a composite product had been tested to that
- 5 standard?
- 6 A. Did I see a document?
- 7 Q. Did you ever see a document, like a certificate or
- 8 a report, saying that?
- 9 A. I don't believe so.
- 10 Q. No.
- Now, these reports -- and we can use the one on the
- screen, which is the part 7 report -- as I've shown you,
- 13 are dated 2009, but the tests were done in 2007, as we
- can see from page 4 [KIN00000256/4], if we just look at
- page 4. You can see:
- "Instruction to test: The test was conducted on the
- 17 10th May 2007 at the request of Kingspan Insulation
- Limited, the sponsor of the test."
- Do you know why two years was allowed to elapse
- between the test date of May 2007 and the report date of 21 2009?
- 22 A. I don't. That's a long time.
- 23 Q. It is a long time. Did you ever investigate that
- 24 question?
- $25\,$  A. No. I wasn't around in 2007 to investigate that.

1	MR MILLETT: Mr Chairman, that may be a convenient moment.	1	A.	I believe so, yes.
2	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Is it?	2	Q.	Right.
3	MR MILLETT: I'm going to move to a different subtopic, but	3		You go on at paragraph 3.44, over the page, please,
4	it's still the same general topic.	4		at the top of page 30 {KIN00022610/30}, to say:
5	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: If that's a good point, we ought to	5		"Since filing my Second Witness Statement,
6	take advantage of it.	6		Insulation UK has undertaken further investigations
7	We will take a short break now, Mr Pargeter. We	7		around historic BS 476 testing of K15 and its Low Risk
8	will come back at 11.35, please. Please don't discuss	8		classification as recorded in its product literature .
9	your evidence or anything to do with it while you're out	9		I set out below the findings of these investigations
10	of the room.	10		which have altered my previous understanding."
11	THE WITNESS: Of course.	11		Then at (b) you say:
12	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Thank you.	12		"Insulation UK has identified that, although the
13	(Pause)	13		associated test report records the product tested as
14	Thank you, 11.35, then, please.	14		K15, the BS-476 Part 6 test carried out on 9 May 2012
15	(11.20 am)	15		was in fact conducted using a research and development
16	(A short break)	16		version of K15 which had a fire retardant lacquer
17	(11.35 am)	17		applied to it. This further detail and understanding
18	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: All right, Mr Pargeter?	18		was obtained by a review of the Standard Operating
19	THE WITNESS: Yes.	19		Procedure ('SOP') (where available) for the product
20	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: On we go, then.	20		tested in each of the BS 476 tests listed in [and then
21	Yes, Mr Millett.	21		you give three references] The SOP records the
22	MR MILLETT: Thank you, Mr Chairman.	22		precise composition of the tested product and it is
23	I now want to ask you about the testing for class 0	23		therefore possible to identify where non-standard
24	in May 2011 and then again in May 2012.	24		product was tested. In their review of test reports in
25	Now, again, I appreciate that you were not	25		2016, my team had relied on the reference to 'K15' in
				•
	57			59
1	57 overseeing K15 at that time within Kingspan, but I just	1		59 the test report and understood that standard K15 had
1 2		1 2		
	overseeing K15 at that time within Kingspan, but I just			the test report and understood that standard K15 had
2	overseeing K15 at that time within Kingspan, but I just want to ask you some of the history .	2		the test report and understood that standard K15 had been tested ."
2 3 4	overseeing K15 at that time within Kingspan, but I just want to ask you some of the history . $ \text{Can we look at your third witness statement, please,} $	2		the test report and understood that standard K15 had been tested."  Now, first, can you tell us what the reason was why
2	overseeing K15 at that time within Kingspan, but I just want to ask you some of the history.  Can we look at your third witness statement, please, at page 29 {KIN00022610/29} again, and look at	2 3 4		the test report and understood that standard K15 had been tested."  Now, first, can you tell us what the reason was why these investigations didn't take place in 2016, before
2 3 4 5	overseeing K15 at that time within Kingspan, but I just want to ask you some of the history.  Can we look at your third witness statement, please, at page 29 {KIN00022610/29} again, and look at paragraph 3.42 together. You say there:	2 3 4 5	A.	the test report and understood that standard K15 had been tested."  Now, first, can you tell us what the reason was why these investigations didn't take place in 2016, before you were briefed, but only after October 2019, when you
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	overseeing K15 at that time within Kingspan, but I just want to ask you some of the history.  Can we look at your third witness statement, please, at page 29 {KIN00022610/29} again, and look at paragraph 3.42 together. You say there:  "At the time of filing my Second Witness Statement, I understood that new technology K15 had subsequently been tested to BS 476 as a composite product and had satisfied the criteria to be classified as both Low Risk and Class 0. This is set out in paragraphs 3.18 to 3.19 and 3.40 of my Second Witness Statement where I explain that in my role as Head of Technical and Marketing (Great Britain) in 2016, having asked my team to review the BS 476 test reports held on file for K15, I understood that the BS 476 tests undertaken on 6 May 2011 and 9 May 2012 provided this confirmation."  It's that last sentence I want to ask you about.  Are you telling the Inquiry there that in 2016, in	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	Q.	the test report and understood that standard K15 had been tested."  Now, first, can you tell us what the reason was why these investigations didn't take place in 2016, before you were briefed, but only after October 2019, when you did your second statement?  We did do some research in 2016, and we looked at the historic evidence, but this was taking back what was in place in 2012. In 2016, we did further testing.  But when you looked at the historic position in 2016, is it that the investigations done at that stage didn't reveal the true composition of the  No, that's what I the team had looked at the reports, could see that they were on the composite product, and thought that they were applicable to be relied on historically.  Right.  It's right, isn't it, that Kingspan have given three
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	overseeing K15 at that time within Kingspan, but I just want to ask you some of the history.  Can we look at your third witness statement, please, at page 29 {KIN00022610/29} again, and look at paragraph 3.42 together. You say there:  "At the time of filing my Second Witness Statement, I understood that new technology K15 had subsequently been tested to BS 476 as a composite product and had satisfied the criteria to be classified as both Low Risk and Class 0. This is set out in paragraphs 3.18 to 3.19 and 3.40 of my Second Witness Statement where I explain that in my role as Head of Technical and Marketing (Great Britain) in 2016, having asked my team to review the BS 476 test reports held on file for K15, I understood that the BS 476 tests undertaken on 6 May 2011 and 9 May 2012 provided this confirmation."  It's that last sentence I want to ask you about.  Are you telling the Inquiry there that in 2016, in your senior role that you occupied at that point, you relied on or were told you could rely on the BS 476 tests from May 2011 and May 2012?	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	Q.	the test report and understood that standard K15 had been tested."  Now, first, can you tell us what the reason was why these investigations didn't take place in 2016, before you were briefed, but only after October 2019, when you did your second statement?  We did do some research in 2016, and we looked at the historic evidence, but this was taking back what was in place in 2012. In 2016, we did further testing.  But when you looked at the historic position in 2016, is it that the investigations done at that stage didn't reveal the true composition of the  No, that's what I the team had looked at the reports, could see that they were on the composite product, and thought that they were applicable to be relied on historically.  Right.  It's right, isn't it, that Kingspan have given three different versions of the spreadsheet showing the BS 476 testing, the most recent being version 3 on 17 January this year?
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	overseeing K15 at that time within Kingspan, but I just want to ask you some of the history.  Can we look at your third witness statement, please, at page 29 {KIN00022610/29} again, and look at paragraph 3.42 together. You say there:  "At the time of filing my Second Witness Statement, I understood that new technology K15 had subsequently been tested to BS 476 as a composite product and had satisfied the criteria to be classified as both Low Risk and Class 0. This is set out in paragraphs 3.18 to 3.19 and 3.40 of my Second Witness Statement where I explain that in my role as Head of Technical and Marketing (Great Britain) in 2016, having asked my team to review the BS 476 test reports held on file for K15, I understood that the BS 476 tests undertaken on 6 May 2011 and 9 May 2012 provided this confirmation."  It's that last sentence I want to ask you about.  Are you telling the Inquiry there that in 2016, in your senior role that you occupied at that point, you relied on or were told you could rely on the BS 476 tests from May 2011 and May 2012?  A. Yes, that was the data we'd got.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	Q. A. Q.	the test report and understood that standard K15 had been tested."  Now, first, can you tell us what the reason was why these investigations didn't take place in 2016, before you were briefed, but only after October 2019, when you did your second statement?  We did do some research in 2016, and we looked at the historic evidence, but this was taking back what was in place in 2012. In 2016, we did further testing.  But when you looked at the historic position in 2016, is it that the investigations done at that stage didn't reveal the true composition of the  No, that's what I the team had looked at the reports, could see that they were on the composite product, and thought that they were applicable to be relied on historically.  Right.  It's right, isn't it, that Kingspan have given three different versions of the spreadsheet showing the BS 476 testing, the most recent being version 3 on 17 January this year?  I can't specifically remember that, but

tests to show that standard K15 could achieve class 0?

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 $25\,$  Q. Sorry to interrupt you. The three spreadsheets are

- those for which you have provided the references --
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. -- in paragraph (b).
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. The first version is the one you have referred to there
- $\,$  first , {KIN00022310}, and that's October 2019.
- 7 Version 2 was 8 November 2019, and that's the next
- 8 reference. The most recent one is the most recent one
- 9 in January this year for which you give that last
- reference. So it's taken three goes, essentially.
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Right.
- $13 \hspace{1.5cm} \hbox{Can you also confirm to us that the tests done in} \\$
- May 2011 and May 2012 that you refer to were originally
- 15 in the list of class 0 tests for K15 that was provided
- 16 to the Inquiry?
- 17 A. Oh, I'd have to double check.
- $18\,$   $\,$  Q. Okay, well, we can do that, but take it from me that
- 19 that is the case.
- Isn't it right that it was only when you produced
- your third statement in September 2020 that Kingspan
- 22 told the Inquiry that a fire retardant lacquer was used
- $23 \hspace{1cm} \text{in this test along with a research and development} \\$
- 24 product?
- 25 A. Which report -- which witness statement is this one, the
  - 61
  - 1 third one?
  - $2\,$   $\,$  Q.  $\,$  The third statement, 18 September 2020.
  - 3 A. Yes.
  - 4 Q. Now, you have said here on the page in front of us that
  - 5 your team had relied upon the fact that the report
- 6 referred to "K15", and therefore believed that the
- 7 report could be used as a class 0 classification just by
- 8 that reference; is that right?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. But you now say that that was an error; yes?
- 11 A. Yes.
- $12\,$   $\,$  Q. Are you saying that your team's error was that they
- 13 didn't look at the SOP records for the May 2012 test?
- 14 A. Yes, that's correct.
- 15 Q. Why didn't they look at the SOP?
- 16 A. I think because we understood that it had been --
- claimed the 476, and they just found those reports, and
- thought: oh, there's the evidence for that.
- 19 Q. Right.
- 20 A. Without thinking that there would be a difference in it.
- $21\,$   $\,$  Q.  $\,$  Who was it in the team that you refer to who failed to
- look at the SOP when briefing you in 2016?
- $23\,$   $\,$  A.  $\,$  I think it might have been Dan Ball would have been
- looking at that evidence.
- 25 Q. Why wouldn't the SOP have been the most obvious thing to 62

- look at straight away to identify precisely what it was
- 2 that had been tested?
- 3 A. I think because it just wasn't suspicious that it was
- 4 something that it didn't say it was.
- 5 Q. Can you explain why it was only on the Inquiry's request
  - for a third statement from you that this information has
- 7 come to light?

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- 8 A. Because then the technical team were going away and
  - looking at all of the 476-6 and 7 tests that we'd got
- and getting into the detail around each of those tests,
- 11 and it was then, when we started looking at the SOP, we
- realised that that had got a lacquer on it.
- 13 Q. Do you accept that keeping precise and complete records
- of exactly what is being tested and when is
- a fundamental part of Kingspan's safety and testing
- 16 programmes?
- 17 A. I think it should be, yes.
- 18 Q. And certainly should have been from the time you took
  - over that aspect of the role in late 2013/early 2014.
- $20\,$  A. Yeah, the record-keeping certainly gets better.
- 21 Q. Well, yes, and are you saying that in the case of these
  - 2012 class 0 tests, there are no precise and complete
- 23 records?
- 24 A. I think we struggled to find them, again, in a similar
- 25 way. We had to search around to see where those tests

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- 1 had -- to find what we might have relied on
- 2 historically, to find those tests.
- 3 Q. Why is that, given that one of your roles on coming into
- 4 the product development manager role in late 2013 or
- 5 early 2014 was to improve the record-keeping?
- 6 A. Record-keeping of products we were developing going
- forward, not of the historic test data of current
- 8 products
- 9 Q. Ivor Meredith told us in his witness statement -- it is
- paragraph 55 {KIN00022312/26}, for those who want to see
- it -- that Kingspan kept meticulous records. Is that
- 12 wrong?
- 13 A. In certain aspects, I think we did, but not across the
- board, we didn't.
- 15 Q. Is it the case that Kingspan in fact has tried to hide
- its lack of successful class 0 testing and has only
- 17 really revealed it to the Inquiry by degrees, so that it
- 19 A. No, I don't --
- 20 0. -- weeks or so?
- 21 A. I don't believe that's the case, no.

only really emerged --

- 22 Q. Right. You don't accept that.
- Was the research and development product tested to class 0 in May 2011 and again in May 2012 a low lambda

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version of K15 or a similar development product?

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A. I'm not sure. I think it was only the facer that had 2 got the fire retardant lacquer on it. 3 Q. Right. So a research and development product of the 4 facer alone? 5 A. I believe so. I believe the core was the same. 6 Q. Do you know why the research and development product of 7 the facer alone was tested and not standard K15 as 8 a composite product in 2011/2012? 9 A. Because it appears that particular test was an R&D test 10 on a development of the facer material. 11 Q. Do you know why Kingspan were testing with 12 fire retardants at all? 13 A. I think just to see what effect they have on the fire 14 performance of the product or the facer. 15 Q. Was that because of the lack of successful class 0 16 testing on the foil facer to date? 17 A. No, I think the face -- the facer was able to achieve 18 class 0 from 2007, so I think it might have been to see 19 if we could get low risk, but I'm not sure. 20 Q. Well, you say the facer was able to achieve class 0 from 21 2007; that is only a reference, isn't it, to the 2009 22 test reports we've just seen? 23 A. Yes. 24 Q. Yes, I see. 25 Do you know who made the decision to conduct these 65

2. A. I don't. 3 Q. Did you ever look into that question? 4 A. I haven't personally. I don't think --5 Q. Right. 6 A. -- we have, no. 7 Q. Do you agree that anybody looking at the report would be 8 able to see that the coating had a fire retardancy? 9 A. No.

tests on the foil facer in 2011 and 2012?

10 Q. You don't agree --11 A. Sorry, I do agree. 12 Q. You do agree?

13 A. Yes.

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14 Q. Would you agree, therefore, that if either you or your 15 team had read the reports in 2016, it would have been 16 obvious to you that the test involved a non-standard 17 foam with a fire retardant added to the foil, and therefore should never have been relied on as support 18

19 for K15 as sold? 20 A. I don't think it was a non-standard foam.

21 Q. Well, forget that part of the question, then. Let's try 22 it again: would you agree with me that if you or your 23 team had read the report, it would have been obvious

2.4 that the test involved a fire retardant added to the 2.5 foil and therefore could never and should never have

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1 been relied upon for the sale of standard K15?

2 A. Yes, that report should not have been relied on.

Q. Let's then come to 2016 class 0 testing. If we can look at your second statement, please, this is October 2019, page 8 {KIN00020824/8}, paragraph 3.11, we see you say there:

"When the foil facer of K15 (as opposed to the product as a whole) is tested to BS 476-7 it is classified as Class 1, as regards its contribution to flame spread (test report P100160-1002-1). When the foil facer of K15 is tested to BS 476-6, it achieves a fire propagation index of (i) 1.8; and sub-index of (ii) 1.7 (test\_report\_P100160-1002-2), meaning that K15 achieves a 'Class O' classification , as was defined in ADB. This remained the case until ADB was updated in February 2019 when such classifications were removed. I address 'Class O' in detail in my response to Inquiry question 16 below. K15 was until 2016 classified as 'low risk' and then from thereon was classified as 'medium risk' in Scotland in accordance with the Scottish Technical Handbook as referenced in Annex 2.B table 2.8 reaction to fire. This remained the case until the Scottish Technical Handbook was updated in October 2019 when such classifications were removed."

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Now, the test reports you refer to here you exhibit

1 at AP3 and AP4, as we can see from footnote 5 and 6 at 2 the bottom of the page. Can you see that? Yes?

3 A. Yes

4 Q. Those are, am I right, both from the BRE, with the 5 part 7 test being undertaken on 29 February 2016 and the 6 part 6 being undertaken on 19 February 2016?

7 A. Yes.

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8 Q. Let's look at those together.

9 First, can we go to {KIN00020827}, and this is the 10 BS 476-7 test that you exhibit as AP3, and you can see 11 the date there, 29 February 2016, with that long report 12 number that I read out to you, issue 1. You can see 13 that it's a BS 476-7 test.

If we can go to page 5 {KIN00020827/5}, we can see the test date, 10 February 2016, we can see that, and if we go back a page to page 4 {KIN00020827/4}, we can see section 2.2, which is the "Description of sample and test format", and the third box down you can see:

"Sample name/reference: Samples of the K15, KD, K18 and K17 Blank Insulation Board facer."

21 So this was a sample of the facer of various 22 Kingspan products, including K15, but not the whole 23 product in each case?

24 A. Correct.

25 Q. Under the "Sample description", we can see it says:

- 1 " Lamtec Foil facing.
- 2 " 0.38mm thick.
- 3 "176 [grams per square metre] Weight per unit
- 4 area.
- 5 "Foil/silver colour."
- 6 Underneath that:
- 7 "Description of sample (as received): Perforated
- 8 reinforced foil with a white fibrous backing."
- 9 So we have confirmed that the test here is on the
- foil facer alone. That would tell us, wouldn't it, that
- it wasn't representative of the K15 being sold in the
- 12 market?
- $13\,$  A. It was the foil facer that was on the K15 sold in the
- 14 market.
- 15 Q. Right.
- Why were you testing only the facer separately from
- the foam or other components of the K15 product?
- 18 A. Because in ADB, that's an allowable route for testing
- for class 0 on a composite product.
- $20\,$   $\,$  Q.  $\,$  I see.  $\,$  And why was the facer 380 microns or
- 21 0.38 millimetres thick?
- 22 A. Because that's the overall thickness of the composition
- 23 of the facer.
- 24 Q. Was that the thickness of the foil alone or did it
- include the glass fibre mesh or scrim?

- 1 A. No, it's the complete composite.
- $2\,$  Q. It's the complete composite of the --
- 3 A. Foil. Of the facer.
- 4 Q. Right, I see. So you're testing not the surface alone,
- 5 but you're testing the composite material making up the
- 6 outer skin?
- 7 A. You're testing the complete facer.
- 8 Q. Exactly, which has a number of different parts to it --
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10~ Q. -- which is what accounts for its depth.
- 11 A. Its overall thickness with a 25-micron foil element to
- 12 that.
- 13 Q. Right.
- What is the white fibrous backing that's referred to
- under "Description of sample"?
- 16 A. It's the -- I think we call it a scrim. It's a glass
- reinforcement at the back.
- $18\,$  Q. Does that normally on the whole composite product --

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- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 O. -- sit between the foam and the facer?
- 21 A. It's part of the facer make-up.
- $22\,$  Q. It's part of the back of the facer where --
- 23 A. Yes.
- $24\,$  Q. -- it sticks on to the foam, is that --
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. And presumably there is an adhesive, is there, or
- a bonding process that bonds this skin with the scrim to
- 3 the foam; yes?
- 4 A. Yes, as part of the process it's sort of auto adhesively
- 5 bonded to the reacting foam as part of the process.
- 6 Q. I see. So are you saying that the whole of the product,
- 7 comprising the Lamtec foil facing and the fibrous
- 8 backing, was representative of that same element of the
- 9 K15 as sold?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Let's go then to the part 6 test at {KIN00020828}. This
- is the report dated 19 February, and if we go to page 4
- 13 {KIN00020828/4} we can see the test dates. Again, top
- of the page, we can see the objective, and we can see at 14
- the bottom of the page a date of test, 18 and
- 16 19 February 2016. Again, we can see the same
- composition. So the questions I asked you in relation
- to the part 7 test would also apply to the part 6 test,
- would they?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. So looking at these tests done in 2016, they were not
- 22 tests on the composite product sold to the market; they
- were tests on a part of the composite product sold to
- 24 the market only.
- 25 A. On the facer element.

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- 1 Q. And the facer element had itself a number of different
- $2 \hspace{1cm} \text{composite elements, didn't } \hspace{0.1cm} \text{it?} \hspace{0.1cm} \hspace{0.1cm} \text{As you can see, it has} \\$ 
  - a foil facing and it has a scrim.
- 4 A. Yes.

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- 5 Q. Fibrous backing; yes?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. You didn't test the fibrous backing on its own, did you?
- $8\,$   $\,$  A. No, we don't receive it separated. We receive it from
- 9 Lamtec completely laminated in that form.
- 10 Q. So you're testing a composite product, even though it's
- 11 the outer skin of a bigger composite product?
- 12 A. Yes
- 13 Q. So is it right that K15 as sold to the customer itself
- $14\,$   $\,$   $\,$  never had a class 0  $\,$  classification , only part of it , the
- 15 surface?
- 16 A. That's correct.
- 17 Q. I'm going to come back to class 0 shortly, but can
- I deviate and ask you about BS 8414 and the question of perforations.
- 20 Can we go to an email chain at {KIN00003894}. This
- 21 is an email chain about the printing of a logo on the
- $22\,$  standard K15 boards, but the part I want to look at with

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- you is an email from Ivor Meredith at the bottom of page 2 {KIN00003894/2} and over to the top of page 3.
  - If we look at the bottom of page 2 together, this

25 If we look a

- 1 email starts from Ivor Meredith, 23 June 2014, and we 2 can see who receives it over the page {KIN00003894/3}, 3 and one of the recipients is you by copy. Can you see 4 that?
- 5 A. Yes.

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6 Q. The main recipients are Mark Swift, Malcolm Rochefort, Gwyn Davies and John Garbutt. The subject is "K15 unprinted", and it 's about a facer switch on K15.

In the last paragraph, Mr Meredith says this:

"This is not directly related however all copied should be aware of the issue: - Perforations.

"When we first started making K15 in NT Technical Applications were under the impression K15 was only to be perforated on one side. i.e. use the K10 facer. The addition of perforations has shown a marked reduction in performance in the Euroclass tests and will obviously change VR and WVT. Furthermore several cladding system suppliers and frame manufacturers have tested their systems with K15 for rainwater penetration. I have not seen any results for K15 since we have started using perforations on both sides. I did put a request in to revert to perforations on one side only however this can be reviewed after the next BS 8414 test which will occur at the end of the month.'

That was in fact what happened as the July 2014

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1 test .

> Now, it's clear by that, isn't it, that the reference to "NT" is there, "NT technical applications". You must have been aware when reading that at the very latest that there was new technology K15 being used by that date.

- 7 A. Yes, that's correct.
- 8 Q. Yes.

9 Can you just help us, what is VR and WVT that he 10 refers to in the fourth line there?

- 11 A. I'm not sure of VR. I think the other one is moisture 12 vapour transfer, water vapour transfer.
- 13 Q. Water vapour transfer, right.

14 Did you understand this email as telling you that 15 where the foil on K15 boards was perforated on both 16 sides, it would perform less well in fire tests? 17 In fact, it says just that, doesn't it?

- 18 A. It does.
- 19 Q. And given the date of this email, 23 June 2014, as 20 I said to you or put to you a moment ago, the next
- 21 BS 8414 test would be the one in July 2014, which was
- 22 the 7 July test; yes?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. And that test was done using perforated and unperforated
- 25 50-micron foil, wasn't it?

1 A. Yes.

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2 Q. We can go back to the schedule if you'd like at 3 {KIN00022357} --

- 4 I think that's correct.
- 5 -- but you accept that.

Now, as we know, that test passed BS 8414 using a product which does not have perforations on both sides. So when you saw the results of the July 2014 BS 8414 test, did you think that one of the reasons it may have passed was because the foil in that test only

- 11 had perforations on one side, not both?
- 12 A.
- 13 0. Why is that?
- 14 A. Because, like I said I think yesterday, at that scale,
- 15 the perforations just won't have an effect . At the
- 16 scale there, the Euroclass scale, which is where he says 17 there's a difference, I can understand why at that scale
- 18 you might see a difference in the performance.
- 19 Indeed. But, as you can see, of course, this, as you 20 have accepted, is a communication before that test.

21 My question is: when you saw the results of 22 the July 2014 test, did you not think that one of the 23 reasons that it might have passed was because the foil 24 only had perforations on one side as opposed to both?

25 A.

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1 Q. And although you are right to say that the addition of 2 perforations shows a marked reduction in the Euroclass 3

tests, which are not 8414 tests, as you say, why would it not occur to you that one of the reasons why the test

- 5 under 8414 had passed was because the perforations
- 6 weren't on both sides?
- 7 A. Simply because of the demand from the fire from the test 8 is so much greater in an 8414 test than it is in an SBI 9 test that the facer element offers, just, like I said
- 10 yesterday, no protection to the product in that type of 11 test, where you can get in excess of 1,000 degrees.
- 12 An SBI test -- there are two parts to an SBI test:
- 13 there's the FIGRA, so the fire index, and then there is
- 14 heat release, and the FIGRA is measured in just the
- 15 first 15 seconds of the test. So the facer in that
- 16 element of the test can have a more marked impact on the
- 17 performance than it would in a test done at 8414.
- 18 So was it your view at the time that Ivor Meredith was 19 wrong to raise the question of perforations, given your
- 20 view at the time that perforations one side or the other
- 21 side was irrelevant in an 8414 test?
- 22 Was he wrong to raise it? Is that -- I don't think he
- 23 was wrong to raise it, but I don't think logically it 24 could have an effect.

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25 Was that your view at the time or now?

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- A. Definitely now. Back at 2014? I think I would -- yes,
   I would have had that view based on just that same logic
- 3 of an 8414 test.
- $4\,$   $\,$  Q.  $\,$  If that was so, Mr Pargeter, why didn't you respond to
- 5 this august group -- and these are senior people, many
- 6 of whom are from technical, including Tony Millichap --
- and say to Ivor Meredith, "Ivor, I don't understand this
- 8 perforations question because they're irrelevant in
- $9\,$  an 8414 test, whatever you may think of performance in
- 10 a Euroclass test"?
- 11 A. I just didn't. I was cc'd in, I didn't --
- 12 Q. Right.
- 13 A. I didn't think to respond to it.
- $14\,$  Q. I've got to suggest to you that what you're telling us
- may be your view now, but it was not your view at the time.
- 17 (Pause)
- 18 A. I can't recall exactly what my view at the time was.
- 19 Q. Well, had you disagreed with it and had the view you
- 20 hold now, or tell us you espouse, you would have gone
- back to him and said, "You're leading us down the garden
- 22 path, perforations are irrelevant when it comes to
- 23 an 8414 test ".

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- 24 A. I would possibly do now, yes.
- 25 Q. I would like to take you in a little bit more detail

77

through the question of testing the facer alone, going back to class 0.

If we can go first to your second witness statement, please, at page 9 {KIN00020824/9}, the best place to start with this, I think, is at paragraph 3.14. This relates to an Inquiry question, 1(e), "purpose/intended use". You say there under:

"Inquiry question (Not numbered): If your understanding as to any of the above has significantly changed at any stage, please explain how and when this change in understanding came about."

At 3.15 you say:

"As noted in paragraph 3.11 above, K15 was until October 2019 classified as 'medium risk' in Scotland. Prior to the 10th issue of the K15's product literature issued in July 2016 K15 was said to be a 'low risk' product."

- 18 A. Yes.
- $19\,$  Q. Now, just pausing there, you say that K15 was classified
- as low risk in Scotland until July 2016, when it was
- described as medium risk; my question is: did your
- 22 marketing literature spell out that change in 2016 from
- 23 low to medium?
- 24 A. No, I think we just dropped the low risk element.
- Q. Yes, you just dropped the low risk element and said

- 1 nothing at all about risk?
- 2 A. Yes, that's correct.
- 3 Q. At least for a period.
- 4 A. Yes, for a period.
- 5 Q. Yes, we'll look at the documents on that.
  - Is that because K15 couldn't achieve a low risk
- 7 classification in Scotland so it was removed from your
- 8 marketing literature?
- 9 A. That's correct.
- 10 Q. Now, am I also right in saying that you didn't do
- anything positive to tell your market of that fact, and
- didn't in fact expressly say that the product was medium
- risk until 2019, after the Grenfell Tower fire?
- 14 A. That's correct.
- Q. Now, at the bottom of page 9 you explain the low risk in
   Scotland, and at 3.16 you set out the Scottish Technical
- Handbook definition, and you say:

18 "By way of background, the Scottish TechnicalHandbook as referenced in Annex 2.B table 2.8 rea

Handbook as referenced in Annex 2.B table 2.8 reaction to fire (prior to 2019 update) defined a 'low risk'

product to be a product where 'the surface material (or

 $22 \hspace{1cm} \text{where it \hspace{0.1cm} is \hspace{0.1cm} bonded \hspace{0.1cm} throughout \hspace{0.1cm} to \hspace{0.1cm} a \hspace{0.1cm} substrate, \hspace{0.1cm} the \hspace{0.1cm}$ 

 $23 \hspace{1cm} \text{surface material combined with the substrate) has} \\$ 

 $24\,$  a surface of Class I and, when tested in accordance with

BS 476:Part 6:1981 or BS 476:Part 6:1989 has an index of

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performance (i) not more than 12 and a sub-index (ii) not more than 6."

In the next paragraph you say:

"This therefore requires that the whole composite product is tested and must achieve the requisite fire propagation index results. This differs from the requirements of the 2006 edition of ADB in England and Wales which requires that either 'the product or [and you have underlined these words] the surface material of a composite product' achieve the necessary fire propagation index results. Thus the definition of 'low risk' includes the surface material and the bonded substrate whilst the Class 0 standard tests either the whole product or the surface of the material."

whole product or the surface of the material."
Now, you have set out there an understanding. Was
that really how you understood Approved Document B from
the time you became product development manager at the

18 end of 2013?

- A. No, it was when I became in the technical role, when we started to look at class 0.
- 21 Q. So May 2015?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. Right.
- 24 A. From then on.
- 25 Q. But is that really how you understood it?

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- 1 A. Yes.
- $2\,$   $\,$  Q. So to take an extreme example, if the foil facer was
- 3 bonded to a substrate made of dynamite, you thought that
- 4 the composite product would still pass class 0 if the
- 5 foil facer passed?
- 6 A. No, I wouldn't have thought that.
- 7 O. Why not?
- 8 A. Because part of part 6, there's a table there which says
- 9 if it's attached to an insulation element, so you
- 10 couldn't do it to a piece of dynamite.
- 11 Q. But if you're testing your foil alone, your facer alone
- 12 without the substrate to which it's attached, how do you
- know how it will perform under class 0 unless you test
- 14 the whole product?
- 15 A. You know the facing material of the product will achieve
- 16 class 0.
- 17 Q. And that's why I asked the question.
- 18 A. Which is the requirement of --
- 19 Q. Was it really your understanding that it was completely
- 20 irrelevant what you attached the foil facer to?
- 21 A. I suppose technically, yes, but in reality, no.
- 22 Q. Technically yes and in reality no is a difference. So
- let's just see if we can understand that.
- 24 Technically yes, do you mean on a strict, literal
- 25 reading of ADB?

- 1 A. Yes.
- Q. But in reality you mean on a commonsense reading of ADB?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. Yes. So on your technical reading of ADB, you could
- 5 staple the foil facer to dynamite and put it on
- 6 a building above 18 metres and call it class 0.
- 7 A. No, because you wouldn't have a classification of
- 8 class 0 applied to a stick of dynamite. It wouldn't be
- 9 a requirement.
- $10\,$  Q. Well, if it's irrelevant what sits underneath your
- $11 \hspace{1cm} \text{foil facer, it doesn't matter whether it's brick --} \\$
- 12 A. That's why I say technically
- 13 Q. -- or whether it's foam or whether it's dynamite.
- 14 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Just let counsel finish.
- 15 A. Sorry. That's why I say technically.
- 16 MR MILLETT: Yes.
- 17 A. But not in reality, because those types of products
- won't have a classification of class 0.
- $19\,$   $\,$  Q.  $\,$  So do we take it  $\,$  from that that actually  $\,$  what Kingspan  $\,$
- $20 \hspace{1cm} \text{were doing with your adoption of the view was pursuing} \\$
- 21 a technical interpretation of ADB, but not an in-reality
- 22 or commonsense interpretation of ADB?
- 23 A. I think it's a technical interpretation, but it's on
- $24 \hspace{1cm} \text{an insulation product.} \hspace{0.2cm} \text{So it's a commonsense approach} \\$

82

as well.

- 1 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: If you test the facer --
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: -- I can see that you might be
- 4 justified in describing the facer or the surface of the
- 5 product as having a class 0 or being of class 0
- 6 category, but not the product if you're talking about
- 7 the combined material. Would that be fair?
- 8 A. I think under ADB, the definition, you can have your
- 9 composite product by the surface of that composite
- 10 product.
- 11 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: You mean you think ADB allows you to
- describe the whole product, the insulation, let's say --
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: -- which is the real guts of it --
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: -- as having a class 0
- 17 classification --
- 18 A. Based -- sorry.
- 19 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: -- just because the foil facer --
- 20 A. I believe so.
- 21 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: -- was tested in accordance with
- 22 class 0?
- 23 A. I believe so.
- 24 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: It doesn't seem very sensible, does
- 25 it?

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- 1 A. Just the way it's written, I think.
- 2 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: All right, thank you.
- 3 MR MILLETT: Yes, just the way it's written, so that's why
- 4 I'm asking you whether Kingspan was pursuing
- 5 a deliberate policy of approaching the testing on just
  - the way it's written, as opposed to taking
- 7 a commonsense, in-reality approach to it?
- 8 A. No, I think it's -- I think it was both. It was part of
- 9 the definition, which was different in -- for class 0
- than it is for low risk.
- 11 Q. Let's just look at that a little bit more closely.
- 12 Did you at any stage read the actual test standards
- for BS 476-6 or 7 in arriving at this particular
- interpretation of the test requirements?
- 15 A. Not the test standards, just ADB.
- 16 Q. Right. Well, let's just look at those.
- Before I do, can I ask you: why didn't you look at the test standards and only content yourself with ADB?
- $19\,$   $\,$  A.  $\,$  Because I  $\,$  --  $\,$  the team who were doing the testing  $\,$  were
- 20 far more familiar with the standards than I was, so I --
- 21 Q. Did it not occur to you to ask yourself the question:
- how can this be? How can we get away legitimately with
- calling a composite product class 0 by only testing the

- foil facer? Did that question not occur to you?
- 25 A. Only by the interpretation in ADB.

- Q. Yes, and having seen ADB, did it not occur to you, "This 2 cannot be right" or "This is an interesting
- 3 interpretation, I wonder what the test standards
- 4 actually require"? Did that question not occur to you?
- 5 A. No, I thought it was an alternative interpretation, but
- 6 I didn't think the test standards would have any bearing
- 7
- 8 Q. Did you ask any member of your technical team, from the
- 9 latest May 2015, when you took on the technical role, to
- 10 go and look at the test standards and just double check
- 11 whether the test standards themselves supported this
- 12 technical interpretation of ADB?
- 13 A. No.
- 14 Q. Can we look at the test standards. This is
- 15 {BRE00005557}, which is the test standard BS 476-6. Is
- 16 this a document familiar to you at all, even today?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. When did you first become familiar with this document?
- 19 A. Probably a year ago, maybe --
- 20 Q. So not during your tenure -- well, I suppose you're
- 21 still head of technical, aren't you?
- 22 A. Yes, yeah.
- 23 Q. But not at any time prior to the fire?
- 24 A. No.
- 25 O. And not at any time --

- 1 A. No.
- 2 Q. -- before you did your first or indeed second witness
- 3 statements?
- 4 A. No. correct.
- 5 Q. Let's look at page 18 (BRE00005557/18), please, which is 6 appendix B. On the left -hand side of the page, we can
- 7 see "Appendix B Effect of thermal characteristics on the
- 8 performance of assemblies". It says:

"With thin materials or composites, particularly 9 10 those with a high thermal conductivity, the presence of 11 an air gap and the nature of any underlying construction 12 may significantly affect the ignition performance of the 13 exposed surface. Increasing the thermal capacity of the 14 underlying construction increases the 'heat sink' effect 15 and may delay ignition of the exposed surface. Any 16 backing provided to the test specimen and in intimate 17 contact with it, such as the non-combustible packing 18 pieces, may alter this 'heat sink' effect and may be 19 fundamental to the test result itself. The influence of 20 the underlying layers on the performance of the assembly 21 should be understood and care should be taken to ensure 22 that the result obtained on any assembly is relevant to

24 I'll just finish off some reading of the rest of 25 this I want to show you. In the right-hand column it

its use in practice."

1 says:

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2 "The following advice is offered on the construction 3 and preparation of test specimens."

> Then I think if you look at (c) and (d) you will see this:

"c) Where the product is to be used over a low density non-combustible substrate and the characteristics noted in a) do not apply [which is about thermal properties] then the product should be tested in conjunction with that substrate.

11 "d) Where the product is to be used over 12 a combustible substrate and the characteristics noted in 13 a) do not apply, then the product should be tested in 14 conjunction with that substrate."

> Now, is it right that the result obtained from a test on a piece of foil facer stapled to a non-combustible calcium silicate board is not even vaguely relevant to the use in practice of that foil facer against a combustible phenolic foam?

20 A. So if we look at (d):

> "Where the product is to be used over a combustible substrate and the characteristics noted in a) do not apply, then the product should be tested in conjunction with that substrate."

25 But in (a) they do apply.

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1 Q. They do, do they? Was that part of the thinking at the 2 time? Did somebody go through this and say, "Well, (a)

3 is disapplied so I don't have to test it over the

4 substrate"?

- 5 A. I can't say it was ever pointed out to me.
- 6 Q. No, so that's an argument.

7 Going back to the left -hand column, where a warning 8 about composites is set out:

"The influence of the underlying layers on the performance of the assembly should be understood ..."

11 By testing the foil facer alone, you would not be 12 taking the care that was required to make sure that the 13 underlying substrate had no effect on the test, for good 14 or ill.

(Pause)

A. Like I say, (d) applies, and so with (d), and (a) not 16 17 applying, you have to test it on the apparatus backing, 18 which is then the calcium silicate board.

19 Q. Tell me, you did full product low risk tests for sale in 20 Scotland, didn't you? Because this interpretation that 21 you espouse in relation to testing the foil facer only

22 doesn't apply in Scotland.

23 Α. That's correct.

24 So did you do full product low risk tests for sale of 25

K15 in Scotland?

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1 A. Historically, yes, but we couldn't achieve that "Thanks 2 requirement --2 "R." 3 3 Q. No. Do you see that? 4 4 A. -- with the facer on it. A. Yes 5 Q. Do I take it from that that, by 2016, you were aware, 5 This is June 2016. Do you know what had happened for 6 6 whatever the interpretation might allow you to do in Kingspan to consider changing its marketing material in 7 7 England, you couldn't pass the relevant test for low this respect at this point? 8 8 risk for sale in Scotland? A. I suspect Reshma may have had discussions with the 9 9 A. Yes, that's why we changed. technical team, maybe with Arron or Dan, and come to the 10 10 Q. Did you continue to sell K15 in Scotland? view that the current testing wouldn't support that 11 A. We changed -- we dropped the low risk  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) +\left( 1\right) +\left$ 11 claim. So she's flagged that then to me. 12 still -- yes, still --12 What had led to that? Or rather what discussions or 13 13 Q. Yes, without saying what risk it was? investigations within the technical team had led to the 14 14 A. Not directly, no. view that the current testing wouldn't support a claim 15 15 Q. Knowing that you hadn't passed a low risk test? to class 0? 16 A. Well, we weren't claiming low risk. 16 A. I can't recall directly, but it may have been a review 17 Q. No. 17 of the literature. 18 A. So ... 18 What had caused that? 0. 19 19 Q. No, but you knew that K15 could not pass and had never A. I can't recall, at the time. 20 20 passed a low risk test for use in Scotland, and yet you You really can't? You were head of technical by this 21 21 were continuing to sell K15 in Scotland. 22 22 A. But not as low risk. Yeah. A. 23 23 Q. Well, as nothing. You didn't describe it one way or the Q. You had been in that role about a year or more. 24 other, did you? 24 A. 25 25 A. No, not to start with. You can't remember? 91 1 Q. Did that not strike you at the time as remarkably 1 A. No, I can't remember exactly what triggered it off. 2 reckless? 2. If we go up the chain to the next email, we can see --3 A. No. You know, I thought -- we'd checked the testing, we 3 I'm afraid you have to go to the bottom of page 6 4 4 couldn't apply it, I wasn't prepared to claim it if we  $\{KIN00004168/6\}$  for it -- that it's an email from 5 couldn't get the result for it, so we dropped the low 5 Arron Chalmers to Dan Ball, copied to you, the same day, 6 6 risk classification from it. in response. He says: 7 "Dan - can you confirm mate that we should remove 7 Q. Let's look at an email chain from June 2016 where we can 8 8 see that you discuss this topic with your technical the section about the core achieving Class 0? 9 9 team. We will start with {KIN00004168/7}, please. It's I remember you saying that solely the core was having 10 a long email chain, and I would like to show you the 10 issues achieving Class 0 (I think you said Class 2 in 11 11 third email up from Reshma Roodurmun to you on some rare instances ). Not that it's an issue because 12 12 you can [in bold and underlined] claim the product as 22 June 2016. 13 13 Now, just help me, Reshma Roodurmun had what role at a whole is Class 0 if the facing of the product has 14 14 achieved this - which K15 Lamtec faced has. (see Kingspan? 15 15 A. She was in the marketing team.

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Q. Marketing team. And she reported to you, did she, by this stage? Since you were head of marketing, she must have done.

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19 A. Yes.

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20 Q. She says:

21 "Although Kingspan Kooltherm K15 Rainscreen Board, 22 and its rigid thermoset insulation core, are Class 0.

23 "Hi Adrian, please can you confirm whether we are 24 still running with the above phrase as regards to 25 stating that both the product & its core are class 0?

22 classification fire officer lining materials is Class 0. 23 This is achieved if a material [and then he has 24 highlighted the words] or the surface of a composite

And that is appendix A, paragraph 13, which says

"The highest National product performance

referring to from ADB; is that right?

Then he sets out the paragraph that I think you're

25 product is either;

That's correct.

{KIN00004168/7}:

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1 "a. composed throughout of material of limited 2 combustibility; or

3 "b. a Class 1 material which has a fire propagation 4

- index (I) of not more than 12 and a sub index (i1) of not more than 6
- 5
- 6 "Note: Class 0 is not a classification identified in 7 any British Standard test."
- 8 Can you confirm that this is the bit of ADB that you
- 9 were referring to when you were explaining just now your
- 10 view of the interpretation?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. That's it, is it? Right.
- 13 When he came up with this or told you this, were you
- 14 not extremely concerned to hear that in some cases the
- 15 core of K15 was achieving class 2?
- 16 A. That --
- 17 Q. If you go back to the previous page {KIN00004168/6} you
- 18 can see where he says that.
- 19 A. Yeah, I think he said on rare occasions, so obviously it
- 20 wasn't a consistent problem. But it 's not a consistent
- 21 test, it's quite an inconsistent test, if you like, it's
- 22 from a very old standard, so we would see fluctuations
- 23 in the --
- 24 Q. Right. But it didn't bother you?
- 25 A. It didn't overly concern me at that point, no.

93

- 1 Q. What about him saying that the core was having, as he
- 2. put it, issues achieving class 0? Did that bother you
- 3
- 4 A. No, because really the core achieving class 0 is not
- 5 that relevant. We claimed it on the core historically .
- 6 Q. Yes.
- 7 A. But I'm not sure what the relevance of claiming it on 8 the core was historically .
- 9 Q. Well, was that a view at the time, that you thought: 10 well, it doesn't matter what the core does?
- 11 A. No, it wasn't that it didn't matter, just it wasn't
- 12 a concern, an over -- a concern,
- 13 Q. Were you aware, before Arron Chalmers wrote this email,
- 14 that K15's core was having, as he put it, issues
- 15 achieving class 0, and on some rare occasions only met
- 16 class 2?
- 17 A. No, I think it was at this point that it was starting to
- 18 be flagged when Reshma picked it up.
- 19 Q. Right.
- 20 Now, let's scroll up, and we can see that the next 21 email is from you to him in response, copied to others,
- 22 including Reshma Roodurmun:
- 23 "Guys
- 24 "The decision was made today to remove the reference

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25 to class 0 because I was advised that neither the core

- 1 or the film will conform to Class 0.
- 2 "It will potentially be damaging to remove it but
- 3 not prepared to say we pass if we don't.
- 4 "So which is it? Does the facer pass or not?"
- 5 Now, you say, "The decision was made today"; who 6
  - made that decision?
- 7 A. Myself initially in discussions with Reshma, I think,
  - that she felt we hadn't got the evidence to keep the
- 9 claim for class O. So I said, "Well, if we haven't got
- 10 the evidence, then we'll stop claiming it ".
- 11 Q. Right. But you and Reshma Roodurmun?
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- 13 Was that in a meeting or an email exchange?
- 14 A. No, I think it might have been in a meeting, because we
- 15 were --
- 16 Q. Right.
- 17 A. -- in the same room.
- 18 We've seen no record of that decision, a written record
- 19 of that decision.
- 20 A. No, that's -- I think that's probably the only record.
- 21 Q. Who advised you that neither the core nor the film would
- 22 conform to class 0?
- 23 I think it was Reshma. She'd been talking to -- that
- 24 was her interpretation after she'd been talking to the
- 25 technical team.

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- 1 Q. So it's not just the core you're being told about, it's
- 2 the film as well?
- 3 Yes, under that interpretation, yeah, of that --
- 4 When you say film, do you mean the --
- 5 I mean facer.
- 6 Q. -- foil facer?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. What test was that a reference to?
- 9 A. I don't think it was a reference to a test. I think it
- 10 was just reference to a discussion that Reshma had had.
- 11 Q. Right. What was the basis of her belief that she was
- 12 communicating to you that the film would not conform to
- 13 class 0?
- 14 A. I don't know, because that actually wasn't correct, that
- 15 the facer wouldn't pass, but it was definitely the
- 16 impression she had got.
- 17 Q. Why do you ask her at the end of your message here,
- 18 "Does the facer pass or not?"
- 19 A. I'm not asking Reshma, I'm asking the technical team,
- 20 Arron and Dan. So this is to them, in response to
- 21 Reshma's discussion with me.
- 22 Q. I see. So you were told by Reshma that neither the film
- 23 nor the core would pass, but is it right that you didn't
- 24 understand why it was being said the film wouldn't pass
- 25 because, so far as you were concerned, it had? Is that

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1 what we take from this? 2 A. Yeah, I wasn't aware of why it wouldn't, so that's why 3 I put that to the team, to let me know: does it or 4 doesn't it? 5 Q. Right. 6 If, as you said, you knew the core in some cases 7 achieved a class 2, how could you possibly contemplate 8 a class 0 rating for a product based on a classification 9 of the facer alone, or is the answer to that question 10 your interpretation point? 11 A. Yes, it's the interpretation point. 12 Q. Right. So when you sent this email, this message, at 13 17.47, you had had Mr Chalmers' message back to you with 14 the quotation from appendix A of ADB for about 15 four hours that afternoon, hadn't you? 16 A. Yes. 17 Q. Between receiving his message and sending this message 18 to Arron Chalmers back again, did you investigate for 19 yourself the appendix A point and examine the wording 20 and have a think about it? 21 A. No, I probably was busy doing other things, so I sent 22 that to the team to look at. They were far more 23 experienced in the testing to 476 than I was, so 24 I forwarded it to the team. 25 Q. When you sent this message back to Arron Chalmers and 1 Dan Ball, did you really think that the meaning which 2 3 Δ intended meaning? 5 A. It was the literal interpretation, from my perspective. 6 Q. But did you think it was the intended meaning? 7 A. I don't think I just considered the intended meaning, 8 I think it was just a literal interpretation of it. 9 Q. Right. So you didn't stop and ask yourself, "Well, 10 although I think it literally says this, it can't 11

Arron Chalmers was teasing out of or extracting from the language of appendix A he was sending you was really the possibly mean this"? You don't stop and have those 12 thoughts? 13 A. No. 14 Q. Is that because you saw this literal interpretation as 15 a useful tool? 16 A. Yeah, obviously it had been relied on previously and 17 I thought it was a legitimate interpretation. 18 Q. It had been relied on previously by whom? 19 A. By Kingspan. 20 Q. And you thought it was a legitimate interpretation, even 21 though you didn't consider whether it was an intended 22 interpretation? 23 A. Yes. 24 Q. Further up the chain, we can see the same day Dan Ball 25 responds to you, and I'm afraid you will have to go back

over to page 5 {KIN00004168/5} for this email, but it's quite a long one, and it comes to you in the first instance, and actually it ends with a question, "What do you think Ade?" So this is directly asked of you by Dan Ball, same day, just after 8 o'clock that evening. The email comes to you and Mohammad Asif Irfan. Who

7 is Mohammad Asif Irfan? 8 A. He was somebody we had taken on who was doing a fire --9 a Master's in fire performance.

Q. Right. 10

> It's copied to Adrian Brazier and Reshma Roodurmun, and he says:

"Who told you that Ade? Core thats correct but not facing. Thats a true statement for k7/k12/k8/k108. But the lamtec 25micron I have done both tests recently on perf and non perf and have class o summary reports on both 25micron lamtecs. Mo what was the result on the black 18micron lamtec that you tested a couple of months ago? I know the BRE are slow but it 's a couple of months ago that you sent it to them now isnt it? Possibly longer. BRE are better but they are so slow aren't they? If you haven't heard Shelia should be able to tell you over the phone. If we can get the summary report on that as well as the ones I have on the 25micron, anything with those facings we can state are

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class 0 or state a class 0 facing to the product.

"The section in part B does state you can claim they are class 0 because of the facing/composite layer. We don't have to say it's because of the facing if we dont want to but of course thats a choice."

Did you understand Mr Ball from that to be suggesting that you could choose to decide to claim class 0 for a product based on a class 0 test on the facer alone and then not reveal that the test was on the facer only?

11 A. Yes, I think that's what he's saying there.

Then if we follow on with that to see what happens next, if we go up page 5 {KIN00004168/5}, just above Dan Ball's email, this is now the next day, early in the morning, 8.40, 23 June 2016. Reshma Roodurmun writes to Dan Ball and you and Mo, copied to Adrian Brazier, and there's a series of bullet points. The third bullet point is in bold -- sorry, I should show you the second bullet point:

- " Based on the facer facilitating a Class 0 (England & Wales), and to be technically correct, the statement I have run with is:
- 23 ·" Kingspan Kooltherm K15 Rainscreen Board is 24 Class 0 as defined by the Building Regulations. 25
  - " Without the Class 0, we would have no product for

- 1 that application.
- 2 " If in the future, the core achieves Class [0] all 3 by itself, [then] we will revert to the following 4 statement:
  - " Kingspan Kooltherm K15 Rainscreen Board and it's rigid phenolic insulation core is Class O/Low Risk as defined by the Building Regulations/[Standards]."
- 8 What did you make of that message as head of 9 technical and marketing?
- 10 A. I thought it was an accurate way to describe the 11 performance of the product, the difference between the
- 12 building regs and the Scottish standards.
- 13 Q. It didn't occur to you that that was an utterly 14 disingenuous and opportunistic interpretation?
- 15 A. No.

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- 16 Q. But it's right, isn't it -- well, actually, is it right?
- 17 Is it right that you would have no product without
- 18 class 0?
- 19 A. No, I don't think so.
- 20 Q. But in the over-18-metre market, you wouldn't be able to
- 21 use this without class 0, would you?
- 22 A. No. For the insulation, the class 0 element's not
- 23 relevant. It's relevant for the cladding material.
- 24 Q. That's a different question.
- 25 A. Yes.

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- 1 Q. Whatever you would need class 0 for above 18 metres --
- 2 not as part of the cladding, I understand that -- you
- 3 would still need class 0 over 18 metres. It does have
- Δ an application over 18 metres, doesn't it?
- 5 A. Not for the insulation.
- 6 Q. Well, we can argue about that until the cows come home.
- 7 Didn't you think at the time that testing the facer
- 8 alone and then claiming class 0 for Kingspan K15 as
- 9 a product was misleading?
- 10 A. No, I didn't.
- 11 Q. Why is that?
- 12 Because it was an interpretation of ADB.
- 13 Q. How would any buyer of K15 know that you had adopted
- 14 that interpretation and tested to class 0 only the
- 15 foil facer and not the entire product?
- 16 A. Only by defining it as defined by the
- 17 Building Regulations, that --
- 18 Q. You think that was it, was it, those words, "as defined
- 19 by the Building Regulations"?
- 20 A. That would be it, yes.
- 21 Q. Did you really honestly think at the time that by using
- 22 those words, you were signalling in clear terms to
- 23 a buyer of K15 that you had only tested the foil facer

102

- 2.4 and not the entire composite product?
- 25 A. No, I don't think I would have.

- Q. No. So any buyer of K15 being told it was class 0 would
- 2 not know, would they, that they were buying a product in
- 3 respect of which only the foil facer had passed
- 4 a class 0 test?
- 5 A. No, but they'd know that a product was class 0 by the 6
  - definition of the Building Regulations.
- 7 Q. So was it really your thinking at the time that a buyer
- 8 of K15 would look at your class 0 designation and work 9 out that you had only tested the foil facer by reference
- 10 or cross-reference to paragraph 13 of appendix A of
- 11 Approved Document B?
- 12 No, they would just need to know that it was correctly
- 13 described as class 0.
- 14 Had you any reason to think that the entire market
- 15 shared the interpretation of Approved Document B that
- 16 Arron Chalmers had come up with early in the afternoon
- 17 of 22 June 2016?
- 18 A. Had I any reason to believe ...?
- 19 Q. That the market shared Arron Chalmers' interpretation of
- 20 the Building Regulations that he had come up with or
- 21 identified early in the afternoon of 22 June 2016.
- 22 A. I'm not sure whether the market ...
- 23 Q.
- 24 A. ... what other people were doing with their class 0
- 25 testing in response to ADB.

- 1 Q. Put it this way: you weren't aware, were you, at the
- 2 time of a generally held view that the interpretation of
- 3 ADB which Arron Chalmers was putting forward was one
- 4 widely shared in the market?
- 5 A. No, I wasn't.
- 6 Q. Moving up, we can see what happens next. Second email
- 7 down on the page, page 5, Dan Ball to Reshma Roodurmun
- 8 and to you, and to Mo Asif Irfan, Adrian Brazier and
- 9 Adam Heath:
- 10 "That first statement of yours is perfect Resh and 11 should always stay like that we shouldn't revert to the
- 12 second one as its not [referring] to the product as
- 13 placed on the market. That first statement of yours is
- 14 spot on."
- 15 You see that?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 If we then go to the next email up, this is from
- 18 Mohammad Asif Irfan, and it starts at the bottom of
- 19 page 4 and goes to the top of page 5. He says that he
- 20 has tested a black Lamtec 18-metre facing and achieved
- 21 class 0 -- I'm paraphrasing what he says there -- and
- 22 then he says underneath the fire propagation index and
- 23 sub-indices:
- 24 "Since the fire propagation is well below 6, the

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25 facer is clearly a class 0 product."

He then says underneath that:

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"Now the only question I have with regards to getting the entire k15 (40mm) product tested is there any point in doing that? ADB vol.2 clearly states as long as the surface of the product is class 0 the entire product can be stated to be class 0.

"I'm sure we can allocate those finds to some other testing ..."

That's what he says.

If we go further up page 4 {KIN00004168/4} to Dan Ball's email above that on 23 June, copied to you, at 12.57, he says:

"We don't have to test the product as a whole to get class 0 quite right and we can claim it legitimately now, would just be interesting to see if there is any difference between testing facing and product as placed on market. Be good to see if that k7 got a class 1 at least as we claim. But as we got a euroclass F it would be a surprise. That's good about the black lamtec."

Now, it seems, looking at these three emails, that what's going on here -- is this right? -- is that your team, with you looking on, knew that they couldn't achieve class 0 for K15 as a product, as a composite product, but could get class 0 for the foil facer, but then suggest that K15 could be marketed as a class 0

105

- 1 product based only on the foil being class 0?
- 2 A. Correct.
- 3 Q. But the legitimacy of that approach rested on
- 4 a particular interpretation of paragraph 13 of
- 5 appendix A that we had seen earlier in the emails.
- 6 A. Yes.
- Q. And you knew of no widespread adoption of that in the 7 8 industry, as you have told us.
- 9 Did you know at the time of any of your competitors 10 honestly adopting that interpretation?
- 11 A. No, I don't think so.
- 12 So from your perspective, you would have understood that
- 13 this interpretation was entirely novel.
- 14 A. Oh, no. I mean, it was a plain potential
- 15 interpretation. So they could have been, but I wasn't aware whether they were or not. 16
- 17 Q. Did you stop to consider how such an interpretation 18 could possibly make any sense?
- 19 A. In terms of that particular test, one of the problems
- 20 with that test, when you're trying to test a composite
- 21 product, particularly with a foil facer, is the facer
- 22 itself can delaminate from the product and then touch
- 23 the burner element and affect the test. So it's quite
- 24 an unreliable type test for insulation materials. It
- 25 was really, as I believe, designed for internal linings,

106

- 1 more plasterboard-type products, and so I think it --
- 2 based on that experience, then to take that element out
- 3 of the test and just test the facer gives you a more
- 4 reliable result on the test than it would with just the facer delaminating and affecting the burner.
- 6 What I would suggest to you that these emails show thus
- 7 far is the evolution over some two days in June 2016 of
- 8 a plan to sell K15 on the basis of a claim that it was
- 9 a class 0 product knowing that only the surface could be
- 10 described as such, and then to justify that statement by
- 11 reference to a novel and unverified meaning of ADB that
- 12 you had not verified outside the business.
- 13 Do you accept that as a fair summary of what was 14 going on here?
- 15 A. I don't think it was a novel interpretation. The
- 16 business had used that interpretation for quite some
- 17 time, so it wasn't novel to Kingspan. Whether it was
- 18 novel in terms of competition, I wouldn't know.
- 19 Q. Well, you see, this is about life safety, isn't it?
- 20 Class 0 is about saving lives, ultimately, isn't it?
- 21 A. Well, it's about small-scale fire performance. 22 Q. Yes, but the point of doing the tests is to make sure
- 23 that there aren't fires in which people are either
- 24 injured or die or lose their property.
- 25 Potentially, yes.

- 1 Q. Well, you seem to be having trouble with that
- 2 proposition.
- 3 Let's take a step back. Approved Document B and --
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 -- indeed part B of the Building Regulations is about
- 6 fire, isn't it?
- 7 A. That's correct.
- 8 Q. And the reason why constructions are regulated -- and
- 9 I'm sorry if this sounds patronising, but I just want to
- 10 be sure you are really grasping this -- is to stop
- 11 buildings being dangerous.
- 12 That's correct.
- 13 Q. And the class 0 test was part of that regime.
- 14 A.
- 15 Q. So it was not potentially part of life safety; it was
- 16 actually an important element in construction regulation
- 17 to protect lives.
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Yes. And yet here you are deciding to adopt
- 20 an interpretation of the guidance in Approved Document B
- 21 which was literal, and which you had no reason to
- 22 believe was shared in the industry, either by buyers or
- 23 your competitors; yes?
- 24 A. Correct.
- 25 Was that not an extremely dangerous thing for you to do? 108

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- A. No, I don't think it was. I think because of, like 2 I say, the test, it's difficult to test an insulation 3
- material with a facer because it delaminates, and so 4 I think it was a fair interpretation of it to test the
- 5 facer, which is what would come in contact with the
- 6 actual fire.
- 7 Q. If it was a fair interpretation, why not simply say in
- 8 your marketing literature and in the relevant
- 9 certificates, under which it was sold that the foil facer
- 10 had achieved class 0?
- 11 A. I would agree that would be clearer.
- 12 Well, it wouldn't just be clearer. I would suggest to
- 13 you that the reason you didn't do that was because you
- 14 knew very well that that would immediately provoke
- 15 questions as to whether K15 had passed a class 0 test,
- 16 and you couldn't answer that question with the answer
- 17 yes, could you?
- 18 A. You could, because you could revert it to the standard.
- 19 So we could have described it that way and reverted to
- 20 the standard and its description.
- 21 Q. By selling Kingspan K15 having passed only a class 0
- 22 test successfully in relation to the foil, you were
- 23 misleading, and deliberately misleading, the market.
- 24 A. No, I don't agree with that.
- 25 O. And anybody who read the class O certificate for

109

- 1 Kingspan K15 was not told that it didn't apply to the
- 2 whole product but only a part of it, and they would have
- 3 no means of knowing that; do you not accept that?
- 4 A. If somebody had have asked for the class 0 test, we'd
- 5 have provided them with the facer test.
- 6 Q. So you were prepared to say that the product passed
- 7 class 0 but, when asked, would reveal the truth; is that
- 8 how it worked?
- 9 A. We'd reveal -- "reveal"; we would provide the test
- 10 report to substantiate that interpretation.
- 11 Q. This is a thoroughly dishonest and disingenuous way of
- 12 carrying on business, isn't it?
- 13 A. No, I don't think it is.
- Q. And it's playing fast and loose with life safety
- 15 regulation.
- A. No, not at all. 16
- 17 Q. Let's look at a few more emails in this run. I am going
- 18 to paraphrase the next few, but if you go up from page 4
- 19 to page 3 {KIN00004168/3} and then run up page 3, you
- 20 can see what happens. I'm going to summarise it, and
- 21 I hope accurately, but tell me if this is wrong.
- 22 Effectively Reshma Roodurmun asks what should be written
- 23 for the classification for the Scottish market, and
- 2.4 Dan Ball is keen to test the core of K15, and if we go
- 25 to Arron Chalmers' email in the middle of page 3 there,

110

1 he says on 23 June:

2 "I don't see any issues with stating that Kooltherm 3 K15/K10/K9 is designated as 'Low Risk' in accordance 4

with the Scottish Technical Handbook as ....

"Section 2.E.1 it states the designer is free to

choose a product that satisfies a BS Test OR a European

7 one until such a time as the BS classifications are

8 withdrawn. Low Risk materials are designated as such

9 should the surface material basically achieve Class 0 as 10 highlighted in ADB2. We don't achieve a B to Euroclass

11 which does muddy the water slightly, but it does state

12 you are free to choose a product that satisfies either, 13 not [necessarily] both."

14 Can you explain what Arron Chalmers is saying here?

- 15 A. No, it doesn't make sense to me.
- 16 Q. No, and you were copied in on that email. Did you go
- 17 back to him and say, "I'm sorry, Arron, I can't
- 18 understand what you're talking about, could you just
- 19 explain"? We don't see that happen.
- 20 A. No, I don't think so.
- 21 Q. No. Why is that?
- 22 A. I think I was just looking to see what the rest of the
- 23 team would say on that.
- 24 Q. Right.
- 25 A. I think my view was the standard -- the technical

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- 1 handbook interpretation was different.
- 2 Q. Right.

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- Then we go up one to Dan Ball's email to
  - Arron Chalmers. Again you're copied:
- "I agree with Arron. We can show it's class 0. And
- 6 in the mean time get 40mm k15 tested see what occurs.
- 7 The only reason it would fail when the facing passes is
- 8 if pentane release through the perforations causes a 9
- fail but I'm optimistic."
- 10 Just on that point, that rather undermines, doesn't
- 11 it, the argument that you have come up with that
- 12 actually the perforations wouldn't have made any
- 13 difference in an 8414 test, because actually they would
- have made a difference in this test? 14
- 15 A. No, I think it still supports that argument, because
- 16 this is a very small-scale test on a very small product
- 17 with a very low fire output.
- 18 Q. If we go to the email from Arron Chalmers at the bottom 19 of page 2 {KIN00004168/2}, the same day, 23 June 2016,
- 20 at 17.58, he says, and again you're copied:
- 22 include the product is Class 0 in the document. I'll
- 23 email Frans Paap and gauge his views on whether we can
- 24 claim low risk at present without a full product test.
  - If so, we'll have to leave that bit out for the time 112

"Right, all agreed it's definitely Class 0 so

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being and just add it as an update in the future."

Dan Ball comes back and says:

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"Agreed. Mate send him a smoke density at the same time [et cetera] ... I can't get at them here. Just to see if he can say if it's low or not. If he doesn't know no one will and we can just remove the old statement."

Then Dan Ball's response on -- sorry, I'm jumping ahead. If we go to Arron Chalmers' response up the chain at 27 June, 10.03, page 1 {KIN00004168/1}, he says at the bottom of the page, again you're copied:

"Frans has said that a smoke density figure of around 100 is low."

Et cetera, et cetera, and if we go over to page 2  $\{KIN00004168/2\}$ , he says under the text box there:

"With regards to the Class O/low risk - he believes that we should test the complete product before we can claim anything as the foam behind the foil is likely to have a bearing on the facing performance."

Now, there it is in black and white from Frans Paap, a fire engineer at Exova, that for classification to either class 0 or low risk, the complete composite product should be tested, and he gives a reason: the foam behind the foil has a bearing on the facer performance.

113

1 At the time, did that not strike you as the correct 2 advice, and obviously so?

- 3 A. No, I think because higher up he said it's a valid
- 4 interpretation, but not one that he would take, but he 5 thought was an interpretation.
- 6 Q. Never mind interpretation. We'll come to show you the
- 7 full run, I assure you of that. But just looking at the 8 advice that Arron Chalmers is passing on to you that he
- 9 got from Frans Paap at Exova, the foam behind the foil
- 10 is likely to have a bearing on the facing performance.
- 11 You had no reason to disagree with that as a matter of
- 12 science, did you?
- 13 A. No.
- 14 Q. Was that not a good point to jump into this chain and
- 15 tell those in the technical department that they should
- 16 stop trying to come up with clever ways through ADB and 17
- just test the whole product to class 0 as Exova had 18 advised?
- 19 A. Potentially, but I took the view we could still take the 20 interpretation from ADB.
- 21 Q. Against the advice from an independent fire engineer at 22
- 23 A. Frans Paap also says it is a valid interpretation as
- 24
- 25 Q. Yes, we're going to come to that in just a moment.

On the advice you get at this point, you see that Frans Paap is telling you that you should test the complete product before you can claim anything because the foam behind the foil is likely to have a bearing on the facer performance. You have told us that there is no scientific reason to dispute that.

Given that, at that moment, why not just tell your team to test the whole product?

- 9 A. Because this was part of that whole discussion, so it 10 wasn't just this moment that I was considering, there 11 were the other communications as well.
- 12 You didn't know what was coming next, did you?
- 13 A. No, but it was shortly after then, so I wouldn't have 14 made an immediate decision.
- 15 Q. Yes, so why at that moment, as soon as you see an 16 external fire engineer telling you, through 17 Arron Chalmers, what we see here, didn't you go in and
- 18 say, "Come on, we need to test the whole product"?
- 19 A. I was still considering the views of the team and 20 keeping the conversation going, but ...
- 21 O. Right.

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22 Let's look at the response that comes from Dan Ball 23 then over the page on page 1 {KIN00004168/1}. This is 24 the second email from the bottom on that page, so 25 two-thirds of the way down page 1, Dan Ball, 27 June.

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1 Again, you're copied: 2

"I spoke with Frans about this as well."

He says "as well" because it appears that Mr Chalmers had also had a discussion with Frans Paap. He savs:

"We are okay claiming class 0 from foil as it can be interpreted like that. He's just got to take the fire engineer perspective and cover himself and give the conservative point of view, ideal situation, product as placed on market but we can interpret class 0 from the face as shown in ADB. It's just we are doing what we attacked competitors for doing but low risk in Scotland words it with substrate, we do have an old report but needs updating. He feels we should test complete for low risk statement."

Et cetera, et cetera.

17 A. Yes.

18 O. Then in the last sentence, Dan Ball says:

19 "Low risk we could do with a 40mm k15 being tested 20 in a UK test house. Or thinner if we have one. So 21 should try a 40mm k15 max."

> Now, it looks from that that Dan Ball has pressed Exova with his interpretation, the literal one that you have espoused earlier in your evidence today, and got an approval, but a caveated one.

- 1 A. Correct.
- 2 Q. Is that how you saw it at the time?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. So you would have known that this interpretation of ADB
- 5 that you were discussing adopting was open to you as
- a matter of language, but not conservative and not
- 7 ideal?
- 8 A. Yes, not conservative, yes.
- 9 Q. Do you accept, leaving aside the tenability of the
- 10 interpretation, that Kingspan and you, yourself,
- personally were prepared to sell K15 on the basis of
- a class 0 representation based on a view of Approved
- Document B that was not conservative and not ideal?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. If it was not conservative and not ideal, it would be,
- it would follow, less safe.
- 17 A. Not necessarily, but I'll take the point.
- 18 Q. Do you agree with me?
- 19 A. It wouldn't necessarily mean it's less safe, but I'd
- 20 take your point that --
- 21 Q. Riskier. Would you be happy with riskier? It would be
- riskier to take the less conservative, not ideal
- 23 approach.
- 24 A. Arguably, yes.
- 25 Q. Well, what's the argument?

- 1 A. Because each fire or incident would have different
- 2 effects on the product, and just by, you know, testing
- 3 a small sample of the product, either with or without
- 4 the facer, is just an indication of how the product
- 5 would perform in a very small-scale event. But most
- 6 fires develop much more than that, and so I think the
- $7 \qquad \quad \text{difference between the facer \ on and the facer \ off \ it}$
- 8 would arguably have a less significant effect, but
- 9 I take the --
- $10\,$   $\,$  Q. Why not adopt the safer , conservative , ideal approach
- $11 \hspace{1cm} \hbox{that Frans Paap had indicated to Dan Ball?} \\$
- 12 A. Because we were happy with the interpretation of ADB.
- $13\,$   $\,$  Q. Does this exchange tell us, Mr Pargeter, that you were
- prepared to exploit a perceived ambiguity or literal
- interpretation in Approved Document B in order to make
- 16 sales?
- 17 A. I wouldn't say exploit, I would say interpret.
- 18 Q. Take advantage of?
- 19 A. Interpret the literal meaning.
- 20 Q. All right. I'll try the question again with your
- 21 preferred word: does this exchange tell us that you were
- $22\,$  prepared to interpret ADB in a particular way in order
- 23 to make sales?
- 24 A. Yes, that would be true.
- $25\,$  Q. And that particular way was less safe, less conservative \$118\$

- 1 and not ideal?
- 2 A. Potentially, yes.
- 3 Q. Even though that interpretation might place lives at
- 4 greater risk than adopting the interpretation or the
- 5 approach that Frans Paap was advising?
- 6 A. I don't think it does place lives at greater risk.
- 7 MR MILLETT: I'm looking at the clock, and I have one or two questions on this .
- 9 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: We haven't finished this document,
- 10 have we?
- 11 MR MILLETT: No, that's why.
- 12 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Perhaps we should.
- 13 MR MILLETT: Thank you.
- 14 A little bit lower down the email in the third line,
- you are told by Dan Ball:
- "It's just we are doing what we attacked competitors
- for doing ..."
- What's that a reference to?
- 19 A. I don't recall. It might have been some historic issue.
- 20 I don't know what we did there.
- 21 Q. Did you ask him? Were you not interested to know what
- 22 it was that Kingspan had deprecated in the past but what
- 23 it was now proposing to do?
- 24 A. No, I didn't.
- 25 Q. Why is that?

- $1\,$  A. I didn't -- it just didn't occur to me to do that.
- $2\,$   $\,$  Q. Did it not occur to you at the time, even on what little
- 3 you were told by Dan Ball, that here was Kingspan
- 4 attacking its competitors in the past for testing the
- 5 foil facer and presenting the product as class 0, when
- $\,\,$   $\,\,$   $\,$  you were now proposing to turn 180 degrees and do the
- 7 same?
- 8 A. It didn't, no.
- 9 Q. Was there any point during this email run where you
- thought you should end the conversation, reprimand staff
- who had suggested misleading marketing material and
- marketing K15 with fire standards that the product
- couldn't achieve, arrange an immediate team meeting and
- educate people, if not discipline them? Did that not
- 15 occur to you?
- 16 A. No, it didn't.
- 17 Q. And you were perfectly happy to go along with this
- because it would be able to increase your --
- $19\,$  A. I thought the interpretation was a fair interpretation .
- $20\,$   $\,$  Q. Let's go back to the email chain we're nearly at the top
- of. The second email down is from Arron Chalmers,
- 22 27 June 2016, 11.42:
- 23 "Yeah, does seem a bit of a cheat though doesn't it
- $24\,$  claiming Class 0 for just a facer test, when as you said
- 25 it's meant to be product as placed on the market. But 120

like everything in ADB it depends who is interpreting
the wording - like the whole K15 issue and whether
filler material includes the cladding. If a fire
engineer believes the core will affect the facing
performance though should we be claiming Class 0 based
off facer performance alone if 40mm K15 then fails to
get Class 0?"

Now, at this point, as we see just above that:

"Perhaps it would be better if you had a meeting to discuss this matter verbally."

And that's from Reshma Roodurmun to all of you, and then the email chain runs out.

My first question is: did you actually continue that conversation verbally, as she puts it, rather than in writing?

A. We may have done. I think we may have got together andjust agreed what we would do going forward.

Q. Was the reason why it was suggested that you should have a meeting to discuss the matter verbally that you didn't

want a written record of the discussions?

 $21\,$   $\,$  A. No, I think it was just getting a long email chain

22 and ...

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23 Q. Right.

Now, when Arron Chalmers says, "Yeah, does seem a bit of a cheat though doesn't it", he was right about

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1 that, he had put his finger on it.

2 A. I don't think it was a cheat. I mean, Arron had

3 originally suggested it as an interpretation. But

I don't think it was a cheat; it was just a literal

5 interpretation of ADB.

6 Q. Yes, but he says, "a bit of a cheat though doesn't it

7 claiming Class 0 for just a facer test". It is right,

8 isn't it, it is a bit of a cheat?

9 A. It's an interpretation.

 $10\,$  Q. Well, it's a bit of a cheat. It's cheating. And it's

cheating because you know very well that's not what the

people who put together Approved Document B meant, but

 $13 \hspace{1cm} \hbox{you were taking advantage of a clever-clogs reading of} \\$ 

it to try to sell product.

15 A. I don't think it was a clever-clogs reading of it; it

was how it was written.

17 Q. Do you accept what he says here in the last sentence,

18 that if a fire engineer believes the core will affect

 $19 \hspace{1.5cm} \text{the facing performance, should you be claiming class} \hspace{0.2cm} \hspace{0.2cm} 0$ 

20 based off facer performance alone? That was a serious

21 question and required a serious answer.

22 A. Yeah, on reflection, I do.

23 Q. Why didn't you realise that at the time?

24 A. I think I was just relying on that interpretation that

122

25 I'd got.

 $1\,$  Q. The reality , Mr Pargeter, is that you knew jolly well at

 $2 \hspace{1cm} \text{the time that the approach was less ideal, not} \\$ 

3 conservative and a bit of a cheat. So was your attitude

4 at the time that any weakness in fire safety legislation

5 was essentially fair game to be taken advantage of in

6 order to make sales?

7 A. No, not at all.

8 Q. That's not how you saw it?

9 A. No.

 $10\,$   $\,$  Q. Is there any other explanation for adoption of the less

11 conservative, less ideal approach?

12 A. Other than the test itself being not ideal tests for

testing insulation products, it wasn't designed for

14 that

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15 Q. You say in your third witness statement -- just for the

transcript, it's paragraph 3.49 on page 31

17 {KIN00022610/31} -- having set out these discussions and

interpretation, that you still stand by the decision

today. That was in September this year.

Are you telling us that, even though you knew at the

21 time this interpretation was being explained or

characterised to you by your staff, your technical

 $23\,$  staff , as a bit of a cheat, you would still make the

24 same decision today?

25 A. I think it was a fair interpretation of ADB.

123

1 Q. Would you make the same decision? You still think it

2 was a fair interpretation, do you?

3 A. Yes, I do.

4 Q. And you would make the same decision today, would you,

5 only to test the foil but to present the whole product

6 as class 0?

7 A. I think what I would do today is probably make it clear

8 in the literature that that's what we'd tested.

9 MR MILLETT: Mr Chairman, is that a convenient moment?

10~ SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes, I think it  $\,$  is .

11 Well, we'll have a break there for some lunch.

12 We'll come back at 2.10, please, and, again, please

 $13 \hspace{1cm} \text{don't talk to anyone about your evidence while you're} \\$ 

14 away. All right?

Thank you very much.

16 (Pause)

17 Right, 2.10, then, please. Thank you.

18 (1.10 pm)

19 (The short adjournment)

20 (2.10 pm)

21 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Right, Mr Pargeter, ready to carry

22 on?

23 THE WITNESS: I am.

24 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Thank you very much.

Yes, Mr Millett.

1	MD MILETTE THE ALL AND OLD THE	1	2014
1	MR MILLETT: Thank you, Mr Chairman.	1	"Shit product.
2	Mr Pargeter, can we now please go to {KIN0007445}.	2	"Scrap it ."
3	I'm hoping what appears is a redacted version of this	3	Arron Chalmers:
4	document, and I only need to look at the first part of	4 5	"But England/Wales is worded in such a way that it
5 6	it.	6	'implies' the facing can give you class 0.
7	This is an instant messenger chat between two of	7	"Scotland is written better, therefore our product
	your technical team, Peter Moss and Arron Chalmers.		is not class 0 in Scotland haha
8	It's linked, as you can see from the very top of the	8	"But dont tell anyone that."
9 10	page, to an email from Peter Moss to himself on	9 10	Peter Moss:
11	9 November 2016, so this is during your tenure as head	11	"What like the literature
12	of marketing and technical, "Conversation with  Peter Moss".	12	"Fire Performance
13		13	Kingspan Kooltherm K110 is Class 0.
14	It's quite difficult to read, so bear with me, but	14	"Ha ha. "Fire Performance.
15	it says at 16.30, peter Moss, "Maaaaaate". Then	15	
16	underneath that he says: "Has Class 0 fire performance throughout the entire	16	"Kingspan Kooltherm K110 is Class 0.
17	product in accordance with BS 476' which alternatives	17	"Woops "Fire Performance
18		18	"Kingspan Kooltherm K15 is Class 0
19	can we propose?"  Arron Chalmers comes back:	19	(non-combustible)."
20	"Class 0 board.	20	Arron Chalmers:
21	"K15 or K10."	21	"What K15 doesnt say that?!"
22	Peter Moss:	22	Peter Moss, over the page {KIN00007445/2}:
23	"And k110?"	23	"WHEY
24	Arron Chalmers:	24	"Look who knows their shit."
25	"Well yeah the solstice alternatives .	25	Arron Chalmers:
23	wen yean the soistice afternatives.	23	Arron Chamiers.
	125		127
1	"Not K5 anymore tho."	1	"Yeah all lies mate."
2	Peter Moss:	2	Peter Moss:
3	"Cool cool thank GOD I got it right."	3	"Just tickling your balls mate."
4	Arron Chalmers:	4	Arron Chalmers:
5	"All in the facing my friend."	5	"So is class 1 on K7/k12/8
6	And there is a smiley face. Peter Moss:	6	"Dan got class 2
7	"Yeah he wanted to use K7 and I said only	7	"I'm retesting to hope."
8	${\rm K}10/{\rm K}110/{\rm K}15$ are comparable whereas K7 has a class $1$	8	Peter Moss:
9	surface spread of flame but not a 'class O' product."	9	"Fire Performance
10	Arron Chalmers:	10	"Kingspan Kooltherm K7 Pitched Roof Board is
11	"Doesn't actually get class 0 when we test the whole	11	Class 1."
12	product tho.	12	Arron Chalmers:
13	"LOL!"	13	"BALLS!
14	Peter Moss:	14	"Alls we do is lie in here."
15	"WHAT.	15	Peter Moss:
16	"We lied?	16	"Aye."
17	"Honest opinion now.	17	And then it goes on, and then it turns into
18	"dw."	18	a personal question which thankfully has been redacted.
19	Arron Chalmers:	19	Now, I've shown you that because, although it's not
20	"Yeahhhh.	20	particularly literary, it's certainly clear as to what
21	"Tested K15 as a whole - got class 1.	21	it's saying.
22	"Wheyy.	22	Is this what your own technical team thought of the
23	"lol ."	23	bit of a cheat about how to present class 0 on K15?
24	Peter Moss:	24	A. I mean, reading that, it's certainly not the view that
25	"Whey.	25	they espouse externally, and it's very disappointing to
	126		128

1 read that from my perspective.

- $2\,$   $\,$  Q.  $\,$  But when he says on page 2,  $\,$  does Mr Chalmers, "All  $\,$  we do
- 3 is lie in here" -- I mean, these messages were clearly
- 4 never meant to see the light of day, but when he says
- 5 that, it was, I have to put to you, a true, if pithy,
- 6 summary of Kingspan's culture at the time.
- 7 A. I don't believe that's true at all.
- $8\,$   $\,$  Q.  $\,$  That was what was happening in your technical department
- 9 under your tutelage?
- 10 A. No, I disagree with that absolutely.
- 11 Q. You had been in charge of this department for some two
- $12 \hspace{1cm} \text{and a half years by this point; how do you account for} \\$
- $13 \hspace{1cm} \hbox{this attitude to occur?} \hspace{0.2cm} \hbox{And it's not just the attitude} \\$
- or the tone of the discussions; people I think would
- find that less shocking than actually what they were
- 16 talking about. How can you explain that?
- $17\,$   $\,$  A.  $\,$  I can't, because that's not a culture that I endorse or
- 18 foster at all.
- 19 Q. Do you accept that a culture of lying about the
- 20 fire safety of products is particularly serious, because
- you're taking risks with people's lives and the safety
- 22 of their homes?
- 23 A. Yeah, I don't believe that we are lying. I think that
- $24\,$  they've ... I can't explain why they're describing it as
- 25 such in that way between the two of them.

129

- $1\,$   $\,$  Q. There is no major difference, is there, other than
- 2 perhaps a difference in tone, between what they're
- 3 talking about and the "a bit of a cheat" email that
- 4 Arron Chalmers sent to you, is there?
- 5 A. Oh, I think there is. I think this is a very different
- 6 approach, if you like. It's not the same as what they
- 7 espouse externally.
- 8 Q. Let's look at your second witness statement at
- 9 paragraph 3.18 on page 10 {KIN00020824/10}, please.
- 10 It's quite a long paragraph, and we've seen some of it
- before, I think, about the differences between England
- 12 and Scotland.
- I would like to pick it up at halfway down the page where it says:
- 15 "These test results ..."
- You're talking about results for BS 476-6 and 7.
- You say:
- These test results also impacted on our Class 0status in England and Wales because we were relying on
- 20 the same composite test results to Claim Class 0 in
- England and Wales. However, as the definition for
- 22 Class 0 in England and Wales is different to 'low risk'
- in Scotland (as set out above in paragraphs 3.16 and
- 3.17) as it allows the surface of a composite product
- 25 (such as K15) to be tested, the foil facer was tested

130

- separately and achieved the requirements of Class 0. In order to reflect these changes in what part of the
- 2 order to reflect these changes in what part of the
- 3 product had been tested, Kingspan updated the K15
- product literature in October 2017 to define its Class 0 status as 'achieves Class 0 as defined in Approved
- 6 Document B in England and Wales'."
- Now, were the tests that you're referring to the tests done by Dan Ball in 2016 in which he couldn't
- 9 achieve the required propagation index for K15?
- 10 A. The tests in 2016 were on the facer, so I think the11 tests on the product may have been earlier than that.
- 12 Q. Right.
- Did you know that in August and September 2016 there was discussion internally about the part 6 and 7 tests
- 15 up to that point?
- 16 A. In August 2017 --
- 17 Q. 2016.
- 18 A. 2016, yes, yes.
- 19~ Q. Let's look at that. It's {KIN00004213}, please, and I'm
- 20 going to come back to the wording of the certificate
- 21 later, but if you look at this email run, this is
- an email chain in late August/early September 2016, and
- 23 if we look at page 2 {KIN00004213/2} at the start of the
- 24 chain, it starts with Stacey Deeming at Exova sending
- Dan Ball the results on the BS 476-6 and 7 tests so far.

131

- $1 \hspace{1.5cm} \hbox{You can see that \ if \ you look at the second email} \\$
- $2\,$   $\,$   $\,$  from the bottom in the middle of stage 2, which is  $\,$  just
- 3 above the Stacey Deeming email, Dan Ball sends these to
- 4 you. Do you see that?
- 5 A. Yes

- $\mathsf{G}$  Q. Perhaps, just to be fair to you, we need to see the
- 7 whole of the Stacey Deeming email. She says:
  - "Hi Dar
- 9 "As I thought, the testing has at the minute been 10 suspended and held at the indicative stage as a result 11 of poor Part 6 results on the first specimens. The
- results obtained so far are as follows ..."
- Then she sets them all out, "Product ref:
- Kooltherm K15", and that goes over the page to page 3 KIN00004213/3}, where she says:
- 15 {KIN00004213/3}, where she says:16 "Currently indicating a Class 1 result is possible."
- The rest is for K5.
- Then at the end, she says:
- "Please can you confirm how you wish for us toproceed with this testing? Do you wish for us to
- complete any of the testing, or stop the testing at this
- indicative stage?"Do you see that?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. Now, if we go back to page 2 {KIN00004213/2}, we can see

that, as I say, Dan Ball sends the results to you, to Adrian Brazier and Adam Heath, and he says this:

"No cigar again, k15 was worse than the K5, both look on track for a class 1, but neither as a finished product have met the criteria for class 0. This is where the regs that state that you can claim it from the facing starts to cause issues, we have a class 0 facing on K15 and therefore according to part B can then claim that anything with that facer is class 0, but when tested as a complete product as placed on the market it's not class 0.

"Kind Regards

13 "Dan Ball."

Now, just pausing there, Dan Ball is clearly
pointing out to you that saying that a composite product
is class 0 because its surface is class 0 when the
composite itself fails class 0 causes issues. He says
it causes issues. You could see that, couldn't you?
That's what he is telling you.

20 A. Yes.

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Q. Did that not prompt you to see the absurdity of the position of your decision that you apparently still stand by today, which is selling a composite product as class 0 when it had failed a 476-6 test merely because the surface alone when tested separately passed?

133

1 A. It didn't, because I think, like I've said before, 2 I think the interpretation is fair. The test is not 3 designed for this type of material, so you get these Δ extraneous results. On the fire propagation side of it, 5 it always gets a class 1 because the facer doesn't come 6 off, but in the part 6, the facer comes away and you get 7 a false result. So I think it's still a fair 8 interpretation.

9 Q. Even though, as he's clearly making it plain to you, K15
10 as a product, which people buy as a product -- they
11 don't buy it separately, they buy K15 as a composite

product -- would fail a 476 test?

13 A. It would fail to achieve the requirements for class 0 on the 476-6 element of it, that's correct, it would.

Q. If we go to your response to his email, because you dorespond to it, we can see what you say.

Now, it comes in a little bit later, 5 September, and you say, bottom of page 1 {KIN00004213/1}:

"Dan

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"Interesting results, I have a couple of questions

•" how do we determine the class 0 cert for K15 facer, do we do it or is certified by the supplier?

•" How do we account for the difference when tested as a combined part? Perforations?"

as a combined part? Perforations?"
 Why did you ask who certifies the K15 facer?

who certained the R10 lace

A. I thought it might be possible that the supplier would test the facer to that standard. It isn't the case, but

3 I thought I'd ask the question.

4 Q. Your second question is:

"How do we account for the difference when tested as a combined part? Perforations?"

Was that not the key question, because here we see you wanting to know how to explain the difference in performance between the composite as tested and the foil facer as tested? That was what you were asking.

11 A. Yes, that's right.

12 Q. And that was the key question, really, wasn't it?

13 A. Yes.

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Q. Again, you could see that one possible way of doing thatwould be perforations; yes?

16 A. I think that's a question as -- with the perforations ornot, depending on the facer.

18 Q. Right.

19 If we go to the top of the email chain then, we can 20 see Dan Ball writes back on 5 September, same day, 21 saying, this is to you:

"We test the facing separately, and we have a class 0 summary report, so under part b we can then say the product is class 0. Low risk however it doesn't cover, that requires the product as placed on the market

135

to be tested. So by only claiming it from the facer we can satisfy part B but not the Scottish regs.

"Yes it's the same issue as the euro class really, pentane and the perforations, the only product in the kil range that can be class 0 as a product as placed on the market is the Eco-Therm PrO/protect, uses a pure foil un perforated (sic)."

Pause there. Pentane and the perforations is

a reference to the pentane gases being released -- is

this right? -- through the perforations during the test

and causing a fail?

12 A. That's correct.

13 Q. Were you actually aware that only one product in

14 Kingspan's entire range could achieve class 0, and that

was Ecotherm PrO/protect?

16 A. I was by this email.

17 Q. And all the rest could not achieve class 0.

18 A. That's correct.

19 Q. Continuing with Dan Ball's email, he goes on to say 20 this:

"It is something that needs some attention if we
wish to continue with stating class 0 as claiming
class 0 from the facing is somewhat misleading ..."

Pausing there, that's right, isn't it? He is correct.

134

- A. Yeah, I would agree.
- 2 O. You would:
- 3 "... or could leave us open to un wanted attention
- 4 if we are claiming class 0 to part B but not stating
- 5 'low risk' in accordance with the Scottish regs. They
- 6 could put 2 and 2 together and realise that the class  $\,0\,$
- 7 has been obtained from just testing the facing, which is
- 8 technically allowed but when I have spoken with fire
- engineers in the past, like Frans Paaps they have agreed 9
- 10 that technically you can claim it like that but they
- 11
- always advise that the product should be tested as a
- 12 complete product (of course they would as they will
- 13 always err on the side of caution). So whether we
- 14 can/want to state class 0, when as a finished product we
- 15 will only have reports stating they are class 1, I don't
- 16 know how we want to proceed there, as we don't have a
- 17 report that states class 0 on finished product, when
- 18 I tested core we didn't even get class 1 this time both
- 19 k5 and the k15 got class 1 but they were a fair way off
- 20 getting a total index of less than 12, with no
- 21 individual result over 6. We were over 12 after 3 burns
- 22 and there are a total of 5 in the test."
- 23 Did it not at least by that stage strike you as odd
- 24 that you could claim class 0 in England by the reason of
- 25 a pass of the test to the foil facer alone, but not in
  - 137
- 1 Scotland, where the test requires the composite to pass?
- 2 A. Well, there was a clear difference in the definition, so
- 3 I don't know how the definitions were derived, but
- Δ for -- in ADB it was allowable to test the surface, but
- 5 in the Scottish technical book it wasn't.
- 6 Q. Did you not stop to ask yourself, now that this
- 7 distinction has been made crystal clear to you at this
- 8 point by Dan Ball, and ask yourself the question: why is
- 9 it that the guidance for England and Wales allows this
- 10 literal interpretation which you were apparently keen
- 11 on, and Scotland doesn't? Did you ask yourself that
- 12 auestion?
- 13 A. I may have asked myself it, but I wouldn't have known or
- 14 how to go about finding out how the differences were --
- 15 had occurred. That was just what was in the
- 16 regulations.
- 17 Q. Well, did you know at the time of any policy differences
- 18 as between England and Scotland in this respect?
- 19 A. No. Policy difference? No.
- 20 Q. There is no difference, is there, on how fires behave on
- 21 products south of the Scottish border from how they
- 22 behave north of the Scottish border?
- 23 A. No.
- 24 Q. So if the difference was a real difference as opposed to
- 25 an apparent difference, you would have wanted to know

- 1 what that difference was based on.
- 2 A. Possibly, yes.
- 3 Q. The reality is, isn't it, Mr Pargeter, that the
- 4 difference that you claim to have seen between the
- 5 English and the Scottish test requirements was entirely
  - illusory; it wasn't a real difference, it was just
- 7 an argument of semantics based on your literal reading
- 8 of Approved Document B.
- 9 A. That's correct, it was different interpretation,
- 10 different statement.
- 11 Q. And that's why Dan Ball felt he had to give the warning
- 12 that people might put two and two together and work out
- 13 what you had done.
- 14 A. Well, I think it was clear that we'd tested it to the
- 15 English and Welsh regulations.
- 16 Q. In the way that you interpreted them.
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. Or purported to.
- 19 Was it after this email that the decision was made
- 20 to remove "low risk" from K15's marketing literature so
- 21 far as it was directed at the Scottish market?
- 22 A. I can't remember exactly when we changed it.
- 23 Q. Do you know who made the decision that low risk should
- 24 no longer be claimed for K15?
- 25 Ultimately I did.

139

- 1 Q. You did that, am I right, because it would have been
- 2 completely unopen to you on the basis of the wording?
- 3 Yes, that's correct.
- 4 Q. Did you ask yourself how come, up to that point, K15 had
- 5 been described as low risk?
- 6 A. It was the core, actually, in the literature that was
- 7 being claimed as low risk, but it was on the
- 8 understanding that there was some previous test evidence
- 9 to have claimed it.
- 10 Q. Who made the decision that, even though you were going
- 11 to withdraw the description of low risk for the Scottish
- 12 market, nonetheless you would continue to claim class 0
- 13 for K15 in the English and Welsh markets?
- 14 A. Well, I did.
- 15 Q. And that decision was taken in the face of Exova's
- 16 advice that the product should be tested as a complete
- 17 product, and that that was the conservative way to do
- 18 it, and that any other approach was less than ideal?
- 19 It was based on my interpretation of ADB.
- 20 Q. So you took a conscious risk to market class 0 in a way 21 that was riskier and put people's lives at greater risk
- 22 than if you had told them exactly what you had done?
- 23 I don't think it put people's lives at greater risk, but
- 24 I do consider we could have made it clearer.
- 25 Q. You don't think it put people's lives at risk, but,

138

- 1 Mr Pargeter, it isn't for you as the manufacturer to
- decide that question, is it? That's why we have
- 3 a testing regime.
- 4 A. I just stuck with that interpretation of ADB.
- Q. Because if the logic of your thinking was carried to itsconclusion, you would think to yourself: well, I think
- 6 conclusion, you would think to yourself: well, I think 7 that this is perfectly safe and therefore the testing
- 8 regime simply doesn't matter. That can't be right, can
- 9 it?
- 10 A. No, that's not right.
- 11 Q. No.
- Were you aware at the time that industry, by which
- I really mean some parts of the UK construction
- industry, not all, often confused class 0 with limited
- 15 combustibility?
- 16 A. I wasn't, no.
- 17 Q. You weren't?
- 18 A. No.
- 19 Q. Were you aware that in the past, the phrase "limited
- 20 combustibility" had been used even in respect of K15?
- 21 A. At the time, no.
- 22 Q. Were you aware of a thinking in some parts of the UK
- construction industry that class 0 simply meant that it
- 24 was safe above 18 metres?
- 25 A. No.

141

- $1\,$   $\,$  Q.  $\,$  Can we look at your second witness statement, please, at
- 2 page 10 {KIN00020824/10}, come back to that, and let's
- 3 look at paragraph 3.18. I said I would come back to it;
- 4 I'm now doing that.
  - At the end of that paragraph there, you say:
- 6 "In order to reflect these changes in what part of
- 7 the product had been tested, Kingspan updated the K15
- 8 product literature in October 2017 to define its Class 0
- 9 status as 'achieves Class 0 as defined in Approved
- Document B in England and Wales."
- Is that a reference to the wording that
- $12 \qquad \quad \text{Reshma Roodurmun put together in the email chain we}$
- looked at earlier?
- 14 A. Yes, I think it is.
- 15 Q. Effectively removing the reference to the core; yes?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. Let's look at the documents at the time, {KIN00008729}.
- This is the Kingspan Kooltherm K15 rainscreen board --
- I don't know whether you would call it a datasheet or
- a piece of marketing literature, but the date is
- July 2016, as you can see from the top right-hand
- corner, and it's the tenth issue.
- 23 A. Yes.
- $24\,$   $\,$  Q. So is this a document you approved, given that you were

142

25 head of marketing at the time?

1 A. Yes.

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- Q. If you look at page 7 {KIN00008729/7}, we can see here
- 3 "Thermal Properties" in the top left -hand corner, and
- $4 \hspace{1cm} \text{then a little further down on the left-hand side on} \\$
- 5 page 7 "Fire Performance", and it says:
  - "Kingspan Kooltherm K15 Rainscreen Board is Class 0,
- 7 as defined by the Building Regulations."
- 8 Now, that was untrue, wasn't it?
- $9\,$   $\,$  A. No, because the facer could achieve it , so that's in the
- Building Regulations as opposed to the technical
- 11 handbook.
- 12 Q. I see. So when you approved this document, was your
- thinking that this form of words "as defined by the
- Building Regulations", was supposed to communicate to
- 15 the reader the following idea: namely that K15 as
- a composite product had failed class 0, but the foil
- surface passed when tested separately, so K15 can be
- 18 treated as having passed class 0?
- 19 A. It was to show that into the Building Regulations and
- the interpretation of the England and Wales
- Building Regulations, it was allowable to claim class 0.
- 22 Q. If you were so confident in the argument that that is
- what Approved Document B meant, why not just say that
- K15 is class 0 because its foil facer has passed
- 25 a BS 476 and 7 test?

143

- 1 A. Yeah, I agree, on reflection, that's something we could
- 2 have done.
- $3\,$   $\,$  Q. Well, now, you say on reflection you could have done; at
- 4 the time, surely you realised that you should have done.
- 5 A. It didn't occur to me at the time.
- 6 Q. You say it didn't occur to you at the time.
- 7 Mr Pargeter, I simply can't accept that as a true
- 8 answer, for the reasons, looking at the documents we
- 9 have been through, which show that this language was
- 10 intended to convey but in reality to conceal the fact
- that, contrary to what is said, the rainscreen board is
- 12 not class 0.
- 13 A. But the definition, it is class 0.
- $14\,$  Q. Was your thinking at the time that somebody would pick
- $15\,$   $\,$  up this document, read what's written there and think to
- themselves: ah, well, they only tested the foil facer to
- class 0, and that's good enough for me?
- 18 A. No, that they would see that it was, as defined by thebuilding regs, class 0.
- 20 Q. Given that you had no reason to think that the literal
- 21 interpretation of Approved Document B was one shared
- widely in the industry or by your competitors, how could
- $23\,$   $\,$  you possibly honestly have thought that anybody in the

industry picking up this document and reading it would

have adopted or even seen that literal interpretation?

144

- 1 A. I would have assumed that people in the industry
- 2 understood there was a difference between the England
- 3 regs and the Scottish regs, and it was under the England
- 4 and Wales regs, that definition was.
- 5 Q. The reality, Mr Pargeter, let's face it, is that you
- 6 intended deliberately to mislead your market, your
- 7 customers, by these words, and indeed your competitors,
- 8 for what it's worth, but would have an argument if
- 9 challenged and then see how it went?
- 10 A. No, I disagree.
- 11 Q. It was a thoroughly disingenuous and opportunistic
- 12 choice of words on your part to conceal the fact that
- K15 had never passed class 0 and never would, as
- 14 a composite product.
- 15 A. No, I disagree.
- 16 Q. And you were seeking to perpetrate a fraud on the
- market, and also to mislead customers into buying
- products that you knew had failed regulatory fire safety
- 19 tests.
- 20 A. No, that's not the intention at all.
- 21 Q. And you would do the same today, because you stand by
- that argument even now, it seems.
- 23 A. That's not ... I don't agree.
- 24 Q. Let's adopt a different angle, and look at it the other
- way round.

- $1 \hspace{1.5cm} \text{At its most generous to you on what you have told} \\$
- 2 us, which is that this was a literal reading you thought
- 3 was fairly available to you -- and tell me if I've
- 4 misunderstood that, that's how you read it at the time.
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. On a literal reading, it was fairly open to you to
- 7 describe K15 as you have here.
- 8 A. Yes.
- $9\,$  Q. Would you accept that, even on that basis, you were
- 10 exploiting a loophole in the guidance?
- $11\,$   $\,$  A. No, I think it was interpreting ADB. I don't think it
- 12 was exploiting a loophole.
- 13 Q. You were interpreting ADB, though, in accordance with
- 14 a literal form of words, rather than by reference to the
- underlying intentions in reality.
- 16 A. I'm interpreting it just by what it said.
- $17\,$  Q. You had seen a weakness in the drafting and were
- proposing to exploit it.
- $19\,$  A. No, I don't think so. I think it was, like I say, the
- 20 interpretation of ADB.
- 21 Q. And that's why you were forced to remove the references
- 22 to the product being low risk in Scotland, but then did
- 23 nothing to inform industry in England and Wales that the
- 24 classification of class 0 couldn't be maintained,
- 25 because of that literal reading.

- 1 A. It could be maintained because of that literal reading.
- 2 Q. Let's look at your second statement.
- Before I do, can I just ask you this: in Scotland,
- 4 is it right that it was only after the Grenfell Tower
- 5 fire in June 2017 that you expressly then made the
  - product literature state that K15 was medium risk in
- 7 Scotland

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- 8 A. I can't remember exactly when it was, but we'd had
- 9 a few, I think, customers ask: well, what is the rating
- if it's not low risk?
- 11 O. Right.
- 12 A. So we took the decision to make that clearer.
- 13 Q. Right.
- Let's just look at what you say about that. Your
- $15 \hspace{1.5cm} \text{second statement, please, at page 30 {KIN00020824/30},} \\$
- and I would like to look at paragraph 4.41(c), about
- a third of the way down that page. You say there:
- $18\,$  "The K15 product literature  $\,$  was further  $\,$  amended in
- $19 \hspace{1.5cm} \text{the 11th Issue dated October 2017 to state 'Kingspan} \\$
- 20 Kooltherm K15 Rainscreen Board achieves Class 0 Rating,
- as defined by Approved Document B in England and Wales,
- and Technical Booklet E in Northern Ireland. It also
- achieves medium risk, as defined in the Technical
- Handbook in Scotland.' This wording now makes clear that
- 25 K15 achieves a 'medium risk rating' in Scotland and

147

- 1 removes all ambiguity."
- 2 Now, do you accept that that wording that you have
  - set out there on the page was as misleading as the
- 4 wording in the July 2016 version of the K15 product
- 5 literature?

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- 6 A. No, I don't. It's not misleading.
- 7 Q. This is of course October 2017, after the Grenfell Tower
- 8 fire . Why not simply put out a clear, correct and
- 9 unambiguous description of the test results for this
- 10 product?
- 11 A. Because that was our interpretation of ADB.
- 12 Q. Why did you wait 15 months before getting round to
- stating what the true level was in Scotland, medium, but
- in the intervening 15 months -- so July 2016 to
- October 2017 -- said nothing about it, but simply left
- 16 class 0 in?
- 17 A. I think it was in response to customer queries about
- what was the rating in Scotland then, so we responded to
- 19 that.
- $20\,$   $\,$  Q.  $\,$  Did it not occur to you at the time that by removing the
- 21 reference to low risk in Scotland but leaving the
- $2\,2\,$  reference to class 0 in England and Wales, Scottish
- 23 buyers might think that, because it had class 0 in
- 25 Scotland?

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148

England and Wales, it was therefore low risk in

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Τ	A.	No, it didn't.
2	Q.	But given the intended well, let me ask you. I've
3		tried it before, we'll try it again. You didn't see any
4		intention for there to be any let me try it again.
5		Did you see any intention for there to be any
6		non-equivalence between Scotland and England? Did you
7		think that the lack of equivalence you perceived in the
8		wording was deliberate?
9	A.	Well, it must have been. Why was it differently worded
10	Q.	But you didn't know of any rational reason why that
11		should be the case?
12	A.	I didn't know why they were developed into different
13		definitions, no.
14	Q.	So as far as you were concerned, this was an accident of
15		drafting without any rational or empirical explanation?
16	A.	I wouldn't say it was an accident, I just wasn't aware
17		of why the drafting had gone the way it was.
18	Q.	Exactly, and that's a question you never thought to ask
19		yourself or anybody else?
20	A.	That's correct.
21	Q.	Yes. And on that basis alone, you let Scottish buyers
22		think that, although there was no specific
23		classification of low risk in Scotland, nonetheless,
24		because it was class 0 in England, it could be treated
25		as low risk in Scotland.
		149
1	A.	Not deliberately .

4 A. Yes, we should have done, we --5 Q. Why didn't you? 6 A. It didn't -- didn't think about it, it didn't occur to 7 us. We just took the low risk rating off. But, in 8 hindsight, we should have put that it was medium risk. 9 Q. The reality is obvious, isn't it, Mr Pargeter: that you 10 had no way out -- even a tenable argument on the narrow 11 wording in Scotland, which is why you were forced to 12 remove the reference to low risk, but because you saw 13 this literal reading in England, you retained the 14 class 0, and you must have realised, surely, that that 15 would mislead Scottish buyers into thinking that 16 although nothing was said about low risk in Scotland, 17 because it was class 0 in England, that would be 18 all right in Scotland? 19 A. No, I didn't think that. 20 Q. But not to think that, do you accept, if you didn't 21 think that at the time, then that was, at the very 22 minimum, a casual and reckless approach to fire safety

A. No, I don't think it was casual or reckless.

Q. Now, I've asked you some questions about your perception

Q. Well, you say not deliberately; why not, then,

redesignate it as medium risk in Scotland straight away?

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at the time of a common misconception in the industry that class 0 meant limited combustibility or safe above 18 metres, and you have never heard of that.

Can I just ask you to look at something. {KIN00020841}, please. This is an email chain from November 2016, and you're on it, just so you're clear. I want to start at page 6 {KIN00020841/6}, please, because on page 6 we can see a query from Page Park Architects in Glasgow, so we're now in Scotland, and we're now in October 2016. It's from Joanne Hemmings to Travis Hunter, and she asks him -- and I don't think we need to know who he is particularly or what project it is, other than that it's in Scotland -- and she says:

"As discussed, please see note below from the building control officer ."

And she sets out the note about suitable barriers:
"We have only allowed for cavity barriers every
20metres, as the Kingspan K15 has a Class 0 fire rating.
We don't want to go up to cavity barriers every 10m if
possible. Can you please comment?

"We will also need to add a cavity barrier detail around the windows and doors."

24 Et cetera, et cetera.

So she is talking here about insulation within

151

a cavity, it seems.

Then if we go up the email chain we can see how this evolves. Travis Hunter responds at the bottom of page 5 {KIN00020841/5} with table 13, and that's the relevance of the classification class 0 of insulation within a cavity. Travis Hunter says, just above the end of page 5:

"With Kooltherm K15 being Class 0 and Euroclass C, it would appear to fall into the max. 20m category."

Don't forget, this is in Scotland, but they're looking at class 0 there.

If you go up the pages a little bit further to page 2 {KIN00020841/2}, we see this email coming in to Kingspan at the bottom there, and up the page further, you are then engaged by Arron Chalmers, 2 November 2016 at 15.01. He writes to you and says:

"Hi Adrian,

"Can you help on this? You [are] probably aware of this issue as it's been ongoing for a while, but basically through a loophole [note the word] we claim K15 is Class 0 in line with the ADB, by just testing the facing. However, Scotland's Technical Handbook is worded better in the sense that the entire product must be tested to achieve Class 0, to subsequently be designated as 'low risk'.

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1 "So we have two options -2 "1. We know it's not low risk, shall we be honest 3 and says it's medium risk and therefore cavity barriers 4 will need to be every 10m and not every 20m. Bearing in 5 mind, this could then damage us on future jobs as 6 Xtratherm has a low risk board and therefore huge USB 7 (sic) over K15." 8 USB means ultimate selling point. 9 This is the second of his options: 10

"2. We blag it, send them our facing test and confirm that in line with ADB its Class 0, and kind of ignore her direct question about being low risk and hope their building control officer interprets this to Class 0/low risk."

We can see your response in the next email up, if we turn to page 1 {KIN00020841/1}, bottom of the page, you to Arron Chalmers, same day, a few minutes later, 20 minutes later to be precise:

"Hi Arron

20 "Tricky one.

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"As class 0 will no longer be recognised by BBA etc, is there any other test method that can be used to prove

What was tricky about a choice between being honest and blagging it, Mr Pargeter?

153

- A. That isn't tricky, it's the fact that the BBA are no longer recognising the British Standard tests and are only going to be referencing the Euroclass tests, and
- 3 Δ then what I was trying to find out was what else is
- 5 there to give us a low risk in terms of the Euroclass
- 6 standard.
- 7 Q. Why not just go for option 1: be honest? What was wrong 8 with that?
- 9 A. Nothing was wrong with that.
- 10 Q. Well, why not tell him?
- 11 A. I just wanted to find out what the other options were,
- 12 if class 0 is no longer going to be -- or the
- 13 British Standards were no longer going to be referenced 14 in the BBA.
- 15 Q. You wanted to find out what the other options were. You 16 were given a choice between telling the truth and
- 17 blagging it. I can translate "blagging" for you, if you
- 18 want me to. Blagging means falsifying or lying about
- 19 it. You are given a choice by Arron Chalmers, and
- 20 instead of telling him what the obvious answer was, you
- 21 tell us that you wanted to find out what the other 22 options were?
- 23 A. Yeah, it wasn't a choice between blagging it --
- 24 obviously we would tell them -- go for the honest route,
- 25 but we need to work out what other avenues there are if

154

- 1 there is no longer going to be class 0 in our
- 2 BBA certificate.
- 3 Q. Well, forgive me, you're given one choice of two routes:
- 4 being honest and blagging it. Your response isn't to
- 5 say to him, "Well, you've got to be honest clearly now,
  - this is clearly the time we've got to come clean", you
- 7 ask him what are the other choices. How could that
- 8 possibly be a straight way of dealing with this
- 9 question?

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- 10 A. Well, blagging it was not an option, and possibly
- 11 I should have made that clearer, but we need to see what
- 12 other options there are as well.
- 13 Q. In fact, blagging it, as described, and he then goes on
- 14 to describe precisely what that involved, was precisely
- 15 the policy you were hoping to pursue, wasn't it?
- 16 A. No.
- 17 Q. That's precisely why you felt able to produce the
- 18 product literature for July 2016 we've seen, with the
- 19 statement it has in it, ignore the question about being
- 20 low risk, which I put to you then, and hope the  $% \left\{ 1\right\} =\left\{ 1\right\} =\left\{$
- 21 building control officer interprets it to class 0. That 22
  - was the policy.
- 23 No, it wasn't. I don't -- I disagree.
- 24 Q. But your response, you see, is also telling, isn't it?
- 25 Because you come back, and you don't say to him, "We

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1 can't blag it, you've got to say it's not low risk and 2 be honest"; you ask for other options.

3 Now, is that a responsible and honest approach of

the head of technical and marketing?

- 5 I should have clarified the fact that, you know, the
- 6 option of blagging it isn't an option, I agree.
- 7 Q. We don't see that, you see. You don't entertain this 8 request, this very clear exposition of your choices, you 9 just tell him it's a tricky one and look for other
- 10 options.

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- 11 I've got to suggest to you that this really
- 12 identifies exactly what was going on: that you adopted
- 13 a disingenuous and opportunistic reading of ADB that you
- 14 claim was open to you -- one can argue about that -- had
- 15 been told by a fire engineer that that was not
- 16 a conservative or ideal reading, and decided to adopt
- 17 it, had put out marketing literature, and now that the
- 18 net was closing because somebody in Scotland had
- 19 actually asked the right question, you were faced with
- 20 a "tricky one". That's what was happening, wasn't it?
- 21 No, it wasn't. I think we needed to understand what the
- 22 low risk option was with Euroclass and not any longer on 23
- the British Standard classifications, as they were being 24 removed.
- 25 Q. Let's see how Arron Chalmers responds in light of that

1 answer. If we scroll higher up, Arron Chalmers comes 2 back to you five minutes later and says:

> "I know, our only option to legitimately claim 'low risk' is to get a Euroclass B on K15, or somehow get Class 0 on the product as a whole (which ideally is what we should be doing anyway). Neither seem like

a reasonable possibility atm ...."

It's right, isn't it, that ideally you should have been getting class 0 on the product as a whole but weren't. That's clear, isn't it? That's what

Frans Paap had advised.

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12 A. In an ideal world, yes, I would agree with that.

13 Q. Ideally, I would suggest in a compliant world, in 14 a world where you wanted your products to comply.

15 A. No, it was still compliant, but ...

16 Q. It's clear from this, isn't it, that your staff at

17 Kingspan, Mr Chalmers, knows exactly what you ought to

18 be doing in terms of claiming class 0, but you weren't

19 doing it, and that was because you were persisting with

20 your course of exploiting what you perceived and he

21 described as a loophole in ADB?

22 A. That's his view, yes.

23 Q. What kind of business, what kind of department were you

24 running, Mr Pargeter?

25 A. I'd like to think a good, well-run department.

157

- 1 Q. A department that seizes on an opportunistic reading of
- 2 fire safety legislation and exploits it for profit, is
- 3 how some people would see it. How do you respond to
- Δ those people?
- 5 A. I don't see it like that at all.
- 6 Q. Let's go to the top of the chain. This is an email that
- 7 you send on to Gwyn Davies, the technical processing
- 8 director, and Tony Scott and Linzi Hobbs:
- 9 "Guvs

10 "Just passing on difficulties we are getting in 11

Scotland, we will soon have to declare a medium risk for 12 K15 unless we can get Euroclass b on the product, this

13 will hurt us and allow Xtratherm in with their low risk 14

product. I was hoping K115 would give us the chance to

15 tackle this but hope of this has faded with subsequent

16 testing."

17 Why were you not declaring a medium risk in Scotland 18 already, given the knowledge that you had in relation to 19 the performance of K15 in the testing, November 2016?

- 20 A. Because we'd just removed the low risk, and I agree we
- 21 should have been clearer that it was medium risk. 22 Q. At this point, of course, you're alive to the fact that
- 23 you would soon have to do that.
- 24 A. Yes, to make it clearer for people, agreed.
- 25 Q. Why hadn't you done it already, is my question?

A. It just hadn't occurred. My priority was to make sure 2 it wasn't described as low risk.

3 O. Right.

4 Am I right to take from this email that when you say 5 "we will soon have to declare a medium risk for K15",

you realised that, for every day that went by, there was

7 a risk?

8 A. Yes, potentially, yes.

9 Q. Yes.

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10 In the end, of course, we know, as we've seen, that

11 you don't actually declare medium risk for K15 until

12 October 2017, so that's 11 months later. What accounts

13 for the delay?

14 A. I can't explain the delay.

15 Q. Were you simply keeping quiet in order to allow sales to

16 continue as industry had not expressly been told that

17 the classification of the product had changed?

18 A. No, that wasn't the intention.

19 Q. Did you not consider your actions in delaying this

20 change in classification extremely dangerous or risky?

21 A. No, I didn't.

22 Q. Can you explain why not?

23 A. Because if it wasn't low risk then the difference

24 between being medium or high risk was -- there was no

25 difference. So it was only if it was low risk would it

159

1 be put into buildings which would need or have the lower

2 barrier content. So if it wasn't low risk then it

couldn't be used in that, that was the logic at the

4 time.

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5 Do you know how this particular problem that had arisen 6 in Scotland was resolved?

7 A. Was resolved?

8 Q. Yes.

9 A. No, sorry, no.

10 Q. What impression in the end did the owner of the building

in Scotland who was asking the question about the

12 cavity barriers end up with about whether K15 really was

13 class 0 or not?

14 A. I can't recall.

15 Q. Did it occur to you that, unless they were told that K15

16 was not class 0 as a composite product and was not low

17 risk as a composite product, they would be misled into

18 thinking that it was and would therefore apply K15 in

19 a dangerous location, not in accordance with ADB?

20 A. No, it didn't.

21 Q. So it didn't occur to you that people were making

22 decisions about the position of, for example,

23 cavity barriers, as we've seen, based on the false

24 advice that Kingspan was giving?

25 A. It didn't occur to me, no.

158

- Q. Is it really right that you never stopped and thought 2 about what effect your approach might have on the safety 3 of those in buildings on which K15 was to be applied 4 where a class 0 certification or low risk classification
- 5 mattered?
- 6 A. It didn't. I just -- as it wasn't designated as low 7 risk, I thought that would cover us.
- 8 Q. I'm bound to suggest to you, Mr Pargeter, that your
- 9 approach to this issue was not only dishonest, but
- 10 displayed a reckless disregard for human life and
- 11 safety. Do you accept that?
- 12 A. No, I disagree.
- 13 Q. We don't see any evidence that you advised Page Park in 14 Scotland that K15 was medium risk. Can we take it that
- 15 you didn't?

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- 16 A. No, I don't recall what the outcome of that was.
- 17 Q. Let's look at a different topic.
- 18 I want to ask you about BCA Technical Guidance 19 Note 18 and Kingspan's routes to compliance document, to 20 which we're now going to return.
- 21 It's right that, going back in time a couple of 22 years, not long after the July 2014 test, you were 23 promoted to head of marketing in November of that year, 24 and we can see what that role entailed.
  - Can we go to your second statement, please, at

161

page 3  $\{KIN00020824/3\}$  and look at paragraph 2.2(c). You explain there that you were promoted to head of marketing, and you explain in the fourth line down that the role:

"... included the design and production of all marketing materials such as product brochures and newsletters. The team was also responsible for the development of technical research projects and Kingspan's fire safety compliance campaign regarding the use of K15 in rainscreen specifications . K15 is primarily marketed via literature, technical bulletins and associated professional development presentations to architects and specifiers."

Now, you have told us before that you were responsible, essentially, for the creation of Kingspan's routes to compliance document as part of the fire safety the way in which K15 was marketed from the time you started in November 2014. So we're going back a little bit in time, I'm afraid.

Can we go over the page to paragraph 4.2 of this same statement, please. I say it's over the page; it's page 12 {KIN00020824/12}.

You say at the bottom of page 12:

"By the time I was appointed as Head of Marketing in

- 1 November 2014, Kingspan's strategy was primarily to try
- 2 and increase and expand the safe use of K15 as part of
- 3 compliant systems in external cladding systems,
- 4 including for buildings with a floor over 18 metres."
- 5 As of November 2014, what percentage of the sales of 6 K15 were for use on buildings over 18 metres, even
- 7 roughly, can you remember?
- 8 A. No, I think it's difficult to break that down, because 9 of the route to market.
- 10 Q. Was it a substantial percentage of sales, or was it
- 11 an insubstantial percentage of sales, even roughly give
- 12
- 13 A. I think by 2014 it was quite a substantial --
- 14 Q. How did you seek to expand the use of K15 in the
- 15 over-18-metre market?
- 16 A. How did we seek to expand?
- 17 Q. Yes. It's your word. You say the strategy was
- 18 "primarily to try and increase and expand the safe use
- 19 of K15". How did you seek to expand the use of K15 over
- 20 18 metres?
- 21 A. By the routes to compliance campaign, so people were
- 22 aware of the routes to compliance, and the promotion of
- 23 the -- you know, that route, the BCA guidance.
- 24 Q. Right. Does that mean desktops?
- 25 A. Yes.

163

1 Q. Right.

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If we look at the next paragraph {KIN00020824/13}:

3 "Kingspan's strategy as to how to achieve such

4 increase and expansion was helped by the issuance of the 5 BCA Technical Guidance Note 18 'Use of Combustible

Cladding Materials on Residential Buildings' in

7 June 2014 ..."

8 Then you explain that a little bit more in 9 paragraph 4.4.

10 Just for everyone's benefit, the BCA released

a technical guidance note called Technical Guidance

12 Note 18 in June 2014 which gives three routes to

13 compliance, doesn't it, for combustible materials over

18 metres: either you use non-combustible materials; or,

15 if you're using combustible materials, a build-up by

16 being tested under a system test under BS 8414; or,

17 thirdly, a desktop analysis. Those are the three,

18 weren't they?

- 19 Correct.
- 20 Q. Yes, and I think you have identified this, but the
- 21 technical guidance note helped your strategy because it
- 22 expanded the kinds of rainscreen cladding systems into
- 23 which you could sell K15 by the extrapolation analysis
- 24 done by a proper desktop.
- 25 A. Correct.

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Q. Right.

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Now, let's go to page 77 of this statement {KIN00020824/77}, paragraph 8.8. In the middle of the page there, you are asked about your awareness of the content of BCA's Technical Guidance Note 18 issue 0 or issue 1, issued in June 2014 and 2015 respectively, and your answer, as you can see, is:

"I was not aware of the content of the BCATGN18 Issue 0 or Issue 1 prior to its publication and I have no knowledge of any other employee or agent of Kingspan having any such prior knowledge."

Can we look, in the light of that evidence, to {BRE00004073}, please. This is an email, and at the top of the chain, it's a longish chain, it's in July 2015, and we can see here Ivor Meredith writing to the BRE, Phil Clark, Stephen Howard and Dr Debbie Smith.

If you look at the third paragraph down, he says this:

"We are slowly educating the NHBC and worked with them and the BCA to produce BCA Technical Note 18 (the June Issue of this document should be available through the BCA website) that promotes BS 8414 and Assessments relating to BR 135. Kingspan foresee a need for a massive amount of assessments over the next 12months however this project is a little tricky as its fallen

165

fowl of their policy change and they have moved the goal posts and are refusing to sign it off without a revised assessment of the facade, even though they originally sanctioned the construction. Kingspan incidentally were not contractually involved thus was only made aware of the job when it became an issue."

Now, I should have pointed out to you that this is in the context of a particular project. It's the Kew Bridge West project, so that's what the last part of that paragraph is referring to. But I want to ask you about the first part of that paragraph, where he says, "We are slowly educating the NHBC". Were you aware of that at the time?

- A. I don't recall that, no.
- 15 Q. Were you not aware that members of the NHBC were also 16 members of the BCA?
- 17 A. I knew NHBC were members of the BCA, yes.
- 18 Q. And was it the case that both NHBC and Kingspan were 19 keen to expand the routes to compliance?
- 20 A. Yes, I would think so, yes.
- 21 Q. Did Tony Millichap not mention this fact to you when he 22 left in May 2015, just two months before this?
- 23 A. The fact that we were involved ...?
- 24 Q. Yes. The fact that Kingspan had been educating the NHBC 25 slowly and working with them and the BCA to produce BCA

166

- 1 Technical Guidance Note 18?
- 2 A. I don't recall.
- 3 Q. Right, let's look at {NHB00000977}. I'd like to ask you
  - about a meeting that took place in March 2015 with the
- 5 NHBC. This was two months or so before Mr Millichap 6
  - left Kingspan's employment.
- 7 We can see that you are not there, but from Kingspan
- 8 we have Richard Burnley, MD, managing director,
- 9 Tony Millichap and Ivor Meredith. We can see the agreed
- 10 actions from that March meeting, and if you look at
- 11 action number 3 from the meeting, it says:
- 12 "NHBC to discuss widening/amending scope of options
- 13 for demonstrating compliance stated in BCA Guidance
- 14
- 15 Were you aware that that was an action note agreed 16 with the NHBC at the meeting?
- 17 A. I don't recall seeing that at the time.
- 18 Q. Right. Now, this is March 2015, so you're head of
- 19 marketing but you haven't yet taken on the head of
- 20 technical role. You took that on from Tony Millichap.
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. So does that explain why he didn't report this to you at
- 23 that time?
- 24 A. Possibly, or I don't recall it.
- 25 Did Richard Burnley have a conversation with you at this

167

- 1 time about meeting NHBC, even generally?
- 2. A. I think I was aware they'd had a meeting with NHBC, but
- 3 with -- looking at the chronologies with our discussions
- 4 with NHBC, I'm not sure exactly when I would have known
- 5 that. So I'm not sure I would have known about that
- 6 5 March meeting prior --
- 7 Q. When you -- I'm so sorry. Did you want to finish your
- 8
- 9 A. I was going to say: prior to looking at documents for
- 10 the Inquiry.
- 11 Q. When you took over the job of head of technical, and
- 12 conjoined it with the head of marketing, did
- 13 Mr Millichap on his departure brief you about his
- 14 meetings that he had had earlier that year with the
- 15 NHRC?
- 16 A. I don't recall.
- 17 Q. You don't recall?
- 18 A. No.
- 19 You mean you don't recall one way or the other or you
- 20 don't recall it happening?
- 21 A. I don't recall it happening.
- 22 Q. Did Mr Millichap hand you his file when he left?
- 23 A. There were -- there was some paperwork, but I don't 24 remember NHBC notes in that file.
- 25 Q. When Mr Millichap left, did he give you access to his

- 1 files, whether they were in paper form or electronic
- 2 files, so that you could carry on where he had left off
- 3 in the role of head of technical?
- 4 A. Yeah, I think there were some paper files, I think, that
- 6 in them now.
- 7 Q. Did you read them? Did you take the trouble to go
- 8 through his file and pick out what you needed to
- 9 continue with the job?
- $10\,$  A. I think I -- probably, yes. I can't recall it but
- 11 probably, yes.
- 12 Q. Do you remember seeing this document at the time?
- 13 A. No, I don't.

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- 14 Q. Now, let's go back to the routes to compliance technical
- $15 \hspace{1cm} \text{document. Can we go to } \{\text{KIN00020824/23}\}, please. \ This$
- is your second statement. I would like to go to
- paragraph 4.21 on that page at the bottom. You say:
- $18\,$  "My role in preparing the technical content of the
- $19 \hspace{1cm} \text{first issue of this bulletin was limited as by the time} \\$
- $2\,0\,$   $\,$   $\,$  I took over as Head of Technical in May 2015 most of the
- $21 \hspace{1cm} \text{drafting and compilation of relevant test data had} \\$
- $22 \hspace{1cm} \hbox{already been completed by Ivor Meredith (Technical} \\$
- $23 \hspace{1cm} \hbox{Project Manager) and Tony Millichap (Head of Technical)}.$
- Once my role expanded to include Head of Technical,  $\frac{1}{2}$
- 25 I worked with the team to ensure the document reflected

169

the guidance provided in BCATGN18 and also became involved in the reviewing of drafts of the Routes to Compliance document."

The last part of this paragraph is something we have been through a little bit earlier in your evidence on signing off the drafts, so let's just take it on a bit by reference to the contemporaneous material.

Can we go to {KIN00006464}, please. This is an email you sent to Cathy Barlow at the PR firm Smith Goodfellow on 6 May 2015 where you attach a draft of the document, and we can see you say at the top of the page:

"We have now put together a brief of our thoughts on a mini campaign to cover the routes to compliance for K15, addressing the fire issues as previously discussed. We agree with your view below, regarding the approach.

"The main focus is on producing the technical bulletin and we have attempted a basic structure and mind dumped our thoughts around what it needs to say (pages 4-6)."

You can see that what's attached to your email to Cathy Barlow is a document called "Routes to Compliance for High Rise V2.pdf". That's the second of the attachments up there, isn't it?

25 A. Yes.

170

- $1\,$  Q. In fact, that document -- let's just put it in front of
- 2 you,  $\{KIN00008257\}$  -- is the draft. I'm saying that;
- 3 can you confirm that? That's the first page of it.
- 4 A. Yes

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- 5 Q. You can scroll down to the second and third pages just
  - to confirm that that's what you sent Cathy Barlow in
- 7 that email on 6 May 2015. Yes?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Right.
- $10\,$  Now, it's not right to say, is it, therefore, that
- 11 the document was already written, because you're sending
- 12 a draft to Smith Goodfellow?
- 13 A. I think the information was there, and we were looking to Smith Goodfellow to compile it all.
- to Smith Goodfellow to compile it all.
   Q. Right. You're agreeing the view regarding the approach.
- 16 If we look at the bottom of the email chain, if we
- can just go back to that, we can see that there is
- an earlier correspondence, but if you go back to page 2
- 19 {KIN00006464/2} in that email run, you can see that you
- send her on 1 May something called the "NHBC"
- 21 communication regarding combustible insulation above
- 22 18 m". What was that document?
- 23 A. I think it may have been their technical advice
- 24 document.
- 25 Q. Issue 0 from June 2014?

171

- 1 A. Possibly.
- Q. Right.

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- Now, it's right, isn't it, that Smith Goodfellow's
- 4 advice was to support the NHBC in your marketing
- 5 material, wasn't it?
- 6 A. Erm ... did it say that?
- 7 Q. Let me show you what she says. At the bottom of page 1
- $8 \quad \{\text{KIN00006464/1}\}, \text{ she sends an email to you on 5 May in}$
- 9 response to yours, and she says:
- $10\,$  "This is not as bad as I feared and I think that the
- $11 \hspace{1cm} \text{way forward is to send out a communication [in bold] in} \\$
- support of what the NHBC is saying. The letter talks
- $13 \qquad \quad about \ limited \ combustibility \ , \ not \ non-combustible, and$
- it reinforces the use of BS 8414, and of
- a fire engineering approach."
- 16 A. Yes, that's correct.
- 17 Q. Right. So was the bulletin that you then produced as
- part of a wider campaign designed to adopt the BCA
- 19 routes to compliance and thereby partner with the NHBC
- 20 on widening the scope of K15?
- $21\,$  A. I wouldn't say it was to partner with them, but it was
- 22 to support that BCA document.
- 23 Q. Right.
- 24 If we can go to the final version of the routes to
- compliance document, then, at {KIN00003148} which we've

seen before and was released in August 2015, I just want to take you to page 3 in it {KIN00003148/3}. There it refers to common misconceptions.

It starts by giving an introduction, "About this Document", and it says in the second paragraph:

"However, choosing the best route to compliance, with fire safety regulatory requirements in Great Britain, necessitates a clear understanding of the complexities and the common misconceptions that surround the use of insulation in these constructions. The route that best serves the purpose of the building and the needs of stakeholders, whilst producing a well-balanced result, may not always be the most obvious option."

What were the common misconceptions that you're referring to here?

- 16 A. I think that there was a view that it was generally 17 misunderstood the options of the BCA guidance, so we 18 were looking to clarify that from our perspective.
- 19 Q. When you say you were looking to clarify the 20 misconceptions about the BCA guidance, do you really 21 mean that you were looking to support the expansion of 22 the application of the 8414 test by use of the desktops?
- 23 A. Yes, I think that would be --
- 24 Q. Yes.

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25 Let's look at page 5 of the bulletin

173

 $\{KIN00003148/5\}$ , the routes to compliance document. In the first paragraph on page 5 we can see that, as part of a long analysis of the BCA material, you say:

"With the aim of addressing common misconceptions as regards to the use of combustible materials within the façade system of residential buildings containing a storey 18 metres, or greater, above ground level, industry group, BCA, issued its Technical Guidance Note 18: Use of Combustible Cladding Materials on Residential Buildings (Issue 1: June 2015)."

Do you see that?

12 A. Yes

13 Q. Then it goes on to explain -- and I'm summarising, 14 I hope accurately -- the fact that because of the number 15 of possible façade build-ups, you can't have fire test 16 data for every single one and you need desktops as 17 a result to expand the application. I've summarised 18 that probably rather crudely, but that's the effect of 19 what's said.

- 20 A. That's the essence, yes.
- 21 Q. Yes. If you go to page 6 {KIN00003148/6} in the middle 22 of the page there, there is a reference to "Linear 23 Route", and it says:
- 24 "Although Kingspan Kooltherm K15 Rainscreen Board, 25 and its rigid thermoset insulation core, are Class 0, as

1 defined by the Building Regulations, the linear route to 2 compliance is not open."

3 Now, can you explain why class 0 is mentioned there 4

5 Α. Erm ... no, not really . I think ... limited 6 combustibility is not open. It's not limited

7 combustibility, therefore it's not open for the linear

8 route. But I think it was just to reiterate that it was 9

class 0, but it's not -- yeah, so it's not part of the 10 linear route, so ...

11 Right. Let's just take it in stages. Again, you have 0.

12 told us before that this document was signed off by you

13 on 24 July 2015 before sending it to Richard Bromwich

14 and Richard Burnley, so you would have read it with

15 care, and I put that to you earlier.

16 A.

17 Q. Can I assume that you read this page with care,

18 particularly under "Linear Route"?

19 I would like to think so.

20 Q. Yes. So never mind the point about class 0 as defined

21 by the Building Regulations. We have been through that,

22 I'm not going to ask you about that again. My question

23 is: why are you referring to class 0 here at all when

24 class 0 has got nothing to do with the linear route to

25 compliance?

175

1 A. I can't really explain. It was part of the drafting.

2 I think it's correct, but what's its relevance, I can't 3

4 Q. Well, it's not actually even correct, is it, because it

5 gives the impression that class 0 might have something 6 to do with the linear route to compliance, and I have to

7 suggest to you that this was in there because you knew

8 that many people in the industry thought that class 0

9 was a passport to use above 18 metres.

10 A. I wasn't aware of that at that time.

11 Q. And the reason why class 0 is referred to at all is to

12 continue to make use of that perception. It's part of

13 a positive message, isn't it?

14 A. No. Well, this kind of dispels that message, in a way,

15 so I don't think there was an intention to keep

16 referring to class 0 so that it is misunderstood as

17 being of limited combustibility.

Q. So I ask the question again: what is the point of 18 19 referring to class 0 here at all?

20 A. Looking at that now, I think it must be to clear that 21 potential up.

22 Q. Sorry, I don't --

23 To clear that potential up between class 0 and limited

24 combustibility.

25 Q. I don't understand that, I'm afraid. What potential up?

1 1 Clear what potential up? please. This is the section of this document entitled 2 2 A. That there was a misconception between class 0 and "Case Studies". The first of those is a building or 3 3 limited combustibility. a project called New Pendleton in Salford, residential 4 4 Q. But you're perpetuating the misperception by continuing tower blocks, can you see that? It says in the first 5 to refer to class 0 where it's exactly not wanted, 5 paragraph: 6 6 "Nine 1970s residential blocks in central Salford aren't you? 7 7 A. No. I mean, here we're clearly defining it as not, are being given a new lease of life with both the inside 8 8 and out being revitalised thanks to a major retrofit 9 Q. When you read this document with care, you must have 9 scheme, which incorporates premium performance Kingspan 10 asked yourself: well, why are we referring to class 0 10 Kooltherm K15 Rainscreen Board in the over-cladding of 11 here under the linear route, didn't you? 11 external walls." 12 A. I didn't, no. 12 In the third paragraph down, it says: 13 13 "The tired brick façades of the mid and high level Q. Why not simply say, "K15 is not a product of limited 14 apartment blocks are being replaced by modern aluminium 14 combustibility, and therefore can't meet the 15 15 rainscreen cladding. The first tower, the 12 storey requirements of part B2 of the Building Regulations 16 16 unless it's part of a successful 8414 test or part of 'Whitebeam', was completed in July, and is soon to be 17 a desktop"? Why not just say that? 17 followed by the 23 storey 'Spruce'." 18 A. We could have said that. 18 If we can go to page 9 {KIN00003148/9}, we can see 19 19 Q. But you didn't, and chose to -a full picture of the building, one of the buildings, 20 20 and the cladding there is in fact, as we can see later, A. No. 21 Q. -- introduce the concept of class 0, and I'm suggesting 21 Reynobond ACM, isn't it? 22 22 a rational reason for that, which is that you saw that Α. I believe so. 23 23 as a selling point. Q. Yes. 24 A. Potentially. 24 A. Yeah. 25 25 MR MILLETT: Is that a convenient moment? Q. Were you aware that there were different versions of 177 179 1 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes, I think it is . You haven't 1 Reynobond ACM panels? 2 2 finished with this document, I take it? A. No, not at that time. 3 MR MILLETT: No, certainly not. 3 Q. Were you aware if the Reynobond on the Pendleton SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: But it's a good point to stop. 4 4 buildings had a PE core or whether it was an FR core, 5 MR MILLETT: Yes. 5 fire retardant? 6 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Mr Pargeter, we will have another 6 A. I don't recall. 7 short break at this point. We will come back at 3.40, 7 Q. Did you ask anybody? 8 8 please, and the usual business: don't talk to anyone A. No, I don't think so. 9 about your evidence while you're out of the room, 9 Q. Did you make any enquiries at all about this cladding or 10 please. 10 rainscreen product before it was featured in your THE WITNESS: Yes. 11 11 marketing material? 12 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Thank you very much. 12 A. No, I think we would have done the -- we'd have 13 (Pause) 13 contacted the owners of the building and asked if we 14 Right, 3.40, please. Thank you. 14 could do a case study on it, and that would have been 15 (3.25 pm) 15 done through our agent, Smith Goodfellow. 16 (A short break) 16 Q. Yes, and if we can pursue that a little bit, can we go 17 (3.40 pm) 17 to {KIN00002729}, please. This is an email from 18 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: All right, Mr Pargeter? 18 Simco -- sorry, I should show you the middle email on 19 19 THE WITNESS: Yes. page 1. It's an email from Ben Bishop at Simco to 20 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Right, ready to carry on? 20 Dan Ball about the fire certificate, and this is in the 21 21 context of a rather longer email chain about this Yes, Mr Millett. 22 22 MR MILLETT: Mr Chairman, thank you. project. 23 23 If we go to page 3 {KIN00002729/3}, we can see that Mr Pargeter, I would like to ask you about some case 24 studies in this bulletin, so we're going to stay with 24 here is Ben Bishop's email to John Simmons at Simco of

180

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23 July 2014, "K15 fire certificate":

the same document. Can we go to page 8 {KIN00003148/8},

178

1		"John,	1		confirmation that Kooltherm K15 has been specified
2		"Please filled (sic) out Kingspan questionnaire	2		correctly and the façade build ups of this project
3		below."	3		follow suit with the requirements of approved
4		If you look at the third box down, you can see	4		document B's alternative compliance route and therefore
5		there's the cladding there, and it's "Reynobond, 4mm	5		Kingspan Insulation Limited's test regime carried out at
6		thick". Do you see that?	6		the BRE."
7	A.	Yes, yes.	7		This letter is a straightforward and clear
8	Q.	You can also see that the building is 33.09 metres high	8		confirmation, I would suggest, of correct specification
9		and is a block of flats . You see that a little bit	9		and compliance of the particular external façade
10		lower down. 61 metres is Pendleton Spruce Court.	10		build-up by Kingspan, isn't it?
11	A.	Yes.	11		(Pause)
12	Q.	And Pendleton Whitebeam over the page is 33.09. So	12	A.	It appears that way, yes.
13		these are high-rises.	13	Q.	It's right, isn't it, that the K15 which is actually
14		At least, if not you, certainly Kingspan would know	14		going to go into the structure at Pendleton Spruce Court
15		that this was Reynobond 4 millimetres going in on these	15		had not in fact been successfully tested under BS 8414?
16		buildings over 18 metres; that's right, isn't it?	16		(Pause)
17	A.	Yes, from that, yes.	17	A.	Yes, that's correct.
18	Q.	I accept that you don't see whether that's PE core or	18	Q.	And therefore this letter was misleading.
19		not, I accept that. But just to show you that evidence.	19		(Pause)
20		Then if we go to {KIN00002731}, this is a letter	20	A.	I would agree.
21		from Kingspan to Simco dated 14 August 2014, written by	21	Q.	Now, this query form is completed, sent to Kingspan
22		Dan Ball to Simco, and we know it's Dan Ball from	22		in July 2014, as we've seen, and this letter is
23		page 2.	23		August 2014, so this is just about a year before the
24		Have you seen this letter before?	24		routes to compliance document was released, wasn't it,
25	A.	I don't recall it.	25		as a matter of chronology?
		181			183
1	Q.	You were Dan Ball's line manager at this point, weren't	1	A.	Yes.
2		you, August 2014?	2	Q.	As we've seen, this project, certainly Pendleton Spruce,
3	A.	No, I wasn't.	3		was clad in Reynobond panels.
4	Q.	You weren't?	4		Were you aware by 2015 that the Reynobond panels
5	A.	No, it would have been from May 2015.	5		were actually ACM panels with a PE core?
6	Q.	Right. Okay. Let's see how we go with it, then. Maybe	6	A.	No, I don't think so.
7		you can't help me with it.	7	Q.	Do you dispute the fact that they were in fact ACM
8		The first section of the letter reads:	8		panels with a PE core?
9		"Dear Graham:	9	A.	No, I don't know what the core was on them.
10		"Ref: Pendleton Spruce Court - Kooltherm K15	10	Q.	Let's just have a look and see a document, see if it
11		"In reference to our telecom(sic) of 13/08/2014	11		jogs your memory at all, {MET00040563}, please. This is

9 "Dear Graham:
10 "Ref: Pendleton Spruce Court - Kooltherm K15
11 "In reference to our telecom(sic) of 13/08/2014
12 regarding the use of Kooltherm K15 in Pendleton Spruce
13 court in a façade that has a habitable space 18 metres
14 or more above ground level; we can confirm from checking
15 through the build-up listed in the query form (attached
16 separately) Kingspan Insulation Limited are happy that

"Kingspan Insulation Limited have a comprehensive bank of third party accreditation/LABC registered details and successful testing to both BS 8414-1 and BS 8414-2. As discussed documentation relating to BS 8414-2 is with the testing facility ..."

the build-up you propose is suitable to include K15.

Then halfway down that paragraph, he says:

"In order for things to progress Kingspan Insulation
 Limited would like for you to take this letter as

182

4 May 2015 to Grahame Byrne at Genius Facades, copied to Peter Froehlich. I just mention that for the moment for different reasons.

He says:
"EXT: RE: Reynobond PE switch from transparent core to black core - deadline 4/05/2015.

an email run in April 2018 from Graham Smith at Simco.

we can see that here is an email from Liam Harper on

If we go to page 2 of the email chain  $\{MET00040563/2\}$ ,

21 "Peter,22 "The or

"The only project that we have ongoing would be Pendleton. With this in mind any material for the following blocks will need to be the transparent core as previous:

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1 1 "Spruce Court ... sent to John Garbutt about this building, 2 2 "Hornbeam ... Rivers Apartments, Tottenham, shortly after the 3 "Whitebeam ... 3 Grenfell Tower fire, on Sunday, 25 June 2017, and you 4 "Thorn ... 4 5 "Malus ...' 5 "Hi John, 6 6 Those are all Pendleton blocks, aren't they? "I have been reviewing the [case] studies on the 7 7 A. I don't know. website and Cathy has been providing some info ..." 8 8 Q. You don't know? Is that Cathy Barlow from Smith Goodfellow PR? 9 9 A. No. A. Yes, that would be, yes. 10 Q. All right. You don't know and I'm not suggesting for 10 "... (see attached word doc with all above 18 meter case 11 a moment that you would have seen this email at the 11 studies on, thought you may need for meeting tomorrow) 12 time. But looking at that, it appears, at least, that 12 however as I was going through this process alarm bells 13 13 rang when we established that Rivers apartments is also the Reynobond ACM panels going on to the 14 14 Pendleton Spruce building were ones with a PE core. called Brookhouse. 15 15 Are you telling us you weren't aware of that in 2015 "Brookhouse is featured in the first edition of our 16 16 when you used the Pendleton Spruce as your case study? routes to compliance bulletin as a case study but not 17 A. No. 17 the latest. 18 Q. Right. Did you not think it incumbent on you as head of 18 "Last week we were contacted via Jack Ditton (KIL 19 19 marketing and, by August 2015, head of technical as well Area sales manager) by the contractor (Galliford Try 20 to ensure that you were not promoting the use of  $\,\mathrm{K}15\,\mathrm{or}$ 20 Partnerships) in relation to this project, searching for 21 21 other products with an ACM PE core? answers. Apparently the client (Newlon housing 22 22 A. No. It wouldn't have occurred to -- not to me. trust/Haringey council) had contacted them, and they are 23 23 I wasn't aware of the differences in the ACM options. worried about the build-up, and are looking to see if we 24 Q. Right. 24 have any desktop studies featuring this material. They 25 25 Can we go back, then, to the routes to compliance have told Jack they are the PE core panels. 185 187 1 1 document and look at another case study, page 10 now. "Recalling my conversations with Adam, apparently 2 2 This is {KIN00003148/10}, please. Here is another case the original desk top study (by Exova) was for FR core. 3 3 study, Brook House, Rivers Apartments, Tottenham, and We planned to respond, in essence saying that we could 4 4 not do this, but I know they contacted Exova directly the first paragraph says: 5 "Kingspan Kooltherm K15 Rainscreen Board has been 5 also, we were intrigued to see what Exova would say, not 6 6 installed as part of a multi-million pounds development heard what their response is yet. 7 7 in North London, providing 222 new affordable dwellings "I will dig out our actual response and more details 8 8 along with commercial space and a new primary school." on the DST, but will need to be tomorrow as it came from 9 9 Adam." Then just above the image of the façade on the same 10 page, we can see some text which says: 10 Was there in fact a desktop study by Exova? I ask 11 11 "For the Rivers Apartments Gypcraft installed 60 and because we've not been able to find it. 12 100 mm Kingspan Kooltherm K15 Rainscreen Board within 12 Oh, I was under the impression there was one for an FR 13 a steel frame infill system. To complete the building 13 core at this point. 14 envelope, Gypcraft then fitted an aluminium composite 14 O. Right. What were you under the impression from? 15 15 material façade." A. I think from discussions with Adam. I think Adam had 16 16 Did you know that that project also featured K15 had the direct discussion --17 along with an ACM panel with a PE core? 17 Q. Is that Adam Heath? 18 A. No. 18 A. Yes. 19 Or at least, if not a PE core, an ACM façade, as you can 19 So you had a discussion with Adam Heath about it, did 20 20 see from that? vou? 21 A. Yes, from the aluminium composite. 21 Α. Yes. 22 22 Q. Did you investigate what the composite material was with Q. Is one reason why you couldn't locate a desktop study, 23 23 the aluminium? or perhaps we can't locate a desktop study in your 24 24 A. No, I didn't. disclosure, that you wouldn't have prepared one for K15 25 Q. Can we then go to  $\{KIN00007769\}$ , which is an email you 25 with ACM panels with a PE core?

188

A. We wouldn't have done, no. 1 a draft press release, "Development sets the gold 2 2 standard with Kingspan", 3 March 2015. This is about Q. No. 3 3 the "stunning new 6,500m2 mixed-use development in A. They may have obtained one for themselves. 4 4 Q. Right. Sidcup". Do you see that? 5 A. But unlikely with a PE core, in our experience. 5 Α. Yes. 6 6 Q. Unlikely with a PE core in your experience, why? Q. The text looks fairly familiar. 7 7 A. Because I think when we were looking at desktop studies, Can we go to the email chain about this document at 8 8 Exova would only do FR-rated cores, they wouldn't do {KIN00008261}, please. The first email on that page 9 9 there is from you to Tony Millichap of 28 April 2015, PE-rated cores. 10 10 Q. How far back in time was that experience of yours? where you say: 11 A. Oh, I think ... I can't recall exactly. I think 11 "Guys 12 I mention it in my witness statements. 12 "Please see note below regarding a case study on K15 13 we are trying to get through. I think this needs to be 13 Q. Not further back than June 2014, clearly? 14 A. I don't think so. looked at and responded to urgently." 15 15 If you run your eye down the page, you can see that Q. Is that because, leave aside the industry, Kingspan's 16 16 view was that K15 should never be used with an ACM PE you're responding to an email from Cathy Barlow the same 17 core as the exterior rainscreen? 17 day, and she is sending you the information about the 18 A. I think we weren't particularly au fait with the 18 complaint and asking you to get in touch with 19 19 difference in fire performance between a PE, an FR or Juan Alberts from KDS Associates, and you can see that 20 20 an A2. Obviously they were -- there was a difference, from the last email in the chain, and the project he is 21 21 but I don't think we had an appreciation for what that talking about is The Fold. 22 22 difference might be. If you look at the bottom of the page, page 1, he 23 23 Q. Right. was saying he wasn't happy with the draft because of 24 24 A. But obviously the fire engineering community doing the this sentence, and over to the top of page 2 25 25 desktop studies had got a better understanding. {KIN00008261/2}, you can see that there is an extract 189 191 1 1 Q. Right. from the press release that we've just looked at very 2 2. Were you aware of any desktop studies being done briefly indeed, and there are two parts which are 3 3 highlighted in yellow. He has highlighted the part that with a system or in relation to a system using K15 and 4 4 ACM with a PE core after July 2016, when the NHBC 5 amended their guidance to allow aluminium rainscreen 5 "The product has also been successfully tested to 6 6 both BS 8414:2002 and BS 8414:2005, and can meet the façades without a desktop? 7 7 A. I can't recall at the moment. criteria within BR135." 8 8 Q. Let's look at a further example. The same document, Do you see that? 9 page 14 {KIN00003148/14}. This is a building called 9 A. Yes. 10 The Fold in Sidcup, Kent. This is described as follows: 10 Q. Then there is another part he didn't like. 11 11 "A stunning new 6,500 sq.m mixed-use development in Underneath that extract, Sophie Fox at 12 Sidcup is the latest project to benefit from the 12 Smith Goodfellow, who is sending this email on, says: 13 13 outstanding thermal performance provided by Kingspan "He said that they've always used Kingspan products 14 Insulation's Kooltherm K15 ..." 14 in the past but that they're having issues with K15 at 15 15 Do you see that? the moment because the Local Building Control have said 16 16 K15 was unacceptable for testing by the NHBC. Main crux A. Yes. 17 Q. The building is described as a 29-metre building, so 17 of it is that because the K15 board burns it didn't 18 it's a high-rise. 18 pass; 'Successfully tested' therefore is wrong." 19 19 Do you remember that this building came to your You see that? 20 attention in April 2015 because of a complaint being 20 A. Yes. 21 raised on the wording of a draft press release which 21 Q. You then get that and, as I have shown you, you send it 22 22 also featured The Fold as a case study? Do you remember to Mr Millichap and Mr Meredith. 23 23 that? Do you know how this complaint was dealt with? 24 24

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A. I can't recall, no, I don't.

Q. Do you know what the outcome was in relation to the

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A. I don't recall it.

Q. All right, let's look at {KIN00008262}, please. This is

1 press release? 2 A. No, I don't recall. 3 Q. If we go back to page 14 of the routes to compliance 4 document at {KIN00003148/14}, we can see that 5 Juan Alberts from KDS Associates is quoted in red there, 6 do you see? And we can see that the first offending 7 sentence of which Mr Alberts complained about passing 8 8414 does not feature, but the second one does, fire 9 performance does. 10 So you responded to Mr Alberts' complaint about 11 representing Kooltherm K15 as having passed the relevant 12 test. Was that because you had been, as it were, outed 13 and didn't want to put something out that somebody who 14 was related to this building knew was misleading and 15 would complain about if you persisted? 16 A. No, I think we just complied with his request not to use 17 that description in the document, and that's what we 18 19 Q. You didn't take out the second part of which he 20 complained which relates to the fire performance, 21 because it says, "we knew we could rely on the product 22 to deliver both the thermal and fire performance we 23 required". I showed you, admittedly quite quickly, that 24 there were two parts of the press release that he 25 complained about. The second related to fire 193

1 performance.

2 Do you know why that remained in there even though 3 he had complained about it?

4 A. I don't.

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Q. Can we now go to {KIN00006676}, please. This is an email where we see at the top of the chain you writing to Richard Burnley and Richard Bromwich, copying in Reshma Roodurmun, on 24 July, attaching the draft of the routes to compliance technical bulletin, and you say:

11 "Gents

12 "We have now (finally I know) got the bulletin ready 13

for final review!

"Although we have struggled with case studies and people refusing because of the issues, we have included 3 off to kick off the document."

17 Why had you been struggling with the case studies?

- 18 A. I think potentially because people didn't want to 19 highlight how their buildings had got built potentially, 20 and I know Smith Goodfellow were just getting people not 21 wanting to talk about their properties.
- 22 Q. When you say people refusing because of the issues, what 23
- 24 A. I can't recall exactly what I meant by "because of the 25 issues ".

1 Q. Were some of the issues the fact that NHBC were not

2 allowing K15 to pass?

3 It might be.

4 Right. Okay. You say it might be; was that one of --

5 Potential.

6 Q. -- those factors?

7 A. Potential, ves.

8 Q. Now, you sent the first draft, as we've seen, I think, 9 to Cathy Barlow of Smith Goodfellow in May 2015, and 10 we've now come to July 2015 and here is the final draft .

11 Is it safe for us to proceed on the basis that you 12 and your team have worked on this document now for the

13 two intervening months, May to July 2015?

14 Yes, that's correct.

15 Q. Can we go to your second witness statement, then, and 16 look at page 50 {KIN00020824/50}, please. You can see 17 Inquiry question 23 in the middle of the page, which 18 goes as follows:

19 "As far as you were aware, prior to 14 June 2017, 20 had K15 been used in any external cladding system 21 incorporating ACM panels with a PE core (other than 22 Grenfell Tower)?

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"As at 14 June 2017, I was not aware of K15 having been used in any external cladding system incorporating

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1 ACM panels with a PE core."

Now, you were aware, I think, that Pendleton and 3 Brook House, from the marketing literature, were external cladding systems incorporating ACM panels, weren't you? Because that's clear from the documents.

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. So when you say you weren't aware of incorporation of 8 ACM panels with a PE core, your denial there is only in 9 relation to the PE core, isn't it?

10 A. Yes, I think --

11 So you were taking the question as a whole and answering 12 it literally .

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. You hadn't seen a desktop study which had extrapolated 15 the safety of the systems actually being used in any of

16 those three case studies I've shown you, had you?

17 A. I don't think so.

18 Q. Was it safe at the time, did you think, to present these 19 case studies to the market without either an applicable

20 BS 8414 test for each of those systems, or without

21 a desktop study that you had seen for each such case?

22 A. I didn't think we necessarily needed to see them. We 23 would have assumed that they'd taken an appropriate

24 route to compliance for that particular building.

25 Q. So anyone reading your routes to compliance document

1 1 would have to make an assumption that a desktop existed statement -- and we don't need to go to it, but if you 2 2 for the build-up in place in those buildings, or want to, we can, it's paragraph 2.10 at the bottom of 3 3 page 5 in that document {KIN00022610/5} -- that you a compliant and successful 8414 test? 4 4 A. That's correct. believed here that Mr Meredith was referring to K15 and 5 Q. But you didn't take the trouble yourself to find out 5 its use above 18 metres. Can you confirm that? 6 6 whether either of those conditions pertained? Yes, that's correct. 7 7 A. No, I didn't. O. Now, taking into account the lack of fire testing on 8 8 Q. Was that not risky? standard K15, and the results that you had encountered 9 9 in the class 0 testing, did you believe that Kingspan A. No, I would just assume that if they were built, they 10 10 would have taken one of those routes. had been specifying K15 in a market that it wasn't 11 Q. I want to turn to Ivor Meredith's disciplinary and 11 suitable for? 12 appeal hearings, if we can, please. 12 A. I didn't believe that, no. 13 13 Q. So is it right that Mr Meredith was telling you Now, you, I think, held a disciplinary meeting with 14 him on 17 and 18 August 2015, didn't you? 14 something that you didn't believe was true or correct? 15 15 A. No, he said "some people". A. Yes. 16 16 Q. And you made the decision to terminate his employment on Q. Right, "some would question playing in a market not 17 19 August 2015. 17 suitable for"? 18 18 A. That's correct. A. 19 19 Q. It's right, isn't it, that Ivor Meredith then appealed Q. I see. But you weren't one of those people? 20 20 that termination and met Richard Burnley, who was the A. No. 21 managing director of Kingspan, on 3 September 2015 with 21 O. Right. 22 22 Elaine Gale from human resources? Let's turn to page 10 of 18 {KIN00022322/10}, next 23 23 A. I believe so, yes. page, and look at the sixth line. He says there, after 24 24 Q. And at that appeal hearing, his termination was upheld, "group chair": 25 25 wasn't it? That's the brief story. "Business put me in a very difficult position last 197 199 1 1 A. Yes. year, it was doing my technical integrity no good + say 2 2. that our product was ok, my mission was to derail whole Q. Now, you have been asked by these meetings by 3 3 the Inquiry and you have responded in your third witness process + not much fun." 4 Δ statement to that. I think you agree that, in relation Do you see that? 5 to the meetings which you were involved in, the notes 5 A. Yes. 6 6 taken at those meetings are an accurate representation Q. "Pretend you are stupid. Got a bit of help from 7 7 of what was said. Have I got that right? Matt Ball, reams of paper coming through on a monthly 8 8 A. Yes, as far as I can recall. basis, I daren't miss anything." Q. Yes. Absolutely. 9 9 Now, you say in your witness statement that you 10 10 Now, let's look at the notes of the disciplinary thought those comments were being made in relation to 11 11 meeting from 17 August, first of all, {KIN00022322}, and Kingspan K5; is that right? 12 let's look at the first page just to orientate ourselves 12 That's correct. 13 13 in what we're looking at. It's a formal document, Q. Okay. Why K5 only and not also K15? 14 "Statement/interview document". "Interviewer: 14 A. Because in the lines above, he's very specific there 15 Adrian Pargeter", that's you, "Position: Head of Tech 15 about K5 issues, governor of PU Europe, or convener of 16 16 and [Marketing]", "Date: 17 August", "Interviewee: PU Europe. So he is talking there about the EWI issues, 17 Ivor Meredith". Susan Ewart was the management rep 17 not K15 issues. 18 there, and this is one of 18 pages. 18 Q. We can find the reference if need be, but Mr Meredith 19 19 If we go to page 9 {KIN00022322/9}, at the second I, said that he was talking about K15 as well as K5 there. 20 three lines down, Mr Meredith is noted as saying in 20 That was not my interpretation of that. 21 relation to a meeting with the NHBC in 2014: 21 Q. Not your interpretation of what he said at the time, or 22 22 "I had to be careful, a lot of responsibility. not your interpretation of the note?

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Both.

Q. Right.

A.

suitable for."

Tricky line, some would question playing in market not

Now, you have said in your third witness

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Looking at page 14  $\{KIN00022322/14\}$ , the first I

1 there in the middle of the first line, he says: 1 received. I think it was this lack of standard 2 2 "I have to be on top of it." 3 3 Then looking at the second I, he says: 4 4 "Time, definitely, K15 project making sure none of Now, we've seen that it clearly was a fabrication of 5 that being pulled off wall, my main goals + this one was 5 6 6 A. At the time I didn't think that. failing, not sure of answers + not sure what to do, 7 7 making up as going a lot, I was trying to keep it on O. At the time of what? 8 8 track + PW could complain." A. Of his hearing. 9 9 Now, you say at paragraph 2.13 of your third witness 10 statement {KIN00022610/6} that you thought Ivor Meredith 10 11 was referring to a large number of high-rise projects 11 interview? 12 which were live which he was keeping track of. Now, 12 MR MILLETT: Yes. Certainly. 13 13 that was about 200 projects or so, wasn't it? 14 14 A. I believe it was of that order, yes. 15 15 Q. Let's go to your third statement at paragraph 2.13, about in the middle of the page? 16 page 6 in that. You say there in the fourth line down: 16 (Pause) 17 "I believe that for each of the projects on this 17 18 list, Insulation UK had to provide test and 18 queries that were coming in. 19 19 certification evidence for consideration by the project Q. Right. 20 architects / fire  $\,$  engineers to  $\,$  support the use of  $\,$  K15  $\,$ 20 21 21 above 18m in the proposed application, as required by 22 22 the NHBC, otherwise K15 would not be used." 23 23 Now, how could Kingspan do that? How could Kingspan 24 24 provide test and certification evidence for 25 25 consideration by project architects, fire engineers, in 201 203 1 1 all these projects? 2 2 A. It was providing whatever evidence we'd got in terms of 3 3 the 8414 testing. 4 4 Q. How could Ivor Meredith or anyone sensibly be given the 5 role of trying to ensure the use of K15 on every 5 6 6 isn't it?

- 7 A. It was a lot of projects that were starting to come in 8 or had started to come in, so it was a -- it was a big
- 9 problem at the time.
- 10 Q. Yes. Indeed, it was a big problem, wasn't it, because 11 without any BR 135 certificate in place for any build-up
- 12 using standard K15, there was no certification or any
- 13 evidence which could support the use of K15 in any of 14 these projects?
- 15 A. It was just the BS 8414 data that we'd got at the time.
- 16 Q. Exactly, which Mr Meredith knew at the time, and you 17 have confirmed, was in fact a test done on a different 18 product.
- 19 A. Yes, that's correct.
- 20 Q. Yes.
- 21 You go on in your statement to say:
- 22 "Although Ivor had the technical knowledge to answer 23 these questions, Insulation UK had not necessarily had 24 to provide equivalent information previously and so he
- 25 was determining appropriate responses as queries were 202

templates that Ivor was referring to rather than

suggesting that there was any fabrication of the truth."

the truth rather than lack of templates, wasn't it?

- Q. You didn't think that, but he was telling you that.
- SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Can we go back to the notes of the
- Can we go back to the note, page 14
  - {KIN00022322/14}. What did you think he was talking
- A. Yeah, I think he was talking about responding to the
  - Well, let's move on through the notes. Can we go to page 15 {KIN00022322/15}. At the second I, he says:
- "Time [flies], my priorities sat with live projects, shared by TM [that's Tony Millichap]. Kept me sweet,
- damaged my integrity when just being told to book
  - a test, so £50k wasted each time. Might take longer +

work's all that matters, in my eyes anyhow."

So you were aware at that point that, of course,

he'd been to NHBC meetings with Mr Millichap. Were you

aware at that point of the pressure Ivor Meredith was

- under? That's clearly what he is telling you here,
- 7 A. Yes, I knew when I -- not long after I took over that, 8
- you know, he was extremely busy.
- 9 Q. And you knew the background to this, because you knew 10 there was a threat by the NHBC --
- 11 A. NHBC, yes.
- 12 -- that they would not continue to approve K15 because
- 13 of the lack of fire testing; that's right, isn't it?
- 14 A. That's correct.
- 15 Q. And this is so certainly by the middle of 2015.
- 16 Was it Ivor Meredith's responsibility to produce
- 17 successful fire tests to satisfy the NHBC?
- 18 It was -- yes, it was part of his responsibility, yes.
- 19 And when Mr Millichap left, was Ivor Meredith given any 20 support for that work?
- 21 A. I actually proposed that we take on a fire engineer to
  - help support Ivor in his role, because he was managing
- 23 a team of people, and I could see he needed some
- 24 support, I could see he -- and it was the fire side of
- 25 the projects that he needed support on, so I suggested

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1 we recruit a fire engineer to support him. 2 Q. Now, by this time you had been head of technical for 3 three months or so. Did you not recognise the situation 4 that Mr Meredith was describing here? Did you not begin 5 to have an inkling as to what he was telling you? 6 A. An inkling of what? 7 Q. Well, let's look at the middle of page 15. He says: 8 "... damaged my integrity when just being told to 9 book a test." 10 What did you think he was talking about? 11 A. I don't know about damaging his integrity, but I guess 12 he was saying that he wasn't being given any direction 13 or support previously. 14 Q. Did you not take away from this interview at least the 15 impression that Ivor Meredith was under pressure to 16 produce successful 8414 tests for K15 for the simple 17 reason that there wasn't a reliable test for K15 under 18 8414 that could be used to pacify the market or placate 19 20 A. No, not at that point, but I think that there wasn't 21 enough evidence. 22 Q. Right. 23 Well, let's look at the appeal hearing at 24 {KIN00008681}. These are the notes, similar template, 25 3 September 2015, "Chair: Richard Burnley", "Others 205 1 Present: Elaine Gale". 2 You weren't present at the meeting, but did you get 3 to see these meeting notes afterwards? 4 A. No, not directly afterwards. 5 Q. How long afterwards? 6 A. It was, I think, September 2017 when I saw these. 7 Q. Right, okay. 8 Now, if we go to page 5 {KIN00008681/5} and pick it

> you do has been fairly critical in terms of Kingspan's product being approved, in terms of fire safety? "IM: Yes I would say that I have been put in a situation where I have had to maintain performance that perhaps our products don't deserve. I have the ability to show that our products can be used in areas where you [would] normally require material which would be non-combustible; from a critical lifesaver perspective. I have performed in a number of tests in 2005, Kingspan changed the technology of our foam and we couldn't repeat those tests. We were outed by a consultant who we then had to fabricate a story to that the product still said what it did not the tin. Although I bucked at that point and said to my manager, at the time, that we are stretching the truth here and

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"EG: As I understand it your role, or the work that

up from the second EG there, she says:

what we are going into an area ... where we cannot support the performance of the product. I wasn't the senior person there, we produced documentation and we inferred to the industry that our product could do something that potentially it couldn't. "EG: With respect, this was 10 years ago. "IM: No this was about 8 years ago now. "EG: You just said to me that this as 2005.

"IM: This was when the testing was done. What's happened in the last 18 months, longer than that actually, al lot of those projects that we have sold into have started to come back and start to question that performance. I have been under a great deal of pressure to actually maintain that performance when it is evident through testing that our product struggles with that. We have obviously had to ... I have been very busy doing a large amount of testing, there was technology that could pass, but we were struggling to get the technology to pass, to justify our lie."

Now, you agree in your third statement at paragraph 3.5 -- page 17 {KIN00022610/17}, if you want to go to it -- that Mr Meredith is talking about K15 here. That's right, isn't it?

24 A. Yes.

25 We looked at this earlier on in your evidence, but

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1 having undertaken the work in reviewing the historic 2 fire testing of K15, you do recognise that Mr Meredith 3 is here explaining the issues that Kingspan had when 4 they changed from old technology to new technology. 5 A. Yes. 6 Q. Yes.

7 A. I believe so.

8 Q. It's right, isn't it, he is right, that Kingspan were 9 struggling to get K15 to pass an 8414 test which they 10 claimed that they had in the marketing material; that's 11 correct, isn't it?

12 No, I think we -- they'd got the passes but there are 13 obviously those Sotech tests that I think he may have

14 been referring to there. 15

Q. Right. When he said to Mr Burnley at that hearing that you inferred to the industry that the product could do something that potentially it couldn't, and then goes on in the next passage to say, "doing a large amount of testing ... struggling to get the technology to pass, to justify our lie", the lie there was that K15 had passed

21 a full-scale 8414 test when, in fact, what was being

22 sold had not, isn't it?

23 I think, yeah, potentially that was what he was talking 24

25 Q. Do you agree, looking back on it, that Kingspan had been 208

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stretching the truth, to put it mildly, of the performance of K15?

(Pause)

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- 4 A. I'm not sure it was stretching the truth, but it was
   5 providing the evidence of the testing, but then,
   6 you know, trying to support projects that were not
   7 strictly in line with that test evidence.
- Q. It's right, isn't it, that Ivor Meredith was under
   pressure to perpetuate falsehoods when and because K15
   kept failing full-scale fire tests?
- A. I don't think he was perpetuating falsehoods, but he
  was -- for want of a better phrase, he was hamstrung by
  the test evidence he'd got at the time to cover the
  range of applications that were starting to come
  through, or had started to come through. I'd agree with
  that.
- Q. Let's look at page 7 {KIN00008681/7}, in the middle of the page there, or about two-thirds of the way down, he says -- and it's hard to find. You can see there is a large black redaction mark, and five lines below that he says, in the middle of the paragraph:
  - "... because my boss Tony Millichap was moving to another job role, so in his last month he removed all of his responsibilities and said 'that's your choice now'. There was no-one out there ... that was no specialist in

209

the marketplace. It was on my shoulders to make all of the decisions, and if anything I kept our heads above water during that time, and although I might have been accused of parking some of my important projects, at least the 230 high rise buildings that were being, that could have asked to remove the Kingspan insulation off them, they were never, as far as I am aware, we managed to evade the problem. Kingspan couldn't say that we were completely happy with the construction because we weren't ... we couldn't high-light it to the person we sold it to and the person at NHBC that it was an issue, so I mean Adrian was very busy as soon as he took over the role, sales team. I like to think they were pulling fast ones, they were pushing [Optim-R] into inverted roofing which was not acceptable, they were pushing Tech into flat roofing, which was not acceptable, there were a number of things that were obviously being slipped, they were taking advantage of Adrian's new position. Unfortunately, I kind of took that responsibility on myself, to show Adrian why these things were an issue and high-light them to him."

What do you say about that? What do you say about him highlighting these issues to you?

A. He's -- I believe there he's referring to -- can you go back a page?

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1 Q. Yes, go back to page 7, please.

A. So he is talking about these projects here, tech into
 flat roofing and Optim-R, and I think what he is trying
 to say is that the sales team were looking to try and

get applications supported by the technical team

6 which -- to sort of expediate(sic) these applications

through the technical team without a thorough review,
and so he felt -- that's what I interpret into that --

and so he felt -- that's what I interpret into that --

 $9 \hspace{1cm} \text{that they potentially saw an opportunity in me, who was} \\$ 

new in the role, and not experienced in all of these different applications, that they may be able to do

12 that. I don't think this was true, but obviously it

seemed like his perception. So he felt he was having to block those attempts, is the way I read that.

15 Q. We've seen quite a lot of this, and I know you were not

at this hearing and didn't see the transcript until later; did Richard Burnley come to you after this

hearing in early September 2015 and ask you yourself

about what you knew of what Mr Meredith was telling him

 $20\,$  about not doing what it said on the tin , "justifying our

21 lie", and matters of that nature?

22 A. No, we never had a discussion about the detail.

 $2\,3\,$   $\,$  Q.  $\,$  Did you have a discussion about generalities ?

 $24\,$  A. Just about his overall demeanour and how he was, and,

25 you know, I was interested to see what Richard's opinion

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 $1 \hspace{1cm} \text{was on whether he agreed with my decision to \ dismiss.} \\$ 

Q. Richard Burnley didn't say to you, "Well, he has told us
 some extraordinary stuff about being under pressure,

having his integrity compromised and justifying a lie of some kind, and he explained to me that he'd told you all

6 about it "? Richard Burnley didn't come back and ask you

7 any of the detail; is that right?

A. No, I think Richard would have been aware that Ivor was under pressure, so I think he would have already been aware of some of that.

Q. And did Richard Burnley come back to you and ask you ortell you that he had been told that K15 had changed

13 after the BS 8414 test in 2005?

14 A. No.

 $15 \quad \text{ Q.} \quad \text{When you saw this appeal note in September 2017, as you}$ 

say you did for the first time, were you not surprised that Mr Burnley had not actually asked you about any of

these things or told you about what Mr Meredith had told

19 him?

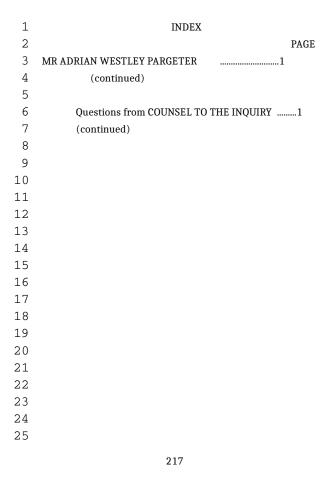
20 A. Erm ... well, I don't recall whether I've thought that 21 or not at the time.

22 Q. Right.

Do I take it that, whatever Richard Burnley did or didn't tell you about this appeal hearing, regardless of what we now see Mr Meredith said in these notes, both

December 8, 2020 Grenfell Tower Inquiry Day 84

1		the disciplinary hearing and the appeal hearing, no	1	stop, because not only is it the end of the afternoon,
2		internal investigation was done after September 2015 to	2	it 's been a long afternoon for Mr Pargeter, so I think
3		follow up on what Mr Meredith had said to you, to try to	3	we should stop there.
4		understand what issues he was facing and why, and to	4	MR MILLETT: Yes.
5		interview other people in the technical team, and indeed	5	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Mr Pargeter, I'm afraid there are
6		the marketing team, to find out whether there was any	6	more questions we need to ask you.
7		truth in what he was telling you?	7	THE WITNESS: I understand.
8	A.	I think from the original dismissal hearing, I don't	8	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Although you weren't originally
9		think there was anything new in what he was saying there	9	asked to make yourself available for a third day, I
10		that was new to me. I was aware of the projects coming	10	think you have been warned, have you, that it might be
11		through, I was aware of the workload, I was aware of his	11	necessary?
12		team feeling under pressure, so my immediate steps	12	THE WITNESS: Yes, I have.
13		and I tried to take those steps even before he left,	13	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: I'm sorry about that. But, yes,
14		say, with trying to support him with a fire engineer,	14	please, we would like you to return tomorrow.
15		which he didn't like the idea of, really, but and	15	We will resume at 10 o'clock tomorrow, and again,
16		I continued to pursue that and we did eventually employ	16	please don't talk to anyone about your evidence or
17		a fire engineer who was doing a Master's, and	17	anything related to it while you're away.
18		I appointed Adrian Brazier into the role to bring some	18	THE WITNESS: Of course.
19		steadiness and some continuity into the team, which was	19	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: And we look forward to seeing you
20		Adam Heath, who he mentions was under pressure, and	20	tomorrow.
21		I think Adam was certainly feeling it, but my impression	21	THE WITNESS: Thank you.
22		he was feeling that he just never got any support from	22	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Thank you very much.
23		Ivor, never knew where Ivor was, and it all started to	23	(Pause)
24		settle down once Adrian Brazier was in place.	24	Very good. 10 o'clock tomorrow, then, please.
25		So I'd already started to take actions, and we	25	(4.35 pm)
25		50 I d'aiready started to take actions, and we	23	(4.55 pm)
		213		215
1		continued with that after Ivor left.	1	(The hearing adjourned until 10 am
2	0.	Did Richard Burnley tell you that he'd been told by	2	on Wednesday, 9 December 2020)
3		Ivor Meredith that that Kingspan changed the technology	3	,
4		of the foam and it couldn't repeat the tests?	4	
5	Α.	No.	5	
6		He didn't?	6	
7	•	No.	7	
8	Q.	Is that because, and I know you can't look into	8	
9	Q.	Mr Burnley's mind, but perhaps I shouldn't ask you.	9	
10		Can you explain why it is that he wouldn't have told you	10	
11		that, given that it wasn't something that you, you say,	11	
12		learnt until 2016?	12	
13	A.	I think maybe because it was old news, if you like, it	13	
14	Λ.	was ten years before, so he may have assumed that that	14	
15		was sorted out at the time.	15	
16	0		16	
17	Q.	But it was clearly relevant in 2015 because it was	17	
		something that Mr Meredith was putting at the heart of		
18		his problem with it?	18	
19		Yes, agreed.	19 20	
20	IVI	RMILLETT: Mr Chairman, I've come to the end of this line.		
21		There may be one or two further questions on it, but	21	
22	CTT	I can look at those overnight and maybe shorten those.	22	
23		R MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes.	23	
24		RMILLETT: I have come to a natural break, I think.	24	
25	511	R MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Well, that would be a good time to	25	
		214		216



Opus 2 International Official Court Reporters

a2 (1) 189:20 ability (2) 20:19 206:16 able (12) 7:5 43:15 52:17 65:17,20 66:8 99:22 101:20 120:18 155:17 188:11 211:11 above (32) 4:1 11:8 14:4 17:22 28:14 33.16 50.14 52.20 54:23 78:9,13 82:6 90:24 100:13 102:1 105:11 121:8 130:23 132:3 141:24 151:2 152:6 171:21 174:7 176.9 182.14 186.9 187:10 199:5 200:14 201:21 210:2 abreast (1) 8:25 absolutely (3) 5:1 129:10 198:9 absurdity (1) 133:21 accept (23) 15:2,3 23:10 24:7 34:3 38:16 43:22 53:6 63:13 64:22 75:5 107:13 110:3 117:9 122:17 129:19 144:7 146:9 148:2 150:20 161:11 181-18 19 acceptable (2) 210:15.16 accepted (4) 13:19,20 32:1 75:20 access (3) 30:25 31:1 168:25 accessing (1) 30:14 accident (3) 22:22 149:14,16 accordance (11) 13:10 37:2 53:1 67:20 79:24 83:21 111:3 125:17 137:5 146:13 160:19 according (1) 133:8 account (4) 129:12 134:23 135:5 199:7 accounts (2) 70:10 159:12 accreditationlabc (1) 182:19 accurate (2) 101:10 198:6 accurately (2) 110:21 174:14 accused (1) 210:4 achieve (20) 11:12 58:25 65:17,20 79:6 80:5.10 81:15 89:1 105:23 111:9.10 120:13 131:9 134:13 136:14,17 143:9 152:24 164:3 achieved (8) 39:5 45:8 92:14.23 97:7 104:20 109:10 131:1 achieves (9) 47:11 67:11,14 101:2 131:5 142:9 147:20.23.25 achieving (6) 92:8,10 93:15 94:2,4,15 acm (16) 179:21 180:1 184:5,7 185:13,21,23

186:17,19 188:25 189:16 190:4 195:21 196:1,4,8 across (1) 64:13 action (2) 167:11,15 actions (3) 159:19 167:10 213:25 actively (2) 32:13,13 actor (4) 6:9,12,16 7:12 actual (4) 22:20 84:12 109:6 188:7 actually (27) 8:19 22:23 44:25 45:15 82:19 85:4 96:14 99:3 101:16 108:16 112:12.13 121:13 126:11 129:15 136:13 140:6 156:19 159:11 176:4 183:13 184:5 196:15 204:21 207:11,14 212:17 adam (11) 2:21 104:9 133:2 188:1,9,15,15,17,19 213:20.21 adams (1) 25:15 adb (51) 11:12 47:6,18,19 48:2,5 67:15,15 69:18 80:7 81:25 82:2,4,21,22 83:8.11 84:15.18.25 85:1.12 92:17 93:8 97:14 102:12 103:25 104:3 105:4 107:11 114:16,20 116:11 117:4 118:12.22 121:1 122:5 123:25 138:4 140:19 141:4 146:11,13,20 148:11 152:21 153:11 156:13 157:21 160:19 adb2 (1) 111:10 add (3) 25:12 113:1 151:22 added (2) 66:17,24 addition (2) 73:15 76:1 address (2) 22:2 67:17 addressing (2) 170:15 174:4 ade (2) 99:4,13 adhesive (1) 71:1 adhesively (1) 71:4 adjourned (1) 216:1 adjournment (1) 124:19 admittedly (2) 20:12 193.23 adopt (5) 108:19 118:10 145:24 156:16 172:18 adopted (3) 102:13 144:25 156:12 adopting (3) 106:10 117:5 119:4 adoption (3) 82:20 106:7 123:10 adrian (16) 1:8 9:3 19:4 30:1 90:23 99:11 100:16 104:8 133:2 152:17 198:15 210:12,20 213:18,24

210:18 advice (10) 17:22 87:2 114:2,8,21 115:1 140:16 160:24 171:23 172:4 advise (1) 137:11 advised (5) 94:25 95:21 114:18 157:11 161:13 advising (1) 119:5 affect (4) 86:12 106:23 121:4 122:18 affecting (1) 107:5 affordable (1) 186:7 afraid (6) 17:10 92:3 98:25 162:20 176:25 215:5 after (26) 2:22 26:14 43:17,24 44:13,17 45:14 60:5 73:23 79:13 95:24 99:5 115:13 137:21 139:19 147:4 148:7 161:22 187:2 190:4 199:23 204:7 211:17 212:13 213-2 214-1 afternoon (9) 1:20 2:12.18 30:1 97:15 103:16,21 215:1,2 afterwards (3) 206:3,4,5 again (37) 4:21 14:6 25:3.8 26:3 28:7 29:9 37:13.22 43:11.18 44:14 46:1 52:4 57:24.25 58:4 63:24 64:24 66:22 71:13,16 97:18 112:4.20 113:11 116:1 118:20 124:12 133:3 135:14 149:3,4 175:11,22 176:18 against (2) 87:19 114:21 agent (2) 165:10 180:15 ago (6) 74:20 85:19 99:19.20 207:6.7 agree (33) 9:13 14:20.22.23 15:1.4.7 20:12 34:11 35:12 54:4 66:7.10.11.12.14.22 109:11,24 112:5 117:18 137:1 144:1 145:23 156:6 157:12 158:20 170:16 183:20 198:4 207:20 208:25 209.15 agreed (10) 13:16 112:21 113:3 121:17 137:9 158:24 167:9.15 212:1 214:19 agreeing (1) 171:15 ah (1) 144:16 ahead (1) 113:9 aim (1) 174:4 aimed (1) 11:11 air (1) 86:11 al (1) 207:11 alarm (1) 187:12 alberts (4) 191:19 193:5.7.10 alive (1) 158:22

158:13 159:15 190:5 allowable (3) 69:18 138:4 143:21 allowed (3) 56:19 137:8 151:18 allowing (1) 195:2 allows (4) 47:7 83:11 130:24 138:9 alls (1) 128:14 alone (18) 47:3 65:4,7 69:10.24 70:4 78:1 81:11,11 88:11 97:9 100:9 102:8 121:6 122:20 133:25 137:25 149:21 along (4) 61:23 120:17 186:8,17 already (7) 12:1 158:18.25 169:22 171:11 212:9 213:25 also (36) 4:21 12:9.15.23 14:9 19:3 23:17,18,20 30:23 31:18 33:23 34:12 52:10.17 55:3 61:13 71:18 79:10 114:23 116:4 130:18 145:17 147:22 151:22 155:24 162:7 166:15 170:1 181:8 186:16 187:13 188:5 190:22 192:5 200:13 alter (1) 86:18 altered (1) 59:10 alternative (3) 11:15 85:5 183:4 alternatives (2) 125:17.25 although (18) 23:8 30:6 37:14 43:22 56:2 59:12 76:1 90:21 98:10 128:19 149:22 150:16 174:24 194:14 202:22 206:24 210:3 215.8 aluminium (14) 2:3 49:15 50:4.9.18.24 53:8 54:23,23 179:14 186:14.21.23 190:5 always (7) 35:1 104:11 134:5 137:11,13 173:13 192:13 ambiguity (2) 118:14 148:1 amended (4) 27:25 28:3 147.18 190.5 amendment (2) 28:4 29:4 among (1) 25:1 amount (3) 165:24 207:17 208:18 analysis (3) 164:17,23 174:3 angle (1) 145:24 annex (2) 67:21 79:19 another (9) 27:24 37:13,19,22 178:6 186:1,2 192:10 209:23 answer (17) 8:9,14,22 9.6 10 17:11 48:10

97:9 109:16,16 122:21

approve (1) 204:12

144:8 154:20 157:1

165:7 168:8 202:22

answering (1) 196:11 answers (4) 19:9.10 187:21 201:6 anybody (9) 6:17 7:14 14:23 55:15 66:7 109:25 144:23 149:19 180:7 anyhow (1) 204:1 anymore (2) 34:19 126:1 anyone (7) 6:7 124:13 127:8 178:8 196:25 202:4 215:16 anything (12) 45:18,19 57:9 79:11 99:25 113:18 115:3 133:9 200:8 210:2 213:9 anyway (1) 157:6 ap3 (3) 48:19 68:1,10 ap4 (1) 68:1 apartment (1) 179:14 apartments (4) 186:3,11 187:2,13 apparatus (1) 88:17 apparent (1) 138:25 apparently (4) 133:22 138:10 187:21 188:1 appeal (6) 197:12,24 205:23 212:15,24 213:1 appealed (1) 197:19 appear (1) 152:9 appears (8) 3:23 39:10 53:3 65:9 116:3 125:3 183:12 185:12 appendix (10) 13:5 15:19 86:6,7 92:19 97:14.19 98:3 103:10 applicable (2) 60:15 196:19 application (7) 52:2,3 101:1 102:4 173:22 174:17 201:21 applications (6) 73:13 74:3 209:14 211:5,6,11 applied (3) 59:17 82:8 161:3 applies (2) 52:10 88:16 apply (11) 17:22 30:6 71:18 87:8.13.23.25 88:22 90:4 110:1 160:18 applying (1) 88:17 appointed (2) 162:25 213:18 appreciate (2) 45:11 57:25 appreciating (1) 32:10 appreciation (1) 189:21 approach (18) 21:10 82:24 84:7 106:3 117:23 118:10 119:5 123:2,11 130:6 140:18 150:22 156:3 161:2.9 170:16 171:15 172:15 approaching (1) 84:5 appropriate (2) 196:23 202:25 approval (1) 116:25

approved (18) 80:16 103:11.15 108:3.20 117:12 118:15 122:12 131:5 139:8 142:9.24 143:12.23 144:21 147:21 183:3 206:12 april (11) 22:17 23:18 27:12,13,18 29:20,24 30:23 184:12 190:20 191:9 apt (1) 15:5 archaeology (1) 40:23 architects (3) 151:9 162:13 201:25 architectsfire (1) 201:20 area (3) 69:4 187:19 207:1 areas (2) 30:12 206:16 arent (8) 7:9 31:24 41:22 85:21 99:22 107:23 177:6 185:6 argeton (1) 37:8 arguably (2) 117:24 118:8 argue (2) 102:6 156:14 argument (10) 34:1 88:6 112:11.15 117:25 139:7 143:22 145:8,22 150:10 arguments (1) 48:11 arisen (1) 160:5 around (8) 44:9 56:25 59:7 63:10.25 113:13 151:23 170:19 arrange (2) 30:25 120:13 arriving (1) 84:13 arron (40) 91:9 92:5 94:13 96:20 97:18,25 98:2 103:16,19 104:3 110:25 111:14.17 112:4,5,18 113:9 114:8 115:17 120:21 121:24 122:2 125:7.19.24 126:4,10,19 127:3.20.25 128:4.12 130:4 152:15 153:17,19 154:19 156:25 157:1 aside (2) 117:9 189:15 asif (4) 99:6,7 104:8,18 ask (43) 1:6 3:8 5:6 32:16 39:2,17 57:23 58:2,17 72:18 84-17 21 85-8 96-17 98:9 119:21 134:25 135:3 138:6,8,11 140:4 147:3.9 149:2,18 151:4 155:7 156:2 161:18 162:17 166:10 167:3 175:22 176:18 178:23 180:7 188:10 211:18 212:6,11 214:9 215:6 asked (16) 58:13 71:17 81:17 99:4 110:4.7 138:13 150:25 156:19 165:4 177:10 180:13 198.2 210.6 212.17 215:9 asking (7) 34:3 84:4

160:11 191:18 asks (2) 110:22 151:11 aspect (1) 63:19 aspects (1) 64:13 assemblies (1) 86:8 assembly (3) 86:20,22 88:10 assessment (2) 36:9 166:3 assessments (2) 165:22.24 associated (2) 59:13 162:12 associates (2) 191:19 193:5 assume (3) 17:23 175:17 197:9 assumed (9) 16:4,16 17:8.9 18:1 21:3 145:1 196:23 214:14 assumption (5) 17:12 34:22.25 35:9 197:1 assure (1) 114:7 atm (1) 157:7 attach (2) 27:16 170:10 attached (11) 19:20 21:1.15.24 25:15 81:9,12,20 170:21 182:15 187:10 attaching (1) 194:8 attachment (3) 22:4,10 23:16 attachments (3) 25:7,17 170:24 attacked (2) 116:12 119:16 attacking (1) 120:4 attempted (1) 170:18 attempts (1) 211:14 attended (1) 9:2 attention (4) 34:11 136:21 137:3 190:20 attitude (3) 123:3 129:13,13 au (1) 189:18 august (23) 10:16,19 11:9 13:18 22:13 24:23,24 26:5,6,14 48:21 77:5 131:13,16 173:1 181:21 182:2 183:23 185:19 197:14,17 198:11,16 augustearly (1) 131:22 auto (1) 71:4 available (5) 11:11 59:19 146:3 165:21 215:9 avenues (1) 154:25 aware (52) 2:10 3:6 20:6,8 21:6 24:8 27:18 30:6 37:9 38:14 43:13.19 55:16 73:11 74:4 89:5 94:13 97:2 104:1 106:16 136:13 141:12,19,22 149:16 152:18 163:22 165:8 166:5.12.15 167:15 168:2 176:10 179:25 180:3 184:4 185:15,23 190.2 195.19 24 196:2,7 204:2,4 210:7

217.3

adrians (1) 210:18

advantage (5) 57:6

118:18 122:13 123:5

allocate (1) 105:7

allow (5) 43:7 89:6

96:19,19 135:10

212:8,10 213:10,11,11

awareness (1) 165:4

away (9) 53:20 63:1,8 84:22 124:14 134:6 150:3 205:14 215:17 aye (1) 128:16

В

b (32) 11:12,14 13:5 15:19 59:11 61:3 80:16 86:6,7 93:3 100:2 103:11,15 108:3 5 20 111:10 117:13 118:15 122:12 131:6 133:8 135:23 136:2 137:4 139:8 142:10 143:23 144:21 147:21 157:4 158:12 **b2 (1)** 177:15 **b4 (1)** 30:17 back (73) 1:6,19 3:7,14 6:3,18,24 23:25 24:1 29:3 34:2 38:1 40:13.15 41:4.11 43:13 44:24 48:3.10.17 49:9 51:10.10.21 55:3 57:8 60:8 68:16 70:17.22 72:17 75:2 77:1,21 78:2 88:7 93:17 97:13,18,25 98:25 108:3 111:17 113:2 120:20 124:12 125:19 131:20 132:25 135:20 142:2.3 155:25 157:2 161:21 162:19 169:14 171:17,18 178:7 185:25 189:10.13 193:3 203:10,13 207:12 208:25 210:25 211:1 212:6.11 background (4) 12:19 30:18 79:18 204:9 backing (7) 69:8 70:14 71:8 72:5,7 86:16 88:17 bad (1) 172:10 ball (33) 24:24 25:9,25

62:23 92:5 98:1.24

99:5 100:6.16 104:7

115:22,25 116:18,22

118:11 119:15 120:3

133:1.13.14 135:20

138:8 139:11 180:20

181:22,22 200:7

136:19 182:1

bank (1) 182:19

195:9

barriers (6)

160:12,23

48:14 49:16

barlow (6) 170:9,22

171:6 187:8 191:16

barrier (2) 151:22 160:2

151:17,18,20 153:3

based (22) 31:9 34:1

55:5.21.22.23 77:2

83:18 97:8 100:8.20

106:1 107:2 117:12

140:19 160:23

121:5 122:20 139:1,7

balls (8) 100:14 105:11

112:3 113:8 128:3,13

110:24 113:2

131:8,25 132:3

basic (1) 170:18 basically (2) 111:9 152:20 basis (12) 9:8 40:8 43:10 48:13 96:11 107:8 117:11 140:2 146:9 149:21 195:11 200:8 bba (11) 24:22 25:21 26:10 28:21 29:3 31.18 36.16 153.21 154:1,14 155:2 bba00000200 (1) 27:23 bba000002005 (1) 28:6 bba000002006 (1) 28:15 bba00000201 (1) 26:9 bba000002015 (1) 26:13 bba000002016 (1) 27:1 bba00000951 (1) 24:23 bca (19) 30:7 161:18 163:23 164:5,10 165:20,20,22 166:16.17.25.25 167:13 172:18,22 173:17.20 174:3.8 bcas (1) 165:5 bcatgn18 (3) 12:8 165:8 170:1 bear (1) 125:13 bearing (6) 85:6 113:19.24 114:10 115:4 153:4 became (5) 12:9 80:17.19 166:6 170:1 become (2) 30:9 85:18 before (28) 10:24 12:18,23 46:17 48:3 60:4 75:20 84:17 86:2 94:13 113:17 115:3 130:11 134:1 147:3 148:12 149:3 162:14 166:22 167:5 173:1 175:12,13 180:10 181:24 183:23 213:13 214:14 began (1) 9:25 begin (1) 205:4 beginning (1) 32:7 behave (2) 138:20,22 behaviour (2) 26:15 28:5 behind (5) 31:7 113:18,24 114:9 115:4 being (75) 4:9,17,22 5:23,25 7:11,25 9:15,19 14:24 15:11 20:17.18.20 22:7 24:8,10 28:21,24,25 31:23 32:2 33:2.3 34:17 37:8 38:7 43:24 45:14 54:20 55:5 60:20 63:14 68:5,6 69:11 74:5 83:5

96:1,24 103:1 106:1

108:11 113:1 116:19

153-12 24 155-4 19

176:17 179:7,8,14

190:2,20 196:15

156:23 159:24 164:16

146:22 152:8

123:12,21 136:9 140:7

200:10 201:5 203:24 205:8.12 206:12 208:21 210:5,17 212:3 belief (4) 32:9 47:10,10 96:11 believe (29) 8:22 9:1,6 14:3 19:7 34:9 42:12,21 56:9 59:1 64:21 65:5,5 83:20,23 103:18 106:25 108:22 129:7.23 179:22 197:23 199:9,12,14 201:14.17 208:7 210:24 believed (2) 62:6 199:4 believes (3) 113:16 121:4 122:18 bells (1) 187:12 below (14) 3:24 22:2 25:15 52:7.9 59:9 67:18 92:15 104:24 151:15 170:16 181:3 191:12 209:20 ben (2) 180:19,24 benefit (3) 30:14 164:10 190:12 best (4) 20:19 78:4 173:6,11 better (7) 63:20 99:21 121:9 127:6 152:23 189:25 209:12 between (28) 2:20 3:3 10:10 29:24 42:25 43:4 56:20 70:20 97:17 101:11 105:16 118:7 125:6 129:25 130:2,11 135:9 138:18 139:4 145:2 149:6 153:24 154:16,23 159:24 176:23 177:2 189:19 big (2) 202:8,10 bigger (1) 72:11 bishop (1) 180:19 bishops (1) 180:24 bit (36) 10:14 12:19,20 17:10 18:14 30:18 36:24 46:1 47:15 48:11 50:3,14 51:24 77:25 84:11 93:8 112:25 119:14 120:23 121:25 122:6,8,10 123:3.23 128:23 130:3 134:17 152:12 162:20 164:8 170:5,6 180:16 181.9 200.6 black (6) 99:18 104:20 105:19 113:20 184:20 209:20 blag (2) 153:10 156:1 blagging (9) 153:25 154:17,17,18,23 155:4.10.13 156:6 blank (1) 68:20 blended (1) 32:25 block (3) 31:16 181:9 211:14 blocks (5) 179:4,6,14 184:24 185:6 board (32) 3:22 11:7 13:9 14:6 16:2 21:25 26:22 31:7 37:5 47:4

49:17 55:6,8 64:14

68:20 87:17 88:18 90:21 100:23 101:5 125:20 128:10 142:18 143:6 144:11 147:20 153:6 174:24 179:10 186:5,12 192:17 boards (3) 26:23 72:22 74:15 bodycote (8) 46:15,19 52:19,22 54:7,9,13 55.16 bold (3) 92:12 100:18 172:11 bonded (4) 71:5 79:22 80:12 81:3 bonding (1) 71:2 bonds (1) 71:2 book (3) 138:5 203:24 205:9 booklet (1) 147:22 border (2) 138:21,22 boss (1) 209:22 both (27) 10:21 42:19 48:24 49:4,7 58:9 68:4 73:21 74:15 75:7,11,24 76:6 84:8 90:25 99:15.17 111:13 133:3 137:18 166:18 179:7 182:20 192:6 193:22 200:23 212:25 bother (2) 93:24 94:2 bottom (30) 5:4 11:20 13:23 19:8 22:12 26:11.20 27:25 28:6 68:2 71:15 72:23,25 79:15 92:3 104:18 112:18 113:11 115:24 132:2 134:18 152:3,14 153:16 162:24 169:17 171:16 172:7 191:22 199:2 bound (1) 161:8 box (12) 31:1 36:12 49:13 50:5,11 51:3,21,22 52:5 68:18 113:15 181:4 boxes (1) 50:3 br (13) 13:11 20:25 21:25 22:10 25:8.18.20 26:18 28:13 31:9,11 165:23 202:11 br135 (2) 19:16 192:7 brazier (6) 99:11 100:16 104:8 133:2 213:18,24 bre (14) 14:1 23:12.17 26:18 28:13 36:17,18,22 37:1 68:4 99:19,21 165:15 183:6 bre00004073 (1) 165:13 bre00005557 (1) 85:15 bre0000555718 (1) 86:5 break (8) 14:19 57:7,16 124:11 163:8 178:7,16 214:24 brick (2) 82:11 179:13 bridge (1) 166:9 brief (4) 30:2 168:13 170:13 197:25 briefed (1) 60:5 briefing (1) 62:22

briefly (2) 53:5 192:2

bring (1) 213:18

british (4) 93:7 154:2,13 156:23 broad (1) 47:2 brochures (1) 162:6 bromwich (6) 8:23 12:16,24 17:18 175:13 194:7 brook (2) 186:3 196:3 brookhouse (2) 187:14 15 bs (56) 3:2 13:9,10 21:24 24:17 26:16.16 28:9,9 31:6 36:17,19 39:12 42:1 45:7,7 48:20 58:8.14.15.20 59:7,20 60:19 67:8,11 68:10.13 72:18 73:23 74:21 75:6.9 79:25.25 84:13 85:15 111:6.7 125:17 130:16 131:25 143:25 164:16 165:22 172:14 182:20,21,22 183:4,15 192:6,6 196:20 202:15 212:13 bs476 (1) 59:14 bs84142 (1) 37:2 bucked (1) 206:24 build (2) 30:15 183:2 building (39) 28:14 30:17 82:6 100:24 101:7.12 102:17.19 103:6.20 108:5 143:7,10,14,19,21 144:19 151:16 153:13 155:21 160:10 173:11 175:1,21 177:15 179:2,19 180:13 181:8 185:14 186:13 187:1 190:9,17,17,19 192:15 193:14 196:24 buildings (21) 4:7 5:10 11:7 30:4,19 31:24 36:10 108:11 160:1 161:3 163:4,6 164:6 174:6,10 179:19 180:4 181:16 194:19 197:2 210:5 buildup (11) 13:12,23 27:5 54:19 164:15 182:15,17 183:10 187:23 197:2 202:11 buildups (2) 13:8 174:15 built (3) 23:5 194:19 197.9 bullet (5) 31:4,16 100:17,17,19 bulletin (11) 10:16 11:23 14:9 169:19 170:18 172:17 173:25 178:24 187:16 194:9.12 bulletins (1) 162:11 burner (2) 106:23 107:5 burnley (18) 7:15 12:17,24 17:18 167:8,25 175:14 194:7 197:20 205:25 208:15 211.17 212:2,6,11,17,23 214:2

britain (2) 58:13 173:8

burns (2) 137:21 192:17 business (7) 47:20 107:12,16 110:12 157:23 178:8 199:25 busy (4) 97:21 204:8 207:17 210:12 buy (3) 134:10,11,11 buyer (4) 102:13,23 103:1,7 buyers (4) 108:22 148:23 149:21 150:15 buying (2) 103:2 145:17 bvrne (1) 184:15 c (3) 87:4.6 152:8 calcium (5) 49:16 55:5,8 87:17 88:18 call (3) 70:16 82:6 142:19 called (10) 39:15 42:7

46:15 51:18 164:11

78:11 93:13 188:8

campaign (6) 8:7

170:14 172:18

162-9 17 163-21

60:22 77:18 88:5

91:16,19,20,25 92:1

98:10 111:17 113:4

129:17.24 139:22

141:8 144:7 147:8

169:5.10 174:15

canwant (1) 137:14

capacity (1) 86:13

care (5) 86:21 88:12

175:15,17 177:9

careful (1) 198:22

37:4,15,17 59:14

carry (5) 1:11 20:18

carrying (1) 110:12

cases (3) 49:4 93:14

casual (2) 150:22,24

cathy (7) 170:9,22

cause (1) 133:7

caused (1) 91:18

causes (3) 112:8

causing (1) 136:11

caution (1) 137:13

caveated (1) 116:25

133:17.18

burnleys (1) 214:9

97:6

141:5 183:5

carea (1) 27:5

187:14 190:9

190:19

170:22 171:20 179:3 calling (2) 84:23 89:11 came (7) 29:3 47:20,22 cannot (2) 85:2 207:1 cant (41) 2:3 17:5 21:9 44:18,22 45:16,18,19 156:1 159:14 160:14 176:1,2 177:14 182:7 188:23 189:11 190:7 192-24 194-24 214-8 carelessness (1) 34:10 carried (9) 8:19 32:8,9 124:21 169:2 178:20 catch (3) 18:23 30:2,23 category (2) 83:6 152:9 171:6 187:7,8 191:16 cheat (11) 120:23

152:1.6 153:3 160:12,23 ccd (1) 77:11 cement (3) 26:23 31:7 37:5 central (2) 41:4 179:6 cert (2) 25:12 134:21 certain (1) 64:13 certificate (23) 19:16.18 20:25 26:9,10 27:20,22,24 28:3.12 29:3.5 31:18,19 36:16 53:16 56:7 109:25 131:20 155:2 180:20.25 202:11 certificates (3) 44:11,12 109:9 certification (5) 55:16 161:4 201:19,24 202:12 certified (1) 134:22 certifies (1) 134:25 cetera (8) 30:24 113:4,14,14 116:16,16 151:24.24 chain (33) 18:15 21:17,18 23:11 24:7,22,24 72:20,21 90:7.10 92:2 98:24 113:10 114:14 120:20 121:12.21 131:22.24 135:19 142:12 151:5 152:2 158:6 165:14,14 171:16 180:21 184:13 191:7,20 194:6 chains (1) 7:1 chair (2) 199:24 205:25 chairman (7) 1:16 57:1.22 124:9 125:1 178:22 214:20 challenged (1) 145:9 chalmers (38) 92:5 94:13 97:13,18,25 98:2 103:16,19 104:3 110:25 111:14 112:4,18 113:9 114:8 115:17 116:4 120:21 121:24 125:7.19.24 126:4,10,19 127:3,20,25 128:4,12 129:2 130:4 152:15 153:17 154:19 156:25 157:1,17 chance (2) 18:23 158:14 change (5) 73:17 78:11,22 159:20 166:1 changed (11) 30:11 31:20 78:10 89:9,11 139:22 159:17 206:20 208:4 212:12 214:3 changes (3) 13:1 131:2 142:6 changing (1) 91:6 characterised (1) 123:22 characteristics (5) 54:5 86:7 87:8,12,22 charge (1) 129:11 chat (1) 125:6

cavity (8) 151:18,20,22

121:25 122:2,4,6,8,10

123:3,23 128:23 130:3
cheating (2) 122:10,11
check (2) 61:17 85:10 checked (1) 90:3
checking (1) 182:14
choice (8) 100:5 145:12
153:24 154:16,19,23
155:3 209:24 choices (2) 155:7 156:8
choose (3) 100:7
111:6,12
choosing (1) 173:6 chose (1) 177:19
chronologies (1) 168:3
chronology (5) 9:11
39:10,18 40:2 183:25
cigar (1) 133:3 clad (1) 184:3
cladding (20) 13:24
26:17 28:10 30:5 31:8
73:17 101:23 102:2 121:3 163:3 164:6,22
174:9 179:15,20 180:9
181:5 195:20,25 196:4
claimed (7) 55:20 62:17
94:5 139:24 140:7,9 208:10
claiming (13) 89:16
94:7 95:10 102:8
116:6 120:24 121:5 122:7,19 136:1,22
137:4 157:18
claims (1) 40:11
clarified (1) 156:5
clarify (2) 173:18,19 clark (1) 165:16
class (251) 25:20 28:22
39:2,4,14,19 43:9,23
44:11,12,12,15,16
45:2,10,15,21 47:7,11 48:5,6,14 55:15,21
56:3 57:23 58:10,25
61:15 62:7 63:22
64:16,24 65:15,18,20 67:3,9,14,17 69:19
72:14,17 78:2 79:24
80:13,20 81:4,13,16
82:6,8,18 83:5,5,16,22
84:9,23 90:22,25 91:15
92:8,10,10,13,22
93:3,6,15
94:2,4,15,16,25 95:1,9,22 96:13 97:7,8
99:16
100:1,1,3,8,8,20,24,25
101:2,6,18,21,22
102:1,3,8,14 103:1,4,5,8,13,24
104:21,25
105:5,6,14,17,23,24,25
106:1 107:9,20 108:13 109:10,15,21,25
110:4,7 111:9
112:5,21,22 113:16,22
114:17 116:6,10
117:12 120:5,24 121:5,7 122:7,19
124:6 125:16,20
126:8,9,11,21
127:5,7,12,15,18 128:5,6,11,23
130:18,20,22

131:1,4,5 132:16 combustibility (12) 133:4.5.7.9.11.16.16.17.24 11:17 93:2 141:15.20 134:5,13,21 135:23,24 151:2 172:13 175:6,7 136:3.5.14.17.22.23 176:17.24 177:3.14 137:4,6,14,15,17,18,19,24 combustible (10) 55:11 140:12,20 141:14,23 87:12,19,21 142:8.9 164:5,13,15 171:21 143:6,16,18,21,24 174:5.9 144:12,13,17,19 come (40) 1:6 3:19 145:13 146:24 147:20 14:18 34:24 47:14 148:16.22.23 149:24 48:10 57:8 63:7 67:3 150:14,17 151:2,19 72:17 91:9 102:6 152:5.8.11.21.24 103:16.20 109:5 153:11,14,21 154:12 112:11 114:6,16,25 155:1,21 157:5,9,18 115:18 124:12 131:20 160:13.16 161:4 134:5 140:4 142:2.3 174:25 155:6,25 178:7 195:10 175:3,9,20,23,24 202:7.8 207:12 176:5.8.11.16.19.23 209:14.15 211:17 177:2,5,10,21 199:9 212:6,11 214:20,24 comes (10) 21:18 77:22 classico (1) 37:8 classification (33) 14:1 99:2.6 113:2 115:22 22:1,11,12 23:1,19 125:19 134:6,17 157:1 24:15 25:7,18 31:13 comfort (1) 38:23 45:3.22.25 59:8 62:7 coming (6) 64:3 115:12 67:14 72:14 79:7 152:13 200:7 203:18 82:7.18 83:17 90:6 213:10 92:22 93:6 97:8 comment (1) 151:21 110:23 113:21 146:24 comments (1) 200:10 149:23 152:5 commercial (3) 12:16 159:17,20 161:4 54:15 186:8 classifications (4) common (8) 9:6,14,16 67:16.24 111:7 156:23 151:1 173:3,9,14 classified (6) 58:9 174.4 67:9,18,19 78:14,19 commonly (1) 2:13 clean (1) 155:6 commonsense (4) 82:2,22,24 84:7 cleaned (1) 41:14 clear (28) 4:14,21 11:14 communicate (1) 19:22 22:7,16,19 143:14 communicating (1) 102:22 124:7 128:20 96:12 138:2,7 139:14 147:24 communication (3) 148:8 151:6 156:8 75:20 171:21 172:11 157:10,16 173:8 communications (2) 7:2 176:20,23 177:1 183:7 115:11 196:5 community (1) 189:24 clearer (7) 109:11.12 company (1) 51:18 140:24 147:12 155:11 comparable (1) 126:8 compelling (1) 8:7 158:21.24 clearly (16) 31:22 36:23 competition (2) 53:21 37:9,14 104:25 105:4 107:18 129:3 133:14 134:9 competitors (7) 106:9 155:5.6 177:7 189:13 108:23 116:12 119:16 203:4 204:5 214:16 120:4 144:22 145:7 clever (1) 114:16 compilation (2) 11:25 cleverclogs (2) 169.21 122:13,15 compile (1) 171:14 complain (2) 193:15 client (1) 187:21 clock (1) 119:7 201:8 close (1) 44:1 complained (4) closely (2) 10:14 84:11 193:7.20.25 194:3 closing (1) 156:18 complaint (4) 190:20 coated (7) 50:15,18,20 191:18 192:23 193:10 51:16 54:18,21,24 complete (15) 52:21 coating (6) 50:11,19 63:13,22 70:1,2,7 51:23 52:6 53:7 66:8 113:17,22 115:3 code (1) 31:19 116:14 132:21 133:10 cold (1) 30:3 137:12 140:16 186:13 colour (1) 69:5 completed (4) 12:1 column (2) 86:25 88:7 169:22 179:16 183:21

complexities (1) 173:9 compliance (36) 5:19 10:15 11:5,12,15 12:10.11 22:14 161:19 162:9.16 163:21.22 164:13 166:19 167:13 169:14 170:3,14,22 172:19,25 173:6 174:1 175:2,25 176:6 183:4,9,24 185:25 187:16 193:3 194:9 196:24,25 compliant (4) 157:13.15 163:3 197:3 complied (1) 193:16 comply (2) 52:23 157:14 components (4) 52:16 54:6.8 69:17 composed (1) 93:1 composite (54) 27:6 39:13 46:23 47:7,8,9,13 48:13 49:15,23 50:4,9,18 56:4 58:8.23 60:14 65:8 69:19 70:1,2,5,18 71:22.23 72:2.10.11 80:4,10 81:4 83:9,9 84:23 92:24 102:24 105:23 106:20 113:22 130.20.24 133:15,17,23 134:11 135:9 138:1 143:16 145:14 160:16.17 186:14,21,22 composites (2) 86:9 88:88 composition (4) 59:22 60:12 69:22 71:17 comprehensive (1) 182:18 comprises (1) 23:5 comprising (1) 71:7 compromised (1) 212:4 conceal (2) 144:10 145:12 concept (1) 177:21 concern (3) 93:25 94:12,12 concerned (3) 93:14 96:25 149:14 conclusion (1) 141:6 conditions (1) 197:6 conduct (1) 65:25 conducted (3) 52:25 56:16 59:15 conductivity (1) 86:10 confident (1) 143:22 confidential (2) 51:8,13 confirm (11) 27:2 61:13 90:23 92:7 93:8 132:19 153:11 171:3,6 182:14 199:5 confirmation (3) 58:16 183:1,8 confirmed (6) 5:25 27:19 52:15,17 69:9 202:17 confirming (1) 46:10 confirms (1) 30:15 conform (3) 95:1,22

confusion (1) 3:21 conjoined (1) 168:12 conjunction (3) 87:10.14.23 connection (20) 4:7 15:15 16:13,17 18:12 20:21,22,22 24:11 26:3,4,5,5 29:9,15 32:24 35:4,11 38:5 44:22 conscious (1) 140:20 conservative (12) 116:9 117:6.8.13.15.22 118:10,25 123:3,11 140:17 156:16 consider (5) 91:6 98:21 106:17 140:24 159:19 consideration (2) 201:19.25 considered (1) 98:7 considering (2) 115:10.19 consistent (2) 93:20,20 construction (16) 26:20 27:3.4.4.5.8.11 30:16 86:11,14 87:2 108:16 141:13.23 166:4 210:9 constructions (6) 26:17,19 27:3 28:10 108:8 173:10 consultant (1) 206:22 contact (2) 86:17 109:5 contacted (4) 180:13 187:18.22 188:4 containing (1) 174:6 contemplate (1) 97:7 contemporaneous (1) 170:7 content (6) 11:22 84:18 160:2 165:5,8 169:18 context (2) 166:8 180:21 continue (11) 1:4 5:4 35:24 89:10 121:13 136:22 140:12 159:16 169:9 176:12 204:12 continued (6) 1:8.15 213:16 214:1 217:4,7 continuing (3) 89:21 136:19 177:4 continuity (1) 213:19 contractor (1) 187:19 contractually (1) 166:5 contrary (1) 144:11 contribution (1) 67:9 control (4) 151:16 153:13 155:21 192:15 convener (1) 200:15 convenient (3) 57:1 124:9 177:25 conversation (5) 115:20 120:10 121:14 125:11 conversations (1) 188:1 converted (1) 35:9 convey (1) 144:10 cool (2) 126:3,3 copied (17) 18:19 19:6 21:22 23:11 24:25 73.10 92.5 94.21 99:11 100:16 105:11

copy (2) 19:17 73:3 copying (1) 194:7 core (53) 46:24 65:5 90:22.25 92:8.9 93:15 94:1.4.5.8.10.14.25 95:21 96:1,23 97:6 99:13 101:2,6 110:24 121:4 122:18 137:18 140:6 142:15 174:25 180:4,4 181:18 184:5.8.9.19.20.24 185:14,21 186:17,19 187:25 188:2.13.25 189:5,6,17 190:4 195:21 196:1,8,9 cores (2) 189:8.9 corner (5) 13:24 18:8 22:13 142:22 143:3 correct (72) 2:6.14 4:25 7:8 10:22 11:18 12:25 14:8 17:20 24:6,18 25:22 26:7.25 28:20 29:2 31:15,25 33:4 37:12,18 46:5,8,13,22 48:16 54:10 55:12 62:14 68:24 72:16 74:7 75:4 79:2.9.14 86:4 88:23 92:18 96:14 99:13 100:21 106:2 108:7,12,24 114:1 117:1 134:14 136:12,18,25 139:9 140:3 148:8 149:20 164:19.25 172:16 176:2,4 183:8,17 195:14 197:4.18 199:6,14 200:12 202:19 204:14 208:11 correctly (2) 103:12 correspondence (6) 7:2 19:20 21:2,15 36:1 corresponding (1) 22:4 corroborated (1) 45:24 couldnt (24) 34:13 44:7 51:17 54:7 79:6 81:10 89:1,7 90:4,5 105:22 109:16 120:13 131:8 133:18 146:24 160:3 188:22 206:21 207:5 208:17 210:8,10 214:4 council (1) 187:22 counsel (3) 1:15 82:14 217:6 couple (5) 8:14 99:18,19 134:20 161:21 course (12) 11:15 27:20 57:11 75:19 100:5 137:12 148:7 157:20 158:22 159:10 204:2 cover (5) 116:8 135:25 161:7 170:14 209:13 covered (1) 24:16 cows (1) 102:6 cp (1) 21:25

28:12 31:11 45:10 58:9 133:5 192:7 critical (2) 206:11,18 crossreference (1) 103:10 crudely (1) 174:18 crux (1) 192:16 crystal (1) 138:7 culture (3) 129:6,17,19 current (5) 31:18 51:17 64:7 91:10.14 currently (1) 132:16 customer (2) 72:13 148:17 customers (7) 43:24 55:13,14,25 145:7,17 147:9 cut (2) 31:21 42:10 D d (5) 87:4,11,20 88:16.16 damage (1) 153:5 damaged (2) 203:24 205:8 damaging (2) 95:2 205:11 dan (43) 24:24 25:9,25 62:23 91:9 92:5,7 96:20 98:1,24 99:5 100:14.16 104:7 105:11 110:24 112:3 113:2.8 115:22.25 116:18,22 118:11 119:15 120:3 128:6 131:8.25 132:3.8 133:1,13,14 134:19 135:20 136:19 138:8 139:11 180:20 181:22.22 182:1 dangerous (4) 108:11.25 159:20 160:19 darent (1) 200:8 data (9) 11:25 13:6 18:4 31:1 58:22 64:7 169:21 174:16 202:15 database (2) 30:14 41:4 datasheet (1) 142:19 date (20) 19:25 22:16.18.19.20 23:9,22,23 28:1 48:21 56:20.20 65:16 68:11.15 71:15 74:6,19 142:20 198:16

dated (6) 10:19 36:4 56:13 71:12 147:19 181:21 dates (1) 71:13 davies (2) 73:7 158:7 davis (1) 21:21 day (11) 92:5 98:24 99:5 100:14 112:19 129:4 135:20 153:17 159:6 191:17 215:9 day82763 (1) 8:1

combined (4) 79:23

combo (1) 25:13

83:7 134:24 135:6

completely (5) 4:14

72:9 81:19 140:2

210:9

96:12

confused (1) 141:14

days (1) 107:7

created (3) 11:4 33:24

criteria (8) 13:11 26:18

creation (1) 162:15

credible (1) 17:11

162-17

111:16 112:4,20

113:11 116:1 184:15

deadline (1) 184:20

deal (2) 30:4 207:13

dealt (1) 192:23

debating (1) 14:16

dear (1) 182:9

dealing (2) 33:10 155:8

debbie (1) 165:16
december (2) 1:1 216:2
decide (2) 100:7 141:2
decided (1) 156:16
deciding (1) 108:19
<b>decision (19)</b> 65:25 94:24 95:5,6,18,19
115:14 123:18,24
124:1,4 133:22
139:19,23 140:10,15
147:12 197:16 212:1
decisions (6) 4:5 5:8,12,16 160:22
210:2
declare (3) 158:11
159:5,11
declaring (1) 158:17
deemed (1) 43:23
deeming (3) 131:24 132:3,7
deeper (2) 10:24 38:24
deeply (1) 18:5
define (2) 131:4 142:8
defined (15) 67:14
79:20 100:24 101:7 102:16,18 131:5 142:9
143:7,13 144:18
147:21,23 175:1,20
defining (2) 102:16
177:7
<b>definitely (6)</b> 8:15 14:13 77:1 96:15 112:21
201:4
definition (10) 47:6
79:17 80:11 83:8 84:9
103:6 130:21 138:2
144:13 145:4 definitions (2) 138:3
149:13
degrees (3) 64:17 76:11
120:6
delaminate (1) 106:22
delaminates (1) 109:3 delaminating (1) 107:5
delay (3) 86:15
159:13,14
delaying (1) 159:19
deliberate (6)
34:5,6,8,12 84:5 149:8 deliberately (5) 34:16
109:23 145:6 150:1,2
deliver (1) 193:22
demand (1) 76:7
demeanour (1) 211:24
demonstrates (1) 24:7 demonstrating (1)
167:13
denial (1) 196:8
density (3) 87:7
113:3,12
department (6) 114:15
129:8,11 157:23,25 158:1
departure (1) 168:13
depending (1) 135:17
depends (1) 121:1
deprecated (1) 119:22
depth (1) 70:10 derail (1) 200:2
derived (1) 138:3
describe (5) 83:12
89:23 101:10 146:7

described (12) 28:11 47:15 78:21 103:13 107:10 109:19 140:5 155:13 157:21 159:2 190:10.17 describing (3) 83:4 129:24 205:4 description (15) 23:4 49:7,12,14 52:20,23 53:12 68:17,25 69:7 70.15 109.20 140.11 148:9 193:17 descriptions (1) 52:22 deserve (1) 206:15 design (1) 162:5 designated (4) 111:3.8 152:25 161:6 designation (1) 103:8 designed (4) 106:25 123:13 134:3 172:18 designer (1) 111:5 desk (1) 188:2 desktop (18) 11:13 35:14,20 36:2 164.17 24 177.17 187:24 188:10,22,23 189:7.25 190:2.6 196:14,21 197:1 desktops (3) 163:24 173:22 174:16 detail (16) 7:21 18:14 30:11 34:11 35:2 38:24 48:11 51:24 54:3 59:17 63:10 67:17 77:25 151:22 211:22 212:7 detailed (1) 42:10 details (7) 43:13 51:7 52:3,18 53:13 182:20 determine (1) 134:21 determining (1) 202:25 develop (3) 30:3 53:18 118:6 developed (1) 149:12 developing (1) 64:6 development (39) 3:17 4:2,4,9,16,18 6:22 8:20 10:6 14:7 15:10 16:5.11.18 18:3 20:7 24:4 35:3,7 36:11 37:17 38:6.15 41:7 59:15 61:23 64:4,23,25 65:3,6,10 80:17 162:8,12 186:6 190-11 191-1 3 developments (1) 8:25 deviate (1) 72:18 diagram (4) 14:4 16:1,24 22:13 diagrams (2) 13:13 15:22 didnt (126) 6:7 7:12,13,14,16,20 9:19.25 10:13 15:5,15,25 16:13,17 17:4,14 18:5,12 20:21,22 24:11,19 25:25 26:3 29:9,14

54:7 60:4,11 62:13,15 discipline (1) 120:14 63:4 64:14 72:2.7 77:4,11,11,13 79:10.12 84:17 85:6 88:20 89:23 93:24.25 10:7 20:19 94:11 96:23 98:9,21 101:13 102:7,10 109:13 110:1 115:12,17 119:24 120:1,1,8,16 121:19 122-23 134-1 137-18 144:5,6 149:1,3,10,12 182:21 150:5.6.6.6.19.20 159:21 160:20,21,25 161:6,15 167:22 177:11.12.19 186:24 192:10,17 193:13,19 194:18 196:22 197:5.7.14 199:12.14 203:6.9 211:16 212:2,6,24 213:15 214:6 161:9 die (1) 107:24 difference (31) 1:24 2:2 62:20 75:17 18 81:22 101:11 105:16 112:13.14 118:7 130:1,2 134:23 135:5,8 138:2,19,20,24,24,25 115:6 184:7 139:1,4,6 145:2 159:23.25 189:19.20.22 138:7 differences (6) 42:24 43:4 130:11 138:14,17 185:23 different (28) 8:12 9:4 17:3 39:3 41:1 43:6,11,12 50:22 57:3 44:11.16 60:19 70:8 72:1 84:9 101:24 112:1 118:1 130:5.22 139:9.10 44:11.16 145:24 149:12 161:17 179:25 184:17 202:17 211:11 differently (1) 149:9 differs (1) 80:6 difficult (6) 9:10 44:20 109:2 125:13 163:8 199:25 difficulties (1) 158:10 dig (1) 188:7 dimensions (1) 53:7 direct (2) 153:12 188:16 directed (1) 139:21 direction (1) 205:12 143-12 23 directly (6) 73:10 89:14 91:16 99:4 188:4 206.4 director (9) 7:15,17 170:3,11,22 12:14.16.17 47:24 158:8 167:8 197:21 disagree (7) 9:7 114:11 129:10 145:10,15 155:23 161:12 disagreed (1) 77:19 disapplied (1) 88:3 disappointed (1) 6:19 disappointing (1) 128.25 disciplinary (4) 197:11,13 198:10

disclosure (5) 4:12.24 22:8 38:9 188:24 discover (1) 10:12 discovered (4) 4:22 6:2 discrepancy (1) 32:4 discuss (5) 57:8 90:8 121:10,19 167:12 discussed (5) 18:24 37:10 151:15 170:15 discussing (1) 117:5 discussion (9) 96:10,21 115:9 116:4 131:14 188:16.19 211:22.23 discussions (13) 4:2,5 5:8.12.16 91:8.12 95:7 121:20 123:17 129:14 168:3 188:15 dishonest (2) 110:11 disingenuous (4) 101:14 110:11 145:11 156:13 dismiss (1) 212:1 dismissal (1) 213:8 dispels (1) 176:14 displayed (1) 161:10 dispute (4) 9:17,21 disregard (1) 161:10 distinction (2) 14:18 ditton (1) 187:18 divisional (2) 7:17 12:14 dl (2) 39:16.16 dl2000 (8) 40:18 41:19 42:7,11 43:16,22 dI3300 (10) 40:18 41:20 42:8.11.17.23 43:6.22 doc (1) 187:10 document (86) 5:20 10:19.24 11:11 12:7,11,12,21,23 15:13.17 17:13.17 22:3,5,14,24 23:22 26:6,14 42:1 49:1,5 54:12 56:2.6.7 80:16 85:16,18 103:11,15 108:3,20 112:22 117:13 118:15 119:9 122:12 125:4 131:6 139:8 142:10,24 144:15,21,24 147:21 161:19 162:16 165:21 169:12.15.25 171:1.11.22.24 172:22,25 173:5 174:1 175:12 177:9 178:2.25 179:1 183:4,24 184:10 186:1 190:8 191:7 193:4,17 194:16 195:12 196:25 198:13,14 199:3 documentation (3) 36:7 182-21 207-3 documents (13) 2:23 6:25 9:23 11:4 24:14

25:9 38:12 47:16 79:5

142:17 144:8 168:9 196:5 does (30) 10:9 22:5 23:7 27:23 40:9.21 43:6 70:18 74:18 75:7 83:24 94:10 95:4 96:18 97:3 100:2 102:3 111:11.11 118:13,21 119:6 120:23 121:24 129:2 163-24 167-22 193:8,8,9 doesnt (26) 22:4 23:6 25:19 27:20 45:18 49:2 74:17 82:11 83:24 88:22 94:10 97:4 102:4 111:15 112:10 113:5 120:23 121:25 122:6 126:11 127:21 134:5 135:24 138:11 141:8 164:13 doing (27) 5:19 25:21,25 34:16 40:14 82:20 84:19 97:21 99.8 103.24 105.4 107:22 116:11,12 119:16.17 135:14 142:4 157:6,18,19 189:24 200:1 207:17 208:18 211:20 213:17 done (48) 2:19 16:5,9,11,16 18:2 20:6.7.9.15.20 21:7 25:5.5 27:11 32:22.23 35:12 36:3 40:8 44:15 48:20 53:22 56:13 60:11 61:13 71:21 74:24 76:17 90:18 99:15 121:16 131:8 139:13 140:22 144:2.3.4 150:4 158:25 164:24 180:12,15 189:1 190:2 202:17 207:9 213:2 dont (122) 2:15 7:4 8:25 9:16 11:16 14:16 16:7 20:5.8 33:23 38:20 40:17 45:8.23 46:11 53:19 56:9,22 57:8 64:19.21.22 66:2,4,10,20 72:8 76:22.23 77:7 88:3 95:3 96:9.14 98:7.11 100:4,4 101:19 102:25 105:13 106:11 107:15 109-1 24 110-13 111:2,10,19,20 119:6,19,20 122:2,4,15 124:13 127:8 129:7,23 134:11 137:15.16 138:3 140:23,25 142:19 145:23 146:11.19 148:6 150:24 151:11,20 152:10 155:23,25 156:7,7 158:5 159:11 161:13,16 166:14 167:2,17,24 168:16.17.19.20.21.23 169:13 176:15,22,25 178:8 180:6,8 181:18,25 184:6,9

185:7,8,10 189:14,21 190:24 192:24 193:2 194:4 196:17 199:1 205:11 206:15 209:11 211:12 212:20 213:8 215:16 doors (1) 151:23 double (2) 61:17 85:10 doubt (3) 20:17 27:15 30:6 down (32) 14:19 21:17 22:17 31:5 33:7 36:12,18 37:7 38:4 50:3 68:18 77:21 104:7 115:25 119:14 120:21 130:13 143:4 147:17 162:3 163:8 165:17 171:5 179:12 181:4.10 182:23 191:15 198:20 201:16 209:18 213:24 dr (1) 165:16 draft (9) 170:10 171:2,12 190:21 191:1.23 194:8 195:8,10 drafting (6) 11:25 146:17 149:15,17 169:21 176:1 drafts (4) 12:10 17:17 170:2.6 drawings (1) 36:8 drives (1) 41:1 drop (1) 31:1 dropbox (1) 31:2 dropped (5) 34:18 78:24,25 89:11 90:5 dst (1) 188:8 dumped (1) 170:19 during (9) 4:11,23 19:15 38:9 85:20 120:9 125:10 136:10 210:3 dw (1) 126:18 dwellings (1) 186:7 dynamite (5) 81:3,10 82:5,8,13 e (1) 147:22 earlier (11) 16:6 18:15 106:5 116:24 131:11 142:13 168:14 170:5 early (10) 4:11,23 10:7,11 38:9 64:5 100:14 103:16.21 211:18

171:18 175:15 207:25 easier (1) 41:11 ecobuild (1) 30:2 ecotherm (2) 136:6,15 edition (2) 80:7 187:15 educate (1) 120:14 educating (3) 165:19 166:12,24 effect (12) 33:15 38:20 65:13 75:15 76:24 86:7.14.18 88:13 118:8 161:2 174:18 effectively (3) 46:16 110:22 142:15 effects (1) 118:2 efforts (1) 8:24 eg (4) 206:9,10 207:6,8 either (16) 13:1 32:13 47:8 53:14 66:14 80:8,13 92:25 107:23 108:22 111:12 113:22 118:3 164:14 196:19 197:6 elaine (2) 197:22 206:1 elapse (1) 56:19 electronic (1) 169:1 element (14) 18:5 70:11 71:8.25 72:1 76:9.16 78:24,25 81:9 106:23 107:2 108:16 134:14 elements (3) 50:20 72:2 else (7) 6:6.7.17 7:14 11:14 149:19 154:4 elsewhere (1) 51:19 email (92) 7:1 18:15.16 19:5 20:4 21:20 22:5.8 23:11,25 24:22,24 25:15 26:4.5 29:18.23 72:20,21,23 73:1 74:14,19 90:7,10,11 92:2.4 94:13.21 95:13 97:12 99:1,6 100:14 104:6.17 105:11 110:25 111:16 112:3,18,23 115:24 119:14 120:9,20,21 121:12,21 125:9 130:3 131:21,22 132:1,3,7 134:15 135:19 136:16.19 139:19 142:12 151:5 152:2,13 153:15 158:6 159:4 165:13 170:9,21 171:7,16,19 172:8 180:17,18,19,21,24 184:12,13,14 185:11 186:25 191:7.8.16.20 192:12 194:6 emails (5) 21:17 105:20 106:5 107:6 110:17 emanation (1) 37:23 emerged (1) 64:18 empirical (1) 149:15 employ (1) 213:16 employee (1) 165:10 employment (2) 167:6 197:16 encountered (1) 199:8 end (17) 20:12 24:1,10 28:24 53:23 73:24 80:18 96:17 120:10

155:14

32.6 19 23

34:4,15,19,20 35:4,11

37:11,13 38:21 39:24

213:1

40:5,9 41:17 45:15

132.18 142.5 152.6

159:10 160:10,12

214:20 215:1

ends (1) 99:3

endorse (1) 129:17

engaged (1) 152:15

204:21 205:1

213:14,17

201:20.25

89:7 100:21

189:24

engineer (11) 113:21

114:21 115:16 116:8

121:4 122:18 156:15

engineering (2) 172:15

england (24) 47:6 80:7

130:11,19,21,22 131:6

engineers (3) 137:9

121:6 122:7,20 130:25

131:10 133:9

134:5,6,22,25

135:2.10.17 136:1

facilitating (1) 100:20

facilities (1) 18:25

facility (3) 42:13,15

facing (28) 37:6,8 49:20

69:1 71:7 72:3 81:15

137:25 143:9.24

144:16

182:22

137:24 138:9,18
142:10 143:20 145:2,3
146:23 147:21 148:22,24 149:6,24
150:13,17
englandwales (1) 127:4
english (3) 139:5,15 140:13
enough (2) 144:17
205:21
enquiries (1) 180:9 ensure (6) 12:7 33:3
86:21 169:25 185:20
202:5 entailed (1) 161:24
entertain (1) 156:7
entire (9) 47:4
102:15,24 103:14 105:3,5 125:16 136:14
152:23
entirely (2) 106:13 139:5
entitled (2) 11:5 179:1
envelope (1) 186:14
equivalence (1) 149:7 equivalent (2) 28:5
202:24
erm (3) 172:6 175:5
212:20 err (1) 137:13
erroneous (2) 14:21
34:22 error (13) 6:20 14:24
16:19 17:6,7
33:13,14,24 34:4
37:23 38:21 62:10,12 espouse (4) 77:20 88:21
128:25 130:7
espoused (1) 116:24 essence (2) 174:20
188:3
essentially (3) 61:10 123:5 162:15
<b>established (1)</b> 187:13
et (8) 30:24 113:4,14,14
116:16,16 151:24,24 etc (1) 153:21
euro (1) 136:3
euroclass (12) 73:16
75:16 76:2 77:10 105:18 111:10 152:8
154:3,5 156:22 157:4
158:12 europe (2) 200:15,16
european (1) 111:6
european (1) 111:6 evade (1) 210:8
european (1) 111:6 evade (1) 210:8 even (23) 18:10 72:10
european (1) 111:6 evade (1) 210:8
european (1) 111:6 evade (1) 210:8 even (23) 18:10 72:10 85:16 87:17 98:20 119:3 120:2 123:20 134:9 137:18 140:10
european (1) 111:6 evade (1) 210:8 even (23) 18:10 72:10 85:16 87:17 98:20 119:3 120:2 123:20
european (1) 111:6 evade (1) 210:8 even (23) 18:10 72:10 85:16 87:17 98:20 119:3 120:2 123:20 134:9 137:18 140:10 141:20 144:25 145:22 146:9 150:10 163:6,11 166:3 168:1 176:4
european (1) 111:6 evade (1) 210:8 even (23) 18:10 72:10 85:16 87:17 98:20 119:3 120:2 123:20 134:9 137:18 140:10 141:20 144:25 145:22 146:9 150:10 163:6,11 166:3 168:1 176:4 194:2 213:13
european (1) 111:6 evade (1) 210:8 even (23) 18:10 72:10 85:16 87:17 98:20 119:3 120:2 123:20 134:9 137:18 140:10 141:20 144:25 145:22 146:9 150:10 163:6,11 166:3 168:1 176:4
european (1) 111:6 evade (1) 210:8 even (23) 18:10 72:10 85:16 87:17 98:20 119:3 120:2 123:20 134:9 137:18 140:10 141:20 144:25 145:22 146:9 150:10 163:6,11 166:3 168:1 176:4 194:2 213:13 evening (1) 99:5 event (2) 9:7 118:5 eventually (1) 213:16
european (1) 111:6 evade (1) 210:8 even (23) 18:10 72:10 85:16 87:17 98:20 119:3 120:2 123:20 134:9 137:18 140:10 141:20 144:25 145:22 146:9 150:10 163:6,11 166:3 168:1 176:4 194:2 213:13 evening (1) 99:5 event (2) 9:7 118:5
european (1) 111:6 evade (1) 210:8 even (23) 18:10 72:10 85:16 87:17 98:20 119:3 120:2 123:20 134:9 137:18 140:10 141:20 144:25 145:22 146:9 150:10 163:6,11 166:3 168:1 176:4 194:2 213:13 evening (1) 99:5 event (2) 9:7 118:5 eventually (1) 213:16 ever (6) 2:8 3:1 56:7,23 66:3 88:5 every (7) 151:18,20
european (1) 111:6 evade (1) 210:8 even (23) 18:10 72:10 85:16 87:17 98:20 119:3 120:2 123:20 134:9 137:18 140:10 141:20 144:25 145:22 146:9 150:10 163:6,11 166:3 168:1 176:4 194:2 213:13 evening (1) 99:5 event (2) 9:7 118:5 eventually (1) 213:16 ever (6) 2:8 3:1 56:7,23 66:3 88:5 every (7) 151:18,20 153:4,4 159:6 174:16
european (1) 111:6 evade (1) 210:8 even (23) 18:10 72:10 85:16 87:17 98:20 119:3 120:2 123:20 134:9 137:18 140:10 141:20 144:25 145:22 146:9 150:10 163:6,11 166:3 168:1 176:4 194:2 213:13 evening (1) 99:5 event (2) 9:7 118:5 eventually (1) 213:16 ever (6) 2:8 3:1 56:7,23 66:3 88:5 every (7) 151:18,20

exova (14) 35:24

36:3,25 113:21

exovas (1) 140:15

166:19 174:17

163:2,14,16,18,19

expanded (2) 164:22

expansion (2) 164:4

expediatesic (1) 211:6

experience (4) 107:2

experienced (2) 97:23

189:5,6,10

expert (1) 2:8

explain (27) 11:11

15:25 16:15 17:12,25

32:20 37:22 58:11

63:5 78:10 79:15

135:8 159:14,22

214:10

208:3

111:14,19 129:16,24

162:2.3 164:8 167:22

174:13 175:3 176:1,3

explained (4) 3:25 11:9

123:21 212:5

explaining (2) 93:9

211:10

expand (7)

169:24

173:21

114:9,17,22 116:23

131:24 188:2,4,5,10

everyones (1) 164:10 explanation (2) 123:10 everything (1) 121:1 149:15 evidence (38) 1:5,19 explicit (1) 55:25 2:5.11.13.18 7:24 exploit (3) 118:14,17 9:13.21 39:23 146:18 40:15,19 44:7 45:16 exploiting (3) 146:10,12 57:9 60:8 62:18,24 157:20 95:8,10 116:24 124:13 exploits (1) 158:2 140:8 161:13 165:12 exposed (2) 86:13,15 170:5 178:9 181:19 **exposition (1)** 156:8 201:19.24 202:2.13 expressed (2) 2:12,17 205:21 207:25 expressly (3) 79:12 209:5.7.13 215:16 147:5 159:16 evident (1) 207:15 ext (1) 184:19 evolution (1) 107:7 extend (1) 18:24 evolves (1) 152:3 exterior (1) 189:17 ewart (1) 198:17 external (8) 36:9 ewi (1) 200:16 115:16 163:3 179:11 exact (2) 9:10 54:22 183:9 195:20.25 196:4 exactly (21) 33:2 42:24 externally (2) 128:25 43:19 44:18 50:23 130:7 63:14 70:8 77:18 92:1 extract (2) 191:25 139:22 140:22 147:8 192:11 149:18 156:12 157:17 extracting (1) 98:2 168-4 169-5 177-5 extraneous (1) 134:4 189:11 194:24 202:16 extraordinary (1) 212:3 examine (4) 10:14 extrapolated (1) 196:14 12:20 47:14 97:19 extrapolation (1) example (8) 2:22 7:7,14 164:23 34:14 35:17 81:2 extreme (1) 81:2 160:22 190:8 extremely (4) 93:14 excess (1) 76:11 108:25 159:20 204:8 exchange (4) 29:19 eye (1) 191:15 95:13 118:13.21 eyes (1) 204:1 exercise (5) 4:12,24 38:10 40:14.23 exhibit (4) 46:14 48:19 f (1) 105:18 67:25 68:10 exhibited (2) 41:21 42:9 existed (1) 197:1 182:13 183:2.9 186:9.15.19 exists (1) 19:16

faade (9) 37:3 174:6,15 faades (2) 179:13 190:6 fabricate (1) 206:22 fabrication (2) 203:3,4 facade (1) 166:3 facades (2) 11:6 184:15 face (6) 53:15 65:17 116:11 126:6 140:15 145:5 faced (2) 92:14 156:19 facer (118) 2:2 3:4,5 43.19 45.4 46:3,9,21,24 47:3.11.12 48:15.16.18 49:23.24 50:21 51:18 53:18 55:21.22.24 56:3 65:1,4,7,10,14,16,17,20 66:1 67:7,11 68:20,21 69:10.13.16.20.23 70:3,7,20,21,22 71:25 72:1 73:8,14 76:9,15 78:1 81:2,5,11,20 82:5,11 83:1,4,19 84:24 87:16,19 88:11,21 89:4 95:4 96:5,6,15,18 97:9 100:9.10.20 102:7,15,23 103:3,9 104:25 105:24 106:21.21 107:3.5 109:3,5,9 110:5 113:24 115:5 118:4,7,7 120:5,24

92:13 99:14 100:1.4 104:20 105:16 112:7 113:19 114:10 121:4 122:19 126:5 127:5 133:7,7 135:22 136:23 137:7 152:22 153:10 213:4 facing composite (1) 100:3 facings (1) 99:25 factors (1) 195:6 faded (1) 158:15 fail (5) 112:7,9 134:12,13 136:11 failed (5) 38:17 62:21 133:24 143:16 145:18 failing (2) 201:6 209:10 fails (2) 121:6 133:17 failure (2) 34:7,8 fair (15) 8:2 54:9,11 83:7 107:13 109:4.7 120:19 123:5.25 124:2 132:6 134:2,7 137:19 fairly (5) 54:5 146:3,6 191:6 206:11 fairness (1) 8:5 fait (1) 189:18 fall (2) 14:23 152:9 fallen (1) 165:25 false (7) 14:10,12,15 15:4,14 134:7 160:23 falsehoods (2) 209:9,11 falsifying (1) 154:18 familiar (4) 84:20 85:16.18 191:6 far (14) 39:9,25 84:20 96:25 97:22 107:7 131:25 132:12 139:21 149:14 189:10 195:19 198:8 210:7 fast (2) 110:14 210:14 fault (1) 22:19 feared (1) 172:10 feasible (1) 48:4 feature (1) 193:8 featured (4) 180:10 186:16 187:15 190:22 featuring (1) 187:24 february (10) 5:24 6:8,15 67:16 68:5.6.11.15 71:12.16 feel (1) 30:2 feeling (3) 213:12,21,22 feels (1) 116:14 fell (1) 33:7 felt (5) 95:8 139:11 155:17 211:8,13 few (4) 110:17,18 147:9 153:17 fibre (1) 69:25 fibrous (5) 69:8 70:14

71:7 72:5,7 fifth (1) 36:12 figra (2) 76:13,14 figure (1) 113:12 file (5) 51:8 58:14 168:22,24 169:8 files (4) 40:25 169:1,2,4 filing (2) 58:6 59:5 filled (1) 181:2 filler (1) 121:3 film (7) 95:1,21 96:2,4,12,22,24 final (6) 12:18.22 17:19 172:24 194:13 195:10 finally (1) 194:12 find (26) 6:16 21:24 40:15 41:5,11 43:1,15 44:2.7 45:16.18.19 46:25 63:24 64:1.2 129:15 154:4,11,15,21 188:11 197:5 200:18 209:19 213:6 finding (1) 138:14 findings (1) 59:9 finds (1) 105:7 fine (1) 47:11 finger (1) 122:1 finish (3) 82:14 86:24 finished (5) 119:9 133:4 137:14.17 178:2 fire (97) 1:25,25 8:15 9:1 10:16 11:5 19:16.24 26:15 28:6 33:10,21,25 37:2 38:21 40:11 59:16 61:22 65:2,12,13 66:8,17,24 67:12,22 74:16 76:7.13 79:13,20 80:5,10 85:23 92:22 93:3 99:8.9 104:22.24 107:21 108:6 109:6 112:17 113:21 114:21 115:16 116:7 118:1 120:12 121:3 122:18 123:4 125:16 127:11,14,17 128:9 129:20 134:4 137:8 143:5 145:18 147:5 148:8 150:22 151:19 156:15 158:2 162:9,16 170:15 172:15 173:7 174:15 180:5,20,25 187:3 189:19,24 193.8 20 22 25 199.7 201:25 204:13,17,21,24 205:1 206:12 208:2 209:10 213:14,17 fires (3) 107:23 118:6 forced (2) 146:21 138:20 150:11 firm (1) 170:9 foresee (1) 165:23 forget (3) 18:7 66:21 first (49) 3:11 6:2 11:8,10,23 12:11 152:10 13:12 28:1 34:15.21 forgive (2) 39:25 155:3 39:6 41:6 45:5,14,14 form (8) 12:22 53:3 49:13 60:3 61:5,6 68:9 72:9 143:13 146:14 73:12 76:15 78:3 169:1 182:15 183:21 85-18 86-2 99-2 formal (1) 198:13 104:10,13 121:13 format (1) 68:18 125:4 132:11 166:11

179:2,4,15 182:8 186:4 187:15 191:8 193:6 195:8 198:11,12 200:25 201:1 212:16 fitted (1) 186:14 five (3) 32:12 157:2 209:20 fixed (1) 26:23 flagged (2) 91:11 94:18 flame (3) 52:3 67:10 126.9 flat (2) 210:16 211:3 flats (1) 181:9 flies (1) 203:22 floor (1) 163:4 fluctuations (1) 93:22 foam (20) 36:13 43:18 46:24 55:11.18 66:17.20 69:17 70:20.24 71:3.5 82:13 87:19 113:18,24 114:9 115:4 206:20 214:4 focus (5) 8:15 9:1 33:5,8 170:17 focuses (1) 33:6 focusing (1) 42:17 foil (84) 3:4.5 45:4 46:3,21,24 47:3 48:15,16,18 49:15,23,24 51:16 52:10 54:18.20 55:4.17 56:3 65:16 66:1.17.25 67:7.11 69:1,8,10,13,24 70:3.11 71:7 72:3 74:15,25 75:10,23 81:2,5,11,20 82:5,11 83:19 84:24 87:16,19 88:11,21 96:6 102:15.23 103:3.9 105:24 106:1.21 109:9,22 113:18,24 114:9 115:4 116:6 120:5 124:5 130:25 135:10 136:7 137:25 143:16.24 144:16 foilsilver (1) 69:5 fold (3) 190:10,22 191:21 follow (6) 10:9 22:1 100:12 117:16 183:3 213:3 followed (1) 179:17 following (8) 12:13 26:17 30:2 36:8 87:2 101:3 143:15 184:24 follows (5) 25:19 30:13 132:12 190:10 195:18 footnote (2) 42:8 68:1

44:20 64:7 104:3 121:17 172:11 215:19 forwarded (1) 97:24 foster (1) 129:18 found (4) 2:11 40:20 45:9 62:17 four (3) 26:19 29:14 97:15 fourth (7) 5:7 27:16 31:4 38:4 74:10 162:3 201:16 fowl (1) 166:1 fox (1) 192:11 fr (4) 180:4 188:2,12 189:19 frame (3) 13:25 73:18 186:13 frans (12) 112:23 113:12.20 114:9.23 115:2 116:2.4 118:11 119:5 137:9 157:11 fraud (2) 14:17 145:16 free (2) 111:5,12 froehlich (1) 184:16 front (2) 62:4 171:1 frrated (1) 189:8 full (6) 53:13 88:19.24 112:24 114:7 179:19 fullscale (2) 208:21 209:10 50:4,9,15,18,19,20,21,24,2**fully (5)** 8:10 20:8 21:6 52:23.25 fun (1) 200:3 fundamental (6) 17:7 34:4 38:17,20 63:15 86:19 further (16) 27:3 30:3 38:22 52:4 59:6,17 60:9 98:24 105:10 143:4 147:18 152:12.14 189:13 190:8 214:21 furthermore (1) 73:17 furthermost (1) 52:5 future (3) 101:2 113:1

> gale (2) 197:22 206:1 galliford (1) 187:19 game (1) 123:5 gap (1) 86:11 garbutt (4) 12:13 47:23 73:7 187:1 garden (1) 77:21 gases (1) 136:9 gauge (1) 112:23 gave (2) 1:19 38:23

G

gayetree (3) 24:25 25:13.16 general (4) 40:12 49:7,13 57:4 generalities (1) 211:23 generally (4) 48:4 104:2 168:1 173:16 generic (1) 52:1 generous (1) 146:1 genius (1) 184:15 gents (1) 194:11 get (28) 20:14 23:2 65:19 76:11 84:22 90:5 99:23 105:13,24

112:6 113:4 115:1

forming (1) 55:18

forward (8) 32:21 41:16

169:19 171:3 174:2

90:17 91:20 101:8

161:23 162:2,25

169:3.20.23.24

205:2

185:18,19 198:15

headchief (1) 10:11

heading (4) 13:5

36:6,25 51:25

heard (3) 99:22 151:3

197:24 203:8 205:23

208:15 211:16,18

212:24 213:1.1.8

hearings (1) 197:12

heat (3) 76:14 86:14.18

heath (6) 2:21 104:9

133:2 188:17,19

hed (4) 204:3 209:13

212:5 214:2

heart (1) 214:17

hearing (13) 1:4,4

heads (1) 210:2

hear (1) 93:14

188:6

216:1

213.20

125:10 142:25 156:4

167:18.19 168:11.12

121:7 126:11 134:3,6 137:18 157:4.4 158:12 191:13,18 192:21 206:2 207:19 208:9.19 211:5 gets (2) 63:20 134:5 getting (8) 63:10 105:3 121:21 137:20 148:12 157:9 158:10 194:20 give (11) 35:17 53:20 59:21 61:9 116:8 127:5 139:11 154:5 158:14 163:11 168:25 given (32) 15:9 17:13 19:22 22:3 25:25 28:12.22 32:1 35:6 36:5 52:20 53:15,15 54:13.15 60:18 64:3 74:19 76:19 115:7 142:24 144:20 149:2 154:16,19 155:3 158:18 179:7 202:4 204:19 205:12 214:11 gives (4) 107:3 113:23 164-12 176-5 giving (3) 8:2 160:24 173.4 glasgow (1) 151:9 glass (4) 52:10 53:9 69:25 70:16 goal (1) 166:1 goals (1) 201:5 god (1) 126:3 goes (16) 8:1 9:12 12:6 18:21 23:19 48:2 52:14 61:10 104:19 128:17 132:14 136:19 155:13 174:13 195:18 208:17 going (45) 1:4 2:1 17:21.23 23:25 38:1 41:4.11.16 44:19 47:14 51:25 54:2 57:3 63:8 64:6 72:17 78:1 88:7 105:21 107:14 110:17,20 114:25 115:20 121:17 131:20 140:10 154:3,12,13 155:1 156:12 161:20.21 162:19 168:9 175:22 178:24 181:15 183:14 185:13 187:12 201:7 207:1 gold (1) 191:1 gone (3) 17:17 77:20 149-17 good (20) 1:3,9,10,16,16,18 19:3 30:1.23 57:5 88:13 105:17,19 114:14 144:17 157:25 178:4 200:1 214:25 215:24 goodfellow (8) 170:10 171:12,14 180:15 187:8 192:12 194:20 195:9 goodfellows (1) 172:3 governor (1) 200:15 graham (5) 18:21,22 21-21 182-9 184-12 grahame (1) 184:15 grams (1) 69:3 grange (1) 8:2

granted (1) 31:23 grasping (1) 108:10 great (3) 58:13 173:8 207:13 greater (8) 11:8 33:20 76:8 119:4,6 140:21,23 174:7 grenfell (7) 4:12 38:10 79:13 147:4 148:7 187:3 195:22 grip (1) 20:14 grooved (1) 27:6 ground (3) 11:8 174:7 182:14 group (5) 8:15 9:2 77:5 174:8 199:24 guess (1) 205:11 guidance (20) 12:8,9 30:7 108:20 138:9 146:10 161:18 163:23 164:5,11,11,21 165:5 167:1.13 170:1 173:17,20 174:8 190:5 guide (1) 11:5 guts (1) 83:14 guys (3) 94:23 158:9 191:11 gwyn (2) 73:7 158:7 gypcraft (2) 186:11,14 н ha (2) 127:13,13 habitable (2) 11:7 182:13 hadnt (7) 21:6 89:15 95:8 97:15 158:25 159:1 196:14 haha (1) 127:7 half (1) 129:12 halfway (2) 130:13 182:23 hamstrung (1) 209:12 hand (2) 2:4 168:22 handbook (9) 67:21,23 79-17 19 111-4 112-1 143:11 147:24 152:22 hang (1) 32:17 happen (1) 111:19 happened (5) 6:18 38:25 73:25 91:5 207:10 happening (5) 25:23

129:8 156:20

happens (3) 100:12

happy (7) 18:24 117:21

118:12 120:17 182:16

104:6 110:20

191:23 210:9

hard (1) 209:19

178:1

harper (1) 184:14

havent (6) 66:4 95:9

99:22 119:9 167:19

having (19) 17:25 58:13

94:1.14 108:1 109:21

123:17 143:18 165:11

192:14 193:11 195:24

208:1 211:13 212:4

head (30) 10:20 11:24

32:25 58:12 85:21

12:2 17:16 19:4 20:10

83:5,16 85:1 92:9

168:20.21

held (11) 2:13,17 38:18 47:19,22 48:4 51:8 58:14 104:2 132:10 197-13 help (8) 47:2 51:15 74:9 90:13 152:18 182:7 200:6 204:22 helped (2) 164:4,21 helpful (1) 19:17 helpfully (1) 31:3 hemmings (1) 151:10 here (42) 4:15 15:13 18:6 21:19 25:19 26:14 29:23 62:4 67:25 69:9 96:17 105:21 107:14 108:19 111:14 113:4 115:17 120:3 122:17 128:14 129:3 135:7 143:2 146:7 151:25 165:15 173:15 175:23 176:19 177:7,11 180:24 184:14 186:2 195:10 199:4 204:5 205:4 206:25 207:23 208:3 211:2 herefordshire (1) 19:1 hes (6) 100:11 116:7 134.9 200.14 210:24,24 hi (7) 18:22 90:23 132:8 151:14 152:17 153:19 187:5 hide (1) 64:15 high (8) 30:4 36:10 86:10 159:24 170:23 179:13 181:8 210:5 higher (2) 114:3 157:1 highest (1) 92:21 highlight (3) 194:19 210:10,21 highlighted (4) 92:24 111-10 192-3 3 highlighting (1) 210:23 highrise (4) 30:19 31:24 190:18 201:11

highrises (1) 181:13 himself (2) 116:8 125:9 hindsight (4) 33:17 34:1.2 150:8 historic (7) 39:22 59:7 60:8,10 64:7 119:19 208:1 historically (7) 41:17 44:22 60:16 64:2 89:1 94:5,8 history (2) 46:18 58:2 hobbs (1) 158:8 hold (1) 77:20 home (1) 102:6 homes (1) 129:22 honest (9) 126:17 153:2,24 154:7,24 155:4.5 156:2.3 honestly (3) 102:21 106:10 144:23 hope (6) 110:21 128:7 153:12 155:20 158:15 174:14 hoping (3) 125:3 155:15 158-14 hornbeam (1) 185:2 hours (2) 14:16 97:15 house (3) 116:20 186:3 housing (1) 187:21 howard (1) 165:16 however (10) 30:9 52:25 73:10.22 130:21 135:24 152:22 165:25 173:6 187:12 huge (1) 153:6 human (2) 161:10 197:22 hunter (3) 151:11 152:3,6

hurt (1) 158:13 i1 (1) 93:4 ian (1) 21:21 id (11) 15:1,3 34:11 61:17 117:19 122:25 135:3 157:25 167:3 209:15 213:25 idea (3) 143:15 163:12 213-15 ideal (13) 116:9 117:7.13.15.22 118:10 119:1 123:2.11.12 140:18 156:16 157:12 ideally (3) 157:5,8,13 identical (1) 3:3 identified (5) 8:11 59:12 93:6 103:21 164:20 identifies (2) 23:12 156:12 identify (5) 5:5 31:3 49:1 59:23 63:1 identifying (2) 23:9 32:13 ie (1) 73:14 ignition (2) 86:12.15 ignore (2) 153:12 155:19 ii (2) 67:12 80:1 ill (9) 1:23 8:3 41:24 60:24 86:24 88:14 112:22 117:17 118:20

illusory (1) 139:6 im (63) 2:3.10 3:6 7:9 9:2 17:10,10,23 23:8 34:2.3 35:7 40:13 42:24 43:13.14 44:1 46:18 48:24 54:22 55:24 57:3 65:1,19 72:17 74:11 84:4 92:3 94:7 96:19,19 98:25 103:22 104:21 105:7 108:9 110:20 111:17 112:9 113:8 119:7 125:3 128:7 131:19 142:4 146:16 161:8 162:20 168:4,5,7 171:2 174:13 175:22 176:25 177:21 185:10 206:13 207:7.9 209:4 215:5.13 image (1) 186:9 immediate (3) 115:14 120:13 213:12 immediately (2) 34:18 109:14 impact (1) 76:16 impacted (1) 130:18 implies (1) 127:5 important (3) 17:16 108:16 210:4 impression (11) 47:24.25 48:1 73:13 96:16 160:10 176:5 188:12.14 205:15 213-21 improve (1) 64:5 inaccurate (4) 14:11,13,14,15 incident (1) 118:1 incidentally (1) 166:4 include (6) 25:18 35:25 69:25 112:22 169:24 182:17 included (5) 31:18 52:19,22 162:5 194:15 includes (3) 21:25 80:12 including (7) 11:12 18:18 28:10 68:22 77:6 94:22 163:4 incoming (1) 22:5 inconsistent (1) 93:21 incorporates (1) 179:9 incorporating (5) 11:613:8 195:21,25 196:4 incorporation (1) 196:7 incorrect (1) 29:13 incorrectly (1) 16:8 increase (4) 120:18 163:2.18 164:4 increases (1) 86:14 increasing (1) 86:13 incumbent (1) 185:18 independent (2) 2:8 114:21 index (11) 67:12 76:13 79:25 80:6,11 93:4,4 104:22 131:9 137:20 217:1 indicate (1) 24:16 indicated (1) 118:11

individual (1) 137:21 industry (16) 106:8 108:22 141:12,14,23 144:22.24 145:1 146:23 151:1 159:16 174:8 176:8 189:15 207:4 208:16 inferred (2) 207:4 208:16 infill (1) 186:13 influence (2) 86:19 88:9 info (1) 187:7 inform (1) 146:23 information (12) 8:21 43:14 51:6 52:13 53:15.20.23 54:13 63:6 171:13 191:17 initial (1) 41:19 initially (2) 39:12 95:7 injured (1) 107:24 inkling (2) 205:5,6 inquiry (14) 1:15 4:13 38:11 58:18 61:16,22 64-17 67-17 78-6 8 168:10 195:17 198:3 217:6 inquirys (2) 3:13 63:5 inreality (2) 82:21 84:7 inside (1) 179:7 installed (2) 186:6,11 instance (1) 99:3 instances (1) 92:11 instant (1) 125:6 instead (2) 51:8 154:20 instruction (1) 56:16 instrumented (1) 3:2 insubstantial (1) 163:11 insulated (2) 37:5,16 insulation (37) 3:21 4:11 26:22 33:21 36:13 38:8 39:9.13 40:1 47:4 49:5 56:17 59:6,12 68:20 81:9 82:24 83:12 90:22 101:6,22 102:5 106:24 109:2 123:13 151:25 152:5 171:21 173:10 174:25 182:16,18,24 183:5 201:18 202:23 210:6 insulations (1) 190:14 insurance (3) 29:20,25 30:21 insured (1) 32:3 insurer (1) 30:20

integrity (5) 200:1

intention (6) 8:10

203:24 205:8,11 212:4

145:20 149:4,5 159:18

intended (7) 98:4,6,7,21

144:10 145:6 149:2

intentions (1) 146:15

interested (4) 20:14

interesting (3) 85:2

105:15 134:20

internal (2) 106:25

interpret (5) 116:10

118:17,19,22 211:8

internally (2) 7:2 131:14

213.2

indicating (1) 132:16

indication (1) 118:4

indicative (2) 132:10,22

21:8 119:21 211:25

interpretation (77) 47:19 48:2 82:21,22,23 84:14,25 85:3,5,12 88:20 89:6 93:10 95:24 96:3 97:10,11 98:5,8,14,17,20,22 101:14 102:12,14 103:15,19 104:2 106:4,10,13,15,17 107:15.16 108:20 109:4,7 110:10 112:1 114:4.5.6.20.23 116:23 117:4,10 118:12,15 119:3,4 120:19.19 122:3,5,9,24 123:18.21.25 124:2 134:2.8 138:10 139:9 140:19 141:4 143:20 144:21,25 146:20 148:11 200:20.21.22 interpreted (2) 116:7 139:16 interpreting (4) 121:1146:11,13,16 interprets (2) 153:13 155:21 interrupt (1) 60:25 intervening (2) 148:14 195-13 interview (3) 203:11 205:14 213:5 interviewee (1) 198:16 interviewer (1) 198:14 intimate (1) 86:16 into (37) 10:24 14:23 18:5,14 20:13 35:9 38:21,24 39:22 41:4 52:4 54:2,17 63:10 64:3 66:3 114:14 128:17 143:19 145:17 149:12 150:15 152:9 160:1,17 164:22 183:14 199:7 207:1,12 210:14,16 211:2,8 213:18.19 214:8 intrigued (1) 188:5 introduce (1) 177:21 introduced (1) 45:5 introduction (1) 173:4 inverted (1) 210:14 investigate (5) 6:15 56:23,25 97:18 186:22 investigated (1) 40:6 investigation (2) 51:9 213:2 investigations (5) 59:6,9 60:4,11 91:13 invitation (1) 18:25 invited (1) 9:1 involve (1) 32:2 involved (19) 4:2.5.8 5:8,15 6:17 7:7 10:5 12:9 32:13 38:6 54:11 66:16,24 155:14 166:5,23 170:2 198:5 involvement (2) 4:15 15:10 ip (1) 53:17 ireland (1) 147:22 irfan (4) 99:6,7 104:8,18

irrelevant (5) 76:21 77:8.22 81:20 82:10 isnt (58) 13:14 16:25 17:7 19:22 22:14.22 23:20 24:13 25:1 26:24 27:6,13 32:17 33:11 34:1 35:13 36:20 43:11 55:8 60:18 61:20 65:21 74:2 99:20 101:16 107:19.20 108:6 110:12 122:8 135:2 136:24 139:3 141:1 150:9 154:1 155:4,24 156:6 157:8,10,16 170:24 172:3 176:13 179:21 181:16 183:10.13 196:9 197:19 204:6.13 207:23 208:8.11.22 209:8 issuance (1) 164:4 issued (5) 12:22 25:13 78:16 165:6 174:8 issues (20) 92:10 94:2,14 111:2 133:7.17.18 170:15 192:14 194:15,22,23,25 195:1 200:15,16,17 208:3 210:23 213:4 item (1) 35:23 its (192) 7:25 9:10 15:4 17:7 19:22 20:3.12 22:6 23:23 24:13,25 27:23.24 32:6 33:6 35:13 36:3,3,4,4 37:19 40:11 43:3,11 45:16 46:19 48:2,12,19 50:17,19 53:7,8,17,21 54:3.5.10.22 55:11.14.21.22.25 57:4 58:17 59:7,8 60:18 61:10 64:16 67:9 68:13 70:1,2,10,11,16,16,21,22 71:4 72:7.10 73:8 74:2 81:9,12 82:10,11,13,13,23,23,24 84:1.3.6.8 86:23 90:9,22,25 91:6 92:4.11 93:20.21.21 96:1.1 97:11 99:1,11,19 100:4 101:5,16,23 104:12 106.23 107.21 109:2,20 110:14 112:5,21 113:5 114:3 116:11 117:19 119:16 120:4,25 122:9.10.10.10 123:16 125:8.13 128:19.20.21.24.25 129:13 130:6,10 131:4,19 133:11,16 134:7 136:3 141:5 142:8.22 143:24 145:8 146:1 147:10 148:6 151:10,13 152:19 153:2.3.11 154:1 156:1,9 157:8,16 161:21 162:22,22 163:8,17

165:9,14,14,25 166:8 171:10 172:3 174:8.25 175:6,7,9,9 176:2,2,4,12 177:5,16 178:4 180:19 181:5.22 183:13 190:18 197:19 198:13 199:2,5 208:8 209:8,19 215:2 itself (8) 50:21 72:1,13 86:19 101:3 106:22 123-12 133-17 ive (21) 8:14 15:14 25:18 32:8.8 38:12 46:18 51:23 53:4 56:12 77:14 128:19 134:1 146:3 149:2 150:25 156:11 174:17 196:16 212:20 214:20 ivor (36) 5:17.22 6:4.8 7:11 12:1 18:17 21:20 47:24 64:9 72:23 73:1 76:18 77:7.7 165:15 167:9 169:22 197:11,19 198:17 201:10 202:4.22 203:2 204:4,16,19,22 205:15 209:8 212:8 213:23.23 214:1.3

jack (2) 187:18,25 ianuary (2) 60:20 61:9 joanne (1) 151:10 job (7) 21:11 33:5,6 166:6 168:11 169:9 209:23 jobs (2) 41:7 153:5 jogs (1) 184:11 john (7) 12:13 47:23 73:7 180:24 181:1 187:1.5 jolly (1) 123:1 juan (2) 191:19 193:5 july (62) 3:9,16 4:9,15,22 6:9,23 7:25 10:5 12:17 14:2 15:9,13 16:9 18:2 20:1,20 23:6,12,20,22,24 24:8 25:8.20 27:8 28:18.22 29:7 31:13,22 32:1,14 34:24 35:2.6.15 36:19.23 37:15 38:7 73:25 74:21,22 75:8.22 78:16.20 142:21 148:4,14 155:18 161:22 165:14 175:13 179:16 180:25 183:22 190:4 194:8 195:10,13 jump (1) 114:14 jumping (1) 113:8 june (26) 73:1 74:19 90:7,12 91:5 100:15 103:17,21 105:11 107:7 111:1 112:19 113:10 115:25 120:22 147:5 164:7.12 165:6.21 171:25 174:10 187:3 189:13

justify (3) 107:10 207:19 208:20 justifying (2) 211:20 212:4

k10 (2) 73:14 125:21

k10k110k15 (1) 126:8

4:5,6,10,18,23 5:9

9:8,9,15,25 10:7 11:6

k110 (3) 125:23

k115 (1) 158:14

k15 (242) 3:16

6:10.21 7:25

127:12,15

13:8,18,18 14:5.6.7.21.24 15:12 16:2 17:22 18:10,11 20:15 24:5,9,16 25:12 26:1.2.10.22 31:6.24 32:2,15,17 34:23 35:10.14 36:13 37:4,16 38:8 39:3.4.11.15 42:23 43:8.17 44:12.17 45:4,5,15 46:9,23 47:9 54:20 55:16 56:2,4 58:1,7,14,25 59:7,14,16,25 60:1 61:15 62:6 64:25 65:7 66:19 67:1.7.11.13.18 68:19,22 69:11,13,17 71:9 72:13.22 73:7,8,12,13,19,20 74:5,15 78:13,16,19 79:6 88:25 89:10,19,21 90:21 92:14 93:15 100:23 101:5 102:8.13.23 103:1.8 105:3.23.25 107:8 109:15,21 110:1.24 112:6 116:19,21 117:11 120:12 121:2,6 125:21 126:21 127:18 21 128:23 130:25 131:3,9 132:14 133:3.8 134:9,11,21,25 137:19 139:24 140:4,13 141:20 142:7,18 143:6,15,17,24 145:13 146:7 147:6,18,20,25 148:4 151:19 152:8.21 153:7 157:4 158:12.19 159:5,11 160:12,15,18 161:3.14 162:10.10.18 163:2,6,14,19,19 164:23 170:15 172:20 174:24 177:13 179:10 180:25 182:10,12,17 183:1,13 185:20 186:5,12,16 188:24 189:16 190:3,14 191:12 192:14,16,17 193:11 195:2,20,24 199:4,8,10 200:13.17.19 201:4,20,22

202:5.12.13 204:12

205:16.17 207:22

208:2,9,20 209:2,9

k15k10k9 (1) 111:3

212:12

112-19 113-15

kin000041683 (1)

kin000041684 (1)

110:19

k15s (6) 6:10 45:2,21 78:15 94:14 139:20 k17 (1) 68:20 k18 (1) 68:19 k5 (8) 126:1 132:17 133:3 137:19 200:11,13,15,19 k7 (4) 105:17 126:7,8 128:10 k7k128 (1) 128:5 k7k12k8k108 (1) 99:14 kd (1) 68:19 kds (2) 191:19 193:5 keen (4) 20:18 110:24 138:10 166:19 keep (3) 95:8 176:15 201:7 keeping (5) 41:2 63:13 115:20 159:15 201:12 kent (1) 190:10 kept (6) 8:24 40:25 64:11 203:23 209:10 210:2 kesteren (4) 39:14 42:13.19.25 kew (1) 166:9 kev (5) 33:5.7 54:5 135:7,12 kick (1) 194:16 kil (2) 136:5 187:18 kin000000261 (1) 48:24 kin00000086 (2) 10:17 12:21 kin0000008617 (1) 13:4 kin00000193 (1) 36:3 kin000001937 (1) 36:5 kin000001938 (1) 36:24 kin00000256 (1) 48:20 kin000002564 (1) 56:14 kin000002565 (3) 49:11 51:11 55:4 kin000002566 (2) 51:3 kin00002289 (1) 29:18 kin000022891 (1) 30:22 kin000022892 (1) 29:22 kin00002729 (1) 180:17 kin000027293 (1) 180:23 kin00002731 (1) 181:20 kin00003148 (1) 172:25 kin0000314810 (1) 186:2 kin0000314814 (2) 190:9 193:4 kin000031483 (1) 173:2 kin000031485 (1) 174:1 kin000031486 (1) 174:21 kin000031488 (1) 178:25 kin000031489 (1) kin00003894 (1) 72:20 kin000038942 (1) 72:24 kin000038943 (1) 73:2 kin000041681 (2) 113:10 115:23 kin000041682 (2)

105:10 kin000041685 (2) 99:1 100:13 kin000041686 (2) 92:4 93:17 kin000041687 (2) 90:9 92:20 kin00004213 (1) 131:19 kin000042131 (1) 134:18 kin000042132 (2) 131:23 132:25 kin000042133 (1) 132:15 kin00006464 (1) 170:8 kin000064641 (1) 172:8 kin000064642 (1) 171:19 kin00006676 (1) 194:5 kin000074452 (1) 127:22 kin00007769 (1) 186:25 kin00008257 (1) 171:2 kin00008261 (1) 191:8 kin000082612 (1) kin00008262 (1) 190:25 kin00008681 (1) 205:24 kin000086815 (1) 206:8 kin000086817 (1) 209:17 kin00008729 (1) 142:17 kin000087297 (1) 143:2 kin0002082410 (2) 130:9 142:2 kin0002082412 (1) 162:23 kin0002082413 (1) 164:2 kin0002082422 (1) 10:3 kin0002082423 (2) 11:1 169:15 kin000208243 (1) 162:1 kin0002082430 (1) 147:15 kin0002082450 (1) 195:16 kin0002082477 (1) 165:3 kin0002082479 (1) 35:19 kin000208248 (1) 67:5 kin000208249 (1) 78:4 kin00020827 (1) 68:9 kin000208274 (1) 68:16 kin000208275 (1) 68:14 kin00020828 (1) 71:11 kin000208284 (1) 71:13 kin00020841 (1) 151:5 kin000208411 (1) 153:16 kin000208412 (1) kin000208415 (1) 152:4 kin000208416 (1) 151:7 kin00022310 (1) 61:6 kin0002231226 (1) 64:10 kin00022322 (1) 198:11 kin0002232210 (1) 199:22 kin0002232214 (2)

kin0002232215 (1) 203:21 kin000223229 (1) 198:19 kin00022357 (2) 27:19 kin0002261017 (1) 207:21 kin0002261029 (4) 39:7 42:6 45:1 58:4 kin0002261030 (1) 59:4 kin0002261031 (1) 123:17 kin000226105 (1) 199:3 kin0002261056 (2) 3:12 38:2 kin000226106 (1) 201:10 kin00022645 (1) 41:24 kin0007445 (1) 125:2 kind (7) 133:12 153:11 157:23.23 176:14 210:19 212:5 kinds (1) 164:22 kingspan (98) 1:5 2:7 3:1 8:21 11:6 12:14 13:8 14:5.20 16:2 18:18 19:23 22:3 24:9 25:20 27:11 29:24 35:24 36:6,13 37:4,16 40:9 44:17 45:13 49:5 54:18 55:14 56:17 58:1 60:18 61:21 64:11.15 65:11 68:22 82:19 84:4 90:14,21 91:6 98:19 100:23 101:5 102:8 107:17 109:21 110:1 117:10 119:22 120:3 127:12,15,18 128:10 131:3 142:7.18 143:6 147:19 151:19 152:14 157:17 160:24 165:10,23 166:4,18,24 167:7 174:24 179:9 181:2,14,21 182:16.18.24 183:5,10,21 186:5,12 190:13 191:2 192:13 197:21 199:9 200:11 201:23,23 206:20 208:3,8,25 210:6,8 214:3 kingspans (13) 39:18 40:21 63:15 129:6 136:14 161:19 162:9,15 163:1 164:3 167:6 189:15 206:11

65:6,11,25 75:6 81:13.15 90:3 91:5 96:14 97:3 99:19 102:13 103:2.5.12 106:9 107:18 113:6 115:12 118:2 119:20,21 122:11 131:13 135:8 137:16 138:3,17,25 139:23 142:19 149:10,12 151-12 153-2 156-5 157:3 159:10 160:5 163:23 181:14.22 184:9 185:7,8,10 186:16 188:4 192:23.25 194:2.12.20 204:8 205:11 209:6 211:15.25 214:8 knowing (3) 89:15 107:9 110:3 knowledge (13) 2:7,16 3:19 7:24 9:6.14.16 35:8 47:18 158:18 165:10,11 202:22 known (8) 8:21 15:12 18:8 35:1 117:4 138:13 168:4.5 knows (2) 127:24 157:17 koolduct (1) 49:21 kooltherm (28) 11:6 13:8 14:5,21 25:13 49:22 90:21 100:23 101:5 111:2 127:12,15,18 128:10 132:14 142:18 143:6 147:20 152:8 174:24 179:10 182:10.12 183:1 186:5,12 190:14 193:11 lack (8) 34:11 64:16 65:15 149:7 199:7 203:1.5 204:13 lacquer (4) 59:16 61:22

63:12 65:2 lambda (7) 4:4.16 6:22 15:10 26:2 28:23 64:24 laminated (1) 72:9 lamtec (9) 51:18 69:1 71:7 72:9 92:14 99:15.18 104:20 105:19 lamtecs (1) 99:17 landscape (1) 50:7 language (3) 98:3 117:6 144:9 large (5) 13:5 201:11 207:17 208:18 209:20 largescale (1) 19:23 last (12) 58:17 61:9 73:9 116:18 122:17 166:9 170:4 187:18 191:20 199:25 207:10 late (5) 1:19 23:11

knew (24) 4:17 9:9,18

97:6 105:22 106:7

109:14 123:1.20

193:14,21 202:16

204:7,9,9 211:19

know (85) 2:23 5:15

8:18,20 9:4 15:5 28:4

30:8 33:19,22 35:12

38:20 40:10.17 43:1.4

53:17,18,23 54:7,8

213:23

44:19 48:4

55:1,13 56:19

200:25 203:14

15:9 16:9 35:6 89:19

145:18 166:17 176:7

195:19,24

justified (1) 83:4

211:17

63:19 64:4 131:22

48:10 54:21 131:21

134:17 153:17,18

157:2 159:12 179:20

later (12) 47:15.16

latest (4) 74:5 85:9
187:17 190:12
launched (1) 45:14 layer (2) 54:23 100:3
layers (3) 54:22 86:20
88:9 leader (1) 25:10
leading (1) 77:21
learnt (1) 214:12
lease (1) 179:7 least (10) 18:7 32:12
79:3 105:18 137:23
181:14 185:12 186:19 205:14 210:5
leave (3) 112:25 137:3
189:15
leaving (2) 117:9 148:21
led (2) 91:12,13
left (9) 148:15 166:22
167:6 168:22,25 169:2 204:19 213:13 214:1
lefthand (9) 13:13
16:24 50:4,6 51:22 86:6 88:7 143:3,4
legislation (2) 123:4
158:2
legitimacy (1) 106:3 legitimate (2) 98:17,20
legitimately (3) 84:22
105:14 157:3
less (15) 2:1 40:22 74:16 117:16,19,22
118:8,25,25
123:2,10,11 129:15
137:20 140:18 let (6) 82:14 97:3
149:2,4,21 172:7
lets (69) 3:12 5:4 9:23 10:14,15,17 11:1,20
12:21 14:19 18:14
24:21 26:9 29:18
34:16 36:2 41:19 44:24 48:17,19,25
49:5,9 51:23 66:21
67:3 68:8 71:11 81:23
83:12 84:11,16 86:5 90:7 94:20 108:3
110:17 115:22 120:20
130:8 131:19 142:2,17
145:5,24 147:2,14 156:25 158:6 161:17
165:2 167:3 169:14
170:6 171:1 173:25
170:6 171:1 173:25 175:11 182:6 184:10
170:6 171:1 173:25 175:11 182:6 184:10 190:8,25 198:10,12 199:22 201:15 203:20
170:6 171:1 173:25 175:11 182:6 184:10 190:8,25 198:10,12 199:22 201:15 203:20 205:7,23 209:17
170:6 171:1 173:25 175:11 182:6 184:10 190:8,25 198:10,12 199:22 201:15 203:20
170:6 171:1 173:25 175:11 182:6 184:10 190:8,25 198:10,12 199:22 201:15 203:20 205:7,23 209:17 letter (8) 172:12 181:20,24 182:8,25 183:7,18,22
170:6 171:1 173:25 175:11 182:6 184:10 190:8,25 198:10,12 199:22 201:15 203:20 205:7,23 209:17 letter (8) 172:12 181:20,24 182:8,25 183:7,18,22 level (6) 11:8 38:17
170:6 171:1 173:25 175:11 182:6 184:10 190:8,25 198:10,12 199:22 201:15 203:20 205:7,23 209:17 letter (8) 172:12 181:20,24 182:8,25 183:7,18,22
170:6 171:1 173:25 175:11 182:6 184:10 190:8,25 198:10,12 199:22 201:15 203:20 205:7,23 209:17 letter (8) 172:12 181:20,24 182:8,25 183:7,18,22 level (6) 11:8 38:17 148:13 174:7 179:13 182:14 liaising (1) 35:24
170:6 171:1 173:25 175:11 182:6 184:10 190:8,25 198:10,12 199:22 201:15 203:20 205:7,23 209:17 letter (8) 172:12 181:20,24 182:8,25 183:7,18,22 level (6) 11:8 38:17 148:13 174:7 179:13 182:14 liaising (1) 35:24 liam (1) 184:14
170:6 171:1 173:25 175:11 182:6 184:10 190:8,25 198:10,12 199:22 201:15 203:20 205:7,23 209:17 letter (8) 172:12 181:20,24 182:8,25 183:7,18,22 level (6) 11:8 38:17 148:13 174:7 179:13 182:14 liaising (1) 35:24
170:6 171:1 173:25 175:11 182:6 184:10 190:8,25 198:10,12 199:22 201:15 203:20 205:7,23 209:17 letter (8) 172:12 181:20,24 182:8,25 183:7,18,22 level (6) 11:8 38:17 148:13 174:7 179:13 182:14 liaising (1) 35:24 liam (1) 184:14 lie (7) 128:14 129:3 207:19 208:20,20 211:21 212:4
170:6 171:1 173:25 175:11 182:6 184:10 190:8,25 198:10,12 199:22 201:15 203:20 205:7,23 209:17 letter (8) 172:12 181:20,24 182:8,25 183:7,18,22 level (6) 11:8 38:17 148:13 174:7 179:13 182:14 liaising (1) 35:24 liam (1) 184:14 lie (7) 128:14 129:3 207:19 208:20,20
170:6 171:1 173:25 175:11 182:6 184:10 190:8,25 198:10,12 199:22 201:15 203:20 205:7,23 209:17 letter (8) 172:12 181:20,24 182:8,25 183:7,18,22 level (6) 11:8 38:17 148:13 174:7 179:13 182:14 liaising (1) 35:24 liam (1) 184:14 lie (7) 128:14 129:3 207:19 208:20,20 211:21 212:4 lied (1) 126:16

179:7 164:8 165:25 170:5 lifesaver (1) 206:18 180:16 181:9 light (4) 63:7 129:4 156:25 165:12 like (48) 17:12 23:11 24:2,11 34:17 39:3 43:13 44:1 45:17 48:3,21 52:1 53:12 56:7 75:2,14 76:9 77:25 88:16 90:10 93-21 104-11 109-1 116:7 121:1,2 127:10 130:6.13 134:1 137:9,10 146:19 147:16 157:6,25 158:5 167:3 169:16 175:19 178:23 182:25 192:10 210:13 211:13 213:15 214:13 215:14 likeforlike (1) 3:1 likely (6) 2:1 6:25 55:15 113:18 114:10 115:4 limited (19) 11:17,23 53:14 56:18 93:1 141:14.19 151:2 169:19 172:13 175:5,6 176:17.23 177:3.13 182:16,18,25 limiteds (1) 183:5 line (17) 5:7 8:4 19:2 38:4 43:7 74:10 119:14 152:21 153:11 162:3 182:1 198:23 199:23 201:1,16 209:7 214:20 linear (8) 174:22 175:1,7,10,18,24 176:6 177:11 lines (3) 198:20 200:14 lining (1) 92:22 linings (1) 106:25 link (2) 31:1,2 linked (1) 125:8 linzi (1) 158:8 list (4) 27:20 28:18 61:15 201:18 listed (3) 28:17 59:20 182:15 literal (19) 81:24 98:5,8,14 108:21 116:23 118:14,19 122:4 138:10 139:7 144:20,25 146:2,6,14,25 147:1 150.13 literally (2) 98:10 196:12 literary (1) 128:20 literature (27) 5:14 6:1.10.14 9:20 12:15 44:19 59:8 78:15,22 79:8 91:17 109:8 124:8 127:10 131:4 139:20 140:6 142:8,20 147:6,18 148:5 155:18 156:17 162:11 196:3 little (24) 10:14 12:20 17:10 18:14,15 37:7 47.15 48.11 50.3 14

live (2) 201:12 203:22 lives (8) 107:20 108:17 119:3.6 129:21 140:21,23,25 load (1) 33:21 local (1) 192:15 locate (2) 188:22,23 location (1) 160:19 logic (3) 77:2 141:5 logically (1) 76:23 logo (1) 72:21 lol (2) 126:13,23 london (1) 186:7 long (17) 12:19 31:21 42:10 50:5 56:22,23 68:11 90:10 99:2 105:5 121:21 130:10 161:22 174:3 204:7 206:5 215:2 longer (11) 99:21 139:24 153:21 154-2 12 13 155-1 156:22 180:21 203:25 207:10 longish (1) 165:14 look (100) 3:12 7:1 9:23 11:1,20 12:21 13:4 15:22 18:5.14 19:12 23:3 26:9 27:1 28:7 31:4 35:17.18 36:2 38:21.23 41:19.24 47:16 48:10,19,23 51:23 52:4.9 56:14 58:3,4 62:13,15,22 63:1 66:3 67:3 68:8 72:22,25 79:5 80:20 84:11,16,17 85:10,14 86:5 87:4.20 90:7 97:22 103:8 110:17 115:22 125:4 127:24 130:8 131:19,21,23 132:1 133:4 142:1,3,17 143:2 145:24 147:2.14.16 151:4 156:9 161:17 162:1 164:2 165:12,17 167:3.10 171:16 173:25 181:4 184:10 186:1 190:8,25 191:22 195:16 198:10.12 199:23 205:7,23 209:17 214:8,22 215.19 looked (12) 6:18,20 13:6 29:5 42:7 60:7.10.13 142:13 191:14 192:1 207:25 looking (42) 4:4 6:3.24 7:5 10:15 13:23 17:2 22:24 23:2 33:17 34:2 39:22 46:1 49:2 54:6 62:24 63:9.11 66:7 71:21 105:20,22 111:22 114:7 119:7 144:8 152:11 168:3,9 171:13 173:18,19,21 176:20 185:12 187:23 189:7 198:13 200:25 201:3 208:25 211:4 looks (6) 23:11 28:21

40:16 48:21 116:22 191:6 loophole (4) 146:10,12 152:20 157:21 loose (1) 110:14 lose (1) 107:24 lot (6) 8:3 198:22 201:7 202:7 207:11 211:15 low (78) 4:4,16 6:22 15:10 26:2 28:23 39.15 58.9 59.7 64.24 65:19 67:19 78:16.20.23.24.25 79:6,15,20 80:11 84:10 87:6 88:19,24 89:7.11.15.16.20.22 90:5 111:3,8 112:17,24 113:5,13,22 116:12.15.19 130:22 135:24 137:5 139:20,23 140:5,7,11 146:22 147:10 148:21,24 149:23,25 150:7,12,16 152:25 153:2.6.12.23 154:5 155:20 156:1,22 157:3 158:13.20 159:2.23.25 160:2,16 161:4,6 lower (5) 1:24 37:7 119:14 160:1 181:10 lunch (1) 124:11 lying (3) 129:19,23 154:18

m (1) 171:22 maaaaaate (1) 125:14 main (5) 11:4 73:6 170:17 192:16 201:5 maintain (2) 206:14 207:14 maintained (2) 146:24 147:1 major (2) 130:1 179:8 makes (1) 147:24 makeup (3) 50:25 54:4 70:21 making (7) 32:24 70:5 73:12 134:9 160:21 201:4,7 malcolm (1) 73:6 malus (1) 185:5 managed (1) 210:7 management (1) 198:17 manager (9) 4:2 12:2 41:8 64:4 80:17 169:23 182:1 187:19 206:24 managing (5) 7:15 12:17 167:8 197:21 204:22 manufactured (4) 42:12,19,19 52:16 manufacturer (6) 51:12,15,18 52:2 54:3 141.1 manufacturers (2) 52:18 73:18 many (2) 77:5 176:8 march (5) 167:4,10,18 168:6 191:2 mark (2) 73:6 209:20 marked (3) 73:15

76:2.16

10:7 17:21 69:12.14 71:22,24 79:11 101:20 103:14.19.22 104:4.13 105:17 109:23 110:23 116:10 120:25 133:10 135:25 136:6 139:21 140:12,20 145:6,17 163:9,15 196:19 198:23 199:10,16 205.18 marketed (5) 28:25 45:6 105:25 162:11.18 marketing (41) 5:19 6:10,14 8:7 9:24 10:11.21 12:12.14 32:25 47:23 58:12 78:22 79:8 90:15.16.17 91:6 101:9 109:8 120:11.12 125:11 139:20 142:20.25 156:4.17 161:23 162:3,6,25 167:19 168:12 172:4 180:11 185:19 196:3 198:16 208:10 213:6 marketplace (1) 210:1 markets (1) 140:13 martin (38) 1:3,9,11,13 57:2,5,12,18,20 82:14 83:1,3,11,14,16,19,21,24 84:2 119:9.12 124:10.21.24 178:1,4,6,12,18,20 203:10 214:23,25 215:5.8.13.19.22 masonry (1) 37:4 massive (1) 165:24 masters (2) 99:9 213:17 mate (4) 92:7 113:3 128:1.3 material (31) 33:16 54:14 65:10 70:5 79:21,23 80:9,12,14 81:15 83:7 91:6 92:23 93:1,3 101:23 109:3 111:9 120:11 121:3 134:3 170:7 172:5 174:3 180:11 184:23 186:15.22 187:24 206:17 208:10 materials (12) 50:22 86:9 92:22 106:24 111:8 162:6 164:6,13,14,15 174.5 9 matt (1) 200:7 matter (11) 2:7 49:2 82:11 94:10,11 114:11 117:6 121:10,19 141:8 183:25 mattered (1) 161:5 matters (3) 34:5 204:1 211:21 max (2) 116:21 152:9 maxwell (3) 27:12 31:8 37:8 maybe (8) 17:14 38:21 43:12 85:19 91:9 182.6 214.13 22 md (7) 29:20,25 30:19,21 31:22 32:3

market (36) 7:25 9:8,15 mean (25) 3:9 8:23 17:16 24:13 27:15 45:18 54:10 81:24 82:2 83:11 96:4.5 98:11 106:14 112:6 117:19 122:2 128:24 129:3 141:13 163:24 168:19 173:21 177:7 210:12 meaning (7) 67:13 98:1,4,6,7 107:11 118:19 means (4) 23:9 110:3 153:8 154:18 meant (7) 120:25 122:12 129:4 141:23 143:23 151:2 194:24 measured (1) 76:14 mechanically (1) 26:23 medium (19) 67:20 78:14,21,23 79:12 147:6.23.25 148:13 150:3,8 153:3 158:11,17,21 159:5,11,24 161:14 meet (4) 19:4 30:3 177:14 192:6 meeting (22) 19:15 29:24 35:22 37:10 95:13,14 120:13 121:9.19 167:4,10,11,16 168:1.2.6 187:11 197:13 198:11.21 206:2,3 meetings (5) 168:14 198:2,5,6 204:3 meets (1) 30:16 member (1) 85:8 members (5) 1:17 18:17 166:15.16.17 memory (1) 184:11 men (1) 8:18 mention (4) 24:3 166:21 184:16 189:12 mentioned (2) 19:15 175:3 mentions (1) 213:20 meredith (39) 6:8 7:11 12:1 18:17 19:10 20:24 21:20 64:9 72:23 73:1.9 76:18 77:7 165:15 167:9 169:22 192:22 197:19 198:17,20 199:4,13 200:18 201:10 202:4,16 204:4,19 205:4,15 207:22 208:2 209:8 211:19 212:18,25 213:3 214:3.17 merediths (2) 197:11 204:16 merely (1) 133:24 mesh (1) 69:25 message (9) 96:17 97:12,13,17,17,25 101:8 176:13,14 messages (1) 129:3 messenger (1) 125:6 met (7) 26:17 28:12 31:10 45:9 94:15 167:8 133:5 197:20

met00040563 (1) 184:11 met000405632 (1) 184:13 meter (1) 187:10 method (2) 52:3 153:22 meticulous (1) 64:11 metre (1) 69:3 metres (21) 4:7 5:10 17:22 33:16 82:6 102:1.3.4 141:24 151:3 163:4,6,20 164:14 174:7 176:9 181:8,10,16 182:13 199:5 microns (1) 69:20 mid (1) 179:13 midaugust (1) 28:21 middle (14) 3:12 11:2 110:25 132:2 165:3 174:21 180:18 195:17 201:1 203:15 204:15 205:7 209:17,21 midnovember (1) 28:24 might (21) 62:23 64:1 65:18 75:18,23 83:3 89:6 95:14 119:3.19 135:1 139:12 148:23 161:2 176:5 189:22 195:3,4 203:25 210:3 215:10 mildly (1) 209:1 millett (23) 1:14,16 57:1.3.21.22 82:16 84:3 119:7,11,13 124:9.25 125:1 177:25 178:3,5,21,22 203:12 214:20,24 215:4 millichap (21) 7:7,12 8:2,4 9:17 12:2 77:6 166:21 167:5.9.20 168:13,22,25 169:23 191:9 192:22 203:23 204:3,19 209:22 millichaps (2) 7:24 9:13 millimetre (1) 2:3 millimetres (2) 69:21 181:15 mind (6) 114:6 153:5 170:19 175:20 184:23 214:9 mineral (1) 27:5 mini (1) 170:14 minimal (1) 13:1 minimum (1) 150:22 minute (1) 132:9 minutes (3) 153:17,18 157:2 misconception (2) 151:1 177:2 misconceptions (5) 173:3,9,14,20 174:4 mislead (4) 15:5 145:6,17 150:15 misleading (17) 13:17,19,22 14:10,12,14,16 15:14 102:9 109:23,23 120:11 136:23 148:3,6 183-18 193-14

51:24 77:25 84:11

119:14 120:2 134:17

143:4 152:12 162:19

160:17

misled (3) 15:2 22:22

misperception (1) 177:4

miss (1) 200:8
missed (4) 32:7,8 37:19
38:19 mission (1) 200:2
mistaken (1) 32:9
misunderstood (3) 146:4 173:17 176:16
mixeduse (2) 190:11
191:3
mm (3) 26:22,23 186:12 mo (3) 99:17 100:16
104:8
modern (1) 179:14 mohammad (3) 99:6,7
104:18
moisture (1) 74:11 moment (14) 2:4 10:19
57:1 74:20 114:25
115:7,10,15 124:9
177:25 184:16 185:11 190:7 192:15
month (2) 73:24 209:23
monthly (1) 200:7
months (11) 26:13 99:18,20 148:12,14
159:12 166:22 167:5
195:13 205:3 207:10 moorebick (38)
1:3,9,11,13
57:2,5,12,18,20 82:14
83:1,3,11,14,16,19,21,24 84:2 119:9,12
124:10,21,24
178:1,4,6,12,18,20 203:10 214:23,25
215:5,8,13,19,22
more (26) 1:25 10:14 18:14 30:7 36:25
48:11 49:10 51:24
76:16 77:25 80:1,2
84:11,20 91:23 93:4,5 97:22 107:1,3 110:17
118:6 164:8 182:14
188:7 215:6 morning (7)
1:3,9,10,16,16,18
100:15
moss (14) 125:7,9,12,14,22
126:2,6,14,24
127:9,22 128:2,8,15 most (12) 8:23 11:24
19:17 47:25 60:20
61:8,8 62:25 118:5
146:1 169:20 173:13 mounted (1) 37:3
move (3) 44:24 57:3
203:20 moved (1) 166:1
moving (4) 8:9 32:21
104:6 209:22 ms (1) 8:2
ms (1) 8:2 much (9) 1:24 53:20
76:8 118:6 124:15,24
178:12 200:3 215:22 muddy (1) 111:11
multimillion (1) 186:6
must (15) 5:13 10:9 15:12 18:8 32:3 33:13
38:16 74:4 80:5 90:17
149:9 150:14 152:23
176:20 177:9 myself (3) 95:7 138:13
J. (2) 22 100.13

210:20

namely (1) 143:15

namereference (1)

narrow (1) 150:10

natural (1) 214:24

nearly (1) 120:20

196:22 202:23

80:10 215:11

necessary (3) 39:17

necessitates (1) 173:8

199:1 200:18 215:6

needed (5) 156:21

96:22 133:4 157:6

netherlands (1) 43:7

neutrally (1) 40:22

72:14 89:19 114:6

149:18 151:3 161:1

211:22 213:22,23

newsletters (1) 162:7

next (21) 19:2 23:16

27:22 29:21 61:7

94:20 100:12,14

104:6.17 110:18

nhb000010885 (1)

nhb000011092 (1)

nhb000011093 (1)

nhbc (41) 18:18.21

37:11 165:19

167:5,12,16

168:1,2,4,15,24

19:11 21:21,22 22:4

24:1.3.10.15 35:25

166:12,15,17,18,24

137:7 189:3

173:13

obvious (6) 62:25

66:16,23 150:9 154:20

23:23

24:2

19:13

21:19

newlon (1) 187:21

news (1) 214:13

129:4 145:13.13

net (1) 156:18

169:8 196:22

204:23,25

34:15,19 48:24

necessarily (6) 55:22

111:13 117:17,19

68:19

171:20 172:4,12,19 190:4 192:16 195:1 198:21 201:22 204:3.10.11.17 205:19 name (3) 51:12,19 52:1 210:11 nhbcs (1) 22:8 nine (1) 179:6 non (1) 99:16 noncombustible (11) national (2) 28:14 92:21 11:16 31:7 55:8,17 86:17 87:7.17 127:19 nature (2) 86:11 211:21 164:14 172:13 206:18 none (2) 13:2 201:4 nonequivalence (1) 149:6 nonetheless (3) 23:10 140:12 149:23 nonstandard (3) 59:23 66:16.20 need (25) 17:25 29:21 noone (1) 209:25 nor (2) 95:21 96:23 102:1,3 103:12 115:18 normally (5) 21:11 125:4 132:6 151:12.22 52:18,21 70:18 206:17 153:4 154:25 155:11 north (2) 138:22 186:7 160:1 165:23 174:16 northern (1) 147:22 184:24 187:11 188:8 note (29) 12:9 30:7 31:19 51:4.10.12 52:7,9 53:3 54:6 93:6 151:15,17 152:20 161:19 164:5,11,12,21 needs (6) 8:11 116:14 165:5.20 167:1.14.15 136:21 170:19 173:12 174:9 191:12 200:22 203:13 212:15 neither (5) 94:25 95:21 noted (5) 78:13 87:8,12,22 198:20 notes (9) 51:4 168:24 198:5,10 203:10,20 205:24 206:3 212:25 never (18) 66:18,25,25 nothing (8) 53:6 79:1 89:23 146:23 148:15 150:16 154:9 175:24 noticed (1) 29:6 175:20 189:16 210:7 novel (5) 106:13 107:11,15,17,18 november (13) 9:25 28:3,24 36:4 61:7 125:10 151:6 152:15 158:19 161:23 162:19 163:1.5 73:23 74:20 80:3 92:2 nt (3) 73:12 74:3,3 number (18) 13:25 16:11,12 17:17 18:1 115:12 153:15 164:2 22:11.11 29:7 165:24 199:22 208:18 35:13,21 68:12 70:8 nhb00000977 (1) 167:3 72:1 167:11 174:14 nhb00001086 (1) 22:6 201:11 206:19 210:17 nhb00001087 (1) 22:9 numbered (2) 28:18 nhb000010876 (1) 23:3 78:8 nhb00001088 (1) 23:16 numbers (2) 27:21 41:20 nhb00001109 (2) 18:16 0 o (1) 99:16 objective (1) 71:14 obligations (1) 38:18 obtain (2) 2:8 52:17 obtained (6) 59:18 86:22 87:15 132:12

obviously (13) 6:18 8:11 73:16 93:19 98:16 114:2 154:24 189:20.24 207:16 208:13 210:17 211:12 occasion (3) 30:9 37:13,19 occasions (5) 29:14 32:12,16 93:19 94:15 occupied (1) 58:19 occur (18) 73:23 76:4 84:21,24 85:1,4 101:13 120:1.2.15 129:13 144:5,6 148:20 150:6 160:15,21,25 occurred (4) 6:20 138:15 159:1 185:22 occurs (1) 112:6 oclock (3) 99:5 215:15.24 october (14) 26:11 28:1 60:5 61:6 67:4.24 78:14 131:4 142:8 147:19 148:7,15 151.10 159.12 octobernovember (1) 3:25 odd (1) 137:23 offending (1) 193:6 offered (1) 87:2 offers (1) 76:9 office (1) 169:5 officer (4) 92:22 151:16 153:13 155:21 often (1) 141:14 oh (8) 46:3 47:23 61:17 62:18 106:14 130:5 188:12 189:11 ok (1) 200:2 okay (8) 7:22 51:19 61:18 116:6 182:6 195:4 200:13 206:7 old (5) 93:22 113:6 116:13 208:4 214:13 omitted (1) 51:7 once (3) 34:14 169:24 213:24 ones (3) 99:24 185:14 210:14 ongoing (2) 152:19 184:22 onto (3) 31:6 37:3 55:4 onwards (1) 8:1 open (7) 117:5 137:3 146:6 156:14 175.267 opened (1) 25:3 operated (1) 21:12 operating (1) 59:18 opinion (7) 2:8.12.17.21.23 126:17 211:25 opportunistic (4) 101:14 145:11 156:13 158:1 opportunity (2) 19:3 211:9 opposed (6) 55:18 67:7 75:24 84:6 138:24 143.10 optimistic (1) 112:9 optimr (2) 210:14 211:3 option (9) 11:12,14

154:7 155:10 156:6.6.22 157:3 173:13 options (11) 153:1,9 154:11.15.22 155:12 156:2,10 167:12 173:17 185:23 order (11) 24:15 39:14 40:23 118:15,22 123:6 131:2 142:6 159:15 182:24 201:14 organisation (1) 7:6 orientate (1) 198:12 original (2) 188:2 213:8 originally (4) 61:14 122:3 166:3 215:8 others (5) 21:22 25:1.14 94:21 205:25 otherwise (3) 3:3 17:23 201.22 ought (2) 57:5 157:17 ourselves (1) 198:12 outcome (2) 161:16 192:25 outed (2) 193:12 206:21 outer (2) 70:6 72:11 output (3) 1:24.25 112:17 outside (1) 107:12 outstanding (1) 190:13 over (51) 4:7 5:10 8:1 10:10 11:24 19:9.12 20:11 23:24 26:19 27:1 30:5 41:13 45:17 46:18 51:2 59:3 63:19 72:24 73:2 87:6.11.21 88:3 94:12 99:1,23 102:3,4 107:7 113:14 115:23 127:22 132:14 137:21,21 153:7 162:21.22 163:4.6.19 164:13 165:24 168:11 169:20 181:12,16 191:24 204:7 210:12 over18metre (2) 101:20 163:15 overall (4) 41:3 69:22 70:11 211:24 overcladding (1) 179:10 overly (1) 93:25 overnight (1) 214:22 overseeing (1) 58:1 own (4) 34:25 50:19 72:7 128:22 owner (1) 160:10 owners (1) 180:13 oxidising (1) 54:24 p10016010021 (1) 67:10 p10016010022 (1) 67:13

panels (13) 27:6 180:1 184:3.4.5.8 185:13 187:25 188:25 195:21 196:1.4.8 paper (3) 169:1,4 200:7 paperwork (1) 168:23 paragraph (59) 3:14,24 4:1 5:5 10:3 11:2,10,20 23:4 28:7 30:24 35:20 36:25 38-3 39-7 42-5 18 45-1 46:2 58:5 59:3 61:3 64:10 67:5 73:9 78:5,13 80:3 92:16,19 103:10 106:4 123:16 130:9.10 142:3.5 147:16 162:1,21 164:2.9 165:3.17 166:10.11 169:17 170:4 173:5 174:2 179:5,12 182:23 186:4 199:2 201:9.15 207:21 209:21 paragraphs (2) 58:10 130.23 parameter (1) 3:2 paraphrase (1) 110:18 paraphrasing (1) 104:21 pargeter (32) 1:5,6,8,9,18 9:3 18:18 19-4 31-21 35-8 57:7.18 77:4 118:13 123:1 124:21 125:2 139:3 141:1 144:7 145:5 150:9 153:25 157:24 161:8 178:6,18,23 198:15 215:2,5 217:3 park (2) 151:8 161:13 parking (1) 210:4 part (77) 7:23 17:6 34:7 40:14 45:8,9 46:14,14,16 48:15,22,23,25 49:6,9 50:24 53:4 54:19 56:3,12 59:14 63:15 66:21 68:5.6 70:21.22 71:4,5,11,18,18,23 72:14,22 81:8,8 84:8 88:1 100:2 102:2 108:5,13,15 110:2 115:9 125:4 131:2.14 132:11 133:8 134:6.24 135:6,23 136:2 137:4 142:6 145:12 162:16 163.2 166.9 11 170.4 172:18 174:2 175:9 176:1,12 177:15,16,16 186:6 192:3,10 193:19 204:18 particle (2) 26:23 31:7 particleboard (1) 37:6 particular (11) 16:17 65:9 84:13 106:4,19 118:22.25 160:5 166:8 paap (9) 112:23 113:20 183:9 196:24 114:9,23 115:2 116:4 particularly (9) 2:2 118:11 119:5 157:11 30:10 86:9 106:21 paaps (1) 137:9 128:20 129:20 151:12 pacify (1) 205:18 175-18 189-18 packing (1) 86:17 parties (1) 52:16 pages (4) 152:12

parts (6) 70:8 76:12 141:13.22 192:2 193:24 party (2) 19:6 182:19 pass (19) 33:23 45:15 81:4 89:7,19 95:3,4 96:15,18,23,24 137:25 138:1 192:18 195:2 207:18,19 208:9,19 passage (1) 208:18 passed (20) 33:21 45:6 75:6,10,23 76:5 81:5 89:15.20 103:3 109:15,21 110:6 133:25 143:17,18,24 145:13 193:11 208:20 passes (2) 112:7 208:12 passing (3) 114:8 158:10 193:7 passport (1) 176:9 past (6) 46:10 119:22 120:4 137:9 141:19 192:14 path (1) 77:22 patronising (1) 108:9 pause (13) 22:21 57:13 77:17 88:15 124:16 136:8 178:13 183:11,16,19 203:16 209:3 215:23 pausing (5) 19:5 31:12 78:19 133:14 136:24 pe (20) 180:4 181:18 184:5.8.19 185:14.21 186:17,19 187:25 188:25 189:5.6.16.19 190:4 195:21 196:1.8.9 pembridge (2) 19:1 43:8 pendleton (13) 179:3 180:3 181:10.12 182:10.12 183:14 184:2,23 185:6,14,16 196:2 penetration (1) 73:19 pentane (4) 112:8 136:4.8.9 people (24) 46:15 77:5 103:24 107:23 120:14 122:12 129:14 134:10 139:12 145:1 158:3,4,24 160:21 163:21 176:8 194:15,18,20,22 199:15,19 204:23 213.5 peoples (5) 41:1 129:21 140:21,23,25 per (2) 69:3,3 perated (1) 189:9 perceived (3) 118:14 149:7 157:20 percentage (3) 163:5,10,11 perception (3) 150:25 176:12 211:13 perf (2) 99:16,16 perfect (2) 40:22 104:10 perfectly (2) 120:17 perforated (6) 49:15

69:7 73:14 74:15,24

partner (2) 172:19,21

partnerships (1) 187:20

170:20 171:5 198:18

panel (2) 1:17 186:17

136:7
perforations (25) 3:5 72:19 73:11,15,21,22
75:7,11,15,24
76:2,5,19,20 77:8,22
112:8,12 134:24 135:6,15,16
136:4,8,10
perform (3) 74:16 81:13
118:5 performance (47) 13:10
31:10 55:21,23,24
65:14 73:16 75:18
76:17 77:9 80:1 86:8,12,20 88:10
92:21 99:9 101:11
107:21 113:19,25
114:10 115:5 121:5,6 122:19,20 125:16
127:11,14,17 128:9
135:9 143:5 158:19
179:9 189:19 190:13 193:9,20,22 194:1
206:14 207:2,13,14
209:2
performed (2) 3:1 206:19
perhaps (9) 23:2 30:9
119:12 121:9 130:2
132:6 188:23 206:15 214:9
period (3) 43:3 79:3,4
permission (1) 25:14
permitted (1) 28:13 perpetrate (1) 145:16
perpetuate (1) 209:9
perpetuating (2) 177:4
209:11 perrior (2) 18:21 21:21
persisted (1) 193:15
persisting (1) 157:19
person (3) 207:3 210:10,11
personal (2) 41:1
128:18
personally (3) 9:18 66:4 117:11
perspective (11) 4:9
12:13 33:21,25 38:6
98:5 106:12 116:8 129:1 173:18 206:19
pertained (1) 197:6
peter (17) 7:17
125:7,9,12,14,22 126:2,6,14,24
127:9,22 128:2,8,15
184:16,21
phenolic (6) 36:13 39:13 55:11,18 87:19
101:6
phil (1) 165:16
phone (1) 99:23 phrase (3) 90:24 141:19
209:12
physical (1) 53:7
pick (4) 130:13 144:14 169:8 206:8
picked (1) 94:18
picking (1) 144:24
picture (1) 179:19 piece (10) 12:15 17:21
39:10,18 40:1,5 44:20
81:10 87:16 142:20

pieced (2) 39:20,23 pieces (2) 40:6 86:18 piecing (1) 40:9 pitched (1) 128:10 pithy (1) 129:5 placate (1) 205:18 place (10) 45:18 60:4,9 78:4 119:3,6 167:4 197:2 202:11 213:24 placed (8) 39:12 104:13 105:16 116:10 120:25 133:10 135:25 136:5 places (1) 41:1 plain (2) 106:14 134:9 plan (2) 9:8 107:8 planned (1) 188:3 plasterboardtype (1) 107:1 playing (3) 110:14 198:23 199:16 plaza (3) 35:25 36:2,11 please (60) 1:7 10:25 19:13 21:19,24 26:13 31:19 35:19 36:3 38:2 39.6 48.20 49.11 57:8,8,14 58:3 59:3 67:4 78:4.10 86:5 90:9,23 124:12,12,17 125:2 130:9 131:19 132:19 142:1 147:15 151:5.7.15.21 161:25 162:22 165:13 169:15 170:8 178:8.10.14 179:1 180:17 181:2 184:11 186:2 190:25 191:8.12 194:5 195:16 197:12 211:1 215:14,16,24 pm (5) 124:18,20 178:15,17 215:25 pointed (4) 8:9,13 88:5 166:7 pointing (1) 133:15 points (3) 31:4,16 100:17 policy (6) 84:5 138:17.19 155:15.22 166:1 poor (1) 132:11 posed (1) 19:11 position (7) 47:14 60:10 133:22 160:22 198:15 199:25 210:18 positive (3) 17:21 79:11 176:13 possibility (1) 157:7 possible (8) 39:9 40:1 59:23 132:16 135:1,14 151:21 174:15 possibly (15) 25:5 43:2 44:3.21 77:24 97:7 98:11 99:21 106:18 139:2 144:23 155:8.10 167:24 172:1 posts (1) 166:2 potential (7) 106:14 176:21,23,25 177:1 195:5,7 potentially (17) 6:11

32-3 33-20 53-21 95-2

107:25 108:15 114:19

119:2 159:8 177:24

194:18,19 207:5

208:17,23 211:9 producing (2) 170:17 pounds (1) 186:6 173:12 poverty (1) 53:15 product (231) pr (2) 170:9 187:8 practice (2) 86:23 87:18 precise (6) 5:6 23:8 59:22 63:13,22 153:18 15:11.11 precisely (6) 20:15 54:1 63:1 155:14,14,17 predominantly (1) 8:15 preferred (1) 118:21 premium (1) 179:9 preparation (1) 87:3 prepared (7) 90:4 95:3 110:6 117:11 48:15 49:7,24 118:14.22 188:24 preparing (2) 11:22 59:8.13.19.22.24 169:18 presence (2) 3:4 86:10 60:14 61:24 present (6) 112:24 124:5 128:23 196:18 206:1.2 70:18 71:6.22.23 presentations (1) 162:12 presenting (1) 120:5 80:5.8.10.14.17 press (6) 17:10 190:21 81:4,14,15 82:24 191:1 192:1 193:1.24 pressed (1) 116:22 pressure (8) 204:4 88:19,24 90:25 205:15 207:14 209:9 212:3,9 213:12,20 presumably (3) 20:13.18 71:1 104:12.25 pretend (1) 200:6 pretty (1) 21:10 previous (8) 19:15,20 110:2.6 111:6.12 21:1,15 59:10 93:17 112:16,22,24 140:8 184:25 113:17,23 114:17 previously (6) 18:24 115:3,8,18 116:9 98:16,18 170:15 202:24 205:13 primarily (3) 162:11 126:9.12 127:1.6 130:24 131:3,4,11 primary (1) 186:8 printing (1) 72:21 134:10,10,12 prior (8) 78:15 79:20 85:23 165:9.11 137:11.12.14.17 168:6,9 195:19 priorities (1) 203:22 priority (1) 159:1 147:6.18 148:4.10 proactive (1) 30:7 probably (12) 5:17,21 158:12,14 159:17 6:25 49:2 85:19 95:20 160:16.17 162:6 97:21 124:7 152:18 169:10,11 174:18 problem (6) 93:20 160:5 202:9,10 210:8 214:18 208:16 problems (1) 106:19 production (2) 18:25 procedure (1) 59:19 162.5 proceed (3) 132:20 137:16 195:11 proceeding (1) 48:13 43:23 48:13 49:21 process (5) 71:2,4,5 187:12 200:3 processes (1) 30:4 processing (3) 39:21 41:3 158:7 206:15,16 produce (5) 155:17 165:20 166:25 204:16 profit (1) 158:2 205:16 profound (1) 33:15 produced (7) 3:16 programme (1) 32:22 39:14 43:6,8 61:20 programmes (1) 63:16 172:17 207:3 progress (1) 182:24

4:1,8,16,17,19 6:22,22 8:10.11.12.20 9:4.14 184:2.22 186:16 10:6 11:16,16 14:7 16:5,12,16,21,23 18:3 21:4 23:4 24:4 26:2,2 201:11,13,17 28:11,25,25 32:10,18 33:19.20.23 35:3.7 38:6,23 40:11 41:7 42:25 43:10.11 45:10 promote (1) 9:8 46:23 47:4,7,8,9,9,12 50:14.18 52:1 54:2 55:19,20 56:4 58:8,23 10:11 163:22 64:4,23,25 65:3,6,8,14 67:8 68:23 69:17,19 72:10,11 75:7 76:10 80:6,11 93:3 78:15,17 79:12,21,21 proper (1) 164:24 properly (1) 3:1 83:5.6.9.10.12 84:23 87:6,9,11,13,21,23 143:3 194:21 92:12,13,21,25 97:8 100:1.8.25 101:11.17 182:17 102:9,15,24 103:2,5 201:21 204:21 105:3,5,6,13,16,23,24 106:1,21,22 107:9 120:6 146:18 protect (2) 53:17 118:2,3,4 120:5,12,25 122:14 124:5 125:17 prove (1) 153:22 proved (1) 39:17 132:13 133:5,10,15,23 proves (1) 1:24 135:24,25 136:4,5,13 110:9 201:18,24 202:24 140:16,17 142:7,8 143:16 145:14 146:22 152:23 155:18 157:5,9 provider (1) 30:19 providers (1) 30:8 177:13 180:10 192:5 193:21 200:2 202:18 206:12 23 207:2 4 15 209.5 pu (2) 200:15,16 products (25) 39:13,15 40:18 41:20 42:7.12 published (1) 11:9 pulled (1) 201:5 53:19.19 64:6.8 68:22 82:17 107:1 123:13 pure (1) 136:6 129:20 138:21 145:18 157:14 185:21 192:13 purpose (2) 33:10 173:11 professional (1) 162:12 78:6 purposes (3) 4:12 38:10 44:17 pursue (3) 155:15

project (22) 3:17 12:2 25:9 35:25 151:12 165:25 166:8,9 169:23 179:3 180:22 183:2 187:20 190:12 191:20 201:4,19,25 202:6 projects (14) 162:8 202:1,7,14 203:22 204:25 207:11 209:6 210:4 211:2 213:10 promoted (2) 161:23 promotes (1) 165:22 promoting (1) 185:20 promotion (3) 9:25 promotional (1) 11:4 prompt (1) 133:21 propagation (8) 67:12 104:22,24 131:9 134:4 properties (3) 87:9 property (1) 107:24 propose (2) 125:18 proposed (3) 36:10 proposing (3) 119:23 proposition (1) 108:2 proprotect (2) 136:6,15 prospectively (1) 41:15 protection (1) 76:10 provide (6) 23:8 52:12 provided (13) 6:13 12:8 18:4 39:22 51:5 53:13 58:16 61:1.15 86:16 110:5 170:1 190:13 providing (6) 5:18 30:16 186:7 187:7 202:2 provoke (1) 109:14 public (2) 40:12 54:20 publication (1) 165:9 pulling (2) 43:14 210:13 purported (1) 139:18 purposeintended (1)

pursuing (2) 82:20 84:4 pushing (2) 210:14,15 putney (4) 35:20,25 36:2.11 puts (2) 8:4 121:14 putting (2) 104:3 214:17 pw (1) 201:8

q (728) 1:23 2:7,11,16,20,23 3:1,7,11 4:21 5:1.3.15.21 6:2,6,8,12,15,23 7:1,5,9,11,14,17,19,22 9.17 21 23 10.2 14 23 11:19 12:6 13:1,4,16,21,23 14:4,9,12,15,23 15:2,4,8,17,19,22,25 16:7.9.15.20.22 17:2,5,7,9,16,21 18:6.13.21 19:8 20:3.10.12.17.22 21:5,8,10,14 22:16 23:2,8,15,22 24:7,13,19,21 25:3,6,23,25 26:4,8 27:1,8,11,15,19 28:21 29:3.6.12.14.17 30:22 31:16 32:1,12,20,25 33:5.7.10.13 34:1,3,7,9,22 35:1,6,13,17 36:16,22 37:13.19.22.25 38:16 39:2,25 40:4,7,21 41:6.10.13.17.19.24 42:4.14.17.22 43:5.11.16.21 44:4,6,8,10,15,23 45:11.13.20 46:2,4,6,10,14,20,23 47:1.14.18.22 48.6 8 10 17 49.20 50:1,3,9,11,14,17,23 51:1.15.19.21 52:9 53:11,14 54:1,6,13,18,20 55:1,3,8,11,13 56:2.7.10.23 58:23 59:2 60:10,17,23,25 61:3.5.12.18 62:2,4,10,12,15,19,21,25 63:5,13,18,21 64:3.9.15.20.22 65:3,6,11,15,20,24 66:3,5,7,10,12,14,21 67:3 68:4.8.25 69:15,20,24 70:2,4,8,10,13,18,20,22,24 71:1,6,11,21 72:1,5,7,10,13,17 73:6 74:8,13,19,24 75:2,5,13,19 76:1,18,25 77:4.12.14.19.25 78:19,25 79:3,5,10,15 80:21.23.25 81:2.7.11.17.19.22

86:2,5 88:1,6,19,24 89:3.5.10.13.15.17.19.23 90:1,7,16,20 91:5,12,18,20,23,25 92:2.19 93:12.17.24 94:1,6,9,13,19 95:11,13,16,18,21 96:1,4,6,8,11,17,22 97:5,12,17,25 98:6,9,14,18,20,24 99:10 100:12 101:13,16,20,24 102:1.6.11.13.18.21 103:1,7,14,19,23 104:1,6,17 106:3.7.12.17 107:6,19,22 108:1.5.8.13.15.19.25 109:7.12.21.25 110:6.11.14.17 111:16,21,24 112:2,18 114:6.14.21.25 115:12,15,21 116:18 117:2,4,9,15,18,21,25 118:10.13.18.20.25 119:3,21,25 120:2.9.17.20 121:18.23 122:6,10,17,23 123:1,8,10,15 124:1,4 129:2.8.11.19 130:1.8 131:12,17,19 132:6,25 133:21 134:9.15 135:4,12,14,18 136:13,17,19 137:2 138:6.17.20.24 139:3,11,16,18,23 140:1,4,10,15,20,25 141:5,11,17,19,22 142:1,15,17,24 143:2.12.22 144:3,6,14,20 145:5,11,16,21,24 146:6,9,13,17,21 147:2,11,13 148:7,12,20 149:2.10.14.18.21 150:2,5,9,20,25 154:7,10,15 155:3.13.17.24 156:7,25 157:13,16,23 158:1.6.22.25 159:3.9.15.19.22 160:5,8,10,15,21 161:1,8,13,17 163:10 14 17 24 164:1,20 165:1 166:15,18,21,24 167:3.18.22.25 168:7,11,17,19,22,25 169:7.12.14 171:1,5,9,15,25 172:2.7.17.23 173:19,24 174:13,21 175:11,17,20 176:4,11,18,22,25 177:4,9,13,19,21 179:23,25 180:3,7,9,16 181-8 12 18 182-1 4 6 183:13,18,21

184:2,7,10

185:8,10,18,24

82:2,4,10,13,19

85:1,8,14,18,20,23,25

84:11,16,21

180:16 213:16

recall (29) 8:25 9:10

167:2.17.24

77:18 91:16.19 119:19

160:14 161:16 166:14

168:16.17.19.20.21

189:11 190:7,24

198:8 212:20

recalling (1) 188:1

receive (2) 72:8,8

25:4 69:7 203:1

receiving (1) 97:17

recently (1) 99:15

reckless (4) 90:2

recipients (2) 73:3,6

150:22,24 161:10

recognised (1) 153:21

recognising (1) 154:2

record (6) 2:11 27:19

95:18,18,20 121:20

recorded (2) 2:24 59:8

41:8,14 45:17 63:20

40:21 41:2,3,5,11 43:1

45:9 46:11 59:13.21

62:13 63:13.23 64:11

recordkeeping (6)

records (15) 39:22

recruit (1) 205:1

rectangular (1) 50:5

red (2) 19:10 193:5

redacted (2) 125:3

redaction (1) 209:20

redesignate (1) 150:3

reduction (2) 73:15

ref (2) 132:13 182:10

refer (6) 35:22 48:17

61:14 62:21 67:25

reference (31) 14:1

31:19 37:7 45:23

50:14 52:1 54:24

65:21 74:3 94:24

96:8.9.10 103:9

142:11,15 146:14

148.21 22 150.12

referenced (5) 6:21

49:21 67:21 79:19

references (3) 59:21

referencing (1) 154:3

28:11,16 61:5 62:6

referred (7) 20:20

70:14 176:11

referring (19) 21:20

93.9 104.12 131.7

176:16,19 177:10

199:4 201:11 203:2

32:9 42:4 49:24 92:17

166:10 173:15 175:23

reliable (4) 44:12,16

reliance (2) 39:12 41:19

107:4 205:17

121:18 137:24 144:20

149:10 176:11 177:22

188:22 205:17

reasonable (1) 157:7

reasons (5) 75:9,23

76:4 144:8 184:17

61:1 146:21

200:18

154:13

170:7 174:22 182:11

59:25 61:8,10 62:8

107:11 119:18 136:9

128:18

177:5

64:5,6

recognise (3) 22:24

205:3 208:2

recent (3) 60:20 61:8.8

receives (1) 73:2

received (5) 19:5 20:4

169:5,10 180:6 181:25

192:24 193:2 194:24

186:19,22,25 187:10
188:14,17,19,22
189:2,4,6,10,13,15,23
190:1,8,17,25 191:6
192:10,21,25 193:3,19
194:5,22
195:1,4,6,8,15
196:7,11,14,18,25 197:5,8,11,16,19,24
198:2,9
199:7,13,16,19,21
200:6,13,18,21,24
201:15 202:4,10,16,20
203:7,9,19
204:9,12,15,19 205:2,7,14,22 206:5,7
207:25 208:6,8,15,25
209:8,17 211:1,15,23
212:2,11,15,22
214:2,6,8,16
queries (3) 148:17
202:25 203:18 query (3) 151:8 182:15
183:21
question (58)
3:13,14,18 6:15
8:5,13,17 9:3,7 44:14
47:2 56:24 66:3,21
67:18 72:18 75:21 76:19 77:8 78:1,6,8,21
81:17 84:21,24 85:4
97:9 99:3 101:24
105:2 109:16 118:20
121:13 122:21 128:18
135:3,4,7,12,16
138:8,12 141:2 149:18 153:12 155:9,19
156:19 158:25 160:11
175:22 176:18 195:17
196:11 198:23 199:16
207:12
questionnaire (1) 181:2
questions (14) 1:15
19:9,10 22:2 39:2 71:17 109:15 119:8
134:20 150:25 202:23
214:21 215:6 217:6
quickly (1) 193:23
quiet (1) 159:15
quite (14) 17:7 20:18
48:2,3 93:21 99:2 105:14 106:23 107:16
125:13 130:10 163:13
193:23 211:15
quotation (1) 97:14
quoted (1) 193:5
R
r (1) 91:2
radically (1) 38:17
rainscreen (22) 11:7
13:9 14:6 16:2 19:24
90:21 100:23 101:5

R
r (1) 91:2
radically (1) 38:17
rainscreen (22) 11:7
13:9 14:6 16:2 19:24
90:21 100:23 101:5
142:18 143:6 144:11
147:20 162:10 164:22
174:24 179:10,15
180:10 186:5,12
189:17 190:5
rainwater (1) 73:19
raise (3) 76:19,22,23
raised (3) 4:10 38:8
190:21
ramkorun (1) 24:25

rang (1) 187:13 range (3) 136:5,14 209:14 rare (3) 92:11 93:19 94:15 ratethickness (1) 52:2 rather (10) 27:21 37:3 91:12 112:10 121:14 146:14 174:18 180:21 203:2,5 rating (7) 97:8 147:9,20,25 148:18 150:7 151:19 rational (3) 149:10,15 177:22 rd (4) 9:14 32:17 41:1 65:9 re (1) 184:19 reacting (1) 71:5 reaction (2) 67:22 79:19 read (26) 7:23 15:17.19.25 17:13,14,24,25 19:6 25:3 45:23 54:17 66:15.23 68:12 84:12 109:25 125:13 129:1 144:15 146:4 169:7 175:14,17 177:9 211:14 reader (1) 143:15 reading (21) 14:23 54:11 74:4 81:25 82:2.4 86:24 122:13.15 128:24 139:7 144:24 146:2.6.25 147:1 150:13 156:13,16 158:1 196:25 reads (2) 50:4 182:8 ready (4) 1:11 124:21 178:20 194:12 real (3) 83:14 138:24 realise (3) 17:4 122:23 137:6 realised (7) 17:2 32:4 33:13 63:12 144:4 150:14 159:6 reality (10) 81:21,22 82:2.17 123:1 139:3 144:10 145:5 146:15 really (30) 6:12,16,19 7:22 14:18 17:11 34:3 64:17,18 80:16,25 81.19 91.20 94.4 98:1,3 102:21 103:7 106:25 108:10 135:12 136:3 141:13 156:11 160:12 161:1 173:20 175:5 176:1 213:15 reams (1) 200:7 rearrange (1) 41:8 reason (20) 24:13 53:22 60:3 103:14.18 108:8,21 109:13 112:7 113:23 114:11 115:6

208:14 210:24 refers (4) 20:25 51:10 74:10 173:3 reflect (2) 131:2 142:6 reflected (2) 12:8 169:25 reflection (3) 122:22 144:1.3 reflective (1) 24:5 refusing (3) 166:2 194:15.22 regarding (6) 162:9 170:16 171:15.21 182:12 191:12 regardless (1) 212:24 regards (6) 67:9 90:24 105:2 113:16 133:12 regime (4) 108:13 141:3,8 183:5 registered (1) 182:19 regret (2) 38:19,24 regs (8) 101:12 133:6 136:2 137:5 144:19 145.3 3 4 regulated (1) 108:8 regulation (3) 108:16 110:15 150:23 regulations (18) 28:14 30:17 100:24 102:17.19 103:6.20 108:5 138:16 139:15 143:7.10.14.19.21 175:1.21 177:15 regulationsstandards (1) 101:7 regulatory (2) 145:18 173:7 reinforced (2) 49:15 reinforcement (2) 52:10 70:17 reinforces (1) 172:14 reissue (1) 25:12 reissued (1) 26:10 reiterate (1) 175:8 related (4) 73:10 193:14,25 215:17 relates (3) 3:14 78:6 193:20 relating (4) 51:8 52:6 165:23 182:21 relation (16) 18:9,11 26:15 28:5 54:14 71:17 88:21 109:22 158-18 187-20 190-3 192:25 196:9 198:4,21 200:10 release (7) 76:14 112:8 190:21 191:1 192:1 193:1.24 released (5) 10:16 136:9 164:10 173:1 183:24 relevance (3) 94:7 152:4 176:2 relevant (14) 4:3 11:25 21:25 24:17 86:22 87:18 89:7 94:5 101:23,23 109:8 169:21 193:11 214:16

relied (19) 5:25 18:4 24:8 31:23 34:13 35:14 44:3,6,18 58:20 59:25 60:15 62:5 64:1 66:18 67:1.2 98:16.18 rely (6) 5:13 29:11 55:15 58:20,24 193:21 relying (5) 40:10,17 43:2 122:24 130:19 remained (3) 67:15,22 194.2 remarkably (1) 90:1 remember (11) 60:22 91:25 92:1,9 139:22 147:8 163:7 168:24 169:12 190:19.22 remove (8) 92:7 94:24 95:2 113:6 139:20 146:21 150:12 210:6 removed (6) 67:16,24 79:7 156:24 158:20 209:23 removes (1) 148:1 removing (2) 142:15 148:20 rep (1) 198:17 repeat (2) 206:21 214:4 replaced (1) 179:14 report (71) 6:13,21,21,23,23,24 7:6 13:25 14:1 16:3,10,14 18:1,2 19:25 21:24 22:11.12.19 23:1,17,19,19 24:14.15 25:7.20 26:18 27:21 28:13,22 29:7 31:1,6,9,9,13 33:9 36:5,17,19,22 37:1,9,14 48:22 51:7 53:4.20 54:1 56:8.12.20 59:13 60:1 61:25 62:5,7 66:7,23 67:2,10,13 68:11 71:12 99:24 110:10 116:13 135:23 137:17 167:22 reported (1) 90:16 reports (27) 2:25 25:14 28:11 31:12 32:7 36:8 40:18,25 41:20 42:9 44:2 46:8.19 49:8 52:19.23 53:6 56:11 58:14 59:24 60:13 62:17 65:22 66:15 67:25 99:16 137:15 reportsconstructions (1) 25:11 representation (3) 13:17 117:12 198:6 representative (5) 34:17 43:24 47:3 69:11 71:8 represented (1) 9:20 representing (4) 8:24 31:22 32:14 193:11 reprimand (1) 120:10 request (6) 51:6 56:17 63:5 73:21 156:8 193:16 require (3) 30:12 85:4 206:17 required (6) 33:1 88:12 122:21 131:9 193:23

201:21 requirement (3) 81:18 82:9 89:2 requirements (11) 52:24 53:1.24 80:7 84:14 131:1 134:13 139:5 173:7 177:15 183:3 requires (4) 80:4,8 135:25 138:1 requiring (1) 40:22 requisite (1) 80:5 research (14) 4:3 8:19 16:11 18:3 24:4 37:17 42:1 59:15 60:7 61:23 64:23 65:3.6 162:8 resh (1) 104:10 reshma (18) 90:11,13 91:8 94:18.22 95:7.11.23 96:10,19,22 99:11 100:15 104:7 110:22 121:11 142:12 194:8 reshmas (1) 96:21 residential (5) 164:6 174:6,10 179:3,6 resolved (2) 160:6.7 resources (1) 197:22 respect (8) 13:19 14:9 32:5 91:7 103:3 138:18 141:20 207:6 respectively (1) 165:6 respects (1) 52:25 respond (6) 30:22 77:4,13 134:16 158:3 188:3 responded (4) 148:18 191:14 193:10 198:3 responding (3) 29:23 191:16 203:17 responds (3) 98:25 152:3 156:25 response (17) 3:23 67:17 92:6 94:21 96:20 103:25 113:8.9 115:22 134:15 148:17 153:15 155:4.24 172:9 188:6,7 responses (1) 202:25 responsibilities (1) 209:24 responsibility (4) 198:22 204:16,18 210:19 responsible (5) 6:12 8:16 156:3 162:7,15 rest (6) 27:2 55:19 86:24 111:22 132:17 136:17 rested (1) 106:3 result (12) 86:19,22 87:15 90:5 99:17 107:4 132:10,16 134:7 137:21 173:13 174:17 resulted (1) 16:10 results (19) 30:15 53:2 73:20 75:8,21 80:6,11 130:15,16,18,20 131:25 132:11,12 133:1 134:4,20 148:9 199.8 resume (1) 215:15 retained (1) 150:13 retardancy (1) 66:8

retardant (7) 52:3 59:16 61:22 65:2 66:17,24 180:5 retardants (1) 65:12 retesting (1) 128:7 retrofit (1) 179:8 return (2) 161:20 215:14 reveal (5) 60:12 100:9 110:7,9,9 revealed (1) 64:17 revert (4) 73:22 101:3 104:11 109:18 reverted (1) 109:19 review (6) 58:13 59:18.24 91:16 194:13 211:7 reviewed (1) 73:23 reviewing (4) 12:10 170:2 187:6 208:1 reviews (1) 12:13 revised (2) 21:24 166:2 revitalised (1) 179:8 reynobond (9) 179:21 180-1 3 181-5 15 184:3,4,19 185:13 richard (20) 7:15 8:23 12:16,17 29:19 167:8,25 175:13,14 194:7,7 197:20 205:25 211.17 212:2,6,8,11,23 214:2 richards (1) 211:25 righthand (6) 13:23 18:8 22:13 51:25 86:25 142:21 rigid (4) 47:4 90:22 101:6 174:25 rise (4) 30:4 36:10 170:23 210:5 risk (97) 33:24 34:17 39:15 58:9 59:7 65:19 78:14,16,20,21,24,25 79:1,6,13,15,20 80:12 84:10 88:19,24 89:8.11.13.15.16.20.22 90:6 101:6 111:3,8 112:24 113:16.22 116:12.15.19 119:4.6 130:22 135:24 137:5 139:20.23 140:5.7.11.20.21.23.25 146:22 147:6,10,23,25 148:21,24 149:23,25 150.3 7 8 12 16 152:25 153:2,3,6,12,14,23 154:5 155:20 156:1.22 157:4 158:11.13.17.20.21 159:2,5,7,11,23,24,25 160:2.17 161:4.7.14 riskier (4) 117:21,21,22 140:21

risks (1) 129:21

risky (2) 159:20 197:8

rivers (4) 186:3,11

rochefort (1) 73:6

role (31) 9:24 10:10

11:22 20:13,17,18

33:1 38:18 41:7,13

187:2,13

58:12,19 63:19 64:4
80:19 85:9 90:13
91:23 161:24 162:4
167:20 169:3,18,24
202:5 204:22 206:10
209:23 210:13 211:10
213:18
roles (2) 10:21 64:3
roodurmun (11)
90:11,13 94:22 95:11
99:11 100:15 104:7
110:22 121:11 142:12
194:8
roof (1) 128:10
roofing (3) 210:15,16
211:3
room (3) 57:10 95:17
178:9
roughly (2) 163:7,11
round (2) 145:25 148:12
route (20) 11:15 12:10
48:7,8 69:18 154:24
163:9,23 173:6,10
174:23
175:1,8,10,18,24
176:6 177:11 183:4
196:24
routes (27) 5:19 10:15
11:5,11 12:11 22:13
155:3 161:19 162:16
163:21,22 164:12
166:19 169:14
170:2,14,22 172:19,24
174:1 183:24 185:25
187:16 193:3 194:9
196:25 197:10
run (11) 26:4,5 100:22
110:17,19 114:7 120:9
131:21 171:19 184:12
191:15
running (2) 90:24
157:24
runs (1) 121:12
runup (1) 8:3
S

safe (10) 117:16.19 118:25 141:7,24 151:2 163:2,18 195:11 196:18 safely (1) 17:22 safer (1) 118:10 safety (25) 10:16 11:6 33:10.15 34:5 38:18,21 40:11 63:15 107:19 108:15 110:14 123:4 129:20,21 145:18 150:22 158:2 161:2.11 162:9.16 173:7 196:15 206:12 sale (4) 67:1 88:19,24 89:8 sales (11) 8:24 118:16,23 123:6 159:15 163:5,10,11

187:19 210:13 211:4

same (41) 2:17,21 8:3

32:6 35:12 37:23

42:23 43:16.16.18

48:25 49:7 52:9 53:3,3

57:4 65:5 71:8,16 77:2

92:5 95:17 98:24 99:5

salford (2) 179:3.6

191:16 sample (7) 68:17,19,21,25 69:7 70:15 118:3 samples (1) 68:19 sanctioned (1) 166:4 sat (1) 203:22 satisfied (1) 58:9 satisfies (2) 111:6,12 satisfy (2) 136:2 204:17 saving (1) 107:20 saw (13) 13:12 22:12 53:9 75:8.21 98:14 117:2 123:8 150:12 177:22 206:6 211:9 saying (28) 4:14,21 5:11 8:6 44:10,15 45:25 46:10 56:8 62.12 63.21 71.6 79:10 89:13 92:9 94:1 100:11 111:14 128:21 133:15 135:21 171:2 172:12 188:3 191:23 198:20 205:12 213:9 sbi (3) 76:8,12,12 scale (5) 13:5 75:14,16,16,17 schedule (2) 27:16 75:2 scheme (1) 179:9 schemes (1) 30:10 school (1) 186:8 science (1) 114:12 scientific (1) 115:6 scope (2) 167:12 172:20 scotland (45) 67:20 78:14.20 79:7.16 88:20,22,25 89:8,10,20,21 116:12 127:6,7 130:12,23 138:1,11,18 146:22 147:3.7.24.25 148:13,18,21,25 149:6,23,25 150:3.11.16.18 151:9,13 152:10 156:18 158:11,17 160:6,11 161:14 scotlands (1) 152:22 scott (1) 158:8 scottish (19) 67:21.23 79:16,18 101:12 110:23 111:4 136:2 137:5 138:5.21.22 139:5,21 140:11 145:3 148:22 149:21 150:15 scrap (1) 127:2 screen (4) 10:18 26:12 49:6 56:12 scrim (5) 53:9 69:25 70:16 71:2 72:3 scroll (4) 21:17 94:20 157:1 171:5 search (1) 63:25 searching (1) 187:20 second (41) 3:15 10:2,25 25:12 32:22

112:19 113:3 120:7

130:6,20 135:20 136:3

145:21 153:17 162:22

178:25 186:9 190:8

123:24 124:1.4

58:6,11 59:5 60:6 67:4 78:3 86:2 100:18 104:6,12 115:24 120:21 130:8 132:1 135:4 142:1 147:2.15 153:9 161:25 169:16 170:23 171:5 173:5 193:8,19,25 195:15 198:19 201:3 203:21 206:9 seconds (1) 76:15 section (9) 26:14 28:6 50:3 68:17 92:8 100:2 111:5 179:1 182:8 see (208) 3:13 6:6 12:4 13:4.12.24 14:5 18:19 19:8 21:8,19 22:9,18 23:5.17.18.22 24:2 25:15.17.23 26:11.14 27:2,22,25 28:7,16,17 29:3,22 31:5,17 35:22 36:6.12.13.16.22 40:7 41:13 42:2,6 44:8 49:13,18 50:5,6,12,20 51:10.11.19.22.25 52:5,6,7 53:21,21 56:2.6.7.14.15 60:14 63:25 64:10 65:13,18,24 66:8 67:5 69:20 70:4 71:6,13,14,14,16 72:2 73:2.3 75:18.19 81:23 83:3 86:7 87:4 90:8 91:3 92:2,14 93:18,22 94:20 96:22 98:24 100:12 104:6,15 105:15,17 107:19 110:20 111:2,19,22 112:6 113:5 115:1.15.17 121:8 125:8 129:4 132:1,4,6,23,25 133:18,21 134:16 135:7,14,20 142:21 143:2,12 144:18 145:9 149:3.5 151:8.15 152:2,13 153:15 155:11,24 156:7,7,25 158:3.5 161:13.24 165:7,15 167:7,9 170:11,21 171:17,19 174:2.11 179:4.18.20 180:23 181:4,6,8,9,18 182:6 184:10,10,14 186:10 20 187:10 23 188:5 190:15 191:4,12,15,19,25 192:8.19 193:4.6.6 194:6 195:16 196:22 199:19 200:4 204:23,24 206:3 209:19 211:16.25 212:25 seeing (4) 2:22 167:17

169:12 215:19

seek (3) 163:14,16,19

seeking (1) 145:16

seem (6) 30:7 83:24

seemed (1) 211:13

seems (3) 105:20

108:1 120:23 121:24

sheathing (2) 21:25

37:5

145:22 152:1 seen (27) 8:14 25:3 38:12 46:19 55:3 65:22 73:20 85:1 95:18 106:5 130:10 139:4 144:25 146:17 155:18 159:10 160:23 173:1 181:24 183:22 184:2 185:11 195:8 196:14,21 203:4 211.15 seizes (1) 158:1 sell (7) 48:13 89:10.21 107:8 117:11 122:14 selling (6) 9:5 47:5 109:21 133:23 153:8 semantics (2) 14:17 139.7 send (8) 19:17 24:14 113:3 153:10 158:7 171:20 172:11 192:21 sending (9) 17:18 25:20 97-17 98-3 131-24 171:11 175:13 191:17 192-12 sends (4) 21:21 132:3 133:1 172:8 68:1,2,10,12,14,15,16,18,25enior (6) 8:16,23 21:11 58:19 77:5 207:3 sense (3) 106:18 111:15 152:23 sensible (1) 83:24 sensibly (1) 202:4 sensitivities (1) 54:15 sent (16) 12:15 19:20 21:16 22:7 24:10 31:2 97:12.21.25 99:20 130:4 170:9 171:6 183:21 187:1 195:8 sentence (6) 5:6 58:17 116:18 122:17 191:24 193:7 separated (1) 72:8 separately (7) 69:16 131:1 133:25 134:11 135:22 143:17 182:16 september (14) 43:9 61:21 62:2 123:19 131:13,22 134:17 135:20 197:21 205:25 206:6 211:18 212:15 213:2 series (1) 100:17 serious (3) 122:20,21 129:20 serves (1) 173:11 services (1) 29:20 set (11) 13:11 19:8 26:19 58:10 59:9 79:16 80:15 88:8 123:17 130:23 148:3 sets (4) 92:16 132:13 151:17 191:1 settle (1) 213:24 several (1) 73:17 shall (1) 153:2 shared (6) 103:15,19 104.4 108.22 144.21 203:23

shed (2) 95:23,24 shelia (1) 99:22 shes (1) 91:11 shit (2) 127:1,24 shocking (1) 129:15 short (7) 31:21 42:10 57:7,16 124:19 178:7,16 shorten (1) 214:22 shortly (3) 72:17 115:13 187.2 should (47) 35:12 63:17.18 66:18.25 67:2 73:11 86:21,21 87:9,13,23 88:10 92:7 99:22 100:18 104:11 110:22 111:9 113:17.23 114:15 115:2 116:14.21 119:12 120:10 121:5,18 122:19 137:11 139:23 140:16 144:4 149:11 150:4,8 155:11 156:5 157:6,8 158:21 165:21 166:7 180:18 189:16 215:3 shoulders (1) 210:1 shouldnt (4) 8:6 38:25 104:11 214:9 show (18) 7:23 22:6 27:15 49:10 58:25 86:25 90:10 100:18 107:6 112:5 114:6 143:19 144:9 172:7 180:18 181:19 206:16 210:20 showed (3) 5:5 38:3 193:23 showing (1) 60:19 shown (10) 15:14 25:18 51:23 53:4 56:12 73:15 116:11 128:19 192:21 196:16 shows (3) 23:13 31:10 76.2 sic (4) 30:8 136:7 153:7 181:2 sidcup (3) 190:10,12 191:4 side (16) 13:13 16:24 50:4,6 51:22 73:14,22 75:11.24 76:20.21 86:6 134:4 137:13 143:4 204:24 sides (4) 73:21 74:16 75.8 76.6 sign (2) 12:18 166:2 signalling (1) 102:22 signed (9) 12:12,23 15:12,17,19,23 16:1 26:6 175:12 ignificant (2) 12:15 significantly (3) 30:11 78:9 86:12 signing (1) 170:6 signoff (1) 17:19 silicate (5) 49:16 55:5,8 87:17 88:18 simco (6) 180:18,19,24

181:21,22 184:12

63:24 64:25 205:24

simmons (1) 180:24 simple (2) 23:9 205:16 since (5) 11:4 59:5 73:20 90:17 104:24 single (2) 32:15 174:16 sink (2) 86:14,18 sir (38) 1:3,9,11,13 57:2,5,12,18,20 82:14 83:1,3,11,14,16,19,21,24 84:2 119:9,12 124:10 21 24 178:1,4,6,12,18,20 203:10 214:23.25 215:5,8,13,19,22 sit (1) 70:20 sits (1) 82:10 situation (3) 116:9 205:3 206:14 sixth (1) 199:23 skin (3) 70:6 71:2 72:11 slack (1) 21:10 slightly (1) 111:11 slipped (1) 210:17 slow (2) 99:19,21 slowly (3) 165:19 166:12,25 small (2) 112:16 118:3 smallscale (3) 107:21 112:16 118:5 smiley (1) 126:6 smith (12) 29:19 165:16 170:10 171:12.14 172:3 180:15 184:12 187:8 192:12 194:20 195:9 smoke (2) 113:3.12 sold (22) 13:18 14:24 32:2 33:3 42:23 43:17,24 44:13,17 45:14 54:20 66:19 69:11.13 71:9.22.23 72:13 109:9 207:11 208:22 210:11 sole (4) 6:9,12,16 7:11 solely (2) 6:12 92:9 solicitors (7) 4:11 38:9 39:10.18.20.23 40:1 solstice (1) 125:25 somebody (8) 15:5 21:11 88:2 99:8 110:4 144:14 156:18 193:13 somehow (2) 35:9 157:4 something (14) 47:19 63:4 136:21 144:1 151:4 170:4 171:20 176-5 193-13 199-14 207:5 208:17 214:11,17 somewhat (1) 136:23 soon (6) 115:15 158:11.23 159:5 179:16 210:12 sop (7) 59:19,21 62:13,15,22,25 63:11 sophie (1) 192:11 sort (4) 34:16 41:2 71:4 211:6 sorted (1) 214:15 sotech (1) 208:13 sounds (1) 108:9 south (1) 138:21 similar (6) 43:3,10,12 space (2) 182:13 186:8 speak (1) 40:13

60:22 203:1 87.16

specialist (1) 209:25 specific (5) 26:17 28:10 51:6 149:22 200:14 specifically (2) 3:19 specification (1) 183:8 specifications (1) 162:10 specified (1) 183:1 specifiers (1) 162:13 specifying (1) 199:10 specimen (1) 86:16 specimens (4) 49:12 52:20 87:3 132:11 spell (1) 78:22 spend (1) 14:16 spoke (1) 116:2 spoken (1) 137:8 sponsor (7) 49:4.20 51:5,6 52:12,15 56:18 spot (4) 15:25 24:19 37:13 104:14 spread (2) 67:10 126:9 spreadsheet (1) 60:19 spreadsheets (1) 60:25 spruce (9) 179:17 181:10 182:10.12 183:14 184:2 185:1,14,16 sqm (1) 190:11 square (2) 50:11 69:3 stacey (3) 131:24 132:3.7 staff (4) 120:10 123:22,23 157:16 stage (14) 20:10,14 21:7 48:12 58:24 60:11 78:10 84:12 90:17 91:21 132:2,10,22 137:23 stages (1) 175:11 stakeholders (1) 173:12 stand (3) 123:18 133:23 145:21 standard (64) 4:6,10,18,23 5:9 6:10 7:25 9:8.15 10:7 15:11 16:4,16,21,23 17:8,9 18:10.11 21:4 24:5.9.16 26:2 29:10 30:11 31:24 32:2.10.14.17 33:19.23 34:23 35:10,14 38:8,23 52:24 53:1,24 54:20 56.5 58.25 59.18 60.1 65:7 67:1 72:22 80:13 85:15 93:7,22 109:18.20 111:25 135:2 154:2,6 156:23 191:2 199:8 202:12 standards (12) 84:12,15,18,20 85:3.6.10.11.14 101:12 120:12 154:13 stands (1) 18:6 staple (1) 82:5 stapled (3) 49:16 55:5 start (10) 10:15 29:21 38:3 48:25 78:5 89:25 90:9 131:23 151:7

34:14,19 35:18,19

129:16 130:3,16

200:16,19 203:14,17

205:10 207:22 208:23

151:25 191:21

talks (1) 172:12

taylor (3) 27:12 31:8

team (47) 2:13,16 8:16

211:2

37:8

207:12
started (10) 63:11 73:12,20 80:20 162:19
202:8 207:12 209:15
213:23,25 starting (3) 94:17 202:7
209:14
starts (5) 73:1 104:18 131:24 133:7 173:4
stated (5) 16:2 26:18
49:20 105:6 167:13 statement (59) 3:11,15
10:2,3,25 11:10 14:20
15:4,13 27:17 35:18,19 38:1 39:7
41:22 42:5,18 44:25
46:14,20 58:3,6,11 59:5 60:6 61:21,25
62:2 63:6 64:9 67:4
78:3 99:14 100:22 101:4 104:10,13
107:10 113:7 116:15
123:15 130:8 139:10 142:1 147:2,15 155:19
161:25 162:22 165:2
169:16 195:15 198:4 199:1 200:9 201:10,15
202:21 207:20
statementinterview (1) 198:14
statements (2) 86:3
189:12 states (3) 105:4 111:5
137:17
stating (6) 90:25 111:2 136:22 137:4,15
148:13 status (3) 130:19 131:5
142:9
stay (2) 104:11 178:24 steadiness (1) 213:19
steel (3) 13:25 37:3
186:13 step (1) 108:3
stephen (1) 165:16
<b>stepped (1)</b> 20:13 <b>steps (2)</b> 213:12,13
stick (2) 49:5 82:8
sticks (1) 70:24 still (22) 10:14 29:10
30:9 47:10 53:24 57:4
81:4 85:21 89:12,12 90:24 102:3 112:15
114:19 115:19
123:18,23 124:1 133:22 134:7 157:15
206:23
<b>stop (13)</b> 32:16 54:23 95:10 98:9,11 106:17
108:10 114:16 132:21
138:6 178:4 215:1,3 stopped (2) 3:8 161:1
storey (4) 11:7 174:7
179:15,17
story (6) 8:8 31:21 42:10 47:16 197:25
206:22
<b>straight (3)</b> 63:1 150:3 155:8
straightforward (1)
183:7 strategy (4) 163:1,17
164:3,21

stretching (3) 206:25 supplier (2) 134:22 209:1.4 135:1 strict (1) 81:24 suppliers (2) 53:18 strictly (1) 209:7 73:18 strike (3) 90:1 114:1 support (30) 2:8 137:23 4:6,10,23 5:9,18 24:9 structure (3) 37:3 30:12 31:23 38:7 170:18 183:14 39:14 66:18 91:10,14 struggled (2) 63:24 172:4,12,22 173:21 194:14 201:20 202:13 struggles (1) 207:15 204:20.22.24.25 struggling (5) 35:7 205:1,13 207:2 209:6 194:17 207:18 213:14,22 208:9,19 supported (5) 45:3,22 stuck (1) 141:4 46:6 85:11 211:5 studies (14) 11:13 supporting (1) 36:7 35:14 178:24 179:2 supports (1) 112:15 187:6.11.24 189:7.25 suppose (2) 81:21 85:20 supposed (1) 143:14 190:2 194:14.17 196:16.19 sure (27) 5:1 9:2 20:5 study (15) 35:20 36:2 40:13 42:24 44:1 180:14 185:16 186:1.3 46:18 48:24 51:17 187:16 188:2,10,22,23 54:22 55:24 65:1,19 190:22 191:12 74:11 88:12 94:7 196:14.21 103:22 105:7 107:22 stuff (1) 212:3 108:10 159:1 168:4,5 stunning (2) 190:11 201:4.6.6 209:4 191:3 surely (2) 144:4 150:14 stupid (1) 200:6 surface (23) 47:8 70:4 sub (1) 93:4 72:15 79:21,23,24 subindex (2) 67:12 80:1 80:9.12.14 83:4.9 subindices (1) 104:23 86:13,15 92:24 105:5 subject (3) 7:3 16:24 107:9 111:9 126:9 73.7 130:24 133:16.25 subsequent (2) 33:18 138:4 143:17 158:15 surprise (1) 105:19 surprised (1) 212:16 subsequently (4) 45:3 46:6 58:7 152:24 surround (1) 173:9 substantial (2) susan (1) 198:17 163:10,13 suspect (1) 91:8 substantiate (1) 110:10 suspected (2) 6:17 7:11 substrate (16) 55:4,18 suspended (1) 132:10 79:22,23 80:13 suspicious (1) 63:3 81:3,12 sweet (1) 203:23 87:7,10,12,14,22,24 swift (1) 73:6 88:4,13 116:13 switch (2) 73:8 184:19 subtopic (1) 57:3 system (18) 23:3.5.5 successful (10) 16:22 31:10 36:10 18:7,9 64:16 65:15 37:3,5,16,17 39:4 177:16 182:20 197:3 73:17 164:16 174:6 204:17 205:16 186:13 190:3,3 successfully (5) 13:9 195:20.25 109:22 183:15 systems (8) 40:16 73:19 163:3,3 164:22 192:5,18 suggest (10) 38:12 196:4,15,20 77:14 105:25 107:6 109:12 156:11 157:13 161:8 176:7 183:8 table (9) 28:12,16,16 suggested (4) 120:11 29:6 36:6 67:22 79:19 121:18 122:3 204:25 81:8 152:4 suggesting (4) 100:7 tackle (1) 158:15 177:21 185:10 203:3 taken (10) 42:15 61:10 suit (1) 183:3 86:21 99:8 123:5 suitable (5) 151:17

140:15 167:19 196:23

taking (12) 10:10 20:11

41:2.7 60:8 84:6 88:12

122:13 129:21 196:11

197:10 198:6

199:7 210:18

talk (4) 124:13 178:8

talking (19) 20:24 21:3

83:6 95:23,24 111:18

194:21 215:16

12:6 39:21,21 40:8 48-1 58-13 59-25 60:13 62:5,21 63:8 66:15.23 84:19 85:8 90:9,15,16 91:9,13 95:25 96:19 97:3.22.24 105:22 111:23 115:8,19 120:13 125:7 128:22 162:7 169:25 195:12 204:23 210:13 211:4,5,7 213:5.6.12.19 teams (4) 5:19 6:13,14 62:12 teasing (1) 98:2 tech (5) 45:5,21 198:15 210:15 211:2 technical (84) 2:13,16 10:16,20 11:22,24 12:1,3,9 14:9 19:4 20:10 25:9 32:25 47:25 58:12 63:8 67:21.23 73:12 74:3 77:6 79:16.18 80:19 82:4,21,23 85:8.9.12.21 90:8 91:9,13,20 95:25 96:19 101:9 111:4,25 114:15 123:22 125:7,11 128:22 129:8 138:5 143:10 147:22.23 152:22 156:4 158:7 161:18 162:8,11 164:5,11,11,21 165:5,20 167:1,20 168:11 169:3,14,18,20,22,23,24 170:17 171:23 174:8 185:19 194:9 200:1 202:22 205:2 211:5,7 213:5 technically (8) 81:21,22,24 82:12,15 100:21 137:8,10 technology (15) 39:11 42:25 43:8,18 45:2 46:2 58:7 74:5 206:20 207:18,19 208:4,4,19 214:3 telecomsic (1) 182:11 telling (20) 1:20 32:15 50:17 58:18 74:14 77:14 115:2,16 123:20 133:19 154:16,20 155:24 185:15 199:13 203:9 204:5 205:5 211:19 213:7 tells (1) 53:9 template (1) 205:24 templates (2) 203:2,5 ten (1) 214:14 tenability (1) 117:9

tenable (1) 150:10 143:25 148:9 tenth (1) 142:22 153:10.22 161:22 tenure (2) 85:20 125:10 164:16 169:21 173:22 terminate (1) 197:16 174:15 177:16 183:5 termination (2) 193:12 196:20 197:3 201:18,24 202:17 197:20,24 terms (8) 102:22 106:19 203:25 205:9,17 107:18 154:5 157:18 208:9,21 209:7,13 202:2 206:11,12 212:13 tested (74) 3:22 4:17 terracotta (12) 13:24 19:16.24 20:7 21:1 13:9 15:11 23:6 26:16 27:8,12 31:8 32:22 28:9 29:1 33:2,3 34:23 33:19 34:14 37:6 35:10 43:7 49:16,25 test (308) 1:24 2:25 50:1,17 55:5,17 3:2,8,16 56:1,3,4 58:8 59:13.20.22.24 60:2 4:3.6.8.18.20.22 5:9,14,18,23,25 6:9,24 63:2,14 64:23 65:7 7:6.25 8:18 9:9.14.19 67:8.11 73:18 79:24 10:5 11:25 13:6,14,18 80:5 83:21 87:9.13.23 14:2 15:15 99:18 102:14.23 103:9 16:3,4,5,9,18,18,20,22,23 104:20 105:3 112:6 17:3.3.8.9 18:2.9 113:23 116:19 124:8 19:16,24,25 126:21 130:25,25 20:1,6,7,19,20 21:1,3 131:3 133:10,25 22:18.20.22 134-23 135-5 9 10 23:12,13,17,19,20,22,23 136:1 137:11,18 139:14 140:16 142:7 24:4.8.12.14.17 25:8 26:1,24 27:8,11,18 143:17 144:16 152:24 28:11,17,18,22,23 164:16 183:15 29:7,7,8,10,11 192:5,18 30:15.25 31:12.13.22 testing (66) 39:4,12,19 32:1,7,14,21,22,23 40:10.21 41:2 46:20 33:22 47:3 54:14.18 57:23 34:13.15.15.18.19.21 59:7 60:9.20 63:15 35:2,5,6,12,15 64:16 65:11,16 67:3 36:18.19.23.23 69:16.18 70:4.5.7 37:1,2,15 38:5,15 72:10 78:1 81:11 40:15 41:20 42:1,9 84:5,19,23 88:11,21 44:2 46:23 47:7,10 90:3 91:10.14 97:23 48:14,20,22,23,25 102:7 103:25 105:8,16 49:4.6.7.9.12.20 51:5 118:2 120:4 123:13 52:12.19.23 53:2.20 132:9,20,21,21 137:7 54:10 56:16,16,18,20 141:3,7 152:21 58:14 59:13,14,24 158:16,19 182:20,22 60:1 61:23 62:13 64:7 192:16 199:7,9 202:3 65:9,9,22 66:16,24 204:13 207:9,15,17 208:2.19 209:5 67:10.13.25 68:5,10,13,15,18 69:9 tests (72) 1:21 71:11,13,15,18,18 2:18,19,22 3:3 18:7 72:7 73:23 20:5.8.15 33:11.18.18 38:22 42:4,15 74:1,21,22,24 75:6,9,10,20,22 44:12.15.16 76:4,7,8,9,11,12,12,15,16,17,25:3,6,22,24,25 77:3,9,10,23 81:13 46:6,11,15 48:17 83:1 84:12,14,15,18 52:25 53:24 56:13 85.3 6 10 11 14 15 58:15 21 23 25 59:20 86:16,19 87:3,16 61:13,15 88:3,13,17 89:7,15,20 63:9,10,22,25 64:2 93:7,21,21 96:8,9 66:1 71:21.22.23 100:8,9 103:4 105:13 73:16 74:16 76:3,3 106:19.20.20.23.24 80:13 88:19.24 99:15 107:3,3,4 108:13 107:22 123:12 109:2.2.4.15.22 131:7.8.10.11.14.25 145:19 154:2,3 204:17 110:4,5,9,24 111:6 112:13,14,16,24 205:16 206:19.21 113:17 114:17 208:13 209:10 214:4 115:2,8,18 116:14,20 text (6) 51:3,21 52:6 120:24 122:7 123:12 113:15 186:10 191:6 124:5 126:11 thank (18) 1:13 15:8 130:15.18.20 133:24 51.1 57.12 14 22 84.2 134:2,12 135:2,22 119:13 124:15,17,24 136:10 137:22,25 125:1 126:3 138:1,4 139:5 140:8 178:12,14,22

215:21,22 thankfully (1) 128:18 thanks (2) 91:1 179:8 thats (161) 2:6 4:20,25 11:18 12:19.25 13:14 14:8 17:11,20 20:2 22:7,7,11,17,19 23:18 24:6,18 25:21,22 26:7,24 28:16,20 29:2 30:18 31:15,25 33-4 10 34-1 36-17 19 37:18 38:13 40:19 42:4 43:16.17 44:18 46:5,8,13,17,22 47:11 48:16,21,22 49:6,24 51:12 53:22 54:2,10,11,19,19 55:12.25 56:22 57:5 60:13 61:6.7 62:14 64:21 69:18,22 70:14 72:16 74:7 75:4 79:2.9.14 81:17 82:12,15 84:3 88:6,23 89:9 92:18 93:12 95:20.20 97:2 99:13,14 100:5,11 101:24 105:9.19 108:7.12 119:11 121:11 122:11 123:8 124:8 129:7,17 133:19 134:14 135:11.16 136:12,18,24 139:9,11 140:3 141:2.10 143:9 144:1.17 145:20.23 146:4,21 149:18,20 152:4 155:17 156:20 157:10,10,22 159:12 166:9 170:23 171:3,6 172:16 174:18.20 181:16,18 183:17 193:17 195:14 196:5 197:4.18.25 198:15 199:6 200:12 202:19 203:23 204:5,13,14 207:23 208:10 209:24 themselves (3) 85:11 144:16 189:3 theoretically (1) 34:15 thereby (2) 15:2 172:19 therefore (21) 32:3 52:21 59:23 62:6 66:14.18.25 80:4 127:6 133:8 141:7 148:24 153:3,6 160:18 171.10 175.7 177.14 183:4,18 192:18 thereon (1) 67:19 theres (11) 24:3 36:24 42:24 53:9,12 62:18 75:17 76:13 81:8 100:17 181:5 thermal (7) 86:7.10.13 87:9 143:3 190:13 193:22 thermoset (2) 90:22 174:25

182:17 198:24

summarise (2) 1:23

summarised (1) 174:17

summarising (1) 174:13

summary (5) 99:16,23

107:13 129:6 135:23

sunday (1) 187:3

199:11,17

110:20

theyd (4) 103:5 168:2

theyre (8) 25:21 40:18

46:10 77:8 129:24

130:2 152:10 192:14

196:23 208:12

theyve (2) 129:24

unacceptable (1)

unambiguous (1) 148:9

192:16

192:13 thick (4) 2:3 69:2,21 181:6 thicker (1) 33:20 thickness (5) 3:4 54:4 69:22,24 70:11 thin (1) 86:9 thing (2) 62:25 108:25 thinking (9) 62:20 88:1 103:7 141:5,22 143:13 144-14 150-15 160-18 thinner (1) 116:20 third (34) 3:11 13:23 16:1 28:17 30:24 31:4 32:23 38:1 39:6 41:21 42:5 44:25 58:3 61:21 62:1,2 63:6 68:18 90:11 100:17 119:14 123:15 147:17 165:17 171:5 179:12 181:4 182:19 198:3,25 201:9.15 207:20 215:9 thirdly (1) 164:17 tho (2) 126:1,12 thorn (1) 185:4 thorough (1) 211:7 thoroughly (6) 17:13,14,24,25 110:11 though (15) 18:6 40:17 72:10 98:21 119:3 120:23 121:5,25 122:6 123:20 134:9 140:10 146:13 166:3 194:2 thought (36) 5:17,21 6:3.25 16:21 29:10 33:22 34:22 41:6 60:15 62:18 81:3.6 85:5 90:3 94:9 98:17,20 101:10 114:5 120:10.19 128:22 132:9 135:1.3 144:23 146:2 149:18 161:1,7 176:8 187:11 200:10 201:10 212:20 thoughts (3) 98:12 170:13.19 threat (1) 204:10 three (13) 26:13 27:3 59:21 60:18.23.25 61:10 105:20 164:12,17 196:16 198:20 205:3 through (25) 17:17 39:4 78:1 88:2 112:8 114-16 115-16 136-10 144:9 152:20 165:21 169:8 170:5 175:21 180:15 182:15 187:12 191:13 200:7 203:20 207:15 209:15.15 211:7 213:11 throughout (3) 79:22 93:1 125:16 thrust (1) 2:5 thus (3) 80:11 107:6 166:5 tickling (1) 128:3 tile (2) 13:24 37:6 tiles (1) 27:12 time (116) 2:17,19,20 4:1,16,17 5:17,21,22,23 6:7

10:10,20 11:23 15:16 16:10 18:8 24:12 26:3 32:4 33:14 34:4 37:9 39:11 42:23 43:2.17 44:9.19 45:13 48:25 54:21 55:14 56:22,23 58:1,6 63:18 76:18,20,25 77:16,18 80:17 85:23,25 88:2 90:1 91:19 94:9 102:7.21 103:7 104:2 106:9 107:17 111:7 112:6.25 113:4 114:1 117:2 120:2 122:23 123:2,4,21 129:6 137:18 138:17 141:12,21 142:17,25 144:4,5,6,14 146:4 148:20 150:21 151:1 155:6 160:4 161:21 162:18,20,25 166:13 167:17.23 168:1 169:12,19 176:10 180:2 185:12 189:10 196:18 200:21 201:4 202:9,15,16 203:6.7.22.25 205:2 206:25 209:13 210:3 212:16,21 214:15,25 times (1) 16:12 tin (2) 206:23 211:20 tired (1) 179:13 tm (1) 203:23 today (11) 1:4 85:16 94:24 95:5 116:24 123:19.24 124:4.7 133:23 145:21 todays (1) 1:4 together (22) 11:1 39:10,18,20,23 40:2.5.5.9.23 41:17 43:14 44:21 58:5 68:8 72:25 121:16 122:12 137:6 139:12 142:12 170.13 told (39) 2:9 9:24 10:2.4 16:12 28:24 35:1 41:6 58:20,24 61:22 64:9 93:13 96:1.22 99:13 103:1 106:8 110:1 115:5 119:15 120:3 140:22 146:1 156:15 159:16 160:15 162:14 175:12 187:25 203:24 205:8 212-2 5 12 18 18 214:2,10 tomorrow (6) 187:11 188:8 215:14,15,20,24 tone (2) 129:14 130:2 tony (13) 7:7.12.24 12:2 77:6 158:8 166:21 167:9.20 169:23 191:9 203:23 209:22 too (1) 53:20 took (16) 11:24 41:13 46:17 63:18 85:9 114:19 140:20 147:12 150:7 167:4,20 168:11 169:20 204:7 210:12,19

90:8 161:17 topics (1) 52:6 total (2) 137:20,22 tottenham (2) 186:3 187:2 touch (2) 106:22 191:18 towards (1) 19:8 tower (9) 4:13 38:10 79:13 147:4 148:7 179:4,15 187:3 195:22 track (3) 133:4 201:8,12 transcript (3) 2:4 123:16 211:16 transfer (4) 39:11 74:12,12,13 translate (1) 154:17 transparent (4) 54:1,3 184:19.24 travis (4) 151:11,14 152:3.6 treated (2) 143:18 149:24 trial (1) 9:4 tricky (7) 153:20,24 154:1 156:9,20 165:25 198:23 tried (4) 6:19 64:15 149:3 213:13 triggered (1) 92:1 trouble (3) 108:1 169:7 197.5 true (16) 35:4 38:13.14.14.16 45:15.16 60:12 99:14 118:24 129:5,7 144:7 148:13 199:14 211:12 trust (1) 21:23 trustharingey (1) 187:22 truth (9) 15:6 110:7 154:16 203:3.5 206:25 209:1,4 213:7 try (12) 1:23 66:21 116:21 118:20 122:14 149:3,4 163:1,18 187:19 211:4 213:3 trying (9) 106:20 114:16 154:4 191:13 201:7 202:5 209:6 211:3 213:14

types (1) 82:17 U uk (10) 7:15,17 12:17 59:6,12 116:20 141:13.22 201:18 202:23 uks (4) 4:11 38:8 39:9 ultimate (1) 153:8 ultimately (2) 107:20 139:25 un (2) 136:7 137:3 unable (2) 23:8 52:12

tuesday (1) 1:1

turns (1) 128:17

209:18

40:1

tutelage (1) 129:9

106:24 134:3

twothirds (2) 115:25

type (5) 2:1 52:1 76:10

turn (5) 3:7 120:6

153:16 197:11 199:22

unaware (2) 10:4 34:20 underlined (2) 80:9 underlying (6) 86:11,14,20 88:9,13 146:15 undermines (1) 112:10 underneath (11) 28:2 31:16 36:16,18 51:3 69:6 82:10 104:22 105:1 125:15 192:11 understand (21) 9:19 14:18 16:7 17:5 33:2 35:8 40:24 45:2 74:14 75:17 77:7 81:23 96:24 100:6 102:2 111:18 156:21 176:25 206:10 213:4 215:7 understanding (12) 20:2,3,4 59:10,17 78:9,11 80:15 81:19 140.8 173.8 189.25 understood (15) 4:20 5:23.24 7:20 34:13 58:7,15 60:1 62:16 80:16,25 86:21 88:10 106:12 145:2 undertaken (10) 19:23 39:13 45:4.22 46:7 58:15 59:6 68:5.6 208:1 unfortunately (1) 210:19 unit (1) 69:3 unless (5) 17:23 81:13 158:12 160:15 177:16 unlikely (2) 189:5,6 unopen (1) 140:2 unperforated (1) 74:24 unprinted (1) 73:8 unreliable (1) 106:24 unstuck (1) 30:9 until (13) 10:7 67:15.18.23 78:13.20 79:13 102:6 111:7 159:11 211:16 214:12 216:1 untrue (1) 143:8 unusually (1) 27:21 unverified (1) 107:11 update (3) 22:1 79:20 113:1 updated (4) 67:15.23 131:3 142:7 updating (1) 116:14 upheld (1) 197:24 upon (3) 24:8 62:5 67:1 ups (1) 183:2 upshot (1) 40:16 urgently (1) 191:14 usb (2) 153:6,8 used (29) 3:16 4:9,22 5:24 7:25 9:15 10:6 16:3 36:8 38:7 61:22

62:7 74:5 87:6,11,21

107:16 141:20 153:22

160:3 185:16 189:16

196:15 201:22 205:18

192:13 195:20,25

206:16

useful (2) 30:3 98:15 uses (1) 136:6 using (12) 5:18 6:9 19:24 27:5 59:15 73:20 74:24 75:6 102:21 164:15 190:3 202:12 usual (1) 178:8 utilised (1) 49:21 utterly (1) 101:13 v (1) 35:23 v2pdf (1) 170:23 vaguely (1) 87:18 valid (4) 53:2,25 114:3.23 vapour (3) 74:12,12,13 varied (1) 3:3 various (3) 11:11 18:17 68:21 ventilated (2) 36:9 37:6 verbally (3) 121:10.14.19 verified (1) 107:12 version (10) 4:4 27:25 59:16 60:20 61:5,7 64:25 125:3 148:4 172:24 versions (2) 60:19 179:25 vertical (1) 50:5 via (3) 31:1 162:11 187:18 views (2) 112:23 115:19 virtue (1) 24:9 visit (1) 18:25 vol2 (1) 105:4 vr (3) 73:17 74:9,11 w wait (1) 148:12 wales (15) 47:6 80:8 131:6 138:9 142:10

100:21 130:19 21 22 143:20 145:4 146:23 147:21 148:22,24 wall (3) 36:9 37:4 201:5 walls (1) 179:11 wanting (2) 135:8 194:21 warned (1) 215:10 warning (2) 88:7 139:11 warranties (1) 31:23 warranty (3) 30:8,16,19 warrington (1) 46:17 warringtonfire (6) 42:1 46:16,19 52:19,22 55:17 wasnt (64) 8:7 14:1,6,7,25 18:11 21:6 27:8 32:11 34:6,8 38:14 39:20 40:4 45:19 54:10 55:6 56:25 63:3 69:11 74:25 90:4 93:20 94:11,11 96:14 97:2 104:5 106:15 107:17 115:10 123:13 135:12 138:5 139:6 141:16 143:8 149:16 154:23 155:15.23 156:20.21

159:2,18,23 160:2 181:12 185:3 161:6 172:5 176:10 whoever (1) 41:2 182:3 183:24 185:23 whole (24) 67:8 68:22 191:23 197:25 199:10 70:18 71:6 80:4.14 201:13 202:10 203:5 81:14 83:12 92:13 205:12,17,20 207:2 105:13 110:2 114:17 214:11 115:8,9,18 121:2 wasted (1) 203:25 watch (2) 6:19 38:25 water (4) 74:12,13 111:11 210:3 way (36) 40:15 48:3,5,6 63:25 79:18 84:1.3.6 89:23 101:10 104:1 109:19 110:11 115:25 118:22.25 127:4 129:25 135:14 137:19 139:16 140:17.20 145:25 147:17 149:17 150:10 155:8 162:18 168:19 172:11 176:14 183:12 209:18 211:14 ways (1) 114:16 weakness (2) 123:4 146.17 website (2) 165:22 187.7 wed (19) 16:5 32:22,23 34:14 38:22 40:6,19 58:22 63:9 90:3 110:4.9 124:8 139:14 147:8 158:20 180:12 202:2.15 wednesday (1) 216:2 week (1) 187:18 weeks (1) 64:20 weight (1) 69:3 welcome (2) 1:3 18:23 wellbalanced (1) 173:12 wellrun (1) 157:25 welsh (2) 139:15 140:13 went (3) 12:23 145:9 werent (22) 30:20 31:14

35:15 37:10 43:23

76:6 89:16 104:1

141:17 157:10.18

164:18 182:1,4 185:15

189:18 196:5,7 199:19

206:2 210:10 215:8

westley (2) 1:8 217:3

weve (24) 2:25 32:6,8

55:3 65:22 95:18

130:10 155:6 18

211:15

33:18 38:12 42:6 46:8

159:10 160:23 172:25

183:22 184:2 188:11

192:1 195:8,10 203:4

whatever (5) 77:9 89:6

102:1 202:2 212:23

whats (10) 31:3 50:17

176:2 207:9

whereas (1) 126:8

wheyy (1) 126:22

113:20

105:21 117:25 119:18

144:15 170:21 174:19

whey (2) 126:25 127:23

whilst (2) 80:13 173:12

white (3) 69:8 70:14

whitebeam (3) 179:16

west (1) 166:9

124:5 126:11,21 132:7 157:5,9 196:11 200:2 whom (2) 77:6 98:18 widely (3) 8:20 104:4 widening (1) 172:20 wideningamending (1) wider (1) 172:18 widespread (1) 106:7 wilson (1) 7:17 windows (1) 151:23 wish (4) 25:12 132:19,20 136:22 withdraw (1) 140:11 withdrawn (1) 111:8 withholding (1) 53:22 witness (38) 1:10.12 3:11,15 10:25 11:10 27:16 38:1 39:6 41:21 42:18 44:25 57:11.19 58:3,6,11 59:5 61:25 64:9 78:3 86:2 123:15 124:23 130:8 142:1 178:11.19 189:12 195:15 198:3.25 200:9 201:9 215:7,12,18,21 wonder (2) 25:25 85:3 wont (2) 75:15 82:18 woops (1) 127:16 worded (3) 127:4 149:9 152:23 wording (11) 97:19 121:2 131:20 140:2 142:11 147:24 148:2.4 149:8 150:11 190:21 work (11) 4:4 6:20 39:24 53:18,19 103:8 139:12 154:25 204:20 206:10 208:1 worked (5) 12:6 110:8 165:19 169:25 195:12 working (1) 166:25 workload (1) 213:11 works (1) 204:1 world (3) 157:12,13,14 worried (1) 187:23 worse (1) 133:3 worth (1) 145:8 worthless (1) 53:14 wouldnt (32) 7:5 14:13 33:17 43:3.19 54:8 55:21 62:25 69:10 81:6 82:7.8 91:10.14 96:15.24 97:2 101:20 107:18 109:12 112:12 115:13 117:19 118:17 138:13 149:16 172:21 185:22 188:24 189:1,8 214:10 writes (3) 100:15 135:20 152:16 writing (3) 121:15 165:15 194:7 written (11) 84:1,3,6 95:18 110:22 121:20

tool (1) 98:15

topic (5) 5:12 39:3 57:4

122:16 127:6 144:15 171:11 181:21 wrong (9) 40:4 64:12 76:19.22.23 110:21 154:7.9 192:18 wrote (1) 94:13 wvt (2) 73:17 74:9

xtratherm (2) 153:6 158:13

Х

yeah (26) 40:25 41:16 50:21 63:20 85:22 91:22,24 93:19 96:3 97:2 98:16 120:23 121:24 122:22 125:25 126:7 128:1 129:23 137:1 144:1 154:23 169:4 175:9 179:24 203:17 208:23 veahhhh (1) 126:20 year (10) 29:21 60:21 61:9 85:19 91:23 123:19 161:23 168:14 183:23 200:1 years (7) 10:12 56:19 129:12 161:22 207:6,7 214:14 yellow (1) 192:3 yesterday (12) 1:20 2:5,12,18 3:7 13:6,13,16 35:1 41:6 75:14 76:10 yet (4) 89:20 108:19 167:19 188:6 youd (1) 75:2 youre (47) 4:21 5:1 18:19 27:15 29:22 42:4 44:10.15 45:24 46:10 48:12 49:24 57:9 70:4.5.7 72:10 77:14,21 81:11 83:6 85:20 92:16 96:1 106:20 111:18 112:4,20 113:11 116:1 124:13 129:21 130:16 131:7 151:6,6 155:3 158:22 164:15 167:18 171:11,15 173:14 177-4 178-9 191-16 yours (4) 104:10.13 172:9 189:10 yourself (16) 32:16

0 0 (228) 39:2,4,14,19 44:11.12.12.15.16 45:2,10,15,21 47:7,11 48:5.6.14 55:15.21

56:3 57:23 58:10.25

84:18.21 97:19 98:9

117:10 138:6,8,11

140:4 141:6 149:19

youve (3) 10:4 155:5

215:9

156:1

177:10 197:5 211:18

61:15 62:7 63:22 64:16.24 65:15.18.20 67:3,14,17 69:19 72:14.17 78:2 80:13.20 81:4.13.16 82:6,8,18 83:5,5,16,22 84:9,23 90:22,25 91:15 92:8,10,13,22 93:6 94:2,4,15,25 95:1,9,22 96:13 97:8 100:1.1.3.8.8.20.24.25 101:2,18,21,22 102:1.3.8.14 103:1,4,5,8,13,24 104:21,25 105:5.6.14.23.24.25 106:1 107:9,20 108:13 109:10.15.21.25 110:4.7 111:9 112:5,21,22 113:22 114:17 116:6,10 117:12 120:5.24 121:5,7 122:7,19 124:6 125:16,20 126:9.11 127:5,7,12,15,18 128:23 130:18.20.22 131:1,4,5 133:5,7,9,11,16,16,17,24 134:13,21 135:23,24 136:5,14,17,22,23 137:4,6,14,17,24 140:12.20 141:14.23 142:8.9 143:6,16,18,21,24 144:12.13.17.19 145:13 146:24 147:20 148:16,22,23 149:24 150:14,17 151:2,19 152:5,8,11,21,24 153:11.21 154:12 155:1,21 157:5,9,18 160:13,16 161:4 165:5,9 171:25 174:25 175:3,9,20,23,24 176:5,8,11,16,19,23 177:2.5.10.21 199:9 038 (1) 69:21 038mm (1) 69:2 0low (3) 101:6 113:16 153:14

1 (37) 19:9 26:20 28:1 30:22 51:4,10,12 67:9 68:12 93:3 105:17 113:10 115:23,25 126:8,21 128:5,11 132:16 133:4 134:5.18 137:15,18,19 153:2,16 154:7 165:6,9 171:20 172:7 174:10 180:19 191:22 217:3,6 10 (9) 68:15 130:9 142:2 186:1 199:22 207:6 215:15,24 216:1 100 (3) 20:5 113:13 186:12 1000 (2) 1:2 76:11 1003 (1) 113:10 10m (2) 151:20 153:4 10th (2) 56:17 78:15

11 (1) 159:12

**110 (1)** 124:18 1120 (1) 57:15 1135 (3) 57:8,14,17 1142 (1) 120:22 11th (1) 147:19 12 (8) 36:4 80:1 93:4 137:20,21 162:23,24 179:15 1257 (1) 105:12 12mm (3) 21:25 31:7 37.5 12months (1) 165:24 13 (4) 92:19 103:10 106:4 152:4 13082014 (1) 182:11 135 (10) 13:11 20:25 21:25 22:10 25:8,20 31:9.11 165:23 202:11 1352013 (2) 26:18 28:13 13785 (5) 1:20,24 2:18.19.22 14 (13) 22:17,20 23:18 24:23,24 42:8 181:21 190:9 193:3 195:19.24 200:25 203:13 **15 (5)** 76:15 148:12.14 203:21 205:7 1501 (1) 152:16 1540 (1) 29:24 16 (2) 28:3 67:18 1630 (1) 125:14 17 (9) 13:4 14:4 15:19 60:20 67:13 197:14 198:11,16 207:21 1747 (1) 97:13 1758 (1) 112:20 **176 (1)** 69:3 18 (40) 4:7 5:10 12:9 17:22 29:24 30:7,23 33:16 62:2 67:12 71:15 82:6 86:5 102:1,3,4 141:24 151:3 161:19 163:4,6,20 164:5,12,14 165:5,20 167:1 171:22 174:7.9 176:9 181:16 182:13 187:10 197:14 198:18 199:5.22 207:10 180 (1) 120:6 18m (4) 11:8 28:14 30:5 201:21 18metre (1) 104:20 18micron (1) 99:18 19 (4) 68:6 71:12.16

2 (37) 19:9,12,13 22:17,18 23:18 27:3,5 29:21 36:4,25 52:7,9 54:6 61:7 72:24.25 92:10 93:15 94:16 97:7 112:19 113:14 128:6 129:2 131:23 132:2.25 137:6.6 152:13.15 153:10 171:18 181:23 184:13 191:24 20 (1) 153:18

197:17

1e (1) 78:6

1970s (1) 179:6

**200 (1)** 201:13 2000 (1) 39:16 2003 (3) 43:7 44:11,16 2005 (9) 13:14 16:23 18:10.16 26:24 36:17 206:20 207:8 212:13 **2006 (14)** 39:12 40:10,13 41:4,12 43:9,14,17,25 44:13,17 45:6,14 80:7 2007 (13) 44:24 45:4,23 46:7,8 48:3,18 56:13.17.20.25 65:18,21 2009 (4) 48:21 56:13,21 65:21 2011 (6) 57:24 58:16,21 61:14 64:24 66:1 20112012 (1) 65:8 2012 (10) 57:24 58:16,21 59:14 60:9 61:14 62:13 63:22 64:24 66:1 2013 (2) 64:4 80:18 2013early (1) 63:19 2014 (68) 2:20 3:8.9.16.25 4:9.15.22 6:9 7:25 9:25 10:5.11 11:5 14:2 15:9,13 16:9 18:2 20:1,20 23:6.12.24 24:8 25:8.20 27:8 28:18.22 29:7 31:13.22 32:1.14 34:24 35:2.6.15 36:19 37:15 38:7 41:13 63:19 64:5 73:1.25 74:19,21 75:8,22 77:1 161:22 162:19 163:1,5,13 164:7,12 165:6 171:25 180:25 181:21 182:2 183:22.23 189:13 198:21 201415 (1) 41:9 **2015 (55)** 10:16,19 11:9,24 12:17 13:18 19:22 22:17 23:12.18 24:10,23,25 26:6,11 27:11.12.13 28:1.3.21.24 36:4 80:21 85:9 165:6,14 166:22 167:4,18 169:20 170:10 171:7 173:1 174:10 175:13 182:5 184:4,15 185-15 19 190-20 191:2,9 195:9,10,13 197:14,17,21 204:15 205:25 211:18 213:2 214:16

2016 (49) 29:20.24

58:13,18 59:25

66:15 67:3,18

60:4.7.9.10 62:22

78:16,20,22 89:5

103:17,21 107:7

142:21 148:4,14

151:6,10 152:15

90:7,12 91:5 100:15

112:19 120:22 125:10

131.8 10 13 17 18 22

155:18 158:19 190:4

68:5,6,11,15 71:16,21

214:12 2017 (13) 131:4.16 142:8 147:5,19 148:7.15 159:12 187:3 195:19.24 206:6 212:15 **2018 (1)** 184:12 2019 (19) 2:20 4:11,23 5:24 6:2,8,15 10:8,12 38:9 60:5 61:6,7 67:4.16.24 78:14 79:13,20 2020 (4) 1:1 61:21 62:2 216:2 20m (2) 152:9 153:4 20metres (1) 151:19 20th (1) 2:2 21 (1) 27:13 210 (4) 124:12,17,20 199:2 213 (2) 201:9,15 218611 (1) 36:22 22 (5) 23:4 68:17 90:12 103:17,21 220876 (1) 36:17 222 (1) 186:7 22c (1) 162:1 23 (10) 10:25 73:1 74:19 100:15 105:11 111:1 112:19 179:17 180:25 195:17 **230 (1)** 210:5 24 (4) 12:17 15:13 175:13 194:8 **25 (1)** 187:3 256 (1) 49:9 25micron (4) 70:11 99:15,17,25 27 (3) 113:10 115:25 120:22 28 (3) 67:22 79:19 191:9 28th (2) 19:21 21:16 29 (5) 39:7 45:1 58:4 68:5.11 291642 (8) 13:25 16:3 18:1 22:11 25:8.18 28:18 31:9 297099 (6) 23:17 31:6.10 36:19.23 37:1 29metre (1) 190:17 2b (2) 67:21 79:19 2e1 (1) 111:5

3 (19) 8:4 21:18 27:4.8 60:20 72:24 110:19,19,25 132:14 137:21 162:1 167:11 173:2 180:23 191:2 194:16 197:21 205:25 30 (2) 59:4 147:15 31 (1) 123:16 311 (2) 67:5 78:13 **314 (1)** 78:5 **315 (1)** 78:12 316 (2) 79:16 130:23 **317 (1)** 130:24 318 (3) 58:10 130:9 142:3 **319 (1)** 58:10 **325 (1)** 178:15 3300 (1) 39:16

**3309 (2)** 181:8,12 340 (7) 39:7 42:5,18 58:11 178:7,14,17 **341 (2)** 45:1 46:2 342 (1) 58:5 **344 (1)** 59:3 **349 (1)** 123:16 **35 (1)** 207:21 380 (1) 69:20

4 (14) 27:4,11 28:12,16 29:6 56:14,15 68:16 71.12 104.19 105.10 110:18 181:15 184:15 4052015 (1) 184:20 **40mm (5)** 105:3 112:6 116:19,21 121:6 417 (1) 10:3 419 (1) 11:2 **42 (1)** 162:21 421 (2) 11:20 169:17 426d (1) 11:10 **435 (1)** 215:25 44 (1) 164:9 441c (1) 147:16 442 (1) 3:14 45 (1) 4:1 46 (1) 170:20 476 (13) 39:12 58:8,14,15,20 59:7,20 60:19 62:17 97:23 125:17 134:12 143:25 **4766 (9)** 45:7 63:9 67:11 84:13 85:15 130:16 131:25 133:24 134:14 **4767 (6)** 42:1 45:7 48:20 67:8 68:10.13 476part (2) 79:25,25 4mm (1) 181:5

**5 (25)** 23:23 26:12,20

55:3 68:1,14 99:1

100:13 104:7,19

28.6 49.11 51.11 22

134:17 135:20 137:22

152:3,7 168:6 172:8

173:25 174:2 199:3

206:8

**50 (1)** 195:16

50k (1) 203:25

50micron (1) 74:25 **55 (1)** 64:10 56 (4) 3:13,23 5:4 38:2 6 (33) 23:2 26:20,23 27:1 28:15 45:9 46:14 48:23 49:6 51:2 52:11 53:4 58:16 59:14 68:1,6 71:11,18 80:2 81:8 92:3 93:5 104:24 131:14 132:11 134:6 137:21 151:7,8 170:10 171:7 174:21 201:16 **60 (2)** 26:22 186:11 **61 (1)** 181:10 61981 (1) 79:25 **61989 (1)** 79:25 **6500 (1)** 190:11

6500m2 (1) 191:3

7 (20) 36:5 45:8 46:15 48:22,25 49:9 56:12 63:9 68:5 71:18 74:22 84.13 130.16 131:14,25 143:2,5,25 209:17 211:1 **716 (2)** 3:24 38:3 76 (1) 8:4 77 (2) 8:1 165:2 **79 (1)** 35:18 7th (1) 23:24

8 (10) 1:1 26:11,14 28:1 36:24 61:7 67:5 99:5 178:25 207:7 80mm (3) 14:5,20 31:6 82 (2) 26:15 28:7 840 (1) 100:15 **8414 (35)** 3:2 16:22

18:7.9 24:17 72:18 73:23 74:21 75:6,9 76:3,5,8,17,21 77:3.9.23 112:13 164:16 165:22 172:14 173:22 177:16 183:15 193:8 196:20 197:3 202:3.15 205:16.18 208:9,21 212:13 84141 (2) 36:17 182:20 **841412002 (3)** 13:9

84142 (5) 21:24 31:6 36:19 182:21,22 84142002 (1) 192:6 84142005 (1) 192:6 841422005 (3) 13:10 26:16 28:9 85 (1) 3:14

85a (1) 3:13 **88 (1)** 165:3

26:16 28:9

9 (8) 58:16 59:14 78:4 79:15 125:10 179:18

198:19 216:2 96a (2) 35:20,22

Opus 2 International Official Court Reporters