

Dear Member

Request for help to gather important information for Scottish Government Fire Safety Review

Following the tragic fire at Grenfell Tower in London the Scottish Government has established a Ministerial Working Group to review all Scottish buildings fire safety regulation. The immediate priority is to build a complete picture of large residential buildings, specifically about the use of Aluminium Composite Material (ACM) cladding in high-rise domestic properties (with a floor higher than 18 metres), where there are no on-site staff to cater for fire emergencies, particularly overnight emergencies. While there is a good picture of social and registered social landlord buildings, there is less knowledge of large scale, privately owned or mixed-tenure buildings.

How you can help

The Scottish Government is asking the property industry to contact their relevant local authority as soon as possible to ensure that any privately-owned high-rise domestic properties (with a floor higher than 18 metres) are known of by the local authority. Any relevant information you may hold should be submitted to a contact within the planning and building control sections of the relevant local authority. Local authorities will report this information to the Scottish Government in order to build a complete picture of where these buildings are located and in particular, where ACM has been used in the cladding.

If you have sold high-rise residential properties to private owners or an investor, even if not strictly for domestic use, this would be of interest. Student accommodation, sales to investors and operators would also be of interest even if the assumption is that the universities hold these records and would make them available to the government. Hotels would not be required as they have onsite staff overnight for example. Serviced apartments, however, may not necessarily be staffed overnight, so could also be of interest.

Future steps

The government will be reviewing, the fire safety regulation of these buildings with local authorities with particular attention to the building materials used.

We understand that the Scottish Government has set up the Ministerial Working Group to review the fire safety of major buildings in Scotland, which could for example include commercial high-rise offices. We will continue to liaise with Scottish Government officials and inform you of progress with this review process.



Paul Curran
Chairman, SPF
& MD Quartermile Developments