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Our Ref:3725392

1 May 2018

Dear Clive,

Thank you for your letter of 29 March, further to mine of 26 March, about the current guidance in Approved Document B relating to the construction of external walls. I am sorry for the delay in responding.

As you say, the guidance does allow that the surface of external walls at a height of more than 18 meters may meet a less onerous requirement than that which would meet the definition of "limited combustibility". This has no bearing on the advice issued by my department in September 2017 that the core of an ACM panel is covered by paragraph 12.7 and should, therefore, be a material of limited combustibility.

Thank you again for your letter. I hope that you find this helpful.

*You should.*

**DOMINIC RAAB MP**