

Document B Volume 2 Buildings other than Dwelling Houses

Volume 2 deals with other types of buildings including offices, public buildings, multi-story and industrial buildings as well as flats.

Because of the nature of these type of buildings, having multi-occupancy and a greater risk of fire, the regulatory requirements are much more thorough than for domestic premises. While damage to buildings can never be eliminated the regulations provide adequate measures as to minimize the potential loss of life should the worst case happen.

B1 – Means of Warning and Escape

As with Volume 1, this section deals with early warning of fire and a safe means of escape. Volume 2 makes specific provision for multi-occupancy buildings and flats, the requirements being rather more demanding than for dwelling houses.

B2 – Internal Fire Spread (Linings)

Again this section deals with the internal linings of the building in relation to preventing the spread of fire.

B3 – Internal Fire Spread (Structure)

The prevention of the ability of fire to spread is particularly important for larger, multi-occupancy and multi-use buildings; hence the regulations go into some depth regarding measures to achieve this.

B4 – External Fire Spread

Prevention of the spread of fire across the external elements of the building as in Volume 1, but with particular regard to framed and multi-storey buildings as well as large roof areas.

B5 – Access and Facilities for Fire & Rescue Services

Depending upon the type and use of building, Section B5 deals with the provision of access and services for the Fire Services, such as suitable internal fire mains and equipment, as well as providing sufficient means of escape for the building's occupants. There are special measures required, also, for the venting of heat and smoke from fires in basements.