



Department  
for Business  
Innovation & Skills

**FURNITURE AND FURNISHINGS  
(FIRE) (SAFETY) REGULATIONS  
1988**

**Consultation on proposed  
amendments to Schedule 5 - the  
Match Test - Part 1 and Schedule 4  
- the Cigarette Test**

AUGUST 2014

**Annex 8: Proposed amendments to schedule 5 - the match test -  
part 1 and schedule 4 - the cigarette test - of the furniture and  
furnishings (fire) (safety) regulations 1988 - response form**

The Department may, in accordance with the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information, make available, on public request, individual responses.

The closing date for this consultation is 7<sup>th</sup> October 2014.

Please provide answers to any of the questions below, and provide any additional response you believe is appropriate, headed:

Your name:

*Redacted*

Organisation (if applicable): Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service

Address: Lime Grove Avenue, Carmarthen, Dyfed SA31 1SP

Please return completed forms to:

Terry Edge

4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Orchard 1

BIS

1 Victoria Street

London SW1 0ET

Telephone: 020 7215 5576

email: [terry.edge@bis.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:terry.edge@bis.gsi.gov.uk)

Please tick boxes below which best describe you or your organisation.

	Organisation type
	Business representative organisation/trade body
	Central government
	Charity or social enterprise
	Individual
	Large business (over 250 staff)
	Legal representative
	Local Government
	Medium business (50 to 250 staff)
	Micro business (up to 9 staff)
	Small business (10 to 49 staff)
	Trade union or staff association
<b>X</b>	Other (please describe): Fire & Rescue Service

Please note: in addition to the consultation questions below, we would be very grateful if you could also answer the questions from the Impact Assessment which follow them.

Consultation questions:

**Question 1: Do you think this proposal will achieve its aims of: helping to make UK furniture greener, save money to industry and making UK furniture more fire safe?**

Comments: Yes, the explanation of the facts appears relatively straight forward and in the absence of contrary information I see no reason to disagree.

**Questions 2: Do you think that paragraphs 19-22 accurately set out the need for a change to the current match test?**

A                      **X** Yes                      ☐ ~~No~~                      ☐ ~~Not sure~~

Comments: The explanation appears quite logical and it makes sense that any combustibility test should be undertaken on materials as they would be found in actual use/situ.

Question 3: Do you think the proposed changes are viable (paragraphs 23-29)?

A                      X Yes                      ☐ No                      ☐ Not sure

Comments:

Question 4: What are your views on the inclusion of currently unregulated materials (paragraphs 27-29)?

Comments: I am in agreement for the reasons set out in the explanatory note.

Question 5: Do you agree with the benefits BIS believes the changes will bring?

A                      X Yes                      ☐ No                      ☐ Not sure

Comments: No additional comments

Question 6: What is your view on BIS's reasons for bringing forward the changes (paragraphs 41-42)?

Comments: These changes support the Government's policy of reducing bureaucracy and costs to British businesses in order to stimulate trade and growth in the economy. It makes sense to periodically review legislation and standards to ensure they are fit for purpose and up to date taking account of advances in technology.

Question 7: General rating of the proposals.

On a scale of 1 to 5, 5 being the highest, grade your overall approval of the proposals

	5	4	3	2	1
Right problems identified	x				
Range of options wide enough	x				
Preferred options well chosen	x				

Question 8: Do you have any other comments that might aid the consultation process as a whole?

Comments: None

Below are the additional questions from the Impact Assessment. Please respond to them on this part of the form.

**Q1:** Is the assumption on the cost of testing above right in your view? Could you provide evidence supporting your arguments?

*Unable to comment*

**Q2:** Do you have any evidence that could help to refine this cost estimates?

*No*

**Q3:** Are there any other costs not included here that should be included? Please provide evidence supporting your arguments.

*Unable to comment*

**Q4:** Do you agree with the assumption that there will be minimal losses of stock given the transition period? What is your normal turnover of stock?

*Unable to comment*

**Q5:** Do you agree with the assumption on annual cost savings to UK based companies testing of fabrics for the cigarette test? Could you provide information on the cost of the cigarette testing for your company?

*Unable to comment*

**Q6:** Do you agree with the range of cost savings above? What are the cost savings most likely to be for your company?

*Unable to comment*

**Q7:** Are there any other methodologies you think would be more appropriate?

*Unable to comment*

**Q8:** Do you agree with the cost estimates above? Could you provide alternative estimates?  
Could you provide estimates of cost savings for upholstered garden furniture and/or caravan upholstered furniture?

*Unable to comment*

**Q9:** Do you agree with the assumptions above towards calculating the total annual amount of treated fabric? Please provide evidence supporting your arguments.

*Unable to comment*

**Q10:** Are there any other unquantified costs or benefits? If possible, please provide evidence supporting your arguments.

*Unable to comment*

**Q11:** Is this a fair reflection of how smaller businesses will be affected? Please provide evidence supporting your arguments.

*Unable to comment*

**Q12:** Are the familiarisation cost savings, in time, between options 2 and 4 an accurate reflection of the difference? Please provide evidence supporting your arguments.

*Unable to comment*

**Q13:** Do the cost saving time profiles accurately reflect the timings of cost savings your business expect to see?

*Unable to comment*

Thank you for your views on this consultation. Thank you for taking the time to let us have your views. We do not intend to acknowledge receipt of individual responses unless you tick the box below.

Please acknowledge this reply ☐

At BIS we carry out our research on many different topics and consultations. As your views are valuable to us, would it be okay if we were to contact you again from time to time either for research or to send through consultation documents?

X Yes      ☒ No

Any enquiries regarding this publication should be sent to:

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London SW1H 0ET  
Tel: 020 7215 5000

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