

The current British Standard 8414 test is a robust test. The BS 8414 requires that a wall with a complete cladding system – including panels and insulation – fixed to it, is then subject to a fire that replicates a severe fire in a flat breaking out of a window and whether it then spreads up the outside wall.

The Independent Expert Panel stand by the earlier [advice issued by MHCLG](#), following their consideration of the Government-commissioned tests over Summer 2017:

- Building owners should take their own professional advice on any further action, with regard to their cladding system, reflecting their own particular circumstances.
- Where panels are removed for inspection or testing purposes, the integrity of the whole cladding system needs to be maintained.
- The structural design of any replacement cladding needs to be checked – it should not be assumed that existing fixings and systems are suitable for replacement systems.
- The need to ensure that replacement cladding systems or components protect the building adequately from rain and condensation.

The Independent Expert Panel also agree that the process currently in place for reviewing British Standards (under the British Standards Institute) is the correct one. This process involves the relevant experts and evidence.

Dame Judith Hackitt's independent review of the Building Regulations and fire safety system is also examining the testing, labelling and marketing of fire safety products.