



Federation Newsletter

SPRING 2021

Making sure your voice is heard

Number 29

EVENTS

- AGM Online
10 May 2021
- INTERSCHUTZ
20 to 22 June 2022
Hannover.
- Emergency Services
Show Fire safety
Event
7-9 September 2021
NEC Birmingham
- Fire Summit
Westminster
9 November 2021

Directors

Michael Harper – Chair
Andrew Lynch
Dave Russell
Dennis Davis
Jon O’Neil
Niall Rowan
Tom Roche

Links

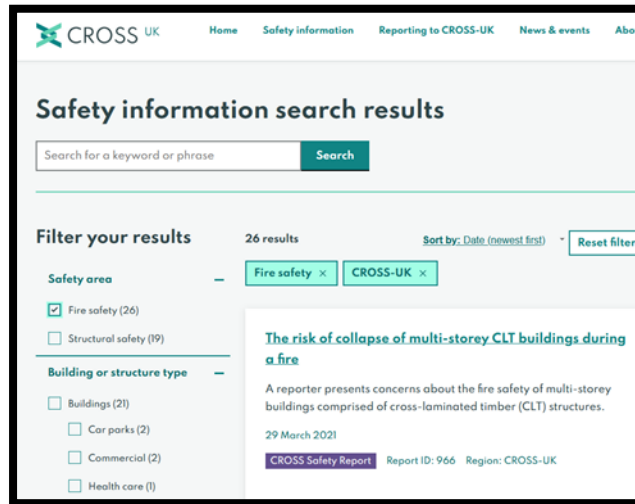
<http://www.firesectorfederation.co.uk>

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CROSS Reaches Fire Safety



Following the tragedy at Grenfell and subsequent Independent Review of Building Safety led by Dame Judith Hackitt one recommendation made was to extend the Confidential Reporting on Structural Safety (CROSS) scheme and strengthen it to cover all engineering safety concerns.

Supported by funding from the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHCLG), on 29 March 2021 [CROSS](#) has officially expanded its service to cover [fire safety](#).

CROSS has also changed its name to be more inclusive and better representative of this new function and is now called – Collaborative Reporting for Safer Structures. The updated safety reporting system allows professionals and others to confidentially share their experiences to help others. An updated website provides an independent source of relevant, quality and free safety information to help professionals and others make structures safer.

CROSS want to ensure those working on buildings and other structures, at all levels, are aware of CROSS’s function – and know they can use the service to help make structures safer.

Scottish Government BS 8414 Request

Following last year’s building safety consultation by the Scottish Government their Building Standards Division established a panel of fire experts to consider a ban on the highest risk cladding materials and to review the role of BS 8414 when considering the suitability of the make-up of cladding systems.

Following a further request the Federation subsequently responded on 10 March 2021 with additional information and evidence for the technical panel regarding BS 8414, a copy of the response can be found on the members’ [Basecamp page](#)

BSI Flex 8670 Moves Forward

This new code of practice - Built Environment – Core Criteria for Building Safety in Competence Frameworks, sponsored by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), with Richard Harral of CABE as Technical Author supported by an Advisory Group, of which the Federation is a member, advanced during March.

A third version, drafted after public consultation, is for release this month and is intended to be used by industry until publication of the British Standard. There will be a 6-9 month consultation period to pilot the Flex and obtain feedback on its use and usability. Comments will be fed into the development of the British Standard. Details on how to provide feedback will be given on the [programme website](#).

Fire Safety Consultation Response

On 17 March 2021 the [Government response](#) to last year's public Fire Safety Consultation was released. The consultation had looked at strengthening the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order, implementing the Grenfell Tower Inquiry Phase 1 Report recommendations and seeking to improve consultation between Building Control Bodies and Fire and Rescue Authorities.

A great deal of action has already occurred, including two Bills, on Fire Safety and Building Safety, together with appointment of the HSE as Building Safety Regulator with Peter Baker as the Chief Inspector of Buildings, so many of the report's conclusions are underway.



Home Office DIG

Home Office has established a new Delivery and Implementation Group (DIG) to assist with ongoing work to deliver recommendations from the Grenfell Tower Inquiry Phase I which the Federation has agreed to join.

DIG is asked to provide pragmatic, independent and informed advice to the Home Office on specific questions related to ongoing policy development relating to the Grenfell recommendations so as to help ensure policy proposals take into account the need for solutions that are practical and can be effectively operationalised by the FRS, Responsible Persons and others responsible for their delivery. Contact Executive Officer for more information.

School Building Bulletin 100

The Department for Education has recently informed stakeholders on the timing of the launch of the awaited [BB100](#) consultation. It had been hoped this would be published before Easter, however this has not been possible. DfES say given it is not desirable to launch during the school holidays and now the pre-election period is starting they expect the launch to take place very soon after the local elections on 6 May 2021.