Evacuation of disabled people from general needs blocks of flats

CONTENT RELEVANT AS OF APRIL 2022

1. Grenfell Tower Phase 1 Recommendations

- The government develop national guidelines for carrying out partial or total evacuations of high-rise residential buildings, such guidelines to include the means of protecting fire exit routes and procedures for evacuating persons who are unable to use the stairs in an emergency, or who may require assistance (such as disabled people, older people and young children).

- Fire and rescue services develop policies for partial and total evacuation of high-rise residential buildings and training to support them.

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2. Grenfell Tower Phase 1 Recommendations

- The owner and manager of every high-rise residential building be required by law to draw up and keep under regular review evacuation plans, copies of which are to be provided in electronic and paper form to their local fire and rescue service and placed in an information box on the premises.

- All high-rise residential buildings (both those already in existence and those built in the future) be equipped with facilities for use by the fire and rescue services enabling them to send an evacuation signal to the whole or a selected part of the building by means of sounders or similar devices.

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3. Grenfell Tower Phase 1 Recommendations

- The owner and manager of every high-rise residential building be required by law to prepare personal emergency evacuation plans (PEEPs) for all residents whose ability to self-evacuate may be compromised (such as persons with reduced mobility or cognition).

- The owner and manager of every high-rise residential building be required by law to include up-to-date information about persons with reduced mobility and their associated PEEPs in the premises information box.

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4. Emergency Alert Evacuation Systems



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5. Premises Information Box



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6. Evacuation Management





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7. Draft BS 9991 – Fire Safety in the Design, Management and Use of Residential Buildings

- Made reference to evacuation of disabled occupants or occupants that require assistance to escape for the first time.
- Many people other than wheelchair users are considered to have mobility impairments.
- For all accommodation types, when deciding on the dimensions of protected stairways and corridor zones, provision should be made for adequate refuge space for occupants to await the evacuation lift or further assistance where the building is managed using progressive evacuation.
- All stairs used for evacuation should be a minimum of 1200mm in width.

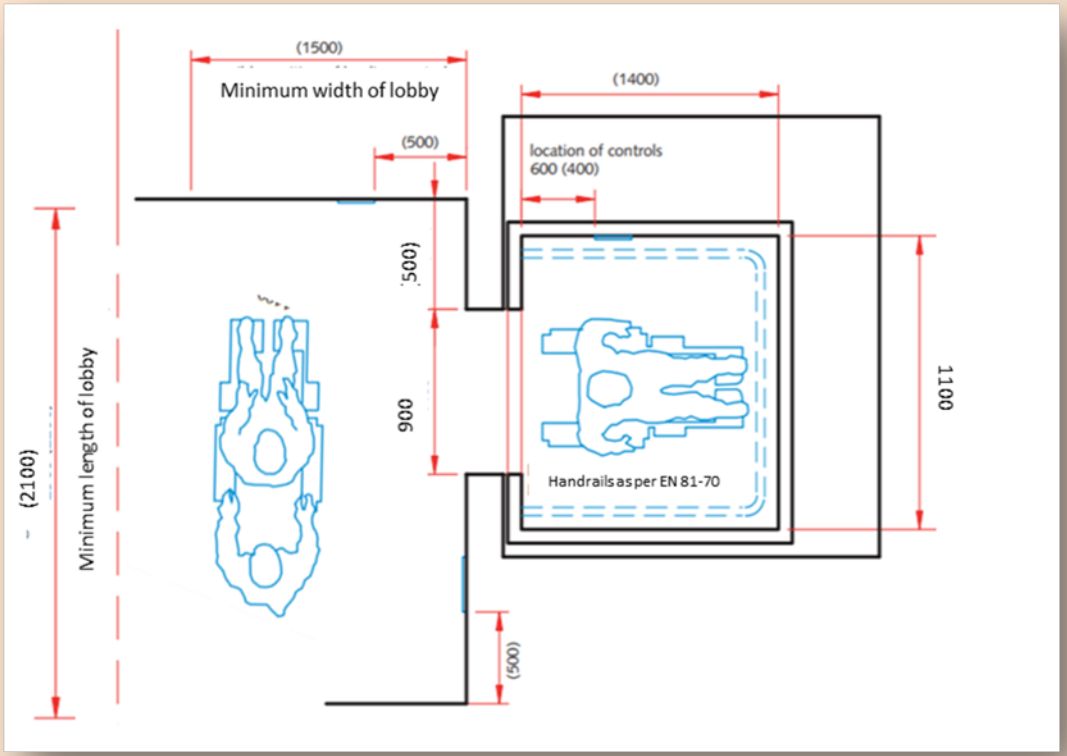
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8. Draft BS 9991 – Evacuation Lifts

- Where passenger lifts are installed, a minimum of at least one lift is to be an evacuation lift.
- Buildings in excess of 18m in height should be provided with more than one evacuation lift.
- Where more than one escape staircase is provided, sufficient evacuation lifts should be provided appropriately remote from each other.
- Driver assisted evacuation is the default method of lift operation for evacuation lifts. However, where the residential building is not provided with 24 h staffing then automatic operation may be used.
- The use of automatic operation is limited to sprinkler protected buildings incorporating a stay-put evacuation strategy.

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9. Draft BS 9991 – Evacuation Lift Lobbies



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10. prEN 81-76 – Evacuation of Persons With Disabilities Using Lifts

- Draft BS 9991: 2021 - Automatic evacuation operation
- Draft BS 9991: 2021 - Driver assisted evacuation operation
- Draft prEN 81-76 - Remote assisted evacuation operation

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9.7 Open-plan flat design

Open-plan flat layouts should not be provided for accommodation where the

occupants are not capable of independent evacuation.

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12. CROSS UK - Collaborative Reporting for Safer Structures



https://www.cross-safety.org/uk

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