

# Planning Policy Briefing



Audience: All Planners and Planning managers  
Category: Plant and Cable

## External to Internal Cable Transition Policy

### Introduction

This is a reminder to all planners and survey officers that when we provide any **copper or fibre** external cables into a building then the following policies must be followed.

### External to Internal Cable Transition Policy

External cables constitute a fire hazard when used internally. If the Internal termination point for the external cable is distant from the point where the external cables enter into the building the following policies must be followed:

- External cables must be suitably terminated/transitioned (within 2 metres of entering the building) and internal cables used to reach the remote internal termination point.
- Planners should issue the correct stores for engineering teams to achieve this as per the guidance in this briefing.
- The provision of conduit or trunking to extend openreach external cable beyond 2 metres into a building is not compliant with policy and **should not be provided**.
- Customer provided conduit or trunking **does not allow** openreach to extend external cables beyond the 2 metre demarcation for external to internal transition.
- The policies above also apply to all enclosed underground stores areas, basements, carparks etc.

### Cable Fire Performance Guidance

At the beginning of 2019 the specification changed on the fire performance of cables that we are allowed to install in buildings.

In non-BT/3rd party buildings and in BT buildings where a cable transitions past/through office accommodation to reach an operational area, then cables for use in these areas must as a minimum meet a Construction Products Regulations (CPR) classification for the reaction to fire of Cca s1b d1 a2.

The required fire classification(s) to be met are from a range of standards defined by the CPR. The CPR (Construction Products Regulations) is a set of European fire standards for the materials used in the construction of buildings, these include cables.

The cables in scope for this encompass all copper and fibre communication cables whatever their physical size and application.

Further information can be found in:

[EPT/CFP/A001 - Cable Fire Performance: Internal Copper and Fibre Cables](#)

[EPT/CFP/A002 - Cable Fire Performance: Cable Equipment 4000 Series Internal Copper Cables](#)

[EPT/CFP/A003 - Cable Fire Performance: FTTP New Sites Connectorised Fibre Internal Cables](#)

[EPT/CFP/A004 - Cable Fire Performance: FTTP OH & UG Connectorised 1 Fibre Cables](#)

[EPT/CFP/A005 - Cable Fire Performance: EZ Bend 1 Fibre Cable. 1 End & Dual End Connectorised](#)

[EPT/CFP/A006 - Cable Fire Performance: 12 Fibre Riser Cable Terminated to SC/APC Ports within an MDU DP](#)

[EPT/CFP/A007 - Cable Fire Performance: EZ Bend Cables, 2 Fibre Unconnectorised & 4 Fibre Connectorised 1 End](#)

[EPT/CFP/A008 - Cable Fire Performance: COF950](#)

[EPT/CFP/A009 - Cable Fire Performance: Cat5e 4 pair Cable](#)

[EPT/CFP/A010 - Cable Fire Performance: COF8002](#)

[EPT/CFP/A011 - Fire Performance: Invisilight](#)

[EPT/CFP/A012 - Cable Fire Performance: COF8001](#)

[EPT/CFP/A013 - Cable Fire Performance: Cable Equipment 2581LH 100 Pair Internal \(Exchange Cable\)](#)

[AEI/AEC/B326 - Cable Fire Performance: Internal Copper & Fibre Cables](#)

## Fire Resistant Cabling

Guidance on compounds, clips and cleats can be found in:

[Safety briefing Toolbox Talk - SAFE023](#)

## Further advice and support

Further advice and support is available from:

Ada Hilton - Network Policy Consultant

07918 740495

[Ada.hilton@openreach.co.uk](mailto:Ada.hilton@openreach.co.uk)

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Issued by: Ada Hilton

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[Openreach Acronyms & Glossary of Terms](#)  
[Network Policy Workplace Group](#)