



Notification Number: 2012/101/UK

## **Rationalisation of Parts K (Protection from falling, collision and impact), M (Access to and use of buildings) and N (Glazing - safety), and amendments to Approved Document M of the Building Regulations.**

Date received : 13/02/2012

End of Standstill : 14/05/2012

### Message

Message 001

Communication from the Commission - SG(2012) D/5390

Directive 98/34/EC

Notificación - Oznámení - Notifikation - Notifizierung - Teavitamine - Γνωστοποίηση - Notification - Notification - Notifica - Pieteikums - Pranešimas - Bejelentés - Notifika - Kennisgeving - Zawiadomienie - Notificação - Hlásenie-Obvestilo - Ilmoitus - Anmälan - Нотификация : 2012/0101/UK - Notificare.

No abre el plazo - Nezahtuje odklady - Fristerne indledes ikke - Kein Fristbeginn - Viivituste perioodi ei avata - Καμμία έναρξη προθεσμίας - Does not open the delays - N'ouvre pas de délais - Non fa decorrere la mora - Neietekmē atlikšanu - Atidėjimai nepradedami - Nem nyitja meg a késések - Ma' jiftaħ il-perijodi ta' dawmien - Geen termijnbegin - Nie otwiera opóźnień - Nao inicia o prazo - Neotvorí oneskorenia - Ne uvaja zamud - Määräaika ei ala tästä - Inleder ingen frist - Не се предвижда период на прекъсване - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare.

(MSG: 201200390.EN)

#### **1. Structured Information Line**

MSG 001 IND 2012 0101 UK EN 13-02-2012 UK NOTIF

#### **2. Member State**

UK

#### **3. Department Responsible**

Department for Business, Innovation and Skills  
Knowledge & Innovation Group  
1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET.

Email: 9834@bis.gsi.gov.uk.

#### **3. Originating Department**



Building Regulations & Standards Division  
Communities & Local Government  
Eland House  
2 Bressenden Place  
London SW1E 5DU

#### **4. Notification Number**

2012/0101/UK - B00

#### **5. Title**

Rationalisation of Parts K (Protection from falling, collision and impact), M (Access to and use of buildings) and N (Glazing - safety), and amendments to Approved Document M of the Building Regulations.

#### **6. Products Concerned**

The Building Regulations provide for the health, safety, welfare and convenience of those in and around buildings and the sustainability of buildings for current and future generations. In order to do this they set standards through both technical and procedural requirements for those carrying out building work. Therefore this notification has relevance for services including design and construction services for controlled building works and related construction products.

#### **7. Notification Under Another Act**

-

#### **8. Main Content**

The Building Regulations 2010 provide for the health, safety, welfare and convenience of those in and around buildings, setting technical and procedural requirements for those carrying out building work. Statutory guidance on ways of meeting the functional requirements of these regulations are provided in Approved Documents.

The proposed changes will consolidate Approved Documents N (Glazing - safety) and K (Protection from falling, collision and impact), along with some overlapping guidance in Approved Document M (Access to and use of buildings) into Approved Document K (Protection from falling, collision and impact), removing overlapping guidance. Part N in Schedule 1 of the Building Regulations 2010 will be repealed and Part K amended.

The guidance in Approved Document M sets minimum requirements to ensure the broadest range of people are able to access and use facilities within buildings. Building Regulations provide flexibility determining reasonable levels of provision on a case by case basis. It is proposed to clarify guidance in Approved Document M as to when access statements are required, following a risk based approach in relation to demonstrating reasonable provision in relation to Part M.

#### **9. Brief Statement of Grounds**

Measures introduced in Approved Document M (Access to and use of buildings) in 2004 created a degree of duplication with Approved Document K (Protection from falling collision and impact 1998) and Approved Document N (Glazing safety 1998). The proposed changes to remove duplication by merging the guidance and the provisions of Parts K and N of Schedule One to the Building Regulations 2010 are shown in the draft Approved Document provided with this notification.



A recommendation for 'Access Statements' was introduced into Approved Document M at the same time with the intention of improving communication between designers, applicants and Building Control Bodies at the design stage of building work, in particular to provide a structured approach to determine what is reasonable on a case by case basis. Following extensive discussions with external partners it was clear that the current 'one size fits' all approach to demonstrating compliance by submitting Access Statements has not proven effective across all types and scale of building work and that a risk based approach would be more effective.

**10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts**

No Basic Text exists

**11. Invocation of the Emergency Procedure**

No

**12. Grounds for the Emergency**

-

**13. Confidentiality**

No

**14. Fiscal measures**

No

**15. Impact assessment**

Yes

**16. TBT and SPS aspects**

TBT aspect

No - The draft is in conformity with an international standard

SPS aspect

No - The draft is not a sanitary or phytosanitary measure

Catherine Day  
General Secretary  
European Commission

Contact point Directive 98/34  
Fax: (32-2) 296 76 60  
email: [dir83-189-central@ec.europa.eu](mailto:dir83-189-central@ec.europa.eu)