

Protection from Fire: Changes to Acceptable Solutions C/AS1 - C/AS7 (Amendment 3)

The requirements of the Building Code clauses for Protection from Fire (C1 - C6) aim to protect people in buildings, limit fire spreading to other buildings, and help firefighting and rescue.

The Ministry has made changes to the Acceptable Solutions that support the Building Code clauses for Protection from Fire.



Why is the Ministry making changes?

The Ministry, after consultation with the sector, along with sector experts, has developed the following practical solutions to remedy compliance issues that designers and councils are finding when they apply C/AS1 - AS7 to building designs.

The changes will simplify construction and reduce compliance costs but will not reduce fire safety.



What are the key changes?

Changes to C/ASI -C/AS7 [Amendment 3] effective | July 2014

The following changes have been made to the Acceptable Solutions that support the Building Code clauses for Protection from Fire:

- The scope of the Acceptable Solutions is clarified.
- Early childhood facilities can be constructed in multi-storey buildings where two places of safety per floor are provided.
- Spray painting operations are now addressed in C/AS5, and are not required to be sprinkler protected.
- Motorised smoke dampers explicit where delayed evacuation strategies are permitted (C/AS3 and early childcare facilities in C/AS4).
- Rest homes are not required to have an independent water supply.
- Many common wall linings and surface finishes, and flooring no longer require testing.



Want to know more? www.dbh.govt.nz/compliance-documents







Is there a transition period?

Amendment 3 is effective from 1 July 2014. There is an eight month transition period, during which Amendment 2 versions continue to be a means of compliance with the Building Code clauses C1 - C6.

Any consent applications submitted prior to 1 March 2015 may be based on Acceptable Solutions C/AS1 - AS7 Amendment 2 versions



Want to know more?

Read about the changes and commentary document to the Acceptable Solutions C/AS1 -7 (Amendment 3) for Protection from Fire clauses C1 - C6 at: www.dbh.govt.nz/compliance-documents

Ask a question or request information about the Acceptable Solutions C/AS1 -7 www.dbh.govt.nz/changes-to-c1-c6-faq

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What is an Acceptable Solution (AS)?

An Acceptable Solution details one way to comply with the relevant part of the Building Code. If you follow and meet the requirements of the solution described; a Building Consent Authority must accept your solution as complying with the related Building Code provisions.

