Building audits

In response to recent concerns regarding the use of aluminium composite panels on buildings and in the interests of ensuring public safety, the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure is leading a building audit process with councils.

Aluminium composite panel cladding is safe if installed in accordance with the National Construction Code.

IDENTIFICATION

Phase 1
Buildings that have or may have aluminium composite panel cladding must first be identified.

Buildings approved after 2010 with the following characteristics will be prioritised:

- Residential buildings more than 2 storeys including:
  - Apartments
  - Hotels
  - Motels
- Assembly buildings, including:
  - Aged care facilities
  - Hospitals
  - Schools
- Any buildings with occupants who are likely to be unfamiliar with means of escape or require assistance to escape

INVESTIGATION

Phase 2
Buildings identified in Phase 1 will be investigated (which may include inspections and review of approved plans and documentation) to determine if the cladding presents a risk to safety.

RESPOND

Phase 3
Under the Development Act 1993 an authorised person may undertake a range of actions.

These actions range from issuing notices to alert a relevant person of any risk to safety, through to issuing emergency orders that require immediate action be undertaken.

RE-PRIORITISE

Re-prioritise for remaining buildings, having regard to the building classification, height and number of storeys, occupancy profile and presence of in-built life safety provisions.