

Supplier clarification conference call held on 22 March 2019

Potential provider Q&A

Has MHCLG sourced the HPL cladding or the insulation?

MHCLG has not approached manufacturers – the aim of this procurement is to find a supplier able to manage the end-to-end process from designing the cladding system, to sourcing the materials (cladding and insulation etc.); installation of the cladding system; and undertaking the fire test. We expect the supplier to be able to determine whether or not a BR135 classification is obtained from the test results.

Will MHCLG specify the manufacturer of the HPL cladding and insulation?

MHCLG has not specified the manufacturers of the materials to be tested – the notice explains we are looking for a supplier to conduct a fire safety test in line with British Standard 8414 **part 1 methodology** on a specimen of Class-B in line with BS EN 13501-1 (combustible) High Pressure Laminate (HPL) cladding with non-combustible (Class A1) insulation.

What will the system configuration be?

It is for potential bidders to explain their methodology and approach. However, tests of ACM cladding to BS8414-1 were carried out in 2017 and the system design used is detailed in a published test report:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fire-test-report-dclg-bs-8414-test-no1>

Can MHCLG indicate the type of build up to use in the test?

We want potential bidders to undertake a BS8414-1 test on cladding system which is representative of a commonly used HPL cladding system design on existing buildings in the UK (featuring non-combustible insulation). In considering bids we will be looking at how potential suppliers have described their methodology and approach to satisfy this aspect of the specification.

Will MHCLG test other samples?

We cannot say at this point. We will discuss the outcome of the test with the Independent Expert Advisory Panel to determine what, if any, further action is required.