Building Societies Association RICS UK FINANCE

Form EWS1: External Wall Fire Review

Objective

This EWS1 form is a set way for a building owner to confirm to valuers and lenders that an external wall system (EWS) or attachments, such as a balcony, on buildings containing flats has been assessed by a suitable expert for likelihood of proportionate remediation to address fire safety risk.

This EWS1 form is for the external wall system only. It is not a life safety certificate. It should not be taken as confirmation that other works relating to fire safety in other parts of the building are not required.

Where the signatory has been asked to provide the client organisation with a separate report, it reflects the conclusions set out in that report. This form has been prepared for the sole and exclusive use of the client organisation (typically the Building Owner) named below. It is the conclusion of the report (Note 9) that has been provided to the client organisation and has been prepared in accordance with the terms and conditions that have been agreed with that client organisation. It is provided subject to those terms and conditions, including any exclusions and/or limits of liability included therein.

No responsibility is accepted to any third party for the whole or any part of the contents of this form. For the avoidance of doubt, the term 'third party' includes (but is not limited to): any lender who may see the form during the process through which they come to make a loan secured on any part of the Subject Address; and any prospective purchaser or borrower who may see or become aware of the form during the process through which they come to purchase or secure a loan against an interest in any part of the Subject Address. Should any third party (e.g. buyer, seller, lender, valuer) wish to rely on this form, they should contact the signatory's organisation.

Any amendments to the wording on this form (except as provided in Note 1) render it invalid.

Client organisation: Mr William Muir

Subject Address (one form per block)

Block or building name	Street	Town	Postcode (all built)
2/5	Thorntreeside	Edinburgh	EH6 8FB

I confirm that I have used reasonable skill and care to investigate (Note 4) the primary external wall materials (typically insulation, filler materials and cladding) and attachments (including balconies) of the external walls of the above building/block.

Document reference (for internal company reference to assist with version control):
3rd edition, issued 16 March 2022
EWS1 forms issued prior to this date using a previous edition remain valid for a period of five years from the date of signature.

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OPTION A (Note 1) - Where external wall materials are unlikely to support combustion

I confirm that:

- I meet the professional body membership and competence criteria as described in Note 2.
- In relation to the construction of the external walls, to the best of my knowledge the primary materials used meet the criteria of limited combustibility (Note 5) or better, and cavity barriers are installed to an appropriate standard in relevant locations (Note 6).
- In relation to attachments to the external wall (tick one of the following):

☐ ~~A1 – There are no attachments whose construction includes significant quantities of combustible materials (i.e. materials that are not of limited combustibility (Note 5) or better)~~.

☑ A2 – There is an appropriate risk assessment of the attachments confirming that no remedial works are required.

☐ ~~A3 – Where neither of the above two options apply, there may be potential costs of remedial works to attachments (Notes 7 and 8).~~

~~**OPTION B (Note 1) - Where combustible materials are present in external wall**~~

~~I confirm that:~~

- ~~I meet the professional body membership and competence criteria as described in Note 3.~~
- ~~I have used the reasonable skill and care that would be expected of the relevant professional advisor to assess the level of fire risk (Note 8) presented by the external wall construction and attachments (tick one of the following).~~

☐ ~~B1 – I have concluded that in my view the fire risk (Note 8) is sufficiently low that no remedial works are required.~~

☐ ~~B2 – I have concluded that in my view the fire risk (Notes 7 and 8) is sufficiently high that remedial works are required~~.

Name: MR PAUL NELIS

Qualification(s): EngTech, MIFireE, MIFSM, and registered Fire Risk Assessor with the IFE.

Organisation: Fire Risk Assessment (Scotland) Ltd

Professional body: Institution of Fire Engineers (IFE)

Membership number: 00020938

Signature: Paul Nelis

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Date of form: 9 March 2026

If this is a revision to you/your firm's previous form on this building, please state below. Please note, if the form is intended for revision solely due to administrative purposes (for example, a postcode error on the building or a reissue of the form to a different client), the 'Date of form' remains valid. If however, the rationale for form revision is attributable to a change in rating due to works having been carried out, the 'Date of form' must be amended:

Date of form	Rating provided (A1, A2, A3 or B1, B2)

Notes

Note 1 – This form includes two options. Option A is for buildings where the materials used in the external wall would be unlikely to support combustion. Option B is for buildings where Option A does not apply and a more detailed review (and hence higher level of fire expertise) is required. The signatory should use either the Option A approach or the Option B approach and delete/cross out the unused option. Within each option there are sub-options, the user should tick the box of the relevant sub-option.

Note 2 – For Option A, the signatory would need the expertise to identify the relevant materials within the external wall and attachments, and whether fire resisting cavity barriers and fire stopping measures have been installed correctly. However, this would not necessarily include the need for expertise in fire engineering. The signatory should be a qualified member of a relevant professional body within the construction industry.

Note 3 – For Option B, the signatory would need a higher level of expertise in the assessment of the fire risk presented by external wall materials.

i For Institution of Fire Engineers (IFE) members, this should be a Chartered or Incorporated Engineer with full membership of the Institution.

ii For non-IFE members, the signatory should be a qualified member of a relevant professional body that deals with fire safety and construction products including EWS in the built environment, with either actual or equivalence to the Chartered or Incorporated Engineer status.

iii For buildings where the finished floor level of the top floor of the building (excluding stories consisting exclusively of plant rooms) is less than 18m above the lowest adjacent ground level, if not qualified as per sub-clauses i. or ii. above, the signatory should be a qualified member of an **eligible professional body** who has successfully completed the RICS EWS Assessment Training Programme.

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Note 4 – The investigation into the construction of the building should be in accordance with the guidance given in BSI PAS 9980, which allows for the possibility of mitigation as an acceptable investigation outcome.

Note 5 – The term 'limited combustibility' is as defined in BS 9991:2015.

Note 6 – Cavity barrier fire performance and locations to be based on relevant fire safety design guidance documentation, such as BS 9991, or relevant statutory guidance.

Note 7 – In this situation the signatory should notify the client organisation that the fire risk assessment of the building will need to be reviewed to consider the findings of the external wall survey and identify any interim measures that may be required.

Note 8 – The definition of fire risk and the assessment of that fire safety risk should be in accordance with the guidance given in BSI PAS 9980.

Note 9 – The signatory should provide their client organisation with a separate report on their investigation in accordance with BSI PAS 9980 to support their statements in this EWS1 Form. That separate report would not normally need to be supplied to the valuer or lender along with this EWS1 Form (unless there are specific issues which may require it).

Note 10 – This EWS1 Form will need to be reassessed if any significant changes occur to the external wall or attachments of the building, and is valid for up to 5 years from the date of the form as shown on Page 3.

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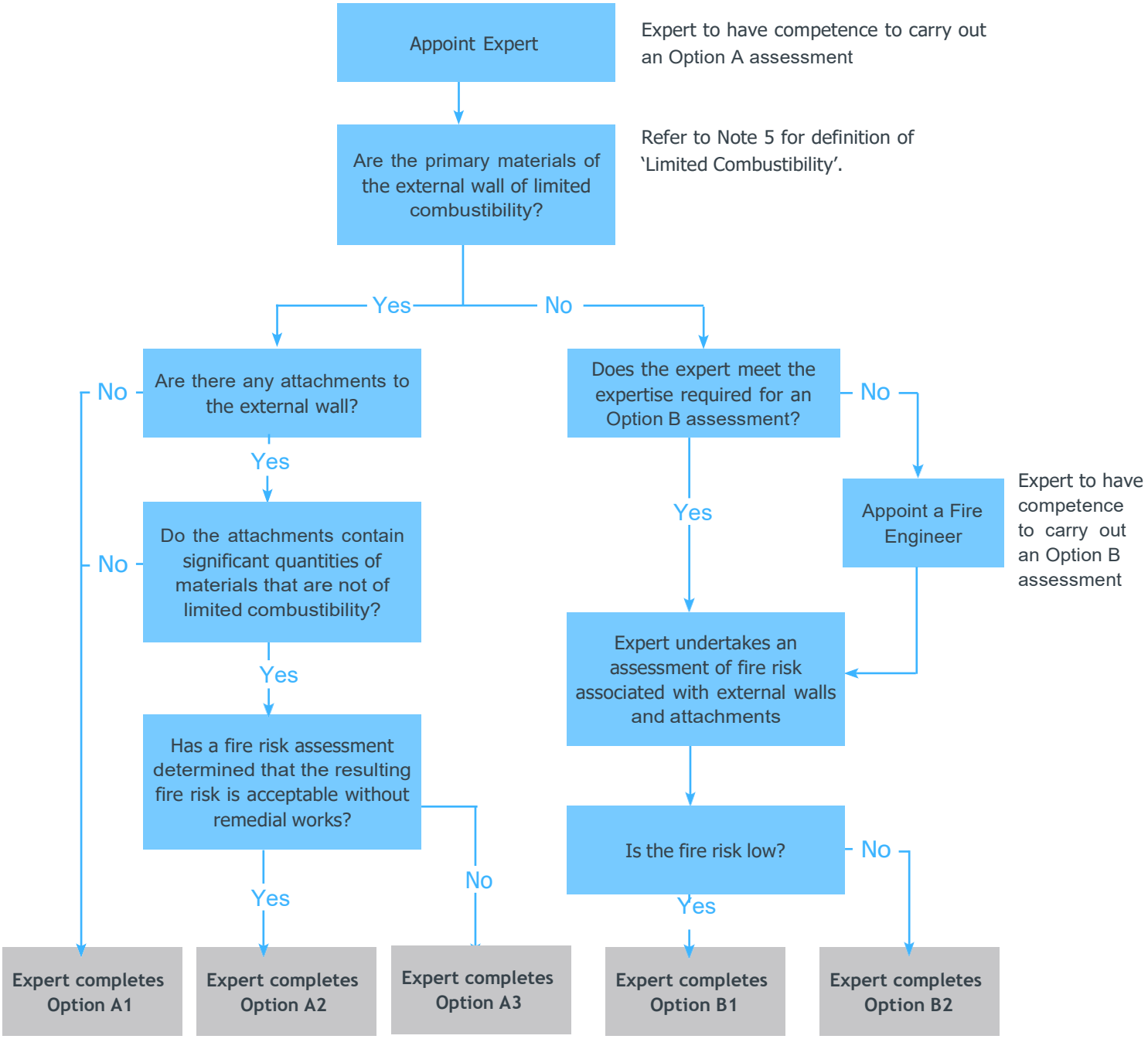

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