

Extracts from BS9999:2008

Pt 1.0.1 (Introduction/ General principles) states:

“The recommendations given in this British Standard are general, and all fire safety protection measures, procedures, etc., need to take into account the particular circumstances of the individual building or complex concerned. The same recommendations generally apply to both existing and new buildings,”

Pt 4.6 (Inclusive design) states:

“Fire safety for disabled people is included within this document; this includes consideration of all disabilities,”

Pt 12.1 (Evacuation strategy/ General) states:

“The primary objective of an evacuation strategy is to ensure that in the event of a fire, the occupants of a building can reach a place of ultimate safety outside the building. The evacuation strategy should not rely on external assistance (e.g. from the fire and rescue service)”

Pt 18.8.3 (Evacuation by stairs) states:

“The management plan of a building should specify the procedure to be used for carrying disabled people up or down stairs where this is necessary.”

Pt 46.1 (Evacuation of disabled people/ General) states:

“Providing an accessible means of escape solution should be an integral part of the fire safety management process. Fire safety management should take into account the full range of people who might use the premises, paying particular attention to the needs of disabled people.

It is important to note that it is the responsibility of the premises management to ensure that all people can make a safe evacuation. The evacuation plan should not rely on the assistance of the fire and rescue service. This is an important factor that needs to be taken into account in building design.”

Pt 46.3 (Wheelchair users) states:

“Where carry-down procedures are necessary this can be done in a variety of ways including using the persons own wheelchair, using a dedicated evacuation chair, or using powered stair climbers.”

Pt 46.7 (Use of personal emergency evacuation plans) states:

“Enough staff should be available at all times to make sure that evacuation plans are viable. This is particularly important where features such as carry-down procedures are to be adopted to evacuate mobility-impaired people.”