



Building Regulations Applications Guidance Note in respect of Structural Calculations

Where the Building Control Officer asks applicants to submit structural calculations in support of their building regulations application, those calculations can be approved quicker and with fewer problems by observing the following guidance concerning common issues.

Drawings

Any beams must be shown on the drawings. Beams must be labelled to correspond to the supporting calculations. Most problems occur because checking staff are unable to relate the calculations to the drawings and see what loads the beams are supporting.

Drawings should show the direction of span for floor joists, the type of roof structure (e.g. trusses or purlins) and the types of bricks and blocks used.

Wind Loads

The current document for the determination of wind loading is BS 6399.

Part A of the of the Building Regulations 2004 no longer says that CP3 ChV "Code of Practice for Wind Loads" is an approved document, because it has been withdrawn by BSI. Use of CP3 may not meet safety margins in all respects, and it is reasonable to respect the decision of BSI to withdraw CP3. In addition, applicants wishing to use CP3 should consider whether their quality procedures are being met and whether their buildings' insurance is valid.

Floor Loads on Mezzanine Floors

Designers should either take the storage height as the height upto a fixed obstruction, such as the ceiling. If a lesser storage height is assumed, a floor loading management scheme meeting the recommendations of BRE Digest 437 is required. A minimum storage height of 2.0 m is recommended. The management scheme should be submitted with the calculations.