

**BUILDING
PERFORMANCE**

F7

F7 Warning Systems

Acceptable Solution F7/AS1

Warning systems

FIFTH EDITION | EFFECTIVE 2 NOVEMBER 2023



**MINISTRY OF BUSINESS,
INNOVATION & EMPLOYMENT**
HIKINA WHAKATUTUKI

Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government

Preface

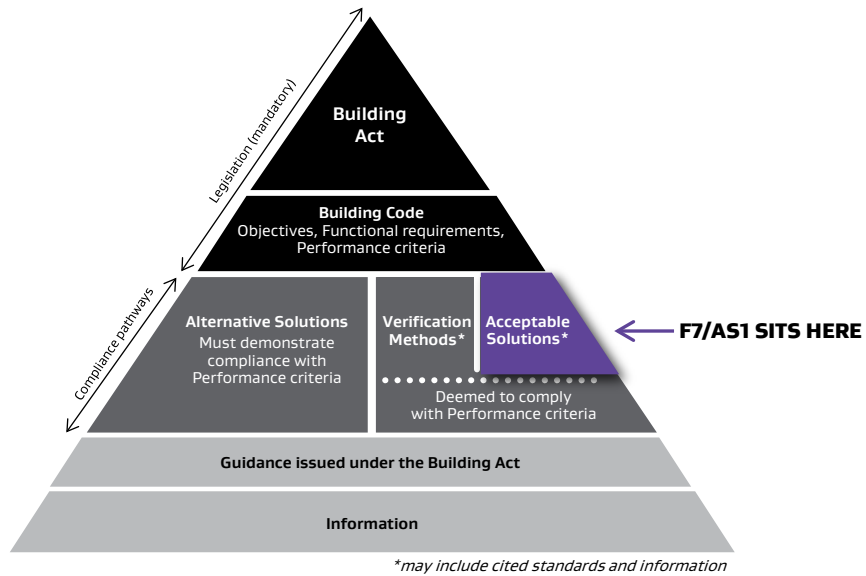
Document status

This document (F7/AS1) is an acceptable solution issued under section 22 (1) of the Building Act 2004 and is effective on 2 November 2023. It does not apply to building consent applications submitted before 2 November 2023. The previous Acceptable Solution F7/AS1 Fourth Edition can be used to show compliance until 1 November 2024 and can be used for building consent applications submitted before 2 November 2024.

Building Code regulatory system

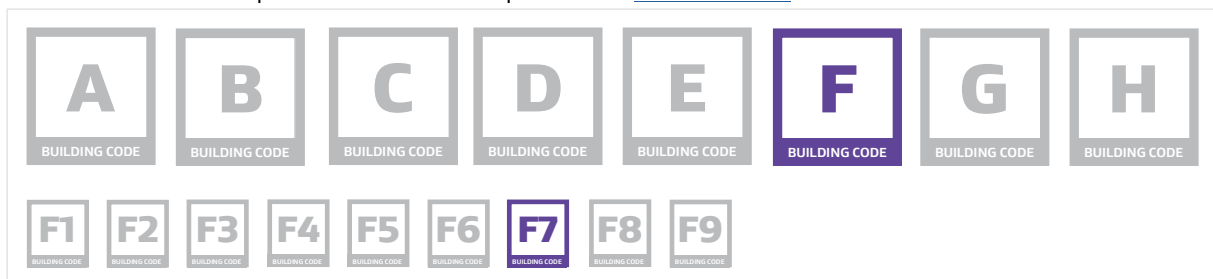
Each acceptable solution outlines the provisions of the Building Code that it relates to. Complying with an acceptable solution or verification method are ways of complying with that part of the Building Code. Other options for establishing compliance are listed in [section 19 of the Building Act](#).

Schematic of the Building Code System



A building design must take into account all parts of the Building Code. The Building Code is located in Schedule 1 of the Building Regulations 1992 and available online at www.legislation.govt.nz.

The part of the Building Code that this acceptable solution relates to is clause F7 Warning Systems. Further information on the scope of this document is provided in [Part 1. General](#).



Further information about the Building Code, the objectives, functional requirements and performance criteria provisions that it contains, and other acceptable solutions and verification methods are available at www.building.govt.nz.

Main changes in this version and features of this document

Main changes in this version

This acceptable solution is the fifth edition of F7/AS1. The main changes from the previous version are:

- › The document layout has been revised with additional information on its scope provided in [Part 1. General](#).
- › Requirements for fire alarm systems now refer to Acceptable Solutions C/AS1 and C/AS2 for the applicable fire alarm system.
- › Requirements for domestic smoke alarms have been removed as the revised Acceptable Solutions C/AS1 and C/AS2 now reference the New Zealand Standard NZS 4514 “Interconnected smoke alarms for houses” for Type 1 domestic smoke alarm systems.

People using this document should check for amendments on a regular basis. The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment may amend any part of any acceptable solution or verification method at any time. Up-to-date versions of acceptable solutions or verification methods are available from www.building.govt.nz.

Features of this document

- › There are no standards or other documents referenced in this acceptable solution in [Appendix A](#).
- › Words in *italic* are defined at the end of this document in [Appendix B](#).
- › Hyperlinks are provided to cross-references within this document and to external websites and appear with a [blue underline](#).
- › Appendices to this acceptable solution are part of, and have equal status to, the acceptable solution. Figures are informative only and the wording of the paragraphs takes precedence. Text boxes headed ‘COMMENT’ occur throughout this document and are for guidance purposes only.
- › Classified uses for *buildings*, as described in clause A1 of the Building Code, are printed in **bold** in this document. These requirements are also denoted with classified use icons for:



Housing



Commercial



Outbuildings



Communal residential



Industrial



Ancillary



Communal non-residential

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General and Means of warning

Part 1. General

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 Scope of this document

1.1.1.1 This acceptable solution can be used for warning systems in all *buildings*.

Out Anc

1.1.1.2 Warning systems are not required for **outbuildings**, *backcountry huts*, or **ancillary buildings**.

1.1.2 Compliance pathway

1.1.2.1 This acceptable solution is one option that provides a means of establishing compliance with the performance criteria in Building Code clauses F7.3.1, F7.3.2, and F7.3.3. Compliance may also be demonstrated using an alternative solution.

1.2 Using this acceptable solution

1.2.1 Determining the classified use

1.2.1.1 Classified uses for *buildings* are described in clause A1 of the Building Code.

Part 2. Means of warning

2.1 Means of warning from fire

2.1.1 Demonstrating compliance

2.1.1.1 For means of warning from *fire*, compliance can be demonstrated by meeting requirements for the applicable *fire* detection and alarm systems in the relevant Acceptable Solutions C/AS1 and C/AS2 for Building Code clauses C1-C6.

References and Definitions

Appendix A. References

There are no standards or other documents referenced in this acceptable solution.

Appendix B. Definitions

These definitions are specific to this acceptable solution. Other defined terms found in italics within the definitions are provided in clause A2 of the Building Code.

Backcountry hut	<p><i>A building</i> that—</p> <p>a) is located on land that is administered by the Department of Conservation for conservation, recreational, scientific, or other related purposes, including any land administered under any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) the Conservation Act 1987; ii) the National Parks Act 1980; iii) the Reserves Act 1977; and <p>b) is intended to provide overnight shelter to any person who may visit and who carries his or her own food, bedding, clothing, and outdoor equipment; and</p> <p>c) contains only basic facilities, which may include (but are not limited to) any or all of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) sleeping platforms or bunks; ii) mattresses; iii) food preparation surfaces; iv) appliances for heating; v) appliances for cooking; vi) toilets; and <p>d) has been certified by the Director-General as being in a location that wheelchair users are unlikely to be able to visit; and</p> <p>e) is intended to be able to sleep—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) no more than 20 people in its backcountry hut sleeping area; and ii) no more than 40 people in total; and <p>f) does not contain any connection, except by radiocommunications, to a network utility operator.</p>
Building	Has the meaning given to it by sections 8 and 9 of the Building Act 2004.
Fire	The state of combustion during which flammable materials burn producing heat, toxic gases, or smoke or flame or any combination of these.

BUILDING PERFORMANCE

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