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Executive Summary

Forest Ridge has appointed MCD Fire Engineering Pty Ltd to carry out an initial review of the findings of concept drawings of the subject works from a fire engineering viewpoint. The intention of this report is to provide some preliminary fire engineering advice and conceptual fire engineering feasibilities for the proposed residential development at 171 Forest Way, Belrose NSW 2085.

The matters detailed in the BCA Assessment relate to a high-level fire and life safety review and the following matters have been identified as having a scope to rectify that does not have to strictly comply with the deemed-to-satisfy (DtS) provisions of the BCA. As such Performance Solutions are sought from a C10 Accredited Fire Safety Engineer to provide an alternative scope of works to address the variations to the DtS Provisions of the BCA/NCC.

The intent of this conceptual report is to provide a high-level fire engineering input for the project in order to document the likely fire safety measures for the building in order to achieve compliance with the relevant Performance Requirements of the BCA. The following is the currently agreed high level scope for fire engineering, the performance requirements listed in the tables below are the minimum Performance Requirements that must be considered, should the fire engineer identify more relevant Performance Requirements these are to be also considered.

Table 1: Summary of Performance Solution

No	DtS Clause	Description of non-compliance	Performance Requirement (A2.2(3) & A2.4)	Method of meeting Performance Requirements (A2.1)	Assessment Method (A2.2(2))
1.	C2.14	To review the length of public corridors on residential area exceeding 40 m (up to 46 m) without separation of smoke doors.	CP1, CP2	A2.1(1)	A2.2(2)(d)
2.	D1.4	To review the extended travel distance from carpark to a single exit up to 34 m in lieu of 20 m.	DP4, EP2.2	A2.1(1)	A2.2(2)(d)
3.	D1.7(b)	To review the fire-isolated stairs discharging into internal areas not complying with the requirement of BCA D1.7(b).	DP4, DP5, EP2.2	A2.1(1)	A2.2(2)(b)(ii)
4.	D1.7(c)	To review the egress routes following the discharge of the fire-isolated stairs being located within 6 m of unprotected openings.	DP4, DP5, EP2.2	A2.1(1)	A2.2(2)(b)(ii)



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1 Introduction

1.1 Objective

Forest Ridge has appointed MCD Fire Engineering Pty Ltd to carry out an initial review of the findings of concept drawings of the subject works from a fire engineering viewpoint. The intention of this report is to provide some preliminary fire engineering advice and conceptual fire engineering feasibilities for the proposed residential development at 171 Forest Way, Belrose NSW 2085.

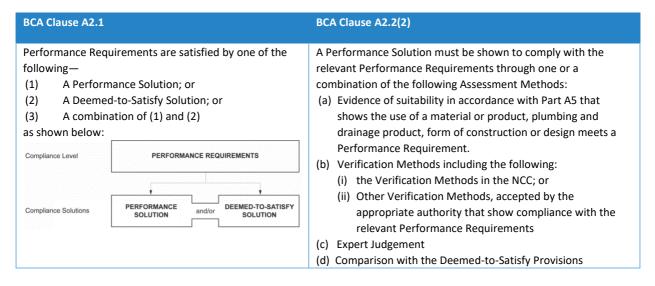
1.2 Applicable Legislation

The primary legislation applicable to the development is the National Construction Code (NCC), Volume One aka as the BCA 2019 (Amendment 1): Building Code of Australia. The BCA provides a set of prescriptive requirements, *Deemed-to-Satisfy* (DtS) Provisions that if meet, are deemed an acceptable level of safety and achieve compliance with the Performance Requirements of the BCA. Deviations from the BCA DtS Provisions must be shown and be addressed as a Performance Solutions to demonstrate they comply with the BCA Performance Requirements.

This Report is not a Performance Solution Report, but rather a Conceptual Fire Engineering Strategy that sets down the intentions or proposed fire safety strategy and likely fire engineering Performance Solution requirements.

The assessment of a Performance Solution can be undertaken using a variety of methods. These are defined in BCA Clause A2.2(3) and A2.4. One or more, or a combination of these methods can be adopted to determine whether the proposed Performance Solution complies with the BCA Performance Requirements. The relevant BCA Performance Requirements are determined in accordance with BCA Clause A2.2(3) and A2.4. Compliance with BCA Performance Requirements is undertaken in accordance with BCA Clause A2.1. BCA Clause A2.1 and A2.2(2) are presented below in Table 2.

Table 2: Methods of Meeting the Performance Requirements and Assessment Method for Performance Solution



The following New South Wales Legislation is applicable:

- NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979 and subsequent amendments
- NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation, 2000 and subsequent amendments

1.3 Stakeholders and Documentation

The relevant stakeholders in the design of this development are listed in Table 3 below.



Table 3: Relevant Stakeholders

Name	Organisation	Role
Steve Horrell	Forest Ridge	Client
TBA	Barry Rush & Associates Pty Ltd	Architect
TBA	TBA	Principal Certifier
Mark McDaid, Lei Wang, Lin Li	MCD Fire Engineering Pty Ltd	Fire Engineering

1.3.1 Use and Location

The proposed building is located at 171 Forest Way, Belrose NSW 2085. The proposed building consists of Class 2 (Residential Apartments) and Class 7a (Carpark). The Fire Service can access the building from Forest Way as shown in Figure 1.



Figure 1: Map showing brigade access

1.3.2 Size and shape

The site steps down from street level (Level 8) at Forest Way at the front (RL 167.0) to Level 1 at rear (RL 146.6). There are 6 blocks (A-F), each not more than 4 storeys but overall being connected along the slope. The total gross floor area of the building is approximately 5,399 m².



Refer to Appendix A for more details.

1.3.3 Exit arrangements

The exit provisions for each levels are shown in Figure 2 - Figure 10.

Note: the "green arrows" used in the following figures are illustrative only and not the confirmed exit / directional exit sign posting locations (to be confirmed by electrical engineer).



Figure 2: Exit provisions on Level 1



Figure 3: Exit provisions on Level 2





Figure 4: Exit provisions on Level 3



Figure 5: Exit provisions on Level 4





Figure 6: Exit provisions on Level 5



Figure 7: Exit provisions on Level 6





Figure 8: Exit provisions on Level 7



Figure 9: Exit provisions on Level 8





Figure 10: Exit provisions on Level 9

1.4 Occupant Characteristics

Building occupants can generally be classified into separate distinctive groups; residents and visitors. All occupants are assumed to be representative of the general population with no specific or unusual distributions in respect to gender, age and physical or mental attributes. A detailed description is contained in Table 4 below:

Table 4: Occupancy Characteristics

Characteristic	Description
Familiarity	Residents: Residents are expected to be familiar with the layout of the building and the location of exits.
	visitors: Visitors will generally be aware of the route they entered the building and are more likely to evacuate the building via this route even if other exits are closer.
	Most occupants, however, are expected to be mostly transient and it cannot be guaranteed that all occupants would be familiar with the building, its layout and the exit points.
Awareness	Residents and visitors may be under the influence of alcohol or other mild narcotics at some times.
Mobility	The occupants are considered to be representative of the general population including a limited proportion of mobility impaired occupants. These occupants may require crutches, a wheelchair or similar to evacuate on their own or need assistance from other occupants.
Training	It is assumed that occupants in the development will not have any emergency training.
Age	All occupants are considered to be representative of the general population with no specific or unusual distributions in respect to gender or age.
Culture / language	The occupants are considered to be representative of the general population with some members having varying cultural backgrounds and languages.
Occupancy Loading	Occupancy levels and distribution throughout the building is assumed to be in accordance with the occupancy loadings of Table D1.13 of the BCA.



1.5 BCA Building Information Characteristics

The initial review has identified the following information for the building as listed in Table 5.

Table 5: Relevant Building Information

BCA Clause		Description
Schedule 3	Effective Height	Less than 25 m
A6	Occupancy Classification	BCA Class 2 (Residential)
		BCA Class 7a (Carpark)
C1.1	Minimum Type of Construction	Type A
C1.2	Rise in Storeys	4
C2.2	Fire Compartment Floor Area and Volume	BCA Class 2 – N/A
		BCA Class 7a < 5,000 m ² , 30,000 m ³
Spec E1.5a	Sprinkler Required?	Yes



2 Conceptual Fire Safety Measures

The following high level fire safety measures should be read in conjunction with a BCA review for the building. These measures aim to act as a base point of any further and more detailed fire engineering assessment and reports as part of the Certification / Approvals processes.

It is outlined herein that, subject to the preliminary fire safety measures being incorporated into the design as detailed in Table 6 below as part of the concept fire safety design, and in conjunction with DtS fire safety measures as listed in a BCA Assessment Report, the future fire engineering assessments undertaken should be able to demonstrate that the identified deviations from the Deemed-to-Satisfy (DtS) Provisions meet the relevant Performance Requirements of the BCA. All other aspects of the proposed works are understood to be in accordance with the BCA DtS Provisions or as accepted by the Principal Certifier/Council.

Table 6: Required Fire Safety Features

Fire Safety Measure	Description
Construction Requirements (general)	In accordance with Part C of the BCA, the building is required to be of Type A construction. All building elements are required to have a fire resistance level (FRL) as listed in Table 4 of Specification C1.1 of the BCA, except where addressed as a performance solution. All penetrations in fire rated construction shall be fire stopped in accordance with the BCA DtS requirements.
Fire stopping at penetrations through fire rated elements	 All penetrations through fire rated elements (wall, floor, ceiling etc) shall be fire stopped/sealed in accordance with BCA C3.15/Spec C3.15 and/or tested systems. Fire stopping schedule shall be prepared by each contractor detailing the full FRL, product/system used, location of application, date of installation, personnel for the installation, test/assessment report, completed photo, label, etc. If the fire stopping schedule is not prepared by each contractor, an independent fire stopping specialist shall check and confirm the compliance of all the fire stopping works, and prepare a full fire stopping register for the entire building.
General Requirement - Electrical/Comms rooms/cupboard along path of travel	In accordance with BCA Clause D2.7, any Electrical/Comms rooms/cupboard located along path of travel shall be smoke sealed/separated from the remaining area: Any penetration through the Electrical/Comms rooms/cupboard shall be smoke sealed. The doors to the Electrical/Comms rooms/cupboard shall be fitted with ambient and medium smoke seals (refer to below separate section for detailed requirements for smoke seals). The doors to the Electrical/Comms rooms/cupboard, if not fire doors, shall be fitted with non-combustible backing such as metal sheeting, FC sheeting, plasterboard etc.
Fire safety doors and exit doors – general requirements of statutory signage	General requirement - BCA D2.23 Fire doors and smoke doors (except for SOU entry doors) must be provided with a sign in 20 mm capital lettering on both sides of the doors as required in BCA D2.23. The signs are required to be as follows: 1



Fire Safety Measure	Description
	Fire safety notices shall be provided to any fire-isolated stairway, passageway or ramp as required in EP&A Clause 183. The notice shall contain the wording as follows. The words "OFFENCE RELATING TO FIRE EXITS" in the notice must be in letters at least 8 millimetres high, and the remaining words must be in letters at least 2.5 millimetres high: "OFFENCE RELATING TO FIRE EXITS It is an offence under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979: (a) to place anything in or near this fire exit that may obstruct persons moving to and from the exit, or (b) to interfere with or obstruct the operation of any fire doors, or (c) to remove, damage or otherwise interfere with this notice."
Fail-safe to doorways	 All automatic sliding doors, where serving as a path of travel or an exit in a fire emergency, shall fail safe to open and remain in open position on a general fire alarm. All doorways that are normally secured/locked, where serving as a path of travel or an exit in a fire emergency, shall fail safe to unlock on a general fire alarm.
Smoke seals (general requirements)	Where required in this Report (or proposed Fire Engineering Performance Solution) or by any DtS requirement for the ambient and medium temperature rated smoke seals , they shall have a smoke leakage rate of < 40 m ³ /h (at medium temperature conditions at a pressure differential of 25 Pa after exposure at 200 °C for at least 30 minutes) when tested to AS1530.7. The smoke seals shall be fitted to all sides of the door including the bottom side. When selecting the smoke seals, the following shall be considered: Considerations shall be made when selecting smoke seals products such that they shall be
	 compatible with the fire doors, such as the gaps around the perimeters of the doors and if the seals are suitable for the floor covering (if applicable). The installation of smoke seals shall be the same as that for the tested specimen and the provisions of AS 6905-2007. The clearances, seal contacts and other critical design attributes for fire doors shall be within the range established by test to AS 1530.7 and any variations permitted by AS 6905-2007. Recommended smoke seals products are Lorient LAS1212 & LAS1515 Batwing Perimeter Seals door frame perimeters and LAS8001si, LAS8002si, LAS8003si, LAS8005si, LAS8008si and LAS8009si threshold drop seals. Test Report EWFA Report No: 33937100.1 by Exova Warringtonfire for the above mentioned Lorient smoke seals have been reviewed, which demonstrates a smoke sealing performance that meets the set criteria above.
Smoke seals to fire doors	All fire doors in the building (including SOU entry doors, fire stair entry doors etc) shall be provided with ambient and medium temperature rated smoke seals.
Extended length of residential public corridors	Subject to detailed assessment in Fire Engineering Report in Construction Certificate stage, it is permitted to have the length of public corridors on residential area exceeding 40 m (up to 46 m) without separation of smoke doors, with enhancements to be provided to the active (e.g. detection and sprinklers) and passive (e.g. smoke seals) fire safety measures to the affected parts of the building.
Extended travel distance in carpark areas	Subject to detailed assessment in Fire Engineering Report in Construction Certificate stage, it is permitted to have extended travel distance in carpark areas up to 34 m instead of 20 m to a single exit, with enhancements to be provided to the active (e.g. detection and sprinklers) and passive (e.g. smoke seals) fire safety measures to the affected parts of the building.
Discharge of fire-isolated stairs	Subject to detailed assessment in Fire Engineering Report in Construction Certificate stage, the following DtS departures for the discharge of fire-isolated stairs may be permitted, with enhancements to be provided to the active (e.g. detection and sprinklers) and passive (e.g. smoke seals) fire safety measures to the affected parts of the building: Fire-isolated stairs discharging into internal areas not complying with the requirement of BCA D1.7(b). Egress routes following the discharge of the fire-isolated stairs being located within 6 m of unprotected openings.



Eiro Safatu Maacura	Description
Fire Safety Measure	Description Note: At this stage, the location/extent of the above DtS departures are yet to be confirmed and
	Note: At this stage, the location/extent of the above DtS departures are yet to be confirmed and will be subject to a more detailed BCA review.
	 The expected to fire safety requirements for the proposed fire safety requirements are: Management on fuel load control in the fire-isolated stair internal discharge area with signage installed on the wall. Smoke seals to all doors opening into the fire-isolated internal discharge area. The openings that are within 6 m of an egress route following the discharge of a fire-isolated stair shall have a dedicate row of sprinklers provided in the room within 0.5 m of
	the glazed openings.
Automatic fire detection and alarm system	A fire detection system shall be provided in accordance with BCA Spec E2.2a Clause 5 and AS 1670.1-2018 and additional requirements as follows:
	 Smoke detectors in accordance with AS 1670.1-2018 (Section 5) in: Carpark: Garbage/Recycle Room, Electrical Room All residential common areas including lobby, storage room, cupboards for electrical or comms services Fire-isolated stair and lift shaft as per 1670.1-2018
	 Smoke detectors in accordance with AS 1670.1-2018 (Section 7) in carpark circulation spaces and in front of fire stair door. Smoke alarms in accordance with AS 3786-2014 inside residential SOUs.
	 Where there is more than one smoke alarm inside the one single SOU, they shall be interconnected.
	 For Smoke detectors in accordance with AS 1670.1-2018 (Section 5), the spacing of smoke detectors shall be maximum 10 m apart, and maximum 5 m to end wall or bulkhead/beams more than 300 mm deep.
	 For Smoke detectors in accordance with AS 1670.1-2018 (Section 7), the spacing of smoke detectors shall be maximum 15 m apart, and maximum 7.5 m to end wall or bulkhead/beams more than 300 mm deep.
	 Refer to Clause 5.1.6 of AS 1670.1-2018 for detailed requirements for location of detectors on level surfaces with deep beams/bulkhead.
	 The following general requirements from AS 1670.1 to detectors (including both smoke and heat detectors) shall be noted: Where an area is divided into sections by walls, partitions or storage racks reaching within 300 mm of the ceiling (or the soffits of the joists where there is no ceiling),
	each section shall be treated as a room, and shall be protected. A clear space for access of at least 300 mm radius, to a depth of 600 mm, shall be maintained from the detector or sampling point. Minor building structure and service occupying this space shall not exceed 25 percent of the clear space provided it does not prevent access to the detector.
	 Detectors shall not be installed closer than 900 mm to any air supply opening.
Building Occupant Warning System (BOWS)	A Building Occupant Warning System (BOWS) shall be provided throughout in accordance with BCA Spec E2.2a Clause 7 and AS 1670.1-2018.
	 The Building Occupant Warning System (BOWS) shall be interconnected with the AS 1670.1 smoke detection system and fire sprinkler system (except for FPAA101D system).
Fire sprinkler system	The subject building is required to be provided with a sprinkler system in accordance with BCA Clause E1.5 and Spec E1.5a



Fire Safety Measure	Description
Fire Safety Measure Fire hydrant system	 BCA Clause C2.7 (lower roof areas and protections); BCA Spec C1.1 clause 3.5 (Roof Concession); BCA Spec C1.1 clause 3.10 (FRL Concession); BCA Clause C1.10 and Spec C1.10 (Fire Hazard Properties); BCA Clause D1.3 (When fire isolated stairs are required) Various BCA Clause C, D and E parts relating to fire trips/activations/release of systems, etc. The following additional requirements are noted: All ceiling mounted sprinkler heads shall be fast response with an RTI of 50 (m·s)^{1/2} or less. Activation temperature of 68°C except where otherwise required by AS 2118.1 (such as under glazed skylights and roof areas). Activation of the sprinkler system shall activate the Building Occupant Warning System (except for a FPAA101D system). Attention is drawn to the specific requirements of AS 2118.1 with regard to height of storage / racking and clearances below sprinkler heads, generally required to be at least 500 mm. Where the sprinklers heads are located above a storage cage, a perforated barrier shall be installed to the top of the cage to ensure there is no storage within the 500 mm clearance below the sprinkler heads. The openings that are within 6 m of an egress route following the discharge of a fireisolated stair shall have a dedicate row of sprinklers provided in the room within 0.5 m of the glazed openings. A fire hydrant system shall be provided in accordance with BCA E1.3 and AS 2419.1, OR Spec E1.5a Clause 3(b)(vii), i.e., a dry fire hydrant system that otherwise complies with AS 2419.1, except as permitted for the following:
Fire hose reels	 An on-site fire pumpset is not required; The minimum fire hydrant outlet flow of 6 L/s may be achieved when boosted by a fire brigade pumping appliance; The minimum pipe sizes specified in AS 2419.1 do not apply; Each fire hydrant head is located in accordance with E1.3 and fitted with a blank end cap or plug; A hydrant booster inlet connection is provided in accordance with E1.3; An external street or feed hydrant capable of providing the required system flow is located within 60 m of the hydrant booster connection. Fire hose reels shall be provided to non-residential areas in accordance with BCA 2019 (Amendment 1) Clause E1.4 and AS 2441-2005.
Portable fire extinguishers	Portable fire extinguishers shall be provided in accordance with BCA 2019 (Amendment 1) Clause E1.6 and AS 2444.
Emergency lighting and exit signs	Emergency lighting and exit signage shall be provided to building in accordance with BCA 2019 (Amendment 1) E4.2 and E4.5 respectively, and AS 2293.1.
Maintenance	A maintenance program shall be developed with all essential safety measures (active, passive and management) maintained in accordance with AS 1851 and AS 2293.2, and is to incorporate system interface testing, where relevant.



3 Key Assumptions and Limitations

- This report is consistent with the fire safety provisions, objectives and limitations of the NCC 2019 (Amendment 1) - Building Code of Australia (BCA) Volume One:
 - All new works associated with the works comply with the current DtS provisions of the BCA except for any specific Performance Solution report carried out in addressing DtS noncompliances.
 - This report excludes the assessment and design against fires that include incendiary ones involving accelerants, explosives, multiple ignition sources, or acts of terrorism.
 - The concepts outlined in this report assume a complete and operational building, and do not address protection of the building during construction, renovation or demolition.
 - All of the fire safety systems are assumed to be designed, installed and operate in accordance with the appropriate Australian standards, other design codes, legislation and regulations relevant to the project unless specifically stated otherwise. All essential services equipment will be maintained, to the operational capacity to which they were designed, installed, commissioned and certified, in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. As such, all essential services equipment and management plans, etc discussed within this report are assumed to function correctly during a fire situation.
 - Access and Egress provisions for persons with disabilities including compliance with the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) are considered to the same degree as the BCA.
 - Unless stated otherwise, protection of property (other than within the subject property), business continuity, interruption or losses, environmental impacts, personal or moral obligations of the owner/occupier, reputation, amenity or non-fire related matters in the building such as health, security, energy efficiency, and occupational health & safety or the costs associated with any fire damages are specifically excluded from this analysis.
- This report is not a Performance Solution Report.
- This report is not a compliance or conformance audit for any fire safety system. For example, operational checks of fire safety equipment, verification of construction techniques, fire resistance levels or the witnessing of fire drills or exercises are specifically excluded from the scope of this report.
- The findings and outcomes of this report apply only to the subject building / works and must not be utilised for any other purpose. Any modifications, extensions, change of use, etc. to the building, fire safety measures or essential services equipment, from that described in this report may invalidate the findings, necessitating a re-assessment.



Appendix A Proposed Drawings

