Technical Guidance

Balcony drainage

Question
Is an overflow required to a small balcony?

Considerations
- Water standing on the balcony could impose a significant additional load on the structure.
- If the upstand around the balcony is higher than the threshold/abutment details, water could enter the dwelling or the structure.

Answer
An overflow should normally be provided as shown in NHBC Standards clause 7.1 – D9 (a). However, if the upstand around the balcony is low (say, less than 50mm) and below the level of the threshold/abutment then an overflow is not needed.