Technical Guidance

Extract fans - air leakage

Question
Do extract fans/cooker hoods or their ducting require non-return shutters to reduce air leakage?

Considerations
- An unrestricted extract duct through the wall can create a path for unwanted airflow between the inside and outside of a dwelling.
- Approved Document L1 (England & Wales) requires unwanted air leakage to be reduced.
- Robust Details gives guidance on ways to comply with Approved Document L1 but this does not make reference to air leakage through fans and cooker hoods.

Answer
To comply with Approved Document L1 (England & Wales) it is not necessary to provide non-return shutters on extract fans/cooker hoods or their ducting.