

# Technical Guidance

## Plasterboard fire-resisting ceiling in contact with single leaf masonry



### Question

Is it acceptable for a plasterboard fire-resisting ceiling to be in contact with single leaf fairfaced masonry?

### Considerations

- Rain may penetrate the masonry and cause damage to the ceiling, reducing its fire resistance.

### Answer

In areas of sheltered and moderate exposure to wind-driven rain it may be acceptable for a plasterboard ceiling to be in contact with single leaf fairfaced masonry.

In areas of severe and very severe exposure to wind-driven rain it is not acceptable and an alternative construction should be used. In the situation shown below, appropriate alternatives include:

- building the external wall in cavity construction, or
- providing fire separation between the garage and habitable rooms by extending the internal wall up to the underside of the roof covering and fire stopping above and below the roof underlay. The plasterboard ceiling may then be omitted.

See also Technical Guidance 9.1/04 regarding ceilings in garages.

