

Air admittance valves

(December 2008) (First issue)



Question

Where an air admittance valve (AAV) is enclosed within a boxing should the boxing be ventilated?

Considerations

- An AAV requires a free movement of air around the valve to ensure its effective operation.
- Third party assessments state any boxing around an AAV should be ventilated although guidance is not given on the amount and method of ventilation.
- Approved Document H (England and Wales) states, 'Air admittance valves should be located in areas which have adequate ventilation'.

Answer

Where an AAV is enclosed in a boxing the boxing should be ventilated. The use of ventilation grilles, discreet gaps around the boxing or ventilation of the boxing into a ventilated roof void are some acceptable methods of providing ventilation. In the absence of manufacturer's instructions, a free area of 2500mm² is considered reasonable provision.