

ICL INQUIRY STATEMENT

STUART MURIE

1. I have been employed by Glasgow City Council for twenty six years. I am currently a Group Manager in building control and public safety. I have progressed from building control officer to assistant divisional officer to supervisory building control officer to senior building control officer to Group Manager.
2. I am a corporate member of the association of building engineers. I have a post graduate degree in construction management and a Higher National Diploma in building.

Building Warrant Process

3. The building warrant process is meant to be pre-emptive. Before someone embarks on a project they should have the building warrant in place. The onus is on the person responsible for the works to advise the local authority of any building alterations. Unauthorised works are sometimes reported by those that have concerns.
4. To obtain a building warrant, details of the proposed building work require to be assessed by the local authority for compliance with the technical building regulations. This normally entails the preparation of scale plans (showing the building as existing) and specifications and drawings for the works in question (showing the building as proposed). Upon completion of the assessment the building warrant applicant (or their agent if appointed) will be notified of any contraventions and, if appropriate, through discussion, the proposals will be brought up to building standards. This is normally a paper exercise there is usually no visit to the building. The drawings are then altered to reflect the information needed. On

obtaining a building warrant, site works may commence subject to any other legislative control e.g. planning consents.

5. I refer to section 1, of my report on 'Building warrant activity and legislative background to building standards art ICL Plastics Ltd, Hopehill Road', 18 August 2006 [ICL/9557-9569] for details of the legislative controls. The details of the legislative controls listed were as accurate as I could establish at the time. I approached the Building Standards Agency for assistance in establishing this list.
6. Building warrants are required for any work to construct, alter or demolish a building. There are various exemptions and some building types that are exempt in the current legislation. There is also a building warrant required if you intend to change the use of a building, for example, a hotel into separate dwellings.
7. A building warrant is valid for three years, although this can be extended at the discretion of the local authority.

LPG pipework

8. I was asked if a LPG storage installation for industrial processes would ever be a consideration in relation to an application for a building warrant. This would not be a consideration. LPG used for a process is not subject to building control issues. Building control would only be concerned with LPG if it was used for cooking, space or water heating within buildings. Building warrants are based on the building's structure e.g the walls, floors, the roof and fitments required by building regulations. The machinery for manufacturing carried out within that building, is controlled by other legislative bodies.

ICL Premises

9. I refer to section 3 of the report referred to above which refers to the building warrant records for the ICL premises **[ICL/9560-9561]**. The warrant records identified were the only records that were found relating the search under the trading names specified.
10. I was asked if there was a building warrant application made for the construction of a steel floor structure on the premises. No record of a building warrant application for the steel floor structure was found.
11. I was asked if ICL Plastics Ltd had applied for a building warrant, if the LPG pipework for an industrial process was likely to have been requested on the plans submitted. It is not likely such LPG pipework would be identified on the plans. Our role would be to make enquiries to ensure services for example pipework or ventilation ducting do not breach any fire resisting constructions or, where they do, are suitable, for example, by using cast iron pipework or by having fire collars or dampers fitted. Our interest would also encompass the structural effect they may have on the wall. We would look at the structure of the wall to ensure that the wall is not structurally compromised.
12. I was asked if a steel floor structure would require a building warrant. As this constituted an alteration in the building it would require a building warrant. We would require to consider the impact of the floor on the building if an application had been submitted.
13. I was asked if the steel floor (mezzanine) was a free standing structure if this would require a building warrant. If it constituted a new floor space it would require a building warrant and it would have to be checked for escape routes, fire protection etc.

14. I did not know the building that collapsed on 11 May 2004. I had never visited the premises.

I confirm that the contents of this statement are true

Witness Signature _____

Dated _____

ICL INQUIRY
SUPPLEMENTAL STATEMENT
STUART MURIE

On 18 August 2008 I was advised of Crown Production 89

I am able to confirm that this refers to a valid application for a Warrant for Minor Works by I.C.L Plastics Limited dated 4 January 1973 which received a decree (i.e. was approved) from the then assessing authority, The Dean of Guild Court.

Further enquiries with the Senior Archivist, Culture & Sport Glasgow have established that it is not possible to retrieve any drawing or other technical information supporting this application as they were destroyed over 20 years ago.

I confirm that the contents of this statement are true.

Witness signature: <

Date: 19