

This document is a translation of the original assessment in Swedish by SHK of the response to the recommendation. In case of discrepancies between this translation and the Swedish original text, the Swedish text shall prevail in the interpretation of the assessment.

Government Offices of Sweden
Ministry of Rural Affairs and Infrastructure

SHK's assessment of the recommendation response from the Ministry of Finance

On 29 July 2021, the Swedish Accident Investigation Authority (SHK) published the final report RO 2021:01 which addresses the collapse of the roof of a sports hall in Kiruna, Norrbotten County on 7 March 2020.

A total of five safety recommendations were issued in this report, one of which was directed at the Swedish Government.

The Government was recommended to initiate necessary changes in the planning and building legislation for the purpose of achieving and maintaining sufficient safety with respect to the load-bearing capacity of buildings. (RO 2021:01 R1)

The Ministry of Finance submitted a response to this recommendation on 20 October 2021. Among other things, the Ministry of Finance has stated that there needs to be a more in-depth and broader supporting documentation in order to adopt a position on the measures in SHK's recommendation. Consequently, the Government has tasked the National Board of Housing, Building and Planning with, among other things, analysing the economic impact of the recommended measures on society as a whole. A report on this assignment was presented in January 2022.

SHK has subsequently received information to the effect that the Government decided on 25 May 2022 on the terms of reference of a commission of inquiry into enhanced construction inspection in order to prevent serious personal injuries (Dir. 2022:43). These terms of reference state that a commission of inquiry shall be appointed in order to not only investigate and submit proposals for how enhanced inspection can be introduced to ensure that certain technical properties are fulfilled, but also to investigate whether further regulation of certification bodies activities are required in the planning and building regulations. The aims of the inquiry include preventing deficiencies in constructions leading to accidents, especially those that result in serious personal injuries.

The final report of this inquiry is to be published on 29 September 2023.

SHK makes the assessment that the action that has been taken implements the recommendation issued to the Government. (Concluded – satisfactory response)

Best regards,

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Chair Accident Investigations