C3 AND FI: IMPROVEMENT RECOMMENDED, AND FURTHER INVESTIGATION

WHEN SHOULD YOU USE FI?

The current wording for FI is **"Further investigation is advised"** (**Guidance Note 3** · Table 3.5 · p.132), and Guidance Note 3 says FI should only be used in exceptional circumstances. **Best Practice Guide 4** pushes the same way: give a real code wherever you can.

> `Give it a code between C1 and C3 if you possibly can. Use FI sparingly`

The clearest example is insulation resistance:

FINDING	NOT	BUT
Insulation resistance below the minimum — say 0.8 MΩ line-and-neutral to earth	FI	**C2**

The logic: a failed insulation resistance test needs investigating and dealing with straight away. C1 and C2 both carry that urgency. C3 does not. So it belongs at C2.

A reminder on expected values.
As low as 1 MΩ would conform. For comparison, **Guidance Note 3** · p.70 says that **in new installations** a value below 20 MΩ should be investigated.

✋ **NC is not an outcome on the EICR.** Best Practice Guide 4 uses **NC** for non-compliant in its own tables, but there is no NC box on the report. On the paperwork it has to become a C3, an FI, or N/V.

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