Proof tests are needed to check the quality of the installation. Fixings shall be tested to a load of 1.5 times the applied working load. The pass criterion is that no significant movement of the fixing is apparent - a visual check is sufficient. A minimum of three fixings should be tested and at least 5% (one in 20), chosen at random and spread evenly. The failure of a fixing in proof testing is a serious issue and requires investigation and an increase in testing rate.

- One failure - double the test rate to one in 10 and a minimum of six
- More than one failure - test 100% of the job, review the fixing specification and installation method. Tests should be carried out by a suitably competent person(s) (other than the actual installer of the fixings tested).

For test loads over 0.25kN tests can be done using a test meter for test loads up to 0.25kN (lightweight ceilings <10kg/m²) by the use of a simple spring balance. Test results should be formally recorded and retained with documentation relating to the project. See Factsheet 5 of 5 for a site register.

**Typical test rig arrangements**

- Simple pull test using a calibrated spring balance for readings up to 0.25kN
- Test meter mounted on bridge for accurate readings over 0.25kN