



HM Government

**The Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP**

*Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government*

**Nick Hurd MP**

*Minister of State for Policing and the Fire Service*

**Department for Communities and Local Government**

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**A version of this letter will be published on gov.uk. If you would like these to be sent to you directly, please email [grenfellcorrespondence@communities.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:grenfellcorrespondence@communities.gsi.gov.uk)**

Dear Resident,

As some of you might recall, Minister Hurd was asked to help support you all by acting as a liaison and single route into the government for you. He has seen many people through his surgeries and this has meant that your concerns are heard and where possible, help shape the decisions.

We both hope this has been of some help and benefit to you and if you would like an opportunity to see the Minister at one of the surgeries, you can email the Department on [GrenfellCorrespondence@communities.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:GrenfellCorrespondence@communities.gsi.gov.uk). We plan to continue this approach with Minister Hurd meeting with you and supporting you for as long as you need this to continue.

### **Housing**

We know that many of you from Grenfell Tower and Grenfell Walk have already been viewing properties and are in the process of accepting offers and signing tenancy agreements. Some of you have requested to stay permanently in your temporary homes. The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea (RBKC) is working to make this happen wherever possible.

We have heard questions over Right to Buy, leaseholders and the re-housing policy and we are working with RBKC to answer queries and resolve concerns as quickly as possible.

We also know that there have been some questions and requests about whether you can choose a property and ask for that to be bought and made available. As you will understand, it is of the utmost importance this process is both fair and transparent.

For that reason, RBKC cannot buy homes for individual households on request. They have told us they are more than happy to accept suggestions of properties available on the open market and then use these preferences and trends to help inform their approach. In a situation where they do end up buying a property you suggested, it is important to note that this will be made available through the current choice-based portal system, and not outside of that.

### **Your views on social housing**

As we said in the last letter, the Housing Minister, Alok Sharma is hosting social housing conversations that will inform the Department's work in this area, going forward. Thank you to those of you who have contacted the Department directly to express your interest in taking part in this.

The Department is working with community representatives from the tower and surrounding areas to understand when the best time for these conversations might be. In light of these discussions, officials from the Department will be in touch with those of you who directly contacted us regarding this, and small focus groups are likely to be organised at an appropriate time for you.

Please continue to email the Department on [GrenfellCorrespondence@communities.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:GrenfellCorrespondence@communities.gsi.gov.uk) if you would like to be involved. Your views on this are of great importance and we both, along with the Housing Minister, wish to involve you in this process in a way that works for you.

### **Support available**

We understand how difficult this is on you, your children, your friends and family. Whether you need a doctor, some advice or just somebody to voice your concerns to, there are many avenues of support around the community. There are a number of community volunteers and advisors, charity workers and NHS professionals posted in several hotels and community centres. We understand that many of these people held an event in the community a few weeks ago and this was well attended. We hope this was useful to those of you who did.

As you may already know, if you do wish to speak to anyone, you can call 0800 0234 650 or email [cnw-tr.spa@nhs.net](mailto:cnw-tr.spa@nhs.net) for assistance. This service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week and provided by the Central North West London NHS Foundation Trust.

### **The Recovery Taskforce**

Some of you may have met with, or seen, members of the independent Grenfell Recovery Taskforce. They have been listening and speaking to many of you in the community, challenging and supporting council officers and working with officials at the Department over the past few months. Last week, they attended and observed the Full Council meeting, which we understand some of you also attended.

As we have said before, their initial report is due to the Secretary of State by the end of October. We plan to circulate and publish this in full, as we know many of you are keen to hear what they have to say.

**RT HON SAJID JAVID MP**

**NICK HURD MP**