



HM Government

The Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP

Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government

The Rt Hon Nick Hurd MP

Minister for Grenfell Victims

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government

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25 January 2018

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

Dear all,

Firstly, we'd like to thank you for inviting us both to the film screening in Parliament and the very moving memorial service at St Paul's Cathedral in December. These poignant events provided the chance to come together to mark six months since the fire and to pay respect to those who tragically lost their lives.

The events were a powerful reminder of a community coming together to help its own, and why the role of community representatives like Grenfell United are so crucial in ensuring individual voices are amplified and heard. We hope they brought some measure of comfort to those of you who attended.

As we have said to you before, we will both continue to meet with you, listen to you and be there for you, for as long as you wish.

Introducing Dominic Raab

Since we last met, you may be aware that the Prime Minister has made changes to the ministers within her Cabinet. As a result of this reshuffle, Alok Sharma has left the department and moved to work in the Department of Work and Pensions and he is replaced by Dominic Raab as Minister for Housing.

We would like to take a moment to reassure you that Dominic will continue to support the Secretary of State and Nick Hurd to ensure you are fully supported by Government.

Dominic is keen to meet with representatives of the Grenfell community and is looking forward to meeting many of you over the coming weeks.

We should also mention that the Department for Communities and Local Government has been renamed the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government. This has no effect whatsoever on our relationship with you or the support which we provide.

The future of the site

Current estimates from the site management team suggest the wrapping and scaffolding around the tower is estimated to complete by the end of May. We will continue to keep you updated with progress.

As the Prime Minister indicated in her letter to you last month, the bereaved, survivors and the community will lead and be at the heart of the decision-making on the future of the site.

To provide added reassurance, we are currently working with representatives of the bereaved and survivors from the Tower to agree a set of principles which will outline this commitment in further detail.

Hackitt review

Many of you likely saw that Dame Judith Hackitt released her interim report on building regulations and fire safety on 18 December. Dame Judith's review was commissioned by the Secretary of State and the Home Secretary following the tragic events of last June.

The report makes a number of key observations and recommendations but fundamentally she believes the current regulatory system for ensuring fire safety in relation to high-rise and complex buildings is not fit for purpose and needs to change.

She goes on to state:

- There needs to be a shift in the culture of the construction industry, making it more responsible for long-term safety.
- Clarity of roles and responsibilities is poor. Even where there are requirements for key activities to take place across design, construction and maintenance, it is not always clear who has responsibility for making it happen.
- Residents must be listened to and there needs to be a clear, quick and effective route for their concerns to be raised and addressed.
- Compliance, enforcement and sanctions processes are too weak.
- Despite many who demonstrate good practice, the means of assessing and ensuring the competency of key people throughout the system is inadequate.

- There is often no differentiation in competency requirements for those working on high-rise and complex buildings.

Please be assured that the Government fully supports the recommendations Dame Judith sets out in her interim report.

You can read more about the immediate action we will be taking in the statement the Secretary of State made in the House of Commons:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/grenfell-tower-and-building-safety>

Dame Judith's final report is due to be published in the spring. To help inform that final report she brought together around 50 industry leaders to discuss her initial findings this week. You can read more about the summit here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/dame-judith-hackitt-hosts-industry-summit>

For those of you we do not see or get to speak to, please be assured our thoughts are with you, we continue to stand by you, and are working hard to identify the best possible outcomes for your future.

RT HON SAJID JAVID MP

RT HON NICK HURD MP