



HM Government

The Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP

Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government

Nick Hurd MP

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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

Dear Resident,

A number of you have expressed your concerns about the long term immigration status of survivors. Last week, the Immigration Minister announced some changes to the dedicated immigration policy for Grenfell survivors. Originally, those of you who needed it could be granted 12 months' limited leave to remain in the UK, with full access to relevant support and assistance. Last week's changes mean that you can have this extended and be granted permanent residence after five years, if you want to, and subject to necessary checks being completed.

Similarly, we recognise that many of you are receiving support from family members who have travelled to the UK. The government believes that in light of the uniquely traumatic circumstances of the Grenfell Tower fire, your relatives should be able to be offered an extension of stay without having to apply or be subject to associated fees. So, the Immigration Minister also announced a dedicated policy to allow for relatives to extend their stay in the UK for up to six months from the day of entry. This policy does not provide a route for family members to stay in the UK long-term, and all extensions will be granted without access to public funds.

The Immigration Minister also agreed that there should be a dedicated team responsible for Grenfell survivor cases, so that you have a direct point of contact within the Home Office, who will be able to consider issues quickly and answer any questions or concerns you may have. This team will be based at the Community Assistance Centre on Bard Road to offer further advice and answer any questions until Monday 30 November.

Housing

The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea (RBKC) is working to restore affected buildings on the wider estate. Their officers are working with households to support those of you who want to return home to do so when you are ready. They have told us that this is primarily aimed at the three walkway blocks and Treadgold House – however, if you are in other neighbouring blocks and let them know your requests, they will do what they can to seek to fulfil these as well.

Support available

We understand how difficult this is on you and those around you. Whether you need a doctor, some advice or somebody to talk to, we want to reassure you that there are many avenues of support around the community.

As you may have heard, RBKC has been redesigning its care and support service to you all. The current keyworker service was developed as an emergency response with temporary social workers brought in from across London.

RBKC is now moving to a long-term arrangement, expanding the team and investing in wider support networks. This new service has been designed to reflect on individual needs, be flexible and enable you all to consider what type of support you feel works best for you, and your families.

For more information or to reach out to this new specialist team, you can call 020 7745 6414, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

You can also call the NHS on 0800 0234 650 or email cnw-tr.spa@nhs.net to speak to somebody. This service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week and provided by the Central North West London NHS Foundation Trust.

We also wanted to again, take the opportunity to recognise and thank the local charity and voluntary organisations who have been providing considerable support to so many of you. We know their work has been greatly valued by you all and that it has played a crucial part in rebuilding the community. We will keep working with them to help continue this vital work wherever we can.

RT HON SAJID JAVID MP

NICK HURD MP