



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

4th Floor, Fry Building
2 Marsham Street
London SW1P 4DF

grenfellcorrespondence@communities.gsi.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/dclg

www.gov.uk/home-office

5 September 2017

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,

We write to you just a few days after the charitable football match, 'Game4Grenfell', was held at Loftus Road. We hope those of you who attended and were involved enjoyed the day. We were pleased to see so many people supporting your community.

Housing

As many of you will no doubt be aware, in a meeting with Grenfell United, on August 22, the Prime Minister confirmed that the Tenants' Management Organisation (TMO) will no longer have any responsibility for the Lancaster West Estate. At the same meeting, she also agreed that the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea (RBKC) did not respond quickly enough after the fire and that it was important that they listen to and respond to the issues that you are currently facing. This is a situation that we, along with the Prime Minister, will continue to monitor closely.

We know that some of you have been raising concerns about the online system RBKC are using to allocate new housing. We want to take this opportunity to reassure you that this process does not involve bidding against other families; it is an opportunity for you to state your preferences in the available properties and for RBKC to then offer accordingly.

We understand that those of you who wanted to have now met with your housing allocation officers. If you have not yet registered an interest in any properties, you can talk about the process with your dedicated officer. They will be able to provide you with any assistance you need.

The Public Inquiry

We know many of you were keen to understand how legal representation and fees would work for the Public Inquiry. Guidance on this has now been published [on its website](#).

Legal expenses will be covered for those of you affected by the fire and your families, as well as for local residents afforded core participant status. This means there will be no means testing for those accessing the funding available and that costs relating to the Inquiry that were incurred during the consultation period will also be covered.

We mentioned before that wider social housing issues across the country would not be ignored and that the Minister for Housing, Alok Sharma would listen to the concerns of social residents across the country. In our next letter, we will set out further detail and how you can be involved and input to this important work, if you wish to do so. We will then be developing proposals to deal with issues identified.

The Recovery Taskforce

The independent Recovery Taskforce has continued to meet with some of you in the community, local public sector organisations and officials from RBKC. From these meetings and the information they are continuously gathering, they are working up a picture of the recovery work underway, and are offering advice to RBKC based on their relevant expertise and experience.

As we have said before, they will make their first formal report to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government in October, and in the meantime, they are able to raise any concerns or comments to the Secretary of State, at any point.

Immigration issues and remaining in the UK

As you may be aware, the government has established a scheme to allow those of you who are concerned about your immigration status to be able to apply for a 12-month period of limited 'leave to remain'. The deadline for applications was 31 August, however the Minister for Immigration, Brandon Lewis, has confirmed that this deadline has been extended by a further three months to 30 November.

Schools and education

We know for many, this week means the return of children to school. Like a lot of you, we were pleased to hear about the positive results achieved in the community in their GCSEs and A-Levels. Many of who were faced with sitting exams just hours after the tragedy. This in itself is a testament to the resilience of the community and you all.

Of course, we also know that this time of year, and the return to school will be a difficult challenge for some of you. Kensington Aldridge Academy lies within the safety cordon and will open on September 18, at a new temporary location near Little

Scrubs Park. A few weeks ago, the Minister for School Standards, Nick Gibb, visited the new site with the Principal, David Benson. They reported back that they were extremely impressed with the speed and efficiency of this project. We hope that those of you who have children attending the new site also find it to be to your satisfaction.

We remain committed to rebuilding the community, not just in establishing new buildings and areas for organisations but in ensuring you all have access to the right support you need, when you need it.

RT HON SAJID JAVID MP

NICK HURD MP