

The Rt Hon James Brokenshire MP

Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government

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I am writing to you in my capacity as Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government. There are no words which can express my sympathy for those of you who have been so seriously affected by the tragedy at Grenfell Tower last June. When I was appointed to this role a little over a month ago, I made it clear that one of my top priorities was our response to the fire, and this is still an important priority for me and my Department.

As we approach one year on from the fire, I am deeply concerned that you are still living in emergency accommodation. Living in a hotel for an extended period of time is unsuitable and I will continue to press the Council to ensure you are provided with as much support as you need. I know that my colleagues Nick Hurd (the Minister for Grenfell Victims) and Dominic Raab (the Minister for Housing) have been meeting with some of you to better understand your circumstances and particularly so we can work with the Council and agencies such as the NHS and Care for Grenfell to help you move into settled accommodation.

For those of you who have not accepted offers of accommodation, I am keen that the Council are providing you with as much support as needed to help you move into more settled accommodation. I know Nick Hurd and Dominic Raab have previously offered to meet with you to discuss your housing situation and some of you have taken that offer up; if, however, you would find it helpful to speak to me personally about the issues you are facing, please email <a href="mailto:GrenfellCorrespondence@communities.gsi.gov.uk">GrenfellCorrespondence@communities.gsi.gov.uk</a>.

I know that some of you have accepted permanent homes but are waiting for repairs on your new homes to be completed. I have spoken to the CEO of Mitie (who are carrying out the majority of works) and stressed the importance of this programme of works; it is important that the repairs to your homes are completed not only as quickly as possible but also to the highest safety standards, so that you are able to move into your new home. My Department is closely monitoring and challenging the pace of repairs, and I will continue to press the Council to ensure everything possible is being done to speed this up. I have also asked the Independent Taskforce to provide additional monitoring of this issue.

I will continue to work closely with the Council to support you in finding more suitable accommodation. If there is anything my Department can do to help, please do contact us.