



Ministry of Housing,  
Communities &  
Local Government

**Doug Patterson**  
*Independent Site Management Lead*  
Site Management Office  
Grenfell Road  
W11 1WH

**Rt Hon James Brokenshire MP**  
*Secretary of State for Housing, Communities  
and Local Government*

**Ministry of Housing, Communities and  
Local Government**

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

Tel: 0303 444 3450

Email:

[james.brokenshire@communities.gov.uk](mailto:james.brokenshire@communities.gov.uk)

[www.gov.uk/mhclg](http://www.gov.uk/mhclg)

15 July 2019

## **Government ownership of the Grenfell Tower site**

Thank you for your letter. As always, I value your experience and insight.

The Government taking ownership of the Grenfell Tower site this week is a significant milestone. As you recognise, this is an important step on the path to a lasting and fitting memorial determined by the community.

I know that the Grenfell Tower site is of immense significance to the bereaved, survivors and community, and needs to be managed carefully and sensitively. I would like to take this opportunity to record my thanks to you, your team and the members of the Site Management Group over the last two years for all your efforts in doing so.

I am assured that the site is well managed and compliant with health and safety standards. I appreciate that your team, partners and site contractors have gone above and beyond to ensure the ongoing safety, security and sensitive management of the site. As part of this, banners designed by representatives of the bereaved and survivors have become a reality, you have helped to facilitate visits to the Tower for the bereaved and survivors so that they can pay respects to their loved ones and say goodbye to their home, and you have worked with the community to support commemoration events.

In the same spirit, the Government will continue to closely engage with the community at every step of the way to a lasting memorial. I am committed to ensuring that the health and safety of those living, working and at the school in the local area and on the site will continue to take priority. I recognise that decisions about the site need to be handled with great care. I will work closely with leading experts and public authorities and consult with the police and Grenfell Tower Inquiry to ensure that decision making is evidence based and does not interfere with the path to justice.

These steps will lead us towards a fitting memorial. I am pleased that the process for establishing the Memorial Commission is underway. The Memorial Commission will help the community to agree a fitting memorial to those who lost their lives and how it should the memorial site will be owned and managed in the long term.

I am pleased that you and your team are able to provide all those who live and work on and around the site with continuity after the Government has taken ownership. I look forward to continuing to benefit from your experience and advice as we take this important step forward.

**RT HON JAMES BROKESHIRE MP**