

## **Grenfell Environmental Checks – Feedback from the Community workshops and how your input will be taken forward**

### In brief:

- At the workshops you told us where you had seen debris, where you thought testing should take place, which local areas were used the most and about the history of the area.
- This information has been reviewed by AECOM and incorporated into their approach to help identify where the main sampling should take place in Stage 2 of the programme.
- Input from the workshops also helped to inform the 20 locations, where initial exploratory sampling will take place in Stage 1.
- Exploratory sampling has already taken place within the cordoned area around the Tower.
- We also responded to feedback about the bags of debris stored in garages, we advised that the bags have been monitored and will be safely removed by 23rd May.
- There are a number of upcoming opportunities to continue to be involved. These are detailed throughout the update below.

### **Community workshops**

Almost 120 residents attended the workshops. A summary of the input is below:

- More than 130 stickers were placed on local maps to identify areas where dust and debris was seen in the days and weeks following the fire; where it was felt testing should take place; the outdoor areas most used by residents; and any historical uses of the land that may impact on the findings.
- Testing was felt to be most important between 100 and 1,000 metres of the Tower and to the north, north east, north west and south east.
- Avondale Park was identified as one of the outside areas most commonly used by local residents.

Over 70 members of the community also provided AECOM with more detailed information about the areas where they have concerns.

### **How we will use the information provided at the workshops**

Your input is helping to design the investigation and ensure that testing happens in the right places. The information gathered at the workshop will inform the design of Stage 2, where the main sampling will take place.

Your feedback, and the information you have given, such as the direction of the smoke plume, proximity to the Tower and ease of accessibility, have also helped identify the 20 additional locations for exploratory sampling (see maps under **Next Steps**). These include, Avondale Park, the communal area between Testerton Walk and Barandon Walk and St Quintin Gardens.

The locations for exploratory sampling reflect a variety of different areas and how they are used, including areas such as parks and gardens. This is not a definitive list of all the areas that will be sampled in Stage 2.

The aim of the exploratory sampling is to provide initial results; test the approach to sampling and help inform the design of the more comprehensive sampling that will take place in Stage 2.

### **Your health**

As well as input to help inform the testing process, members of the community at the workshops were able to speak to a local GP, the health and wellbeing team and book an enhanced health check.

The NHS encourages anyone who has any concerns about their health to speak to their GP to arrange an enhanced health check. The checks include a comprehensive review of overall physical and mental health. If anyone has concerns about their breathing or has experienced breathing difficulties following the fire, the check includes a Spirometry test. Spirometry is used to help diagnose and monitor certain lung conditions. You can find out more about it here - <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/spirometry/>.

### **Bags of debris**

One of the questions raised at the workshops was whether there will be testing of the bags of debris being stored in the garages under the Tower.

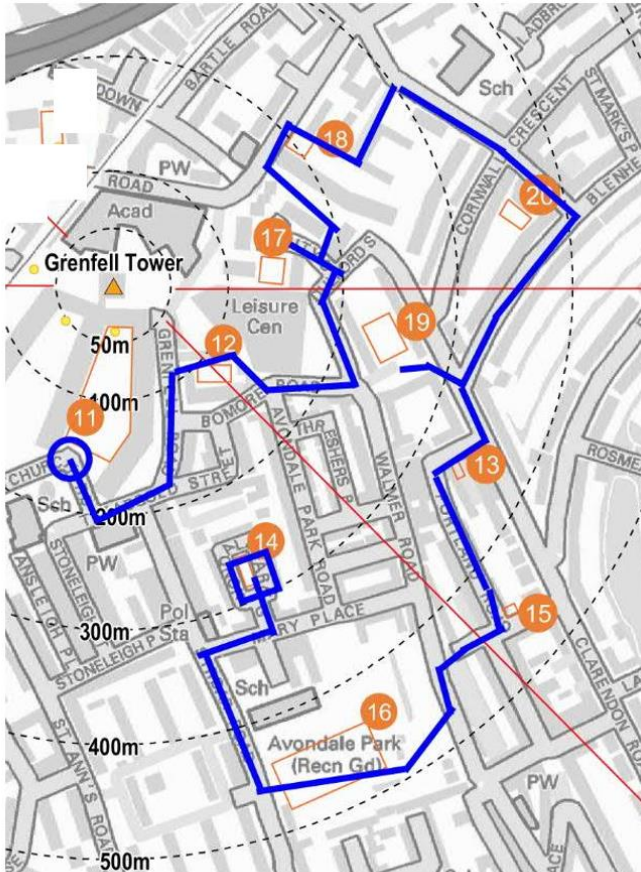
The bags, which have been used to securely and safely store loose materials from areas badly damaged by the fire, are being safely removed to a secure location. This will be completed by the 23<sup>rd</sup> May.

This process was developed with Public Health England and the Health and Safety Executive with all necessary precautions in place to ensure environmental safety. This is supported by the Science Advisory Group. The precautions mean that the risk of any contamination from the bags to the soil is extremely low. Daily reassurance testing of the air near the bags has taken place throughout the removal process and fibres, including for example asbestos fibres, have been consistently below the limits of detection, therefore not giving any cause for concern. The Site Management Team is currently working with Public Health England to make the testing data and analysis available.

### **Next steps**

- Site Walkover - AECOM will undertake a site walkover over two days on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> and Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May to survey the 20 exploratory sampling areas (see maps below) and identify the exact points for sampling. We have a limited number of spaces for residents to observe the survey and are working with residents' associations and community organisations to invite attendees.
- Exploratory sampling – we expect this to take place over three days in early June. Again, we will have a limited number of spaces for residents to observe the sampling and will be working with residents' associations and community organisations. Please do contact your local representative if you would like to attend.

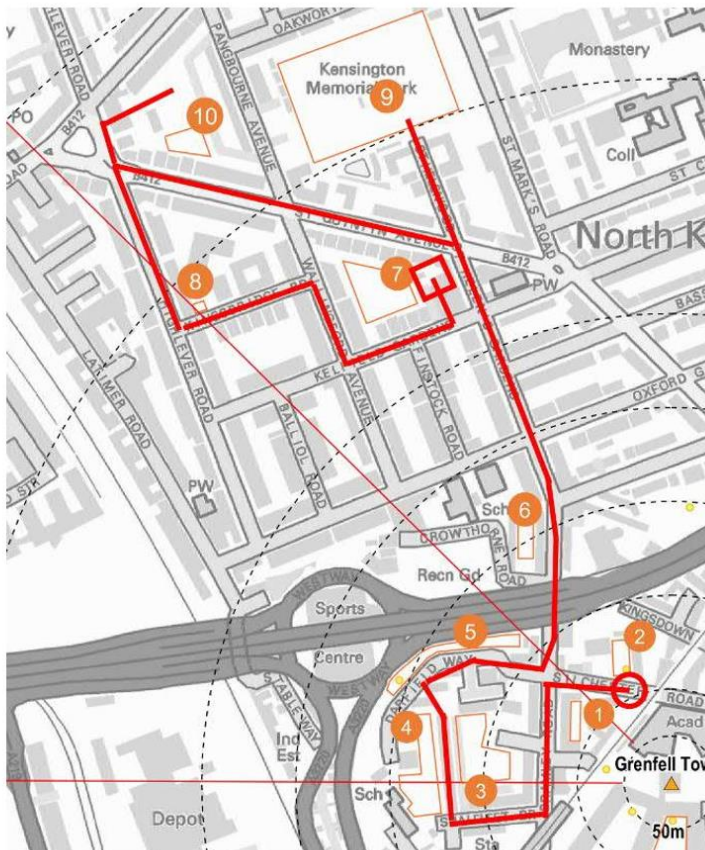
We will be filming both the site walkover and the exploratory sampling so that you can view these on the Nextdoor website and app.



- Day 1 start
- Day 1 finish

**Key of Proposed Sampling Areas**

- 11 Community area between Testerton Walk and Barandon Walk
- 12 Communal open space around Treadgold House
- 13 Community garden at Portland Road
- 14 Communal space at Avondale Park (residential road)
- 15 Community garden at Portland Road
- 16 Avondale Park (recreation ground)
- 17 Open space at Verity Close
- 18 Communal open space at Morland House
- 19 Communal open space at Allom House and Barlow House
- 20 Open space at The Grove



- Day 2 start
- Day 2 finish

**Key of Proposed Sampling Areas**

- 1 Bramley House
- 2 Communal open space at Whitstable House
- 3 Wayneflete Square
- 4 Communal open space at Markland House
- 5 Community garden areas along Darfield Way
- 6 Robinson House
- 7 St Quintin Gardens
- 8 20 Kingsbridge Road community garden
- 9 Kensington Memorial Park (St Marks Park)
- 10 West London Bowling Club

### **Further information**

If you would like to speak to a member of the government's team leading this project, we are continuing our weekly drop-in sessions at The Curve, Bard Road, every Tuesday afternoon.

You can also contact us by:

Email – [environmental-checks@communities.gov.uk](mailto:environmental-checks@communities.gov.uk)

Telephone – 0303 444 0078

For the most up-to-date information, you can download the **Nextdoor** app on iOS and Android devices or visit [www.nextdoor.co.uk](http://www.nextdoor.co.uk) and search for **Grenfell Community Updates - HM Government**.

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

**22 May 2019**