

Grenfell Tower site update: summary of 1 April online meeting

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At our community online 'drop-in' meeting on 1 April 2021, we shared details of how you can give your thoughts on the Tower and the future memorial as outlined in [the letter we sent to the community on 22 January](#).

During the meeting, we also updated attendees on the planned safety works taking place on site, the rewrapping of the Tower, and the procurement of a principal contractor to carry out ongoing and planned safety works on the site. We outlined some of 'social value' opportunities that we are offering to local residents and others, and gave a reminder about the health and wellbeing services available.

The event panel

- Laura Williams: a civil servant in the community engagement team at the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG)
- Sarah Hopping, a civil servant in the community engagement team at MHCLG
- Nadir Alabdulbaqi, a civil servant in the site management team at MHCLG

You can also [watch a video](#) of the event.

Our next community online event on the Tower will take place on 5 May – please see the joining details at the end of this document.

Share your thoughts on the Tower and the future memorial

As the owner of the Grenfell Tower site, the government wants to hear from and talk to bereaved family members, survivors, local residents and the North Kensington community, on decisions and activity relating to the Tower.

A decision has not yet been made about what will happen to the Tower. We don't underestimate how difficult this decision will be and we want to make sure you are supported to have your say.

Since September 2020, independent engagement organisation, Kaizen, has been helping us to hear the thoughts of bereaved families, former residents, local residents and the North Kensington community about the Tower. It has also been working for the independent [Grenfell Tower Memorial Commission](#) to hear your ideas about how to remember those who lost their lives in the Grenfell tragedy.

You can share your views with Kaizen in whichever way suits you best, including in different languages. While we and Kaizen are able to send you letters, Kaizen do not have your phone numbers or email addresses, so please contact them directly to arrange a conversation:

- Email views to **GrenfellTower@kaizen.org.uk**
- Call: 020 7082 5505 (or text 07984 434855 to arrange a phone conversation)
- Write to: Kaizen, 22a Cliff Villas, London NW1 9AT
- Or complete a survey at: www.surveymonkey.com/r/GrenfellTower

Kaizen can speak to you by phone, over video link, and in person, when Covid-19 social distancing guidance allows. Others can attend with you, if you would like.

Planned safety works

We are fitting additional 'props' (aluminium supports) in the Tower so that we can ensure the building's continued stability. To enable the installation of these props, we have been removing heavy, damaged items and asbestos from individual flats.

Find out more about the planned safety works in our [July 2020 community update and letter](#) and more about asbestos removal in our [September meeting write up](#)

Rewrapping the Tower

The outer layer of white wrapping around Grenfell Tower deteriorates over time and needs to be replaced regularly, which we have been doing once a year. We began the current replacement on 6 March and it will take around 10 weeks, depending on the weather. The Tower will not be visible while the rewrapping takes place. The rewrapping will be carried out sensitively and is not expected to cause disruption. For further details, see our rewrapping [leaflet](#).

The principal contractor for the Grenfell Tower site

The principal contractor is responsible for carrying out the safety and day-to-day maintenance works on the Grenfell Tower site. Our existing contract with the on-site contractor will expire in June 2021 and we need to re-procure the contract due to government rules and guidance on spending public money. This is a standard process and is part of our role in keeping the site safe. Potential suppliers gave a presentation to interested members of the community in March.

Social value

An important part of the procurement of the principal contractor for the Grenfell Tower site is social value. This means that the companies contracted by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), including the current site contractor, Wates, agree to bring social, economic or environmental benefits to the community.

Examples include free online courses in a range of subjects including construction, hospitality, and business administration, plus work experience opportunities. We are working with the community to understand what is important for you in terms of social value, and we have set up a group to hear and involve the community in the process so far.

If you would like to join our social value group, please contact us using the details at the end of this document.

Find out more about the principal contractor procurement in our [December update](#).

Health and wellbeing

The local NHS service can offer members of the community affected by the Grenfell Tower tragedy physical and mental health support including for children and young people. Visit grenfellwellbeing.com for information.

There's a community respiratory service from Imperial College, London, which offers checks to bereaved families, survivors, and the local community to understand more about lung function. It is available through the NHS dedicated service or your GP.

If you're feeling anxious or stressed, support is available from the Grenfell Health and Wellbeing Service. Contact the urgent advice line on **0800 0234 650** or visit grenfellwellbeing.com for information.

How to get in touch

We are available for conversations with you or your family and to answer any questions you might have. We will also be writing to you soon with details of how you can receive further information on the future of the Tower.

- **To contact the site management team:** email GrenfellTowerSite@communities.gov.uk or phone **0303 444 0011**

Our next community online meeting will be on Wednesday 5 May, 6 to 7pm.

- [Click here to join](#) (You will need Microsoft Teams on your device)
- Or join by phone (dial 020 3795 5763 and enter conference ID 698 427 055#)

Please email us if you would like us to send the link to the event to you directly, or if you have a specific question that you would like us to answer.

The digital signs around the site will contain the latest information about the works. You can also read all Grenfell Tower community updates and letters online at: www.gov.uk/grenfell-community-updates.

For information about the independent Grenfell Tower Memorial Commission:

- Email GTMCSecretariat@communities.gov.uk or phone **0303 444 4831**
- Visit www.grenfelltowermemorial.co.uk to find out about their work, including the thoughts they have heard from people so far. You can share your ideas [here](#)
- Sign up to their mailing list and newsletter via the [contact](#) page
- Follow them on Twitter [@GrenfellTowerMC](https://twitter.com/GrenfellTowerMC)

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