



Havering
LONDON BOROUGH

Address

Councillor Damian White

London Borough of Havering
Main Road,
Romford
RM1 3BD

Telephone: 07733 260557

Fax: 01708 432245

email: damian.white@havering.gov.uk

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Dear

Further to my letter of Wednesday 14 June following the tragic fire at Grenfell Towers I am writing to bring you up to date with what has been happening in Havering since then.

Whilst the final reports on the cause of the fire and the reasons why it spread so quickly will take more time to be published, it is clear that some attention is being focussed on the new cladding that had been put on the block and the way it had been installed.

Within our borough there are 14 high-rise blocks of flats, only one of which has had any new cladding installed. That block is Highfield Tower in Collier Row. This is a different type of cladding to that used at Grenfell Tower. It is a non-flammable cementitious board which has a Fire Classification of "Zero" which is the highest safety rating. In addition, the method of installation has been checked and the measures taken minimise the risk of the spread of fire.

All of our 14 high rise blocks are independently fire risk assessed every two years, the most recent in 2015, and we then take appropriate action based on those reports. The next scheduled routine inspections began on Tuesday 20 June and are due to be completed by Thursday 6 July 2017. When we receive the reports from the inspections we will take the appropriate follow up action required.

In addition, all of our medium and low rise blocks are being programmed in for a fire safety check. These do not have to be carried out as often as on the high rise blocks but we are doing up to date checks to give reassurance to all our tenants and leaseholders that the buildings you live in are as safe as we can make them.

We have also been working with the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) which has asked every Council in the country for details of the fire risk assessments on all blocks over six storeys high and we have been able to provide them with details of our blocks and the dates of the latest fire risk

assessment along with information on works that have been carried out on them and whether any cladding has been installed.

Please remember that you too must play your part in keeping yourself and your neighbours safe from fire. Enclosed with this letter is our Housing Services factsheet on fire safety. Please take a few minutes to read it and then follow the advice it contains to reduce the risk of a fire starting in your home.

More information is available at www.havering.gov.uk/FireSafety.

As always if you have any questions please do come along to one of my Housing Surgeries, dates and venues are at www.havering.gov.uk/HousingSurgeries, or drop me a line at the above address.

Yours sincerely

Councillor Damian White
Deputy Leader of the Council
and Cabinet Member for Housing