

Councillor Stephen Cowan

Leader of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham
Hammersmith Town Hall, London W6 9JU



15 November 2017

The Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP
Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government
Fry Building
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

A request for funding on fire safety

Thank you for your letter dated 25 July about the help and support LB Hammersmith & Fulham has given to Kensington and Chelsea Council and to the people suffering the horrific consequences of the Grenfell Tower disaster.

I was heartened to read this extract of your statement to the House of Commons on 5 September which read:

“... we in this House have no excuse for failing to do everything possible to support the victims of Grenfell and to ensure that such a tragedy never happens again.

However, I am concerned that so far funds have not been made available from the government to follow through on your comments.

In Hammersmith & Fulham, we have introduced our own Fire Safety Plus scheme. The details can be viewed here:

https://www.lbhf.gov.uk/sites/default/files/section_attachments/hf-fire-safety-plus-web.pdf

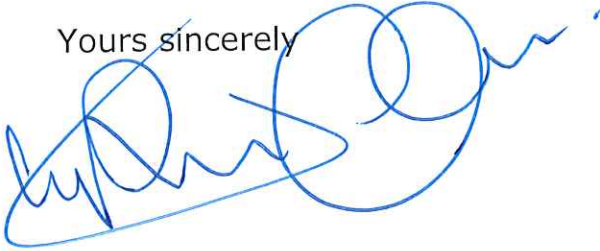
As you can see, it includes a promise to install sprinklers where necessary, upgrade fire doors, and other measures to ensure the safety of all the residents we house. We are also supporting the London Fire Brigade's call to urgently recall all fire risk white goods and feel we have no option but to immediately offer our residents replacements to minimise the risk to their safety.

I therefore suggest that your officials work with us and other councils to agree that the government will make the necessary financial contribution for these fire safety works.

As you mention in your letter, "The Grenfell Tower tragedy is one of the worst disasters we have faced as a nation for years". I know you agree that the suffering and loss of life caused by that fire can never be allowed to happen anywhere in our country again. Given this, it would simply not be right for the government to fail to put its money where its mouth is.

I therefore look forward to a positive response to my urgent request.

Yours sincerely



Cllr Stephen Cowan

Leader of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham

Cc:

- **Cllr Sue Fennimore**, Deputy Leader of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham
- **Cllr Lisa Homan**, Cabinet Member for Housing for London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham
- **Ms Kim Dero**, Chief Executive of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham
- **Ms Jo Rowlands**, Executive Director of Regeneration, Planning and Housing for the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham
- **Mr Andy Slaughter**, Member of Parliament for Hammersmith