

August 28, 2023
FROM - Richard Griffiths, Senior Advisor to the Cabinet

TO NOTE

Progress of the Grenfell Tower Inquiry

SUMMARY

1. The Grenfell Tower Inquiry, initiated to investigate the tragic fire incident, has made substantial progress in its investigatory proceedings. The inquiry's objective is to ascertain the circumstances leading to and surrounding the fire, with the goal of ensuring such a tragedy is not repeated. It has completed a series of witness interviews and examined numerous documents. The interim report detailing the findings so far is scheduled for public release by year-end.

RECOMMENDATION

2. This is for information purposes only, and no immediate action is required. However, the Minister may want to prepare for potential public queries following the release of the interim report.

TIMING

3. The interim report is scheduled for public release by December 31, 2023. Preparations for managing public response should ideally commence as soon as possible.

BACKGROUND

4. The Grenfell Tower Inquiry aims to investigate the circumstances that led to the fire incident and ensure such a tragedy does not occur again. The progress of the inquiry so far includes:
5. **EVIDENCE GATHERING:** The inquiry has completed witness interviews, including survivors, firefighters, and relevant authorities. It has also thoroughly examined numerous documents.
6. **PROFESSIONAL ASSESSMENTS:** Expert reviews and assessments related to building safety and fire standards are underway, aiming to provide a comprehensive understanding of the circumstances leading to the incident.
7. **INTERIM REPORT:** The Inquiry is compiling an interim report detailing the findings so far. The report will also highlight potential areas of improvement in fire safety regulations and emergency response procedures.
8. **PUBLIC RELEASE:** The interim report is scheduled to be made public by the end of this year.
9. The information serves as a status update on the ongoing Grenfell Tower Inquiry.

CLEARANCE LIST

Team	Clearance necessary?	Named lead who has cleared
SCS	No	
Perm Sec	No	
Second Perm Sec	No	
Communications (inc named Press Officer)	Yes	Lara Chambers
Finance/Fiscal Events	No	
HR	No	
Legal	Yes	Maxwell Hawthorne
Parliamentary Unit	No	
Devolution	No	
Analysis	No	
HMTC	No	
Other	Yes	Department for Housing, Communities and Local Government, Grenfell Tower Inquiry Team, Home Office