

Grenfell Response News

Talk to Elizabeth Campbell, Leader of Kensington and Chelsea Council at The Curve tomorrow

Elizabeth will be visiting the Curve tomorrow, Wednesday 20 September, from 4.30pm to 7pm, and will be holding a drop-in session for people to meet, talk to her, and answer any questions they may have.

For more information and to book a time please email theleader@rbkc.gov.uk.

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Sir Martin Moore-Bick opens the Grenfell Tower Inquiry

Sir Martin Moore-Bick, the Chair of the Grenfell Tower Inquiry, officially opened the Grenfell Tower Public Inquiry on Thursday 14 September. The Inquiry will examine the circumstances leading up to and surrounding the fire at Grenfell Tower, establish the facts and will make recommendations on how to prevent a similar tragedy from happening again.

The evidence that will be gathered for the Inquiry will include:

- considering reports by the police, the fire brigade, safety experts and others
- obtaining all relevant documents from whatever sources
- contacting anyone who may have relevant information to give and who may be called as a witness.

People who have been affected by the fire will be able to take part in the Inquiry, and if people think they have relevant documents or information they should make sure they are kept and made available to the Inquiry. A process for submitting evidence will be put on the Inquiry website in the near future.

People can find out more on the Inquiry and download these documents online at www.grenfelltowerinquiry.org.uk. They can also email contact@grenfelltowerinquiry.org.uk or call **020 7947 7837**. The line is open Monday to Friday, 9am to 5.30pm.

Grenfell Community Day at Kensal Library

People are invited to come to Kensal Library, 20 Golborne Road, W10 5PF, on Wednesday 27 September from 12 midday to 4pm to enjoy a community day. People can enjoy refreshments, catch up with new and old friends, talk to health trainers and take part in fun activities for the whole family. No booking is required, so please just come and enjoy the day.

What is this newsletter for?

This is the fifty-first edition of the Grenfell Response Team newsletter.

The newsletter is also available in Arabic and Farsi languages. For regular updates please follow us on Twitter [@grenfellsupport](https://twitter.com/grenfellsupport) and on Facebook at [facebook.com/grenfellsupport](https://www.facebook.com/grenfellsupport) or visit www.grenfellresponse.org.uk

Mental health support for pupils

Mental health support is available for young people affected by the Grenfell Tower tragedy who have now returned to school.

Headteachers will continue to run parent meetings and provide specialist support and advice for students, as well as providing other support resources for schools.

Place2Be are working with local schools who have identified a need for some additional counselling and will be providing one-to-one support for students, teachers and families when pupils return to school.

The Council's online counselling service, **Kooth.com**, is also available to provide further support to pupils affected by the disaster.

Further support is available through the Screen and Treat programme run by the NHS. More information can be found by calling **0800 0234 650**.

Community day at the Bush Theatre

Families and the local community are invited to come to the Bush Theatre, 7 Uxbridge Road, W12 8LJ to enjoy an afternoon of comedy, drama, dance, poetry and writing workshops, face painting, performances and much more. The day is taking place on Sunday 24 September from 12 midday to 5pm, and is held by the Anti-Tribalism Movement in partnership with the Bush Theatre.

Things you should know about working with a lawyer

The Law Society has produced two leaflets for people affected by the Grenfell Tower fire to help explain issues around working with a lawyer. The information hopes to help answer questions people have asked about choosing and changing a lawyer as well as how you may be able to get free legal advice.

The leaflets are being given out locally and are at The Curve or online at: **www.lawsociety.org.uk/for-the-public/getting-expert-help/grenfell**

People can get free, impartial, independent advice in the following ways:

North Kensington Law Centre

Unit 13, Baseline Studios, Whitchurch Road, W11 4AT

Tel: **0208 969 7473**
(emergency: **07375 920 460**)

Email: **info@nkclc.co.uk**

Kensington Citizens Advice

2 Acklam Road, London, W10 5QZ

Tel: **020 8962 3492**
(emergency: **07389 184 723**)

Inquest (particularly for the Public Inquiry)

3rd floor, 89-93 Fonthill Road, London, N4 3JH

Tel: **020 7263 1111**

Email: **inquest@inquest.org.uk**

Dusty for Grenfell fundraising concert

People are invited to The Bolton Pub, 326 Earl's Court Road, SW5 9BQ, on Saturday 14 October from 8pm to come and enjoy the songs of Dusty Springfield in aid of the Grenfell Tower Appeal.

There is standing room and a limited number of tables available to reserve for the evening, and all proceeds and donations will go to the K&C Foundation's Grenfell Tower Fund to help those directly affected and the community.

People can turn up and enjoy the music, or if they want to reserve a table, or find out more about the evening, they can email **dustyforgrenfell@gmail.com** or visit **www.eventbrite.com/dusty-for-grenfell**

Public health advice

PHE publishes weekly air quality reports online, which collect data from around the site of Grenfell Tower. These reports continue to show low levels of air pollution. The most recent report was published on 15 September.

Dr Deborah Turbitt, health protection director for PHE in London, said: "The risk to people's health from air pollution around the Grenfell Tower site continues to be low. No asbestos has been detected, levels of particulate matter remain low, and monitoring results for dioxins, furans, PCBs, and PAHs are equivalent to background levels for London."

The air quality reports can be found online along with further public health advice at **www.gov.uk/government/news/public-health-advice-following-the-grenfell-tower-fire**

Pop-up clinics for mental health support

The NHS is offering daily pop-up clinics for families and children, seven days a week, so people can talk to a specialist about health issues and mental health support. All services are free and confidential for people to use.

The sessions take place each day at the following locations:

- **Mondays**, 3pm to 5pm
at The Harrow Club,
187 Freston Road, W10 6TH
- **Tuesdays**, 3pm to 7pm
at The Clement James Centre,
95 Sirdar Road, W11 4EQ
- **Wednesdays**, 4pm to 7.30pm
at Kensington Leisure Centre,
Silchester Road, W10 6EX
- **Thursdays**, 4pm to 7.30pm
at Latymer Community
Church, 116 Bramley Road,
W10 6SU
- **Fridays**, 2pm to 4pm
at The Muslim Cultural Heritage
Centre, 244 Acklam Road,
W10 5YG
- **Saturdays**, 4pm to 7.30pm
at Maxilla Community Space,
4 Maxilla Walk, W10 6NQ
- **Sundays**, 4pm to 7.30pm
at Westway Sports Centre,
1 Crowthorne Road, W10 6RP

People can find out more information on these clinics at www.cnwl.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/Grenfell-flyer.pdf

For further information people can call **0800 0234 650** or email cnw-tr.spa@nhs.net. The line is open 24 hours a day.

Further emotional support

There are lots of services available if you or someone you know is feeling traumatised by the Grenfell Tower fire.

Support for adults and young people over the phone

- People who need an urgent mental health response can call the NHS 24-hour support line on **0800 0234 650** or email cnw-tr.spa@nhs.net. Please let the operator know you are calling as a result of the Grenfell Tower fire.
- Adults and young people can also call the free Samaritans helpline on **116 123**. The line is open 24 hours a day.
- People under 25 can call Childline any time on **0800 11 11** to talk to a trained counsellor any time, day or night.
- CALM offers support to men, on **0808 802 58 58** or visit www.thecalmzone.net. The line is open every day from 5pm to 12 midnight.

Support for children with disabilities and learning difficulties

- Full of Life Kensington and Chelsea is providing outreach counselling to parents of children with disabilities.

Visit www.fulloflifekc.com for more information.

Online support

- **Kooth.com** is a free online counselling service for children aged 11 to 19.
- **NHSGo.uk** provides health information for young people under the age of 25, including advice on coping with stress after a major incident.

Support for families from Family Friends

Family Friends are offering free practical and emotional support for families affected by the Grenfell tragedy. A reliable, trained and supervised volunteer will be matched to a family, who will provide three months of support in the family's home. The programmes offer two hours of support each week, which are:

Child Mentoring

Young people aged 5 to 16 to have fun, enjoy days out, get academic support and discover new hobbies in a programme that is tailor-made to their own needs. The volunteer can also provide assistance to parents and signpost them to more support if needed.

Parent Befriending

Parents of children aged up to 16 years old can receive support with moving to a new property, paperwork, applications for grants or signpost them to more support if needed. The volunteer can also give support around parenting and accompany family outings.

People can find out more at www.familyfriends.uk.com emailing info@familyfriends.uk.com or calling **020 8960 9099**.

What help is on offer?

Anyone who would like to speak to the police in relation to the investigation into the fire are asked to contact the Met Police on **0800 032 4539**.

Other important contacts

Bereavement support

Call the Freephone helpline on **0808 808 1677** or email helpline@cruse.org.uk. The line is open 24 hours a day.

Replacement UK passports, visas or immigration queries

Call our advice line on **0300 222 0000**. The line is open 24 hours.

Air quality and smoke exposure

If you have concerns about any symptoms, please see your doctor or call NHS **111**.

Housing support

If you have any questions about housing or want to find out who your housing officer is please call **0800 137 111** or **020 7361 3008**.

Victim support

Call **0808 1689 111** for practical and emotional support, or visit victimsupport.org.uk. The line is open 24 hours a day.

The Grenfell Muslim Response Unit also offers additional support. Find out more by calling **020 3670 6004** or email info@gmru.co.uk

You can also get physical and mental support at the Grenfell Assistance Centre. Find out more by calling **07712 231 133**.

For regular updates please follow us on Twitter [@grenfellsupport](https://twitter.com/grenfellsupport) and on Facebook at facebook.com/grenfellsupport, or visit www.grenfellresponse.org.uk

Housing update

Finding housing solutions that work for everyone directly affected by the Grenfell Tower fire remains our absolute priority and we are working hard to achieve this, while making sure to work at the pace that each family or household feels comfortable with.

So far, 169 offers have been made for temporary accommodation, 64 offers have been accepted and 29 households have moved in. In addition to this, 47 offers of permanent accommodation have been made, and 29 of these offers have been accepted.

Government has given commitments to help reassure families that:

- their needs are paramount, all other considerations are secondary to these
- their rent will not increase and the same terms and conditions of their previous home at Grenfell Tower or Grenfell Walk will be maintained
- they will have lifetime security of tenure
- they will not be forced to stay in temporary accommodation on a long-term basis
- accepting an offer of temporary accommodation does not mean that they lose priority for a permanent home
- no one has to accept a particular property and not accepting a property does not mean that they will be made intentionally homeless
- temporary homes will be rent and utility bill free for 12 months
- for some cases, if they like their temporary home, there is the potential for it to become their permanent home (this will be discussed when the home is offered to them).

More information is available on the Housing line on **020 7361 3008**

Care for Grenfell team set up to support residents

The Care for Grenfell team has been set up to talk to any residents that have been affected by the Grenfell Tower fire who feel that their concerns or requests have not been fully answered.

If people do have any questions or concerns that they feel haven't been met, please call **020 7745 6414** or email careforgrenfell@rbkc.gov.uk. The line is open from Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm.

If people are calling outside of opening hours, they can provide their name and contact details and a member of the team will respond as soon as possible.

If people need to speak to someone urgently about housing or need to get in touch with social services, they can call the housing line on **020 7361 3008** or the social services line on **020 7361 3013**.