

AGENDA

Meeting	Fire, Resilience and Emergency Planning Committee (Extraordinary)
Date	Tuesday 5 November 2019
Time	10.00 am
Place	Chamber, City Hall, The Queen's Walk, London, SE1 2AA

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Members of the Committee

Andrew Dismore AM (Chair)
Susan Hall AM (Deputy Chairman)
Gareth Bacon AM

Leonie Cooper AM
Florence Eshalomi AM
David Kurten AM

This meeting has been called with less than 5 clear working days' notice, in accordance with Standing Order 1.7 and the urgency procedure set out at Standing Order 1.10. The Chair has agreed in accordance with Section 100B(B)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 to call an extraordinary meeting to consider the Phase 1 report from the Grenfell Tower Inquiry at the earliest opportunity.

Ed Williams, Executive Director of Secretariat
Thursday 31 October 2019

Further Information

If you have questions, would like further information about the meeting or require special facilities please contact: Jonathan Baker, Committee Officer, Tel: 020 7084 2825; Email: jonathan.baker@london.gov.uk.

For media enquiries please contact Aoife Nolan, External Communications Officer; Telephone: 020 7983 4228; Email: aoife.nolan@london.gov.uk. If you have any questions about individual items please contact the author whose details are at the end of the report.

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Certificate Number: FS 80233

Agenda
Fire, Resilience and Emergency Planning Committee
Tuesday 5 November 2019

1 To Ratify the Calling of the Meeting in Accordance with Paragraph 1.7 of the Authority's Standing Orders

The Chair has agreed that this meeting be called as a matter of urgency in order to consider the Phase 1 report from the Grenfell Tower Inquiry at the earliest opportunity, in accordance with section 100B(4)(B) of the Local Government Act 1972.

2 Apologies for Absence and Chair's Announcements

To receive any apologies for absence and any announcements from the Chair.

3 Declarations of Interests (Pages 1 - 4)

Report of the Executive Director of the Secretariat
Contact: Jonathan Baker, jonathan.baker@london.gov.uk; 020 7084 2825

The Committee is recommended to:

- (a) Note the list of offices held by Assembly Members, as set out in the table at Agenda Item 2, as disclosable pecuniary interests;**
- (b) Note the declaration by any Member(s) of any disclosable pecuniary interests in specific items listed on the agenda and the necessary action taken by the Member(s) regarding withdrawal following such declaration(s); and**
- (c) Note the declaration by any Member(s) of any other interests deemed to be relevant (including any interests arising from gifts and hospitality received which are not at the time of the meeting reflected on the Authority's register of gifts and hospitality, and noting also the advice from the GLA's Monitoring Officer set out at Agenda Item 2) and to note any necessary action taken by the Member(s) following such declaration(s).**

4 Grenfell Tower Inquiry: Phase 1 Report (Pages 5 - 8)

Report of the Executive Director of the Secretariat
Contact: Janette Roker, janette.roker@london.gov.uk; 020 7983 6562

The Committee is recommended to:

- (a) Consider the detail of the Phase 1 report of the Grenfell Tower Inquiry and consider the Committee's next steps.**

- (b) Note the report as background to the discussion on Phase 1 of the Grenfell Tower Inquiry and the subsequent discussion.**
- (c) Delegate authority to the Chair, in consultation with party Group Lead Members, to agree any output from the meeting.**

Subject: Declarations of Interests

Report to: Fire, Resilience and Emergency Planning Committee

Report of: Executive Director of the Secretariat

Date: 5 November 2019

This report will be considered in public

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report sets out details of offices held by Assembly Members for noting as disclosable pecuniary interests and requires additional relevant declarations relating to disclosable pecuniary interests, and gifts and hospitality to be made.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 **That the list of offices held by Assembly Members, as set out in the table below, be noted as disclosable pecuniary interests¹;**
- 2.2 **That the declaration by any Member(s) of any disclosable pecuniary interests in specific items listed on the agenda and the necessary action taken by the Member(s) regarding withdrawal following such declaration(s) be noted; and**
- 2.3 **That the declaration by any Member(s) of any other interests deemed to be relevant (including any interests arising from gifts and hospitality received which are not at the time of the meeting reflected on the Authority's register of gifts and hospitality, and noting also the advice from the GLA's Monitoring Officer set out at below) and any necessary action taken by the Member(s) following such declaration(s) be noted.**

3. Issues for Consideration

- 3.1 Relevant offices held by Assembly Members are listed in the table overleaf:

¹ The Monitoring Officer advises that: Paragraph 10 of the Code of Conduct will only preclude a Member from participating in any matter to be considered or being considered at, for example, a meeting of the Assembly, where the Member has a direct Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in that particular matter. The effect of this is that the 'matter to be considered, or being considered' must be about the Member's interest. So, by way of example, if an Assembly Member is also a councillor of London Borough X, that Assembly Member will be precluded from participating in an Assembly meeting where the Assembly is to consider a matter about the Member's role / employment as a councillor of London Borough X; the Member will not be precluded from participating in a meeting where the Assembly is to consider a matter about an activity or decision of London Borough X.

Member	Interest
Tony Arbour AM	
Jennette Arnold OBE AM	European Committee of the Regions
Gareth Bacon AM	Member, LB Bexley
Shaun Bailey AM	
Sian Berry AM	Member, LB Camden
Andrew Boff AM	Congress of Local and Regional Authorities (Council of Europe)
Leonie Cooper AM	Member, LB Wandsworth
Tom Copley AM	Member, LB Lewisham
Unmesh Desai AM	
Tony Devenish AM	Member, City of Westminster
Andrew Dismore AM	
Len Duvall AM	
Florence Eshalomi AM	
Nicky Gavron AM	
Susan Hall AM	Member, LB Harrow
David Kurten AM	
Joanne McCartney AM	Deputy Mayor
Steve O'Connell AM	Member, LB Croydon
Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM	
Keith Prince AM	Alternate Member, European Committee of the Regions
Caroline Russell AM	Member, LB Islington
Dr Onkar Sahota AM	
Navin Shah AM	
Fiona Twycross AM	Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience; Chair of the London Local Resilience Forum
Peter Whittle AM	

[Note: LB - London Borough]

3.2 Paragraph 10 of the GLA's Code of Conduct, which reflects the relevant provisions of the Localism Act 2011, provides that:

- where an Assembly Member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter to be considered or being considered or at
 - (i) a meeting of the Assembly and any of its committees or sub-committees; or
 - (ii) any formal meeting held by the Mayor in connection with the exercise of the Authority's functions
- they must disclose that interest to the meeting (or, if it is a sensitive interest, disclose the fact that they have a sensitive interest to the meeting); and
- must not (i) participate, or participate any further, in any discussion of the matter at the meeting; or (ii) participate in any vote, or further vote, taken on the matter at the meeting

UNLESS

- they have obtained a dispensation from the GLA's Monitoring Officer (in accordance with section 2 of the Procedure for registration and declarations of interests, gifts and hospitality – Appendix 5 to the Code).

3.3 Failure to comply with the above requirements, without reasonable excuse, is a criminal offence; as is knowingly or recklessly providing information about your interests that is false or misleading.

- 3.4 In addition, the Monitoring Officer has advised Assembly Members to continue to apply the test that was previously applied to help determine whether a pecuniary / prejudicial interest was arising - namely, that Members rely on a reasonable estimation of whether a member of the public, with knowledge of the relevant facts, could, with justification, regard the matter as so significant that it would be likely to prejudice the Member's judgement of the public interest.
- 3.5 Members should then exercise their judgement as to whether or not, in view of their interests and the interests of others close to them, they should participate in any given discussions and/or decisions business of within and by the GLA. It remains the responsibility of individual Members to make further declarations about their actual or apparent interests at formal meetings noting also that a Member's failure to disclose relevant interest(s) has become a potential criminal offence.
- 3.6 Members are also required, where considering a matter which relates to or is likely to affect a person from whom they have received a gift or hospitality with an estimated value of at least £25 within the previous three years or from the date of election to the London Assembly, whichever is the later, to disclose the existence and nature of that interest at any meeting of the Authority which they attend at which that business is considered.
- 3.7 The obligation to declare any gift or hospitality at a meeting is discharged, subject to the proviso set out below, by registering gifts and hospitality received on the Authority's on-line database. The on-line database may be viewed here:
<https://www.london.gov.uk/mayor-assembly/gifts-and-hospitality>.
- 3.8 If any gift or hospitality received by a Member is not set out on the on-line database at the time of the meeting, and under consideration is a matter which relates to or is likely to affect a person from whom a Member has received a gift or hospitality with an estimated value of at least £25, Members are asked to disclose these at the meeting, either at the declarations of interest agenda item or when the interest becomes apparent.
- 3.9 It is for Members to decide, in light of the particular circumstances, whether their receipt of a gift or hospitality, could, on a reasonable estimation of a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts, with justification, be regarded as so significant that it would be likely to prejudice the Member's judgement of the public interest. Where receipt of a gift or hospitality could be so regarded, the Member must exercise their judgement as to whether or not, they should participate in any given discussions and/or decisions business of within and by the GLA.

4. Legal Implications

- 4.1 The legal implications are as set out in the body of this report.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

List of Background Papers: None

Contact Officer: Jonathan Baker, Committee Officer

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Subject: Grenfell Tower Inquiry: Phase 1 Report

Report to: Fire, Resilience and Emergency Planning Committee

Report of: Executive Director of the Secretariat

**Date:
5 November 2019**

This report will be considered in public

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report provides background information to the Fire, Resilience and Emergency Planning (FREP) Committee for its meeting with invited guests focussing on the Grenfell Tower Inquiry (GTI) Phase 1 Report.¹

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 **That the Committee consider the detail of the Grenfell Tower Inquiry Phase 1 Report and consider the Committee's next steps.**
- 2.2 **That the Committee notes this report as background to the discussion on Grenfell Tower Inquiry Phase 1 report and the subsequent discussion.**
- 2.3 **That authority be delegated to the Chair, in consultation with party Group Lead Members, to agree any output from the meeting.**

3. Background

- 3.1 The Grenfell Tower fire broke out on 14 June 2017 at the 25-storey block of social housing flats in North Kensington. The block originally contained 120 flats over 20 floors, with the ground and first three levels assigned to non-residential properties. Between 2012 and 2016 Grenfell Tower was refurbished. An additional nine flats were added within levels one to three, bringing the total number of residential units to 129. Refurbishment work also included the installation of an external rain screen cladding system and works to the gas supply within the building.² 71 people lost their lives on the night of the fire with a further fatality on 29 January 2018.
- 3.2 The then Prime Minister, Rt Hon Theresa May MP, announced on 15 June 2017 a public inquiry into the fire at Grenfell Tower. The Grenfell Tower Inquiry is examining the circumstances leading up to and surrounding the fire. Sir Martin Moore-Bick was appointed as the Chairman of

¹ The Rt Hon Sir Martin Moore-Bick, [Grenfell Tower Inquiry: Phase 1 Report](https://www.grenfelltowerinquiry.org.uk/phase-1-report) (<https://www.grenfelltowerinquiry.org.uk/phase-1-report>), 30 October 2019

² London Fire Brigade – Head of GTIRT, Grenfell Tower Fire Preliminary Report, 2 April 2019
City Hall, The Queen's Walk, London SE1 2AA

the inquiry on 28 June 2017 and the inquiry was formally set up on 15 August 2017. The Terms of Reference were set by the then Prime Minister following a public consultation led by the Chairman. The inquiry has published a list of issues on which its investigations will focus, although it has said this may be revised during the course of the investigation.³

3.3 The list of issues that the inquiry is investigating has been separated into two phases. Phase 1 focuses on the factual narrative of the events on the night of 14 June 2017. Hearings for Phase 1 began on 21 May 2018 and concluded on 12 December 2018. The Grenfell Tower Inquiry Phase 1 Report was published on 30 October 2019.⁴ Phase 2 of the Inquiry is focusing on the remainder of the list of issues and hearings are expected to begin in early 2020, following which the final report will be written and subsequently published.⁵

3.4 The report is divided into six parts and makes 46 recommendations in relation to 12 matters:

- The information made available to fire and rescue services about the materials and methods of construction used in the external walls of high-rise residential buildings;
- The arrangements made by the London Fire Brigade (LFB) to discharge its duties under section 7(2)(d) of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004;
- The availability of plans of high-rise residential buildings to local fire and rescue services and the provision of premises information boxes in high-rise residential buildings;
- The regular inspection and testing of lifts designed for use by firefighters;
- Communication between the LFB control room and the incident commander;
- The way in which fire and rescue services handle emergency calls;
- The LFB's command and control procedures and use of resources, in particular the capture of information from crews returning from deployments and the sharing of information between the LFB control room, the incident commander and the bridgehead;
- The communication equipment available to the LFB for use by crews deployed in firefighting and rescue operations in high-rise buildings;
- The evacuation of high-rise residential buildings, including the provision of equipment enabling firefighters to send an evacuation signal to the whole or a selected part of the building;
- The provision of fire safety information to residents of high-rise residential buildings and the marking of floor levels in lobbies and staircase landings;
- The inspection of fire doors and self-closing devices;
- Aspects of co-operation between the emergency services.

³ Grenfell Tower Inquiry, [Updated list of issues](https://assets.grenfelltowerinquiry.org.uk/inline-files/List%20of%20Issues%2025%20September%202019.pdf) (<https://assets.grenfelltowerinquiry.org.uk/inline-files/List%20of%20Issues%2025%20September%202019.pdf>), September 2019

⁴ The Rt Hon Sir Martin Moore-Bick, [Grenfell Tower Inquiry: Phase 1 Report](https://www.grenfelltowerinquiry.org.uk/phase-1-report) (<https://www.grenfelltowerinquiry.org.uk/phase-1-report>), 30 October 2019.

⁵ Grenfell Tower Inquiry - [About](https://www.grenfelltowerinquiry.org.uk/about) (<https://www.grenfelltowerinquiry.org.uk/about>)

4. Issues for Consideration

4.1 This meeting will be used to hear from invited guests on the key considerations arising from the publication of the Grenfell Tower Inquiry Phase 1 report.

4.2 Invited guests include:

- Dr Fiona Twycross AM, Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience;
- Dany Cotton, QFSM, London Fire Commissioner;
- Andy Bell, Deputy Assistant Commissioner, LFB;
- Roy Wilsher, Chair, National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC);
- Mark Hardingham, Chair of the NFCC Protection and Business Safety Committee and Chief Fire Officer and Executive Director, Fire and Public Safety, Suffolk County Council; and
- A representative from the Fire Brigade's Union.

5. Legal Implications

5.1 The Committee has the power to do what is recommended in this report.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 There are no financial implications to the Greater London Authority arising from this report.

List of appendices to this report:

None

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985
List of Background Papers: None
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