Roy Wilsher
Chair
National Fire Chiefs Council
Description and location

Grenfell Tower, Lancaster West Estate, London, W11 1TG

- 24 storey residential building
- Ground floor crèche, nursery, youth club
- 129 one and two bedroom flats
- London Borough of Kensington and Chelsea
Grenfell Tower

- Designed 1967
- Built 1972-74
- 24 storeys
- Brutalist architecture
- Refurbished 2014-16
- 9 further flats added
Typical residential floor in Grenfell Tower

Source: Studio E Architects
GRENFELL TOWER
PRE-REFURB IN 2011

POST-REFURB
WITH NEW CLADDING
Resources used

- >200 firefighters and officers during response phase
- 40 pumping appliances
- 7 Command Units
- 14 Fire Rescue Units
- 4 Aerials
- 3 Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) modules
- 50 specialist USAR firefighters and specially trained search dogs
- In total, almost 700 personnel attended Grenfell Tower up to STOP message
Duration of incident

- Stop message was sent on 27 June 2017 at 1345 hours
- 13 days, 12 hours and 51 minutes after the initial call
- LFB Fire Investigation team members still on scene assisting MPS investigation
Number of People Rescued

- 65 people rescued by crews using both Standard Duration and Extended Duration breathing apparatus
- Extremely difficult and arduous conditions
An unprecedented incident ….
Counselling and wellbeing (C&W)

- Red Watch (RW) attend Grenfell Tower to fight the fire and remove casualties
- Blue Watch on duty 0930 hours
- Tens of stations attended
- Control officers (answering 999 calls, mobilising resources)
- Multiple senior officers
- High levels of distress identified in both those attending and answering calls
What Happened Next
Grenfell Recovery

• Ministerial Meetings
  – Media
  – Disaster Victim Identification
  – Family Welfare and Pressure on Hospitals
  – Community Mobilisation
  – Response of Local Authority
  – Number of Occupants
  – Temporary Housing
  – Finance
  – Other Buildings
Related Matters

- Data Collection other ACM Buildings 600+
- Visits by Fire & Rescue
- Screening Tests – almost 100% Failure
- Interim Fire Safety – 22 June
  - Fire Risk Assessment
  - Residents, Doors, Means of Escape
  - Compartmentation, Smoke Control
  - Firefighting Facilities
  - Car Parks and BBQs
  - Temporary Communal Alarms and Fire Wardens
Related Matters Contd

- Camden – Chalcots Estate – 21 June
- Mad Day Saturday – 24 June
  - All NHS Buildings
- Data Cleansing – 290 blocks, mainly London and Manchester
- Expert Panel – 27 June
Related Matters Contd

• Large Scale Tests – BS8414
## Related Matters Contd

### Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aluminium Composite Material (ACM) with…</th>
<th>Insulation</th>
<th>Buildings inferred to have failed where insulation unknown</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PIR Foam</td>
<td>Phenolic Foam</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unmodified polyethylene filler (Cat. 3 in screening tests)</td>
<td>Test 1 failed</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<td></td>
<td>81 Buildings</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Report and Advice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fire retardant polyethylene filler (Cat. 2 in screening tests)</td>
<td>Test 3 failed</td>
<td>Test 7 failed</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8 Buildings</td>
<td>21 Buildings</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Report and Advice</td>
<td>Report and Advice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limited combustibility filler (Cat. 1 in screening tests)</td>
<td>Test 5 passed</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0 Buildings</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Report and Advice</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Enquiries Etc

• Criminal Investigation
• Public Enquiry
• Review of Building and Fire Safety Regulations
• Competence – Architects, Designers, Builders, Building Control, Surveyors, Fire Risk Assessors
• London Fire Brigade & national Fire Service Learning
Clause 12.7 specifically refers to insulation materials and filler materials but is now being interpreted more generally (see BCA Guidance note 18). Therefore where a building has a storey 18m or more above ground level all significant materials should be of limited combustibility (Class A2 in accordance with EN 13501-1)

- **Option 1**
  - Use Materials of Limited Combustibility

- **Option 2**
  - Testing to BS 8414-1/2 and meeting BR 135 criteria

- **Option 3**
  - Fire engineered assessment of cladding based on test data (Desktop)

- **Option 4**
  - Holistic fire engineered assessment of whole building
Next Steps

• Interim Letter Update
• Waking Watch Guidance – Stay Put
• Fire Service Revisits
• Remove Cladding – Supply Chain
• Private Sector
• Other Cladding Systems—High pressure Laminates (HPL), Render coatings, Fibre Reinforced Plastic/Panels
• Data
• National Fire Chiefs Council – Co-ordination, Advice and Consistency