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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 12 March 2014 16:40  
**To:** clwilliams@kctmo.org.uk  
**Cc:** jwray@kctmo.org.uk  
**Subject:** Re: Grenfell and finger blocks - visit with fire brigade

Good afternoon to you both, ref point 4 Claire you are correct both are the same and both lifts in Grenfell Tower are fire fighting lifts.

By the way

A firemans lift is

Definitions

noun

a method of carrying a person, in which you put one shoulder into the person's midriff, lift them and carry them with their head arms and upper torso hanging down your back while you grip their legs with one hand (leaving your other hand free to hold the ladder as you climb down)

A firefighting lift is

A lift that must be installed in buildings over 18metres in high or where the basement level is more than 10 m below the ground floor level. Today it will conform to the requirements of EN81-72: Fire fighting lifts,

I think he is getting confused with fireman controls and the fireman's switches etc which are fitted to a fire fighting lift.

There are slight differences between a fire fighting lift and an evacuation lift though.

Ref point 3

I am a bit concerned about this one, on hand it is ok to remove the ramp but on the other there are access issues to the upper floor levels. I would recommend that the LFB are asked for a definitive statement on this issue on headed LFB paper so that there is no come back at a later date. The access arrangements are existing and if they are changed then you as the TMO must provide access arrangements as required in the latest edition of Approved Document B Part 5 of the Building Regulations. It is not up to the fire service who are the enforcing authority for the Fire Safety Order only to give sign off on Building Regulations requirements.

Ref point 2

This item has been raised on numerous occasions and RGE have been asked for information and none has been provided, this is for the ventilation and automatic smoke detection on the lift/lobby areas of Grenfell and the smoke detectors and automatic opening vents in the figure blocks. Also servicing and maintenance information for the vents etc. If the LFB issues an enforcement notice on the TMO this should immediately be challenged and asked to be served on RGE as your third party contractor.

On the other issues most of these have come up before, for instance the non-standard locks on the dry riser boxes, this was dealt with at the fire brigade exercise at Grenfell and the lock is irrelevant that is why there is a glass panel on the front of them.

On OCS storing flammable materials in their store under Hurstway, what does their Fire Risk Assessment say about these? what are the quantities? and how are they stored?

This is a garage area where cars can be garaged, cars have flammable material in them, petrol, the garage area is designed to have flammables stored in it.

Carl

-----Original Message-----

From: Claire Williams <clwilliams@kctmo.org.uk>

To: Janice Wray <jwray@kctmo.org.uk>

CC: carlstokes <carlstokes@firesafety-consultant.co.uk>; bruce <bruce@studioe.co.uk>

Sent: Wed, 12 Mar 2014 15:42

Subject: Grenfell and finger blocks - visit with fire brigade

Hi Janice

I had a great time on site this am with our architect and Daniel Hallissey and Matthew Ramsey and a.n.other from the fire brigade. We talked through our Grenfell scheme, specifically 4 issues:

1 We need to submit our airflow calculations to building regulations to evidence our smoke strategy to the internal lobbies is viable

2 Matthew was very unhappy about the existing state of the smoke vents to each lobby – of those looked at about 30% were not in the right position. I have been chasing RGE for 2 months now on their servicing records and had nothing back. Janice, do you want to chase Simon Coleman or Dil on this as I am obviously getting nowhere. Matthew said about issuing us with notice to confirm fully functional in 6 weeks, but maybe I can deal with Daniel on this, assuming that we do have some servicing records?

3 The ramp can go, but they were unhappy with the arrangements to accessing the finger blocks which need to be updated to make sure that the existing fire arrangements work. The assumption is that the tenders are parked outside Grenfell on the service road, and then that the fire fighters go through the basement garages to the hydrants, and then do a 'loop' so that they can get water at the floors the water is needed at. Please see the bullet points below.

4 Carl, can you please confirm that the lifts are either fireman's or fire fighting – I did not realise there was a difference!

Carl/Janice, you may want to do a review of the finger blocks in relation the FRA – the issues raised today were:

- insecure entrances, a couple of those looked at today were open and therefore giving access for illegal/fire setting people in the basement garages
- non-standard locks on hydrants (the same applied to the dry risers in Grenfell)
- signage from basement not pointing out that the basement gives access to the upper floors of the finger blocks, and which numbers – and generally
- the atrium rooflight control panel is in Grenfell concierge room – I do not know if anyone checks it. Currently it is showing that the rooflight at Hurstway nearest the podium access has an issue. Who deals with this? I would want to get rid of this panel, as it is no use to Grenfell and I suspect it is not serviced/managed.

- LESS WORRIED ABOUT cross ventilation to garages not happening now. It seems as if for security, that the fanlights have been blocked up allowing some, but not as designed, ventilation levels.
- LESS WORRIED ABOUT garage doors have numbers at top of doors, which would not be legible with smoke rising
- LESS WORRIED ABOUT our contractor OCS storing flammable materials in their store under Hurstway

Shout if you want to sit down and talk to this.

Janice – please let me know if you have any joy with RGE re testing the smoke vents in the lobbies.

Thanks

Claire Williams  
Project Manager

t: [REDACTED]  
m: [REDACTED]

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