## Dear Mr Ahmed,

You may already know that the Lancaster West Estate is changing, with refurbishment work planned that aims to make the estate a model for social housing. Creating the designs for this work will be led by the residents; this it is your estate and you will be in control. I am contacting you to make sure you know how to have your say.

Following the Grenfell Tower tragedy, there was clear recognition of the need to make real improvements around the estate. With that in mind, both local and central Government have committed funding to support an ambitious and resident-led refurbishment of the estate.

To ensure these improvements reflect the needs of the community, Kensington and Chelsea Council is working in partnership with local residents, through the Lancaster West Residents' Association (LWRA), supported by the Department of Communities and Local Government, to 'co-design' the renewal of the estate. This means we will work with residents and be guided by them in designs for the new estate and refurbishment works.

To make this a reality, there will be a series of events that will make sure residents can make real choices about the place they live. All the work will be done sensitively and in cooperation with residents and all the decisions made will be communicated back to them.

With that in mind, we will be holding the first 'Lancaster West Ideas Day' on Saturday 27th January at the Kensington Leisure Centre, Silchester Road. The event will bring together architects, residents and some early ideas so that as a community you can start to visualise how the improvements to the estate might look.

As part of the Lancaster West community I would welcome your participation at the event, the full details of which will shortly be shared with you. However, if you would like to get more involved with this project, have any initial ideas or would like to talk to the team leading this work then please contact Steve Jacobs on <a href="mailto:steve-jacobs@rbkc.gov.uk">steve-jacobs@rbkc.gov.uk</a> in the meantime.

Yours sincerely

Barry Quirk CBE BSc PhD FRGS FRSA CiPFA (Hon) Chief Executive

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## Yasir Afzal

From:

Grenfell Tower Leaseholder's Association

<GrenfellLeaseholdersAssociation@hotmail.co.uk>

Sent:

17 March 2018 23:43

To:

Andrew Brookes

Cc:

Sayedaahmed

Subject:

Fw: Lancaster West Estate is neither Refurbishment or Improvement Work. It is Fake

Regeneration just like Grenfell Tower Regeneration Project.

Attachments:

Letter from Barry Quirk Chief Excutive RBKC 15.01.18.pdf

FYI and evidences- Thanks Shah

From: Grenfell Tower Leaseholder's Association

Sent: 20 January 2018 22:35

o: Barry.Quirk@rbkc.gov.uk; Cllr.Campbell3@rbkc.gov.uk; cllr.taylor-smith@rbkc.gov.uk

Cc: info@grenfellunited.org;

Zoe Dainton; Councillors@rbkc.gov.uk;
emma.dentcoad.mp@parliament.uk; Hutchinson, Tony: CP-TownClerk: RBKC; steve.jacobs@rbkc.gov.uk
ajid.javid@communities.gsi.gov.uk;
cllr.atkinson@rbkc.gov.uk; cllr.lasharie@rbkc.gov.uk; Monica Press; cllr.mason@rbkc.gov.uk; Zaki Ahmed;
Eddie daffarn

**Subject:** : Lancaster West Estate is neither Refurbishment or Improvement Work. It is Fake Regeneration just like Grenfell Tower Regeneration Project.

Dear Mr Barry Quirk/Cllr Elizabeth Campbell,

This email is referring to your letter dated 15<sup>th</sup> January 2018 to me as well as all the survivors of Grenfell Tower. To quote, "To ensure these improvement reflect the needs of the community, Kensington and Chelsea council is working in partnership with local residents, through the Lancaster west residents' (LWRA), supported by the Department of communities and Local Government, to co-design' the renewal of the estate. This means we will work with residents and be guided by them in designs for the new estate and refurbishment works".

You as a newly appointed Chief Executive of RBKC like your predecessor, failed to comprehend the unprecedented level of tragic and horrific incident which took place on 14th June 2017 that could and should have avoided by the RBKC/KCTMO. It is hugely insensitive and brings back terrible memories of the "consultation" for GRTP. Where was the consultant and addressing of resident demands for a health and safety assessment of Grenfell Tower. It is quite shocking really that the council have not rehoused survivors from the Towering Inferno, but they can turn their attention to the estate surrounding the block.

When you referring to Lancaster west association (LWRA) who you referring to and we all know that and in fact the whole world knows that there is no Lancaster west community and it has been completely and utterly destroyed by this manmade disaster in Grenfell Tower on 14th June 2017.

Innocent men, women and children were burned alive in Grenfell Tower. It was a manmade disaster NOT an act of God. I as Chair/Founder of Grenfell Tower Leaseholders Association exchanged hundreds of email correspondences with RBKC/KCTMO to raise our grave issues and concerns we had for many years, but the so called LWRA never came to our aid. This is all documented.

rst and foremost this is the <u>wrong time to even talk about so called regeneration</u> when six months on for some of us we are so traumatised by the tragic incident which is still fresh in our memory. RBKC MUST alleviate our pain and suffering first and for some of the resident that is still NOT happening. I was a resident and leaseholder and lived in Lancaster west estate for more than 25 years and some of the residents lived there for much longer than that.

Grenfell United was born out of ashes of Grenfell Towering Inferno. But the so called Lancaster West Residents' Association existed alongside the so called Lancaster West Estate Management Board for over 30 years with very limited community impact.

I have witnessed three major incidents in Grenfell Tower which could and should have been avoided by RBKC/KCTMO. They are all very painful regrets for some of us.

1. First there was a fire on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2010. In that fire my wife was injured and I went through a 3 year legal battle with RBKC/KCTMO and they are all documented. Since then I have raised grave health and safety concerns including recently installed gas pipe through the stairwell via the Grenfell Tower Leaseholders Association. They are all also documented. It is extremely unfortunate that we got zero support from the Lancaster West Resident Association. We have not learnt from previous mistakes.

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- Catastrophic power surges of May 2013. Again this so called LWRA never came to our aid for the Resident of Grenfell Tower apart from Grenfell Action group (namely Joe Delaney and more famously Edward Daffarn and Francis O'Conner. We have not learnt from previous mistakes.
- 3. Towering Inferno on 14th June 2017. One of the worst resident fires this country has ever seen. The Rt. Honourable Prime Minister stated in the House of Commons that it is a national tragedy and state failure.

Grenfell tower was our resident and beloved sweet home for 25 years. No words can provide comfort when we lost so many of our neighbours and close friends whom we know for over a quarter of a century.

With regards to the so called Grenfell Tower Public Inquiry and getting justice, only time will tell and but we are not holding our breath. Everybody are trying to benefit from out of our extreme painful circumstances.

All truth passes through four stages. The irony is that it usually it take two to three decades for truth to be self-evident by the time a generation and the world is as we know it changes and most importantly some of us may face a natural death. This kind of truth has no value in society apart from being written in history books by the victor NOT the victims.

It appears to be an indelible human trait that the 'truth' about nearly all issues goes through four distinct phases known as "the four stages of truth". During the first stage, the issue goes unrecognised and is 'nerefore ignored. The second stage is one of ridicule, as in "that's ridiculous". The third stage is characterised by a period of vehement denial. Finally, the fourth stage witnesses the truth being recognised as "self evident.

Our position is since  $14^{th}$  June 2017, everybody call us the survivors of Grenfell Towering inferno. Responding to your letter dated  $15^{th}$  January 2018 I <u>can not</u> see myself being part of any association let alone LWRA who made next to zero contribution for the residents of Grenfell Tower according to us or according to me.

So we have not learned from previous mistake and if you don't learn from history and the history will repeat itself and that's lead to Grenfell Towering Inferno.

I apologised in advance if the recipients of this email are hurt by any statement, or disagree with my experiences I had for the past 25 years, I only shared my experiences with you and your experiences may be different than mine and it is not intentional. We hope and pray no one ever goes through what we the residents of Grenfell Tower went through, no amount of money can replace this pain. Very best wishes

Shah Ahmed

Former resident leaseholder of Grenfell Tower for 25 years

Former founder/Chair of Grenfell Tower leaseholders' Association

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