

## **Briefing: Grenfell Tower Fire - London Local Authority Gold (LLAG) and Mutual Aid Arrangements**

### **1. Formal procedures for escalation from a single Borough response to pan-London response**

- 1.1. The LLAG Operating Procedure includes a process for bottom up activation of pan-London local authority coordination arrangements. In the event that a Borough experiences an incident which may escalate to become a Pan London emergency or require a multi-borough response, the CEO will discuss with the duty LLAG. Duty LLAG, in consultation with other relevant stakeholders if required, will agree to the activation of the LLAG arrangements.
- 1.2. In the event of an incident contained within a single Borough, LLAG activation is a 'bottom-up' activation process. I.e. it has to be activated by the CEO of the affected local authority. The LLAG arrangements are underpinned by a Resolution passed on behalf of each London Borough Council and the Common Council of the City of London.

### **2. Escalation from single Borough response to pan-London response in the case of the Grenfell Tower Fire**

- 2.1. On the morning of the incident (14<sup>th</sup> June), the CEO RB Kensington & Chelsea discussed the incident with the Duty LLAG (CEO LB Barking & Dagenham). It was agreed that CEO RBKC would continue to lead the local authority response and it was not necessary to activate LLAG or invoke the LLAG arrangements. The exception to this was that the London Local Authority Coordination Centre (LLACC) was stood up to share information with all local authorities and as a precaution in case there was a requirement to support RBKC with mutual aid (a core function of the LLACC).
- 2.2. On Wednesday evening the Chair of the LRF Local Authorities Panel (CEO and Town Clerk, City of London Corporation), Duty LLAG and the CEO of London Councils contacted the CEO RBKC to offer their support coordination arrangements. It was confirmed on the call that RBKC were to retain the lead and did not request any formal mutual aid resources. It was noted however that informal aid was already in place from LB H&F and City of Westminster from the previous tri borough agreements that used to be in place.
- 2.3. On the evening of Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June, in light of the increasing complexity of the incident, a request for mutual aid from RBKC (LALO's, BECC staff and Rest Centre Staff) and a number of other factors, a decision was taken for support to the RBKC response to be provided by other local authority chief executives and senior staff.
- 2.4. On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June, CEO and Town Clerk, City of London Corporation in the capacity of LLAG, other LA CEO's and senior staff deployed to RBKC in support of the incident. The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea invoked the LLAG pan-London coordination arrangements on Friday afternoon.
- 2.5. Since Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June a wide range of London local authority staff and resources have been provided through mutual aid in support of the RBKC response. This

includes senior officers, command control and coordination staff (from incident scene liaison to Gold level), specialist advisors / experts (e.g. in Humanitarian Assistance), Social Workers, housing officers, public comms officers.

**London Resilience Group, 18<sup>th</sup> June 2017**