

Incoming Email

from

Duncan  
Campbell/MaxFordham

on  
16/01/2014 16:49

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To: BOOTH Philip <philip.booth@uk.arteliagroup.com>

cc: Bruce Sounes <bruce@studioe.co.uk>; "clwilliams@kctmo.org.uk" <clwilliams@kctmo.org.uk>; Grenfell <Grenfell@studioe.co.uk>; "M.Smith@maxfordham.com" <M.Smith@maxfordham.com>; BLYTHE Peter <peter.blythe@uk.arteliagroup.com>; Terry Ashton <Terry.Ashton@Exova.com>

Subject: RE: Grenfell Tower - Lobby Smoke Venting

Associated Documents

created by: Michael McMillan on 18-Sep-17

Philip,

I've discussed this with Terry Ashton and agreed that in order to satisfy Building Control, it is probably going to be easier to arrange for the existing system to be tested to establish it's current performance capabilities, rather than trying to generate a computer model.

We will arrange for a specialist testing/commissioning company to take readings. Prior to this, we will contact the current maintenance company to see when the system was last tested and for any comments they may have on the condition of the system.

Claire - can you give us contact details for the current maintenance company please?

I assume the cost for this work will come out of the survey budget.

We will progress this as quickly as we can.

Duncan.

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BOOTH Philip	Duncan, We discussed this yesterday on the ph...	15/01/2014 17:11:41
From:	BOOTH Philip <philip.booth@uk.arteliagroup.com>	
To:	"d.campbell@maxfordham.com" <d.campbell@maxfordham.com>, Terry Ashton <Terry.Ashton@Exova.com>,	

Cc: Bruce Sounes <bruce@studioe.co.uk>, "clwilliams@kctmo.org.uk" <clwilliams@kctmo.org.uk>, "M.Smith@maxfordham.com" <M.Smith@maxfordham.com>, BLYTHE Peter <peter.blythe@uk.arteliagroup.com>, Grenfell <Grenfell@studioe.co.uk>  
Date: 15/01/2014 17:11  
Subject: RE: Grenfell Tower - Lobby Smoke Venting

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Duncan,

We discussed this yesterday on the phone. This issue has been going on for some time now and from what I understand building control have set their position on what information they want to proceed this which is either:

- Computer model showing flow rates
- Survey information showing existing flow rates

Please can you advise on costs, time and options to reach a building control approved design.

Kind regards

Philip



**Philip Booth**  
Associate Project Manager  
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**From:** Terry Ashton [mailto:Terry.Ashton@Exova.com]  
**Sent:** 15 January 2014 12:11  
**To:** d.campbell@maxfordham.com; BOOTH Philip  
**Cc:** Bruce Sounes; clwilliams@kctmo.org.uk; M.Smith@maxfordham.com; BLYTHE Peter; Grenfell  
**Subject:** RE: Grenfell Tower - Lobby Smoke Venting

Duncan

It would be possible to carry out a CFD analysis which compared a base case (a code compliant scheme with an automatic opening vent 1.5m<sup>2</sup> in area located on one side of the lift lobby) with what we are proposing but we haven't budgeted for this analysis and the cost might be more than measuring the flow rates provided by the existing system. Given that what we are proposing is a significant improvement over what exists, I think RBKC are being unreasonable. However, we still

need to satisfy ourselves that the LFEPA won't "reject" the system under the RRO. Therefore, it is imperative that RBKC consults the latter for a view. Should we (collectively) have another go at RBKC?

Kind regards

Terry

**Terry Ashton:** *Associate, Fire Engineering (Europe)*

**Exova Warringtonfire**

T: [REDACTED] M: [REDACTED]

**Exova**



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WINNER**

**From:** [d.campbell@maxfordham.com](mailto:d.campbell@maxfordham.com) [<mailto:d.campbell@maxfordham.com>]

**Sent:** 14 January 2014 14:08

**To:** Philip Booth

**Cc:** Bruce Sounes; Terry Ashton; [clwilliams@kctmo.org.uk](mailto:clwilliams@kctmo.org.uk); [M.Smith@maxfordham.com](mailto:M.Smith@maxfordham.com); BLYTHE Peter; Grenfell

**Subject:** Grenfell Tower - Lobby Smoke Venting

Philip,

As you are aware, we have been trying for some time to produce a ventilation strategy for smoke-venting of the lift lobbies at each of the residential levels which would be acceptable to RBKC Building Control and also for them to feel confident about presenting this to the Fire Brigade.

Bruce sent us on the 8 Jan 2014 a copy of the memo he received from RBKC Building Control dated 6 Dec 13 (copy attached) which summarises their views on the question of smoke venting.

Essentially, RBKC are asking for site testing of the system to establish air flow rates achieved by the current system or for a CFD study to be carried out to predict what a reasonable air flow rate would be. We have been trying to satisfy them by offering what we and Exova considered to be a reasonable air flow rate, but they seem to be insistent that we take the measurement or CFD route in order to establish the required air flow rate.

While in theory it should be relatively straightforward to take measurements, from our visual inspections of the system, it is likely that some problems may arise. The system is very old and appears to be not well maintained, indeed tender documents for replacement of the system were produced by AECOM in October 2011. We would therefore anticipate that site measurement may prove to be difficult.

The alternative of providing a CFD model is outside our scope of works and not within our expertise. I believe Exova could provide this, but do not think CFD is the appropriate way of resolving matters: Terry - could you comment on this.

It is rather frustrating that we can't seem to persuade RBKC Building Control that our proposals are

reasonable and would provide a better and more reliable system than what is there at present, however, we need to move things along and decide how to proceed as the intention was to resolve this and reach agreement with RBKC Building Control and the Fire Brigade before appointing a contractor.

Once Terry has had a chance to consider and comment, we can discuss further.

Duncan.

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