

---

**From:** Cllr.Blakeman@rbkc.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 17 July 2014 13:37  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Grenfell Walk Ramp at Lancaster West Estate

**Importance:** High

Muna

Many thanks. Please see below.

Judith

---

**From:** Cllr, Blakeman, Judith  
**Sent:** 17 July 2014 13:36  
**To:** rblack@kctmo.org.uk; Johnson, Laura: HS-Housing; jonathan.bore  
**Cc:** Maddison, Peter: RBKCTMO Ltd; Sacha Jevans; 'Claire Williams'; Cllr, Atkinson, Robert; Cllr, Lasharie, Beini; Kiran Singh; Rumble, Siobhan: RBKCTMO Ltd  
**Subject:** Grenfell Walk Ramp at Lancaster West Estate  
**Importance:** High

Dear Mr. Black

A resident has received the reply below from Ms. Williams that, as written, suggests that some disabled residents will be permanently confined to their homes and unable to get to the outside world. This is a problem that should have been picked up at the planning stage but we have all somehow missed it. We did of course also suggest that a lift be installed to enable residents to get up to Grenfell Walk from ground level, but this was rejected at an early stage in the planning process.

Cllr. Lasharie and I are attending the Lancaster West Residents' Association AGM this evening, where this problem is bound to be raised.

Is there any comfort that we can give residents?

Kind regards.

Cllr. Judith Blakeman

From Claire Williams:

I have had a look at the documentation I have, and the removal of the ramp is mentioned by our architect in a report of August 2013. Basically the design for the public realm (the area around Grenfell) was determined by the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea's planning department. The planning department issued guidance documents for the development of the area around Grenfell Tower (including the Kensington Academy and Leisure Centre). This was based on consultation events held by RBKC in 2010. The guidance aimed to improve the pedestrian (and visual) links across through the site. The removal of the stepped ramp, and the levelling of access around Grenfell Tower is seen as key to establishing East to West movement through the site and improving public access generally.

Effectively the planning department aimed to tidy up the whole area and provide a cohesive plan for the pedestrian areas around Grenfell - rather than the piecemeal layout that existed previously. I don't have a date of their guidance note, but I would suspect it would be 2011. Maybe some residents will remember the consultation held at the time?

There is no plan to replace the ramp.

Claire Williams  
Project Manager

t: [REDACTED]  
m: [REDACTED]  
a: The Network Hub, 292a Kensal Road, London, W10 5BEP

-----Original message-----

From : rblack@kctmo.org.uk  
Date : 14/07/2014 - 15:22 (UTC)  
To : [REDACTED] Laura.Johnson@rbkc.gov.uk, jonathan.bore@rbkc.gov.uk  
Cc : [REDACTED] Cllr.Lasharie@rbkc.gov.uk, sjevans@kctmo.org.uk,  
jwray@kctmo.org.uk  
Subject : RE: Grenfell Walk Ramp at Lancaster West Estate

Dear Councillor Blakeman

Thank you for your e-mail and enquiry on this subject.

I have spoken to Laura Johnson today and agreed that Peter Maddison and Sacha Jevans will be visiting the scheme today to review the points raised in your enquiry and Janice Wray who covers H&S for the Company will be visiting tomorrow. Once they have completed this review we will respond to the points raised and to look at what the alternatives are. As both Sacha and Peter are leading on the regeneration of the Tower it is more appropriate for them to make this assessment.

Best wishes

Robert

**Robert Black**  
**Chief Executive**

t: [REDACTED] m: [REDACTED]

w: [www.kctmo.org.uk](http://www.kctmo.org.uk)  
a: 346 Kensington High Street, London, W14 8NS

**From:** J BLAKEMAN [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13 July 2014 21:06  
**To:** Laura Johnson; Robert Black; jonathan.bore@rbkc.gov.uk  
**Cc:** Robert Atkinson; Cllr.Lasharie@rbkc.gov.uk  
**Subject:** Grenfell Walk Ramp at Lancaster West Estate

Dear Mr. Johnson, Mr. Bore and Mr. Black

I am writing to all three of you because I do not know who can deal with this problem.

Since the ramp has been removed from the side of Grenfell Tower that led to the ground from Grenfell Walk, residents with impaired mobility who live in parts of the finger blocks of Testerton Walk and Barandon Walk are now effectively confined to their homes.

As we have indicated on numerous occasions, the staircase that leads up to the Grenfell Walk walkway is not suitable for people with impaired mobility or who may have pushchairs with small children. Previously they could get down to the ground floor via the ramp in question. Now they have to take an extremely tortuous route all the way round to Latimer Road station and then back again. While this is possible, albeit very inconvenient and time-consuming, for parents with children in pushchairs, it is quite beyond the ability of older people.

Several residents who live in the affected parts of Testerton Walk and Barandon Walk have asked for key fobs that will enable them to leave the blocks by the southern exits, but these have been denied to them on the grounds that this would jeopardise security. However, this would be the obvious short term solution for them.

This does beg the question as to what other alternative arrangements can be made – and whether, when and how the ramp will be replaced so that these residents are no longer trapped in their homes. Indeed, one resident has been told that the ramp is not to be replaced and is in great distress as a result. This needs to be clarified.

The problem is very difficult to describe on paper, so I would invite you all to come and take a trial walk with Cllr. Lasharie and me – taking with you a pushchair containing objects that weigh around the weight of a toddler - so that you can find out for yourselves how impossible it is to get out via the staircase.

We received a lot of complaints about this problem at last Saturday's councillors' surgery – from residents with small children and also from others on behalf of older people who could not come themselves.

Kind regards.

Cllr. Judith Blakeman

\*\*\*\*\*

The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.

This e-mail may contain information which is confidential, legally privileged and/or copyright protected. This e-mail is intended for the addressee only. If you receive this in error, please contact the sender and delete the material from your computer.

\*\*\*\*\*