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## **Response to Kensington and Chelsea Chronicle Article**

I am writing in response to your article of 4<sup>th</sup> July 2013 regarding Grenfell Tower which gave a very inaccurate account of recent events at Grenfell Tower.

A series of electrical surges were reported in Grenfell Tower in May 2013 and KCTMO has been prompt and methodical in investigating the cause and taking action to resolve the matter. We have been in close and regular contact with all residents affected.

A repair has been carried out to a faulty cable on the incoming electrical main. There have been no further surges since this repair was completed and further tests have been carried out on the mains. We continue to monitor the electrical supply to determine whether there were other factors that contributed to the surges. There is no evidence to support the suggestion that the cause is linked to the Kensington Academy and Leisure Centre (KALC) project, or to the electricity supplier.

Furthermore, we have:

- Written to all residents in Grenfell Tower and have made face to face contact with all 45 residents affected to identify to offer help and resolve any issues arising.
- Arranged the complete renewal of the electricity main, including the installation of surge protection to give additional protection to the block.
- Carried out electrical testing to all individual properties in the block to ensure that domestic supplies are safe.
- Inspected any damaged electrical appliances reported by residents
- Collected details of residents' damaged equipment and are dealing with compensation claims.

We agree that Grenfell Tower is in need of refurbishment and we are working with residents to plan and deliver a major programme of works that will include:

- External cladding to improve energy efficiency
- New windows
- New heating and water services
- Seven new homes
- Improved environmental and communal areas.

No commitment has been given that this work is to coincide with the KALC project. However, we are looking to start these works as soon as possible and we are working closely with residents to ensure that the works are properly planned, meet their needs and will represent value for money.

We recently held a very well attended meeting with residents and will continue to work closely with them in the design and delivery of the works.