

18 June 2017

Dear Ms Johnson

I am hearing about households being instructed to move back into Barandon Walk and Testerton Walk in the next couple of days, where there is still no gas or hot water or I understand in some instances electricity. I am told that they are to be given gas cylinders for cooking - how safe and appropriate is this in the light of the fire at Grenfell Tower?

They tell me they are being told they can shower at the Westway Sport Centre. Does the Council not understand how culturally insensitive this is for many of the female residents especially the older ones? They are told that the utilities issues will be addressed in the coming week - but when and what guarantees do we have that they will be successfully addressed?

I am also told that Barandon Walk in particular is in a very bad state with litter and debris everywhere, with a cloud of smoke from the fire still hanging in the air - even though the roof windows are now broken and hanging open. I am attaching a photograph of the Testerton Walk hallway which indicates that residents can only access their homes via the staircase, which is also not appropriate for families with buggies or for anyone with mobility problems.

Can you please let me have a copy of the health and safety risk assessments that the Council has undertaken to confirm that it is appropriate at this state to move families - many with children - back into Barandon Walk and Testerton Walk as a matter of urgency. Residents have been assured that these have been carried out.

Many thanks.

Cllr Judith Blakeman