

**GRENFELL TOWER  
PUBLIC INQUIRY**

---

**Exhibit SM/18**

---

**PRESENT**

**Members of the Committee**

Councillor Quentin Marshall (Chairman)  
Councillor Sam Mackover (Vice-Chairman)  
Councillor Mohammed Bakhtiar  
Councillor Adrian Berrill-Cox  
Councillor Judith Blakeman  
Councillor David Nicholls  
Councillor Matthew Palmer  
Councillor Monica Press

**Others in Attendance**

Councillor Rock Feilding-Mellen (Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing,  
Property and Regeneration)  
Yvonne Birch (Executive Director of People and Performance – TMO)  
Robert Black (Chief Executive – TMO)  
Richard Buckley (Head of Environmental Health - Residential)  
Michael Clark (Director for Corporate Property)  
Celia Caliskan (General Needs Housing Commissioning Manager)  
Laura Johnson (Director of Housing)  
Glenn Woodhead (Framework Manager TFM)  
Anne Wright (Governance Services)

**A1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted from Councillors Will Pascall and Mrs Elizabeth Rutherford.

**A2 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Blakeman declared that she was a Member of the TMO Board.  
Councillor Press declared she was a TMO leaseholder.

**A3 MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON 15 SEPTEMBER 2015**

The Minutes of the meeting on 15 September were confirmed as correct records and were signed by the Chairman subject to a minor amendment, namely: the correction of the spelling of Cllr Nicholls.

Cllr Blakeman asked that sub-headings be provided within the minutes when reporting on the discussions relating to the Cabinet Member's report and the Live Issues Report.

included at a later date. He said that they were hoping for the on-street order to go live by end November 2015.

Mr Black provided an update on TMO contractors and said that they were pursuing long-term partnerships with two large contractors in order to avoid issues such as smaller companies going bust in the middle of works. He confirmed that the framework agreements would be with the main contractors and not their sub-contractors. He explained that the rationale behind only having two main contractors was to provide more certainty for tenants when work was carried out. Cllr Press asked that the TMO report back on this issue.

**Action:** Mr Black

#### **A7. LIVE ISSUES REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF HOUSING**

Mr Black provided an update on the major fire at Adair Tower which had occurred on Saturday 31 October on the third floor. He reported that the investigation was ongoing but the emergency planning in place had worked and the fire doors had also worked well. He explained the timelines for tenants re-gaining access to their flats and the re-housing of those unable to return.

The Chairman stressed the severity of smoke damage and how that can effect one's possessions. Mr Black said that the TMO was working with tenants to ascertain what they could still use and he said that it was compulsory for all tenants to have their own home insurance.

Cllr Blakeman asked why tenants were led out of smoke-filled stairways and consequently had to be treated for smoke inhalation. Mr Black explained that the policy was to stay in your flat and wait to be rescued by the natural reaction of people was to flee. He said that there was no main alarm system but the fire brigade had arrived within 2-3 minutes.

Responding to a question from the Chairman, Ms Johnson said that the alternative housing in commercial hotels for those affected was being paid for out of the temporary accommodation budget.

Mr Black informed the Committee that a local church had kindly opened its doors to tenants affected and had provided teas and coffees. He hoped to engage with this church to set up a more formal arrangement for the use of their facilities in an emergency.

#### **A8. HOUSING SERVICES - REHOUSING PLAN 2015**

Ms Johnson introduced the report and said that the report provided an update on previous plans and refreshed the rationale for the distribution of social rented lettings between those to whom we have a statutory duty to house under homeless legislation and other households in housing need on the register.