

IN THE GRENFELL TOWER INQUIRY

CHARLES (CHARLIE) DISSON

STATEMENT OF TRUTH

1. This is a statement of truth by Charles (Charlie) Patrick Disson, my date of birth is the [REDACTED] I am Male. I am currently living at [REDACTED]
2. I was living at Grenfell Tower with my dad Anthony (Tony) Disson since 2010.
3. On the night of the fire I was with my girlfriend and was staying at her flat.
4. I did not know anything about the fire until the next morning when my mum called me.
5. Background on Grenfell
6. My dad and I lived at 194 Grenfell Tower, he was originally on the 19th floor until the regeneration. After the regeneration it moved to the 22nd floor as the old boxing gym was removed and they added three more floors.
7. My dad was renting the flat through the council. My dad and I were the only ones living in the flat, we did not have any pets at the time.
8. When my dad and I moved into the flat, it was fine originally. We did not have any problems and complaints. It was only until the regeneration started when things were going wrong in the flat.
9. Fire safety
10. I do not remember being given any information about fire safety. Mostly, anything to do with the flat my dad would deal with it. I never heard of any meeting with regards to fire safety.

11. I was never told about how to get out if there was a fire. They might have told my dad but they did not tell me. We were not aware of that the London Fire Brigade was doing checks.
12. If there was a fire, I would have got my dad and would have got straight out. If I was there on the night this is what I would have done.
13. We had a fire alarm in the flat. I know we did as I always remember that it would always go off when we were having a cooked breakfast. I cannot remember whether it was battery or electrical. I do not know if dad tested them.
14. I do not remember if there was any fire alarms outside of the flat. There was no sprinklers in Grenfell.
15. I don't remember any extractor fans in the kitchen or the bathroom.
16. Lifts
17. They were always old, I don't remember them being changed. They used to break down and I got caught in them a few times. I got caught in the lifts about three times.
18. Basically when you got caught they would either go up or down a floor until they were sorted. It would either send you up or down, otherwise you would have to ring the fire brigade and would tell them the address.
19. Lights
20. They were bright, I don't remember them going out at all.
21. Stairs
22. I would use the stairs sometimes, as the lifts would be out. They were the same old stairs, they were made out of concrete and like had green bars beside them. There was not much lighting on the stairs, they were dim.
23. Rubbish chute
24. There was a rubbish chute and there was some rubbish around the chute, but nothing that would be of any obstructions.

25. Caretaker
26. I don't remember a caretaker.
27. Regeneration
28. Problems
29. Around 2 years ago, they started to change my dad's flat. The first modification they did was adding gas pipes in and they were very unsafe. They were exposed and hanging off the wall. They explained to us that they were adding gas pipes and the heating. The whole block had this changed.
30. You would see the pipes as soon as you open the door and were exposed. I know this was a major concern for my dad and I know he made complaints about this.
31. My dad also had a problem with his bathroom, the sink was coming off the walls. But for us the pipes were the main issue.
32. The letterbox was broken, it came off straight away. I know he reported this as well.
33. Change of Doors
34. They changed the door in the regeneration, the door was slim and skinny and it was not a strong door, it was white and had like a cheap wood feel. The old door was light but strong. They both had spring back features on them. I remember there were two hinges on the new door, one at the top and one at the bottom. I don't remember about the hinges on the old door. There was no damage to the door. I don't remember any modification being made to the door.
35. All of the neighbours had the same door changed.
36. There were gaps in the door, there was a clear gap at the bottom. There were also gaps around the side of the door.
37. The doors were not changed inside the flat after the regeneration. They were always open, dad never shut them.
38. Change of Windows

39. The windows were changed and there were drafts through them. They were like a white plastically type of window. I could feel the drafts.
40. Since they changed the window and the doors I can't remember what the old ones were like.
41. Cooking/ Noises
42. We would hear noises and smell cooking, but we did not take much notice of them.
43. Electrical
44. We never had any electrical problems but no one ever would check our electrical supply. I remember clearly this would be an issue for my dad, as he kept complaining that he wanted someone to check them. But they never came to check them.
45. Complaints
46. My dad used to complain all the time to the TMO and the office at the bottom of Grenfell Tower. He would constantly go down there, I would say two times per week to make complaints. They kept telling my dad that they would get it sorted but they never did.
47. My dad would complain about things about the flat, but we would never really speak to me about it. He would more go down to the TMO to complain.
48. I don't remember if there were any other problems. It should be all in my dad's files.
49. Description of the Flat
50. To describe the flat.
51. As soon as you open the door, on the right there is a single bedroom and on the left there is a bathroom.
52. In the single bedroom there was a double bed in there, this would take up most of the room. There was a wardrobe at the end of the bed, where we put our clothes.
53. In the bathroom, there was a bath, sink and toilet. They were in the same room.

54. Next to the bedroom is the kitchen. On the left hand side was the fridge, oven, sink and microwave and the pot of knives and forks were at the end. Next to the fridge there was a door thing, there was a gap in the wall that you could get through, opposite this door entry was a freezer.
55. Next to the kitchen was the living room.
56. The living room had a like a fake fire on the left hand side, it never worked and opposite was the sofa, he also had another sofa beside on the left hand side and the TV was in the corner. Behind the living room was another cupboard with the boiler in it.

STATEMENT OF TRUTH AND CONSENT

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true. I further confirm that I am willing for this statement to form part of the evidence before the Inquiry and be published on the Inquiry's website.

Signed:

Date

17.5.18