

BUILDING SAFETY TIMELINE

1. **This timeline provides a chronology of the Department's actions on Building Safety since the Grenfell Tower fire on 14 June 2017.**
2. **To support its Position Statement, the Department has also provided agendas for meetings of the Independent Expert Advisory Panel.**
3. **Wednesday 14 June 2017** a fire broke out at Grenfell Tower in the early hours of the morning. On the same day, the Department started to make calls to local authorities and housing associations to gather data on the number of tower blocks in England, their condition and to find out what steps were being taken to ensure residents' safety.
4. On the same day the Rt Hon Nick Hurd MP announced to the media that 'with DCLG, Local Authorities and the Fire and Rescue Services (there would be) a process whereby we seek to identify towers that might be in a similar process of refurbishment and run a system of checks and inspections so that we can as quickly as possible provide assurance to people.'¹
5. The Department's Resilience and Emergencies Division (RED), working closely with the relevant teams, supported the Department's operational response to the Grenfell Tower Fire. The Department will provide further detail on this as part of Phase Two of the Inquiry.
6. **Thursday 15 June 2017** the Department began to put in place arrangements for systematic checks of buildings similar to Grenfell Tower.²
7. **Saturday 17 June 2017** the Department convened a group of technical experts to provide advice on the best immediate steps Government could take to help local authorities and other landlords address fire safety concerns.³

This meeting concluded that from the available information, a PE cored Aluminium Composite Material (ACM) cladding system had been used on Grenfell Tower. While the exact reasons for the speed of the spread of fire had not yet been determined, it was agreed that additional tests should be undertaken with regard to this type of cladding. It was agreed that the Department would write to local authorities and other registered providers of social housing as a matter of urgency to identify all properties that were more than 18 metres in height and had external cladding.

8. **Sunday 18 June 2017** Permanent Secretary Melanie Dawes wrote to local authorities and housing associations about safety checks following the Grenfell Tower fire asking them to identify whether any panels used in new build or refurbishment included cladding made of Aluminium Composite Material (ACM), advising them of a testing process being put in place.⁴ The letter stated: 'If you identify that cladding on any of your buildings is made of ACM, then a sample will need to be tested. We have put in place a testing process for any samples, which will be at no cost to local authorities and housing associations. In addition, we will follow up with you individually on the

morning of Monday 19 June to establish if you require any further assistance.’ This advice was informed by the meeting of technical experts on 17 June 2017.

9. **Monday 19 June 2017** Permanent Secretary Melanie Dawes sent a further letter to local authorities and housing associations with guidance on safety checks following the Grenfell Tower fire. This letter provided detailed guidance on the testing process which had been developed by the Building Research Establishment (BRE).⁵ This advice was informed by the meeting of technical experts on 17 June 2017.
10. **Tuesday 20 June 2017** Fiona MacGregor, Director of Regulation at The Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) wrote to all Registered Providers reminding them of their obligations to comply with all relevant legislation and statutory requirements that provide for the health and safety of occupants in their homes.⁶
11. **Tuesday 20 June 2017** The Department submitted advice to Ministers on a potential public consultation on revising Approved Document B, which had been prepared prior to the 2017 General Election. However, this was not taken forward at this stage as Ministers concluded that until the implications of the fire, including any wider lessons, could be better understood, the Department should wait. The Consultation on Approved Document B was launched on 19 July 2018 and closed on 11 October 2018.
12. **Tuesday 20 June 2017** Permanent Secretary Melanie Dawes wrote to representative organisations for owners, landlords and managers of private residential blocks about safety checks following the Grenfell Tower fire, providing advice on the testing process to identify ACM cladding, which would be paid for by DCLG.⁷
13. **Thursday 22 June 2017** The Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, the Rt. Hon. Sajid Javid MP wrote to MPs with an update on work to support those affected by the fire as well as updating MPs on wider building safety work. This followed a statement by the Prime Minister earlier that day.⁸
14. **Thursday 22 June 2017** Permanent Secretary Melanie Dawes sent a further letter to local authorities and housing associations setting out the interim mitigating measures that should be put in place for buildings with ACM cladding to keep them safe pending full remediation of the cladding.⁹
15. **Saturday 24 June 2017** The Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, the Rt. Hon. Sajid Javid MP made an announcement about the Grenfell Tower tragedy, in which he provided an update on cladding which had failed safety tests and on the action building owners had been asked to take.¹⁰

16. **Sunday 25 June 2017** The Government announced that the number of high rise buildings which had failed a combustibility test was now 60 across 25 local authority areas.¹¹
17. **Tuesday 27 June 2017** The Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, the Rt. Hon. Sajid Javid MP announced a new Independent Expert Advisory Panel ("Expert Panel"), Chaired by Sir Ken Knight, to advise on immediate measures that would be put in place to make buildings safe following the Grenfell Tower fire.¹²
18. **Wednesday 28 June 2017** a joint letter was sent from Permanent Secretary Melanie Dawes and John Manzoni Permanent Secretary, Cabinet Office, & Head of the Civil Service, to all Government Permanent Secretaries about public sector safety checks following the Grenfell Tower fire. This asked departments to ensure buildings in the wider public estate were checked for ACM cladding.¹³
19. **29 June 2017** The Expert Panel met and discussed the group's terms of reference as well as their initial priorities. The panel concluded the initial ACM screening tests and interim measures guidance were the right first steps. The group agreed to consider, as a matter of urgency, what further checks, tests and guidance might be necessary to determine whether ACM panels, which did not have filler of limited combustibility, could be used safely and in what circumstances.
20. **Friday 30 June 2017** The Department issued an explanatory note which detailed the checking and testing programme for ACM cladding that had been set up and the wider steps being taken to ensure safety in all relevant buildings, in the light of the early test results.¹⁴
21. **Friday 30 June 2017** The Department published an update on its website describing the work of the Expert Panel. It explained the panel would:
- Focus on providing advice relating to fire and building safety, and in particular how to ensure the public are safe in high rise buildings.
 - Consider whether there are any immediate additional actions that should be taken to ensure the safety of existing high rise buildings.
 - Consider whether there are any changes or clarifications required to existing regulations, and provide advice on possible changes, including making recommendations on the use of specific materials.
 - Consider whether the current processes for checking building safety are fit for purpose, and whether any changes are required.¹⁵
22. **3 July 2017** The Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, the Rt. Hon. Sajid Javid MP provided an update to Parliament on the Grenfell Tower fire and fire safety. This outlined the support available to those affected and the work of the Expert Panel on Building Safety.¹⁶

23. **3 July 2017** The Expert Panel met and discussed a number of areas including the Building Regulations guidance and the cladding tests which would be undertaken.
24. **6 July 2017** An update from the Expert Panel on Building Safety was published on the Department's website. The Panel had advised further testing as the next step to be conducted in helping landlords to ensure the safety of their buildings.¹⁷
25. **6 July 2017** The Expert Panel met and discussed the cladding tests and advice to building owners and landlords.
26. **10 July 2017** A press notice was issued from the Department advising that the Industry Response Group (IRG) would complement the work of the Expert Panel to advise on immediate steps to ensure building safety.¹⁸
27. **10 July 2017** The Expert Panel met and discussed the panel's Terms of Reference as well as other types of cladding systems (beyond ACM). The group considered what further guidance could be published to help building owners take informed decisions. The group also discussed the planned circular on 'recladding of tall buildings' [see 13 July 2017].
28. **12 July 2017** Lord Porter, Chair of the Local Government Association (LGA), attended the Expert Panel and offered to support the sharing of information between LGA members and the Expert Panel. In addition, the panel discussed plans and the timetable for large scale testing. The panel agreed to meet with representatives from Trade Associations to seek their input on plans for the large scale testing.
29. **13 July 2017** The Expert Panel met with Trade Bodies to discuss BS8414 tests: there was a wide discussion on variations of test setups, cladding and insulation materials, suppliers, risk criteria, timetables and why the six proposed tests had been selected. The group concluded that the six proposed tests would contribute to an appropriate evidence base to help building owners take informed decisions on building safety.
30. **13 July 2017** Bob Ledsome, Deputy Director, Building Regulations and Energy Performance Division wrote to local authority Chief Executives, Heads of Building Control, Approved Inspectors, Chief Fire Officers et al with advice on recladding of tall buildings.¹⁹
31. **14 July 2017** The Department published an update on its website: 'The Department for Communities and Local Government has written to all building control bodies in England highlighting key Building Regulations requirements when cladding work on high rise buildings over 18m tall is undertaken. This followed advice from the Independent Expert Advisory Panel whose members were particularly concerned that further risks are not created in any new works undertaken by building owners.' This referred to Bob Ledsome's 13 July letter.²⁰

32. **18 July 2017** The Expert Panel met and discussed appropriate advice and communications to landlords to accompany the BS8414 test results as they became available.
33. **20 July 2017** The Expert Panel met with Metropolitan Police Commander Stuart Cundy, Head of the Metropolitan Police Investigation into the Grenfell Tower fire.
34. **20 July 2017** The Department published an explanatory note to explain the large scale testing of cladding systems intended to better understand how different types of ACM panels behaved with different types of insulation in a fire.²¹
35. **20 July 2017** The Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, the Rt. Hon. Sajid Javid MP updated Parliament on the Government's response to the Grenfell Tower fire. This included the actions the Government was taking on Building Safety.²²
36. **26 July 2017** The Expert Panel met and discussed the advice and actions to follow the first, second and third large scale tests. The panel also discussed plans to collect data on housing authority and local authority buildings to allow, amongst other things, tracking of remedial actions. The panel discussed the role of the Industry Response Group (IRG) convened by the Department and its role in considering issues around capacity, practical recladding solutions and time to implement solutions. The Expert Panel agreed that interim fire safety mitigation measures set out in the DCLG letter of 22 June still stood. The panel also considered possible approaches to confirm and provide confidence to the public that there were no immediate fire safety risks from other (non-ACM) cladding system materials.
37. **27 July 2017** the Homes and Communities Agency issued a follow up letter to registered providers of social housing about remediation works.²³
38. **28 July 2017** The Home Secretary, the Rt Hon. Amber Rudd MP and the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, the Rt. Hon. Sajid Javid MP jointly commissioned an independent review of building regulations and fire safety ("the Hackitt Review"). The independent review, led by Dame Judith Hackitt, Chair of EEF, would look at current building regulations and fire safety with a particular focus on high rise residential buildings. It would report jointly to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government and the Home Secretary.²⁴
39. **28 July 2017** Fire test report one was published on the results of the first large scale test which showed how Aluminium Composite Material (ACM) PE panels in combination with foam insulation behaved in a fire.²⁵ Fire test one was discussed at the Expert Panel's meeting on 26 July: the Panel considered the advice and how to make it as clear as possible for readers.
40. **3 August 2017** the Expert Panel met and discussed data collection, test two (ACM PE and foam), test three - FR and PIR foam, test four – FR and stone

wool) and test five (A2 ACM & Foam). The Expert Panel discussed the merits of having independent witnesses inspect and validate the rigour and correctness of test construction and setup.

In addition, the Expert Panel discussed ongoing work to consider how best to support the private rental sector. The panel noted that the ACM cladding screening programme was available to private rented sector and that building owners should be following advice on interim measures and large scale tests. DCLG was actively considering and building up evidence of the scale of this issue. The Panel agreed to revisit this issue when evidence is clearer.

41. **3 August 2017** Fire test report two was published which showed how Aluminium Composite Material (ACM) PE panels in combination with stone wool insulation behaved in a fire.²⁶
42. **8 August 2017** Fire test three was published which showed how Aluminium Composite Material (ACM) cladding with fire retardant polyethylene filler with PIR foam insulation behaved in a fire.²⁷
43. **9 August 2017** The Expert Panel met and discussed further tests of ACM cladding, supply chain issues, engagement with the Private Sector, an update on Fire Safety audits, and the approach to non ACM cladding systems.
44. **11 August 2017** Fire test four was published which showed how Aluminium Composite Material (ACM) cladding with fire retardant polyethylene filler with stone wool insulation behaved in a fire.²⁸
45. **11 August 2017** Following Council investigations at four 'Large Panel System' tower blocks at the Ledbury Estate in Southwark and possible structural issues, Tamara Finkelstein, Director General for Building Safety Programme wrote to local authorities to advise them of the issues being investigated and asked them to check for similar issues in other similar Large Panel System buildings.²⁹
46. **11 August 2017** The Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, the Rt. Hon. Sajid Javid MP wrote to local authorities following the Grenfell Tower fire asking for their support in identifying buildings with ACM cladding including privately owned blocks. The letter said that the Department would follow up with authorities on the extent to which they were able to identify buildings with ACM cladding and would also ask for updates on the progress of any necessary remedial actions taken by building owners, where such cladding is not compliant with current Building Regulations guidance. It stated that 'If private sector building owners do not comply with your requests, I will look at what further action can be taken to support you in carrying out your responsibilities.'³⁰
47. **14 August 2017** Fire test five was published which showed how Aluminium Composite Material (ACM) cladding with limited combustibility filler with PIR foam insulation behaved in a fire.³¹

48. **16 August 2017** The Expert Panel met and discussed the cladding tests results received so far.
49. **18 August 2017** Helen MacNamara, Director General, Housing and Planning wrote to Chief Executives of local authorities who had identified high rise Large Panel System buildings similar to those on the Ledbury Estate in Southwark, providing further advice on the steps they should take to ensure the safety of similar buildings.³²
50. **21 August 2017** Fire test seven was published which showed how Aluminium Composite Material (ACM) cladding with fire retardant polyethylene filler with phenolic foam insulation behaved in a fire.³³
51. **23 August 2017** Following the fire at Grenfell Tower, the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) wrote to tenant organisations to explain about the HCA's statutory role and what they were doing to remind social landlords of their health and safety responsibilities.³⁴ [Further information about the work of the Regulator of Social Housing can be found on the gov.uk website]³⁵
52. **23 August 2017** The Expert Panel convened and (amongst other issues) discussed their engagement with Ted Baillieu, Co-Chair of the Victoria State Government Cladding Taskforce. This was established to investigate the extent of non-compliant cladding on buildings in Victoria, Australia. It was noted that Mr Baillieu had recently met with Housing Minister Alok Sharma MP. The Expert Panel also discussed the on-going cladding test results and advice to building owners/landlords. The group discussed other cladding systems (beyond ACM) as well as Desktop Studies.
53. **25 August 2017** Fire test six was published which showed how Aluminium Composite Material (ACM) cladding with limited combustibility filler (category 1 in screening tests) with stone wool insulation behaved in a fire.³⁶ This was discussed at the Expert Panel meeting on 23 August.
54. **30 August 2017** The Terms of Reference for the Hackitt Review were published. The review's priorities were to develop a more robust regulatory system for the future and to provide further assurance to residents that the buildings they live in are safe and remain safe. While the Review would cover the regulatory system for all buildings, it was intended to have a specific focus on multi occupancy high rise residential buildings.³⁷
55. **5 September 2017** Tamara Finkelstein, Director General for Building Safety wrote to local authority Chief Executives with follow up guidance, further to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, the Rt. Hon. Sajid Javid MP's letter of 11 August 2017. This provided guidance on how data (on the cladding checks) should be collected and shared with the Department. The letter stated that the Department would share data it holds on privately owned blocks over 18m.³⁸

56. **5 September 2017** Tamara Finkelstein, Director General for Building Safety wrote a further letter to local authorities on Large Panel System Buildings, following concerns identified with buildings in Southwark. The letter advised that an investigation had been undertaken by structural engineers on behalf of Southwark Council. The letter provided a link to the report. It noted these investigations would continue until the end of November when further reports on the findings from these investigations were anticipated. The letter provided links to research reports on properties of large panel buildings. It stated 'Ministers will be seeking views of the independent Expert Panel advising Government and from the Standing Committee on Structural Safety (SCOSS) about further advice that might be helpful to building owners.'³⁹
57. **5 September 2017** The Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, the Rt. Hon. Sajid Javid MP wrote to Sir Ken Knight seeking advice on a report from the British Board of Agreement (BBA) which 'identified widespread shortfalls in the quality of structural design calculations for cladding systems. In particular this related to design calculations necessary to ensure that cladding systems were able to adequately resist wind loadings.' The Secretary of State sought a peer review of the BBA findings; to consider advice on necessary next steps and to consider BBA proposals of risk assessments for existing installations. It was noted that the Panel had also been consulting with the Standing Committee on Structural Safety (SCOSS). The Secretary of State asked that this was progressed 'swiftly'.⁴⁰
58. **5 September 2017** The Expert Panel met and discussed a number of issues including Desktop Studies, other cladding systems (beyond ACM), engagement with SCOSS, issues identified with Large Panel Systems in Southwark and strengthening work. The panel's terms of reference were also discussed.
59. **5 September 2017** A circular was issued from Bob Ledsome, DD Building Regulations and Energy Performance, to Building Control Bodies about wind-loading calculations and the structural design of cladding systems which could pose a life safety risk.⁴¹
60. **5 September 2017** The Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, the Rt. Hon. Sajid Javid MP, made a statement to Parliament providing an update on the response to the Grenfell Tower Fire. The statement focussed on re-housing and the Building Safety programme.⁴²
61. **5 September 2017** The Department published updated and consolidated advice for building owners following the large scale testing that had been carried out. This note explained the work the Department had undertaken on Building Safety including the testing and a summary of the results as well further support for building owners.⁴³
62. **12 September 2017** A call for evidence to inform Dame Judith Hackitt's review was announced. Submissions were sought by 13 October 2017.⁴⁴

63. **13 September 2017** The Expert Panel met and discussed a number of issues which included other cladding systems (beyond ACM), engagement with the APPG, windows and cavity barriers: the panel agreed this would be given further consideration but not to contact building owners at this point. The group also had a discussion on Large Panel Systems and noted SCOSS was supportive of the re-cladding circular and writing to Dame Judith Hackitt to consider these issues. It was noted that the SCOSS had reinforced that the right approach was being taken.
64. **19 September 2017** The Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, the Rt. Hon. Sajid Javid MP announced a Green Paper on Social Housing in England.⁴⁵
65. **22 September 2017** Following their correspondence on 5 September 2017, Sir Ken Knight wrote to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, the Rt. Hon. Sajid Javid MP, who had asked the Expert Panel to undertake further work in relation to the design of rendered cladding systems and their ability to resist wind loads safely. The SCOSS had considered this issue in more detail for the Panel.

The letter noted:

- ‘SCOSS took the view that the issues with rendered systems were representative of wider problem in the construction industry, particularly in relation to sub-contractors undertaking design and quality of inspection and workmanship.’
 - ‘SCOSS were supportive of the letter issued to Building Control Bodies to highlight the need for thorough assessment of structural design. They were also in agreement that providing further advice to building owners (similar to that issued in relation to Large Panel Structures on September 5) would be a helpful next step.’
 - ‘SCOSS also agreed that steps would need to be taken to assess residual risk and they would consider what further advice and support they could offer in this respect.’⁴⁶
66. **20 September 2017** The Expert Panel met and discussed interim safety measures and engagement with the Private Sector.
67. **27 September 2017** The Expert Panel met and discussed interim safety measures, Desktop Studies, BS8414 tests, other cladding systems and engagement with the private sector. It was agreed the Expert Panel would consider the work that the SCOSS had undertaken on Large Panel Systems identified from work in Southwark.
68. **29 September 2017** The Department published updated interim advice on circumstances in which it has been confirmed that the core (“filler”) within Aluminum Composite Material (ACM), in conjunction with other elements of the cladding system on a building, did not meet relevant requirements of the Building Regulations guidance. The letter set out mitigating safety measures which owners of such buildings should implement in liaison with the fire and

rescue service to ensure the safety of residents until remedial works are completed. This advice superseded Annex A to Permanent Secretary Melanie Dawes' letter of 22 June on Safety Checks following the Grenfell Tower fire.⁴⁷

69. **11 October 2017** The Expert Panel met and discussed work of the Industry Response Group, other cladding systems as well as wider fire safety issues.
70. **17 October 2017** The Expert Panel met with the SCOSS to discuss Large Panel System buildings and the recommendations made by SCOSS. The meeting also discussed Render and Brick Slip External Wall Insulation systems and the Government's proposed actions.
71. **18 October 2017** Neil O'Connor, Director of the Building Safety Programme, wrote to local authority Chief Executives regarding the legal powers under which councils could act should enforcement action be required in order to determine whether a residential tower block had ACM cladding. The letter described DCLG's interpretation of the Housing Act 2004, and the regulations, and Housing Health and Safety Rating System made under it. The letter also set out additional enforcement powers which may be available in some circumstances. It confirmed DCLG's view that the powers available to local authorities under this regime were available in respect of the external cladding systems of tall residential buildings.⁴⁸
72. **18 October 2017** Sir Ken Knight (and others) met with Dame Judith Hackitt and considered a number of issues including desktop applications and how these might be reviewed.
73. **18 October 2017** The Expert Panel met and discussed the engagement with SCOSS on Large Panel Systems and actions being taken on buildings identified in the Ledbury Estate.
74. **19 October 2017** Tamara Finkelstein, Director General for Building Safety wrote to local authority Chief Executives explaining how the New Burdens Doctrine would be applied in respect of collecting and submitting data to the Department about buildings with ACM cladding, and confirming the payment that would be made by the Department to local authorities.⁴⁹
75. **23 October 2017** The Expert Panel met with Neil Cooper, Chair of the Building Regulations Advisory Committee (BRAC).
76. **25 October 2017** The Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, the Rt. Hon. Sajid Javid MP wrote to MPs about work to care for survivors of the Grenfell Tower tragedy and the wider Building Safety Programme.⁵⁰
77. **25 October 2017** The Expert Panel convened and discussed a number of issues including future work of the Building Safety Programme, engagement with SCOSS, and remediation of ACM cladding and engagement with the APPG.

78. **8 November 2017** The Expert Panel met and discussed a number of issues including advice to building owners on Non-ACM cladding, private sector remediation and Large Panel Systems.
79. **6 December 2017** The Expert Panel met and discussed amongst other topics, advice to building owners on buildings with External Wall Insulation (EWI) systems.
80. **11 December 2017** The Department issued advice for building owners on buildings with External Wall Insulation systems with either a render or brick-slip finish, particularly those over 18 metres tall or in an exposed location.⁵¹ This was discussed at the Expert Panel meetings including on 6 December 2017 and was informed by the advice provided by the SCOSS.
81. **11 December 2017** The Department issued advice for building owners on external wall systems that did not incorporate Aluminium Composite Material.⁵²
82. **11 December 2017** The Department published an Information Note to assist building owners with ACM cladding in assessing what measures they should consider taking to make their buildings safe.⁵³
83. **13 December 2017** The Expert Panel met and discussed a number of items such as fire engineering capacity and competence and Dame Judith Hackitt's interim report.
84. **18 December 2017** Dame Judith Hackitt published her interim findings on Building Safety which were accepted by the Government.⁵⁴
85. **18 December 2017** The Secretary of State updated Parliament on progress made since the Grenfell Tower fire and the Government's initial response to Dame Judith Hackitt's interim report.⁵⁵
86. **18 December 2017** The first of a monthly data release from the Government's Building Safety Programme was published.⁵⁶ Previously, data updates had been provided through statements to Parliament and letters to MPs.
87. **8 January 2018** Department for Communities and Local Government became the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.
88. **3 January 2018** The Expert Panel discussed the response to the Hackitt review, a BSI standard for BS8414, fire doors and certification, enforcement routes, fire safety policy on non-residential and other complex buildings, and All Party Parliamentary Group on Fire Safety and Rescue (APPG) engagement.

89. **22 January 2018** Dame Judith Hackitt launched the next phase of her review with an industry summit attended by around 50 senior industry figures, reflecting the full scope of the Independent Review, alongside the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, the Rt. Hon. Sajid Javid MP and the Home Secretary, the Rt Hon. Amber Rudd MP.⁵⁷
90. **31 January 2018** The Expert Panel discussed how to speed up identification of buildings with ACM cladding and other on-going work on remediation.
91. **14 February 2018** The Metropolitan Police informed DCLG that a fire door recovered from Grenfell Tower failed European Standard tests. An investigatory programme to establish the risk to other buildings commenced.
92. **15 February 2018** Offer Stern Weiner, Deputy Director, Building Regulations and Energy Performance Division, wrote to building control bodies highlighting Dame Judith's interim report recommendations. The circular advised Building Control Bodies to consult the Fire and Rescue Services on any plans for the erection or extension of, structural alteration to, or relevant change of use of, buildings that are covered by the Fire Safety Order.⁵⁸
93. **21 February 2018** There was an extended meeting of the Expert Panel. The meeting considered the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) investigation on Fire Doors, the testing programme for the doors, engagement with Trading Standards, communications and public messaging.
94. **26 February 2018** The Expert Panel discussed the Metropolitan Police investigation into Fire Doors and the planned fire door testing programme.
95. **27 February 2018** The monthly data release from the Government's Building Safety Programme was published. This gave an update on the testing programme for Aluminium Composite Material cladding and progress identifying high-rise residential buildings with unsafe cladding combinations.⁵⁹
96. **28 February 2018** The Expert Panel submitted an update to their consolidated note on the large scale tests on ACM cladding systems.⁶⁰
97. **1 March 2018** The Expert Panel discussed the on-going investigations into fire doors and the testing programme as well as communications to the public.
98. **1 March 2018** Tamara Finkelstein, Director General for Building Safety, wrote to the Local Government Association on Government support for the identification of private sector buildings over 18m with potentially unsafe ACM cladding. The letter noted: 'We have been working with local authorities to identify private sector residential buildings over 18m with potentially unsafe Aluminium Composite Material (ACM) cladding. To support this, the Government will provide further financial support totalling £1 million to assist the most affected local authorities in identifying these buildings. We will work to create a fair distribution of payments that is targeted at the local authorities with the most private high rise residential buildings in their areas.'

‘In addition, we are also taking steps to support local authorities in taking further action where cladding constitutes a hazard. We are progressing work on issuing a statutory direction as to local authorities’ reviews of housing conditions in their area, in respect of cladding-related issues. We are also working to publish additional statutory operating guidance to support local authorities in conducting hazard inspections and issuing enforcement notices.’ The letter mentioned an event for affected local authorities on 6 March which would provide an opportunity for local authorities to share best practice.⁶¹

99. **9 March 2018** The Expert Panel discussed the testing programme for fire doors, the Fire Risk Assessment protocol and communications.
100. **13 March 2018** The Department wrote to the Grenfell Tower Public Inquiry to advise on the action it was taking on fire doors in response to findings reported by the Metropolitan Police on 14 February 2018. This related to a fire door failing the 30 minute resistance test (BS EN1634) and burning through in 16 minutes. The letter concluded that the Department would be making a statement to Parliament on 15 March.⁶² [The Inquiry sent a follow up letter – see 5 April 2018]
101. **14 March 2018** The Expert Panel discussed the actions being taken in relation to fire doors e.g. inspections, supply chain mapping, communications to stakeholders. Under the communications update, the minutes noted the MPS had made testing results of fire door available to MHCLG and the risk to public remained low based on the evidence to date.
102. **15 March 2018** The Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, the Rt. Hon. Sajid Javid MP made an announcement to parliament on Fire Doors following the investigation by the Metropolitan Police Service: ‘The Metropolitan Police considered that this test result might have wider implications for public safety and alerted my department. The government immediately sought advice from the Independent Expert Panel to test the findings to see whether any action was required as a result. This Expert Panel is made up of a range of building and fire safety experts and chaired by Sir Ken Knight, the former London Fire Commissioner and former government Chief Fire and Rescue Adviser. The panel consulted with representatives from the Metropolitan Police, the Government’s Chief Scientific Advisers and the National Fire Chiefs’ Council. Following this, the Expert Panel has advised that the risks to public safety remain low.’⁶³
103. **15 March 2018** Dr. Jo Farrar, Director General for Local Government and Public Services, wrote to local authority and housing association Chief Executives providing information on the investigation into fire doors.⁶⁴
104. **15 March 2018** The Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, the Rt. Hon. Sajid Javid MP and the Minister for Grenfell Victims, the Rt Hon. Nick Hurd MP, wrote to residents with an update on actions taken since the fire, especially with regard to public safety.⁶⁵

105. **15 March 2018** The Department issued a press notice on fire doors: ‘Initial inspections indicate the door (at Grenfell Tower) is believed to have been designed to resist fire for up to 30 minutes – as required by building regulations guidance. When tested by the Metropolitan Police, however, it failed after approximately 15 minutes. Independent experts have advised that the risks to public safety remain low, and that evidence from investigations to date does not change this assessment.’⁶⁶
106. **20 March 2018** The Expert Panel held further discussions on fire door tests.
107. **28 March 2018** The Building Safety Programme published its monthly data release, focusing on buildings identified with ACM cladding by tenure and remediation progress.⁶⁷
108. **28 March 2018** The Expert Panel discussed a number of issues including on-going testing in relation to fire doors as well as stakeholder engagement.
109. **5 April 2018** The Inquiry sent the Department a letter with further questions on fire doors and public safety (further to the Department’s letter of 13 March 2018). This sought clarification on the timetable for testing the fire doors and for the results to be shared with the Inquiry and asked the Department to explain why it had been concluded that the issue did not present an immediate risk to public safety. It also asked for confirmation that safety has specifically been considered in the context of high-rise buildings where the composition of the cladding materials is the same as at Grenfell Tower (including ACM rain screen cladding with a polyethylene core).⁶⁸ [See the Department’s reply on 26 April 2018]
110. **11 April 2018** Following concerns expressed in Dame Judith Hackitt’s interim report about the inappropriate use of “desktop studies”, a consultation on changing the guidance in Approved Document B on assessments in lieu of tests was launched. The consultation closed on 25 May 2018.⁶⁹
111. **26 April 2018** The Department replied to the Inquiry’s letter of 5 April 2018 on fire door tests. The letter stated that as soon as the Department learned about the fire door test results, the Expert Panel had been considering wider public safety implications. The letter noted ‘The panel consulted with representatives from the Metropolitan Police, the Government’s Chief Scientific Advisers and the National Fire Chiefs’ Council (NFCC). Following this, the Expert Panel advised that the risks to public safety remain low and that current fire safety advice should not be changed, and that further investigations into fire doors from Manse Masterdor should be undertaken. We have taken forward further investigations, focusing on fire doors manufactured by Manse Masterdor. Our timetable for testing and inspection is primarily driven by the capacity of test houses to prioritise our testing; the speed at which suitable and relevant doors can be secured from buildings through consent; and, the number of tests required to support the Expert Panel in developing their advice.’

The letter included a table of test results on Manse Masterdor fire doors. This showed various door types and their fire resistance times. The letter stated 'Fire doors are a passive means of protection from the spread of fire and smoke, and do not contribute to any active spread of fire or increase the fire loading beyond what would normally be expected. This is not comparable to the issue discovered with Aluminum Composite Material (ACM) cladding systems which can act as a fire accelerant.' In addition it noted 'Fire doors are one of a number of fire protection measures within buildings. Whilst a properly functioning fire safety door can act as one of a number of effective means of protection during a fire, current operational response does not rely on an assumption that all fire doors operate as expected. The 'Stay Put' advice adopted by fire and rescue services for residents in purpose built blocks of flats is a layered strategy, provided in the full consideration of fallibility of fire doors as listed above.' Furthermore, 'Home Office evidence shows that it is unusual for fires in flats to spread beyond the room or flat of origin.'

The letter also confirmed that 'the Expert Panel considered an ACM clad tower block and if further measures were required for these types of buildings should the fire doors not perform as expected. The main concern for ACM clad tower blocks is the potential for compartmentation to be breached and the role of fire doors in preventing the spread of this fire. Following advice from the NFCC, the Expert Panel concluded that the NFCC advice introduced following the Grenfell Tower fire for tower blocks known to have ACM cladding systems, requiring 'interim measures' until the removal of ACM cladding provided sufficient assurance that buildings could be evacuated safely if required. As a result they did not believe additional measures to the interim measures were required.' Finally, the letter attached the following documents: the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government's oral statement on fire door investigation on 15 March 2018; the Written Ministerial Statement on fire door investigation laid on 16 April 2018; the BRE fire resistance test report for the test carried out on 24 February 2018; the latest version of the NFCC briefing note on fire door samples and public safety in blocks of flats; the latest version of the risk assessments being carried out by the NFCC with support from Government's Chief Scientific Advisors; and the fire risk assessment – NFCC sensitivity analysis.⁷⁰

112. **27 April 2018** The Building Safety Programme published its monthly data release, focusing on buildings identified with ACM cladding by tenure and remediation progress.⁷¹
113. **30 April 2018** The Rt. Hon. James Brokenshire MP became Secretary of State at the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government succeeding Rt. Hon Sajid Javid who became the Home Secretary.
114. **2 May 2018** The Expert Panel met and discussed on-going work on remediation, engagement with Local Authorities, fire door testing and work on Synseal doors.
115. **14 May 2018** The Expert Panel met and discussed fire risk assessments, fire door testing and public communications on fire doors.

116. **16 May 2018** The Prime Minister announced that the Government would fully fund the removal and replacement of dangerous cladding on buildings owned by councils and housing associations, with costs estimated at £400 million.⁷²
117. **16 May 2018** Chandru Dissanayeke, Deputy Director, Building Safety, wrote to customers of Manse Masterdor Ltd regarding action required to review building risk assessments and to provide information to the National Fire Chiefs' Council. The letter stated 'on the advice of the Expert Panel on Building Safety, we are now asking owners of buildings with Manse Masterdor composite front entrance 30 minute fire doors to review their buildings' fire risk assessments.' The letter advised that the National Fire Chiefs' Council has asked that the responsible person provide details of the buildings where the Manse Masterdor doors have been installed.⁷³
118. **16 May 2018** The Department issued a press notice on fire doors – this mentioned that the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government had updated Parliament on the fire door investigation and confirmed experts' advice that the risk to public safety remained low. The Expert Panel also issued advice to building owners on assurances and the replacement of flat entrance fire doors.⁷⁴
119. On the same day, the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, the Rt. Hon. James Brokenshire MP announced in Parliament that the Government would fully fund the removal and replacement of unsafe cladding by councils and housing associations, estimated at £400 million.⁷⁵
120. **17 May 2018** The Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, the Rt. Hon. James Brokenshire MP wrote to all local authority Chief Executives outlining a direction under section 3(3) of the Housing Act 2004. This instructed all local housing authorities to pay particular regard to cladding related issues when reviewing housing in their areas.⁷⁶
121. **17 May 2018** Dame Judith Hackitt published her final report.⁷⁷
122. **17 May 2018** The Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, the Rt. Hon. James Brokenshire MP made a statement to Parliament on Dame Judith Hackitt's final report.⁷⁸
123. **17 May 2018** A press notice was issued from the Department on the Hackitt Review. This mentioned that the Government has committed to:
- 'launching a consultation on banning the use of combustible materials in cladding systems on high-rise residential buildings;
 - banning desktop studies if the current consultation supports this;
 - ensuring residents have a better mechanism for blowing the whistle on landlords who do not maintain safe buildings;

- changing the law to achieve meaningful and lasting reform of the building regulatory system, with strong sanctions for those who fail to comply;
 - restructuring building regulations fire safety guidance to ensure it is clear;
 - inviting views to inform how the government could implement major reform of the regulatory system.⁷⁹
124. **22 May 2018** The Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, the Rt. Hon. James Brokenshire MP and Minister for Grenfell Victims, the Rt Hon Nick Hurd MP wrote to residents. The letter covered Inquiry panel membership and an update on Dame Judith Hackitt's review. It also included an update on Fire Doors and fridge freezer testing.⁸⁰
125. **23 May 2018** The Expert Panel considered fire door testing and the forward programme of testing, an update on the remediation of ACM cladding and Dame Judith Hackitt's review. This meeting also noted that the Secretary of State's direction had been issued to local authorities which should give local authorities more confidence to take enforcement action in the private sector. A multi-disciplinary team was being set up with the LGA to help speed up process of identification and enforcement.
126. **24 May 2018** The Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, the Rt. Hon. James Brokenshire MP held a roundtable meeting with leaseholders in the private sector to understand their views.
127. **25 May 2018** The Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, the Rt. Hon. James Brokenshire MP wrote to Council Leaders, copied to local authority Chief Executives, to provide more detail on the funding for removal and replacement of ACM cladding systems on high-rise buildings in the social housing sector.⁸¹ The remediation funding was discussed at the Expert Panel meeting on 23 May.
128. **30 May 2018** The Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, the Rt. Hon. James Brokenshire MP held roundtables with industry to discuss the barriers to remediation of unsafe ACM cladding in the private sector and potential solutions which would protect leaseholders from costs.
129. **31 May 2018** The Building Safety Programme published its monthly data release, focusing on buildings identified with ACM cladding by tenure and remediation progress.⁸²
130. **6 June 2018** The Expert Panel convened and discussed a number of issues including the Grenfell Tower Inquiry's expert witness reports and agreed they would consider how best to provide their support in considering the reports.
131. **18 June 2018** In Parliament, the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, the Rt. Hon. James Brokenshire MP announced the launch of a consultation on banning the use of combustible materials on the external walls of high-rise residential buildings.

This consultation sought views on proposals to revise the building regulations to ban the use of combustible materials in the inner leaf, insulation and cladding that are used in external wall systems on these buildings. The consultation closed on 14 August 2018.⁸³ This was discussed at the Expert Panel meeting on 6 June 2018 – it was noted that the consultation should make clear such material is already banned.

132. **27 June 2018** The Expert Panel met and discussed the Grenfell Tower Public Inquiry's Expert Witness reports with a focus on several areas including the Stay Put policy.

- The Expert Panel discussed Dr Barbara Lane's claim that the Building Regulations were unclear. The panel noted it did not agree that there was ambiguity noting that Section 12.7 states that products used on the external wall construction of buildings 18m or over should be of limited combustibility.
- The Expert Panel agreed that the expert witness reports did not raise any new concerns about cladding systems. It noted MHCLG was making progress with remediating buildings and the Government consultation on banning cladding had opened. Therefore the Panel did not recommend any further action at this time.

133. **28 June 2018** The Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, the Rt. Hon. James Brokenshire MP announced further action to support councils working with private owners of high-rise buildings. The package of measures (including a new ministerially-chaired taskforce, a joint LGA-NFCC expert inspection team backed by £1m Government funding and writing to all relevant private sector building owners to remind them of their responsibility to make buildings safe) was intended to 'drive forward swifter action by building owners to remove potentially unsafe cladding on private sector high-rise residential buildings.'⁸⁴

134. **28 June 2018** The Building Safety Programme published its monthly data release, focusing on buildings identified with ACM cladding by tenure and remediation progress.⁸⁵

135. **2 July 2018** The Housing Minister, Dominic Raab MP, appeared in front of the Housing, Communities and Local Government Select Committee as part of its consideration of Dame Judith Hackitt's Independent review.⁸⁶

136. **9 July 2018** Housing Minister, Dominic Raab MP became Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union. Kit Malthouse was appointed Minister of State for Housing.

137. **July 2018** The Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, the Rt. Hon. James Brokenshire MP held a roundtable with industry representatives, where they presented their proposals to implement industry-led solutions to deliver remediation.

138. **11 July 2018** The Expert Panel met and discussed a number of issues including the Grenfell Tower Inquiry Expert witness reports and the process by which the panel would provide feedback. The panel discussed the Approved Document B consultation which would be published before recess. It was noted that this was the first stage of reform looking at how the current regulations can be clarified.

139. **18 July 2018** The Housing, Communities and Local Government Select Committee published a report following its inquiry into the Independent Review of Building Regulations and Fire Safety.⁸⁷

140. **18 July 2018** The Expert Panel met and discussed a number of issues including the testing of Vitracore products.

The Expert Panel also discussed the Grenfell Tower Inquiry expert witness reports in relation to smoke extraction and ventilation systems. The Expert Panel concluded that there were no urgent recommendations or advice needed in relation to these systems.

141. **19 July 2018** A consultation on the clarification of Approved Document B was published. It closed on 11th October 2018.⁸⁸ The MHCLG website noted: 'We are seeking views on the proposed clarification of statutory guidance on fire safety (Approved Document B) that aims to improve usability and reduce the risk of misinterpretation by those carrying out and inspecting building work.'⁸⁹

142. **19 July 2018** In Parliament, the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, the Rt. Hon. James Brokenshire MP laid a Written Ministerial Statement.⁹⁰ This gave the latest details on:

- The Government's continued support for the bereaved and survivors;
- The building safety reforms we are implementing following the Independent Review by Dame Judith Hackitt;
- On-going remediation and fire doors testing work to ensure people are safe in their homes.

143. **23 July 2018** The Building Safety Programme published its monthly data release, focusing on buildings identified with ACM cladding by tenure and remediation progress.⁹¹

144. **25 July 2018** The Expert Panel convened and discussed a number of issues including MHCLG's progress on the testing of Vitracore G2 products. MHCLG had requested an expedited technical report from the test house in Dubai and had been putting pressure on suppliers to provide materials to speed up further testing. Vitracore will be included the weekly agenda of the Expert Panel and the situation was being closely monitored by MHCLG.

The meeting also discussed a further update on fire door testing. The Panel agreed that, given current information, the risk to public safety remained low, but this should be kept under review as more evidence becomes available.

If evidence demonstrated a systemic issue with fire doors, the Panel may need to consider recommending a temporary ban.

145. **31 July 2018** A press notice was issued from the Department updating on its fire door investigations and confirming broader potential failings within the industry and action being taken.⁹²

146. **1 August 2018** The Expert Panel met and discussed the on-going fire door tests. It was noted that MHCLG would write to all building control bodies highlighting the need to check that existing building regulations guidance on new fire door installations is followed. The Secretary of State had also asked major fire door suppliers to meet this week and agree a clear plan of action to tackle the failings.

National Trading Standards (NTS) were welcomed to the meeting. The Panel requested that officials meet with NTS to consider the regulatory framework and sanctions that NTS could put in place to assist local authorities in their responsibilities regarding fire door product failure. The Panel also asked for impacted local authorities to be identified.

The Expert Panel discussed Advice Note 16 which offers guidance on fire doors. The Panel reaffirmed its wish to maintain a principle of third party assurance as outlined in the Hackitt review, but agreed to qualify the statement made in existing guidance regarding certified fire doors whilst discussions continued to take place between officials and certification bodies, to ensure that the certification process is rigorous and can be trusted.

Finally the panel updated on the testing of Vitracore products.

147. **1 August 2018** A Circular letter was issued from Bob Ledsome, Deputy Director for the Technical Policy Division, to Heads of Local Authority Building Control and Approved Inspectors on fire doors: 'The Department has been undertaking a series of tests of the performance of fire doors against the performance standards set out in Table B1 of Appendix B of Approved Document B (Fire Safety). We have tested doors from 6 suppliers. Regrettably doors supplied by 5 of these firms have failed.' The letter outlined actions the Department was taking to address this.⁹³

148. **15 August 2018** The Expert Panel met and discussed a number of issues including an update on Fire Door testing and whether it was safe to leave small or partial amounts of Aluminium Composite Material (ACM) cladding on a building. It was agreed to consider the issue in more detail. The panel also discussed the testing of Vitracore products. The Panel agreed to discuss at the next meeting what/how remediation advice should be amended, if it is decided to be necessary.

149. **23 August 2018** The Building Safety Programme published its monthly data release, focusing on buildings identified with ACM cladding by tenure and remediation progress.⁹⁴

150. **28 August 2018** The Government issued advice on how composite front doors should be tested and classified.⁹⁵

151. **29 August 2018** The Expert Panel discussed the on-going fire door tests and work with Trading Standards. It was agreed the final proposals for testing timber fire doors would be brought to the Panel for endorsement. The panel also discussed what actions building owners would take when partial cladding had been identified on building (i.e. it didn't cover the whole building). Officials had sought advice from experts, and were awaiting feedback from stakeholders. So far officials had received significant suggested changes with no clear consensus on the scope of the draft advice. Officials agreed to amend the advice note as suggested and bring back to the Expert Panel at the earliest opportunity.

152. **5 September 2018** The Expert Panel discussed the proposed plan for testing fire timber doors, which incorporated the Panel's advice from the previous meeting. The Expert Panel discussed spandrels, following an Inside Housing article alleging reports of the widespread use of combustible window panels in high-rise housing. The Panel was aware of this issue as these window panel infills played a part in the Lakanal house fire. The Panel agreed to discuss this issue again at the next meeting and to consolidate previous advice that may relate to spandrels, for the Panel to discuss at next meeting.

On partial cladding, the Expert Panel considered a revised advice note which recognised the principles of the advice suggested by the Panel, namely that leaving ACM on buildings would be exceptional, there would be a risk based decision taking account of risk to residents and fire-fighters, and advice would be provided and peer-reviewed by competent professionals. It was agreed that officials would work with the NFCC and finalise the note. The group also discussed an update on the Vitracore tests.

153. **10 September 2018** The Government issued a circular letter informing building control bodies about issues arising from assessments of external wall cladding systems.⁹⁶

154. **18 September 2018** The Government published a response to the Housing, Communities and Local Government Select Committee's report following its inquiry into the Independent Review of Building Regulations and Fire Safety.⁹⁷

155. **19 September 2018** The Expert Panel discussed ongoing fire door tests. It also discussed the draft advice note on spandrels for building owners, which incorporated previous advice from the Panel. The Panel concluded the note should be issued as an individual paper but also possibly referenced in the advice note. The Expert Panel also had a discussion on partial cladding. The Panel confirmed its agreement that partial cladding should be treated the same as in the previous consolidated advice regarding ACM systems to ensure the safety of residents and fire-fighters in the event of fire. The Panel rejected that such cladding should be left on high rise buildings and accepted the Advice Note.

156. **20 September 2018** The Building Safety Programme published its monthly data release, focusing on buildings identified with ACM cladding by tenure and remediation progress.⁹⁸
157. **26 September 2018** The Expert Panel convened. They held a discussion on ongoing fire door tests. They advised that the note on Spandrels should be published as soon as possible.
158. **28 September 2018** The Department issued a guidance note with advice to building owners, their professional advisers and fire and rescue services when considering whether it is safe to leave small or partial amounts of Aluminium Composite Material (ACM) cladding on a building.⁹⁹
159. **1 October 2018** As part of its programme to improve building safety following the Grenfell Tower tragedy, the Government confirmed that it would ban the use of combustible materials on external walls of high-rise residential buildings. The ban will also apply to hospitals, care homes and student accommodation over 18 metres.¹⁰⁰
160. **17 October 2017** The Department issued advice for owners of buildings which include spandrel panels/window panels/infill panels on external walls.¹⁰¹ This had been considered at various meetings of the Expert Panel during September and October.
161. **17 October 2017** The Department announced it had released the first tranche of an estimated £400 million to remove and replace unsafe cladding on social sector high-rise housing.¹⁰²

Endnotes

- ¹ 14 June 2017 Nick Hurd media transcript DCL00008039-0001
- ² 15 June 2017 e mail exchanges with the senior team on the immediate review of building checks- DCL00003191-0001and DCL00003192-0001
- ³ 17 June 2017 Draft minutes of the Expert Group DCL00016581-0
- ⁴ 18 June 2017 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safety-checks-following-the-grenfell-tower-fire>
- ⁵ 19 June 2017 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safety-checks-following-the-grenfell-tower-fire-further-guidance>
- ⁶ 20 June 2017 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/letter-to-providers-on-health-and-safety>
- ⁷ https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/622619/Melanie_Dawes_letter_to_private_residential_bodies.pdf
- ⁸ 22 June 2017 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/621485/Dear_Colleague_-_Grenfell.pdf
- ⁹ 22 June 2017 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/621449/170622_letter_to_LAs_and_HAs.pdf
- ¹⁰ 24 June 2017 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/statement-from-the-secretary-of-state-regarding-the-cladding-testing-failure-rate>
- ¹¹ 25 June 2017 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cladding-sample-testing-update>
- ¹² 27 June 2017 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/expert-panel-appointed-to-advise-on-immediate-safety-action-following-grenfell-fire>
- ¹³ 28 June 2017 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/public-sector-estate-safety-checks-letter-to-permanent-secretaries-28-june-2017>
- ¹⁴ 30 June 2017 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/explanatory-note-on-safety-checks-and-testing>
- ¹⁵ 30 June 2017 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/expert-panel-on-safety-meets-for-the-first-time>
- ¹⁶ 3 July 2017 <https://www.parliament.uk/business/news/2017/july/statement-on-the-grenfell-tower-fire-3-july-2017/>
- ¹⁷ 6 July 2017 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/expert-panel-recommends-further-tests-on-cladding-and-insulation>
- ¹⁸ 10 July 2017 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-industry-group-to-ensure-construction-sector-ready-to-meet-building-challenges-after-grenfell-tower>
- ¹⁹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/circular-letter-on-recladding-of-tall-buildings>
- ²⁰ 14 July 2017 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ensure-that-recladding-work-meets-building-regulations-advises-expert-panel>
- ²¹ 20 July 2017 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/explanatory-note-on-large-scale-cladding-systems-testing>
- ²² 20 July 2017 <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/statement-on-grenfell-tower-20-july-2017>
- ²³ 27 July 2017 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/letter-to-providers-on-building-safety-programme-27-july-2017>

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- ²⁴ 28 July 2017 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/independent-review-of-building-regulations-and-fire-safety>
- ²⁵ 28 July 2017 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fire-test-report-dclg-bs-8414-test-no1>
- ²⁶ 3 August 2017 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/further-results-published-from-governments-fire-testing-programme>
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- ²⁹ https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/638391/170811_Letter_from_Tamara_Finkelstein.pdf
- ³⁰ https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/637402/SofS_Letter_to_LA_Chief_Executives_11_Aug.pdf
- ³¹ 14 August 2017 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fire-test-report-dclg-bs-8414-test-no5>
- ³² https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/640497/170818_Letter_from_HM_on_findings_from_the_Ledbury_Estate.pdf
- ³³ 21 August 2017 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fire-test-report-dclg-bs-8414-test-no7>
- ³⁴ 23 August 2017 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/letter-to-national-tenant-organisations-following-the-grenfell-tower-fire-23-august-2017>
- ³⁵ Regulator of Social Housing website <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/homes-and-communities-agency>
- ³⁶ 25 August 2017 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fire-test-report-dclg-bs-8414-test-no6>
- ³⁷ 30 August 2017 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/independent-review-of-building-regulations-and-fire-safety-terms-of-reference>
- ³⁸ https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/642517/Tamara_Finkelstein_Letter_to_LAs_5th_Sept.pdf
- ³⁹ 5 September 2017 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/642741/Local_authorities_Large_Panel_System_buildings_letter.pdf
- ⁴⁰ 5 September 2017 Letter from the Secretary of State to Sir Ken Knight
- ⁴¹ 5 September 2017 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/642711/Circular_letter_guidance_on_cladding_wind_loading.pdf
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- ⁴³ 5 September 2017 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/building-safety-programme-update-and-consolidated-advice-for-building-owners-following-large-scale-testing>
- ⁴⁴ 12 September 2017 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-call-for-evidence-for-the-independent-review-of-building-regulations-and-fire-safety>
- ⁴⁵ 19 September 2017 <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/sajid-javids-speech-to-the-national-housing-federation-conference-2017>

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- ⁴⁶ 22 September 2017 Sir Ken Knight letter to the Secretary of State
- ⁴⁷ 29 September 2017
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/648775/Update_on_Interim_Mitigation_Measures_290917.pdf
- ⁴⁸ 8 October 2017
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- ⁵¹ 11 December 2017 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/advice-for-building-owners-external-wall-insulation-ewi-systems-with-a-render-or-brick-slip-finish>
- ⁵² 11 December 2017 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/advice-for-building-owners-external-wall-systems-that-do-not-incorporate-acm>
- ⁵³ 11 December 2017 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/information-note-for-landlords-and-building-owners-of-tall-residential-buildings-with-acm-cladding>
- ⁵⁴ 18 December <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/independent-review-of-building-regulations-and-fire-safety-interim-report>
- ⁵⁵ 18 December 2017 <https://www.parliament.uk/written-questions-answers-statements/written-statement/Commons/2017-12-18/HCWS359>
- ⁵⁶ 18 December 2017 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/building-safety-programme-monthly-data-release-december-2017>
- ⁵⁷ 22 January 2018 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/radical-reform-of-building-regulatory-system-needed-finds-dame-judith-hackitt>
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- ⁶⁵ 15 March 2018 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/691072/Letter_to_residents_following_the_Grenfell_Tower_fire_15_March_2018.pdf
- ⁶⁶ 15 March 2018 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/fire-safety-advice-unchanged-after-issue-identified-with-fire-door>
- ⁶⁷ 28 March 2017 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/building-safety-programme-monthly-data-release-march-2018>
- ⁶⁸ 5 April 2018 letter from the Public Inquiry solicitor to MHCLG on fire door tests
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