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1	Wednesday, 17 October 2018	1	A. It is my signature.
2	(10.00 am)	2	Q. Have you had an opportunity to read this statement
3	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Good morning, everyone. Welcome to	3	recently?
4	today's hearing.	4	A. Yes.
5	We are going to continue hearing evidence from those	5	Q. And are the contents of this statement true?
6	who were in the tower at the time of the fire.	6	A. They are true, yes.
7	MR MILLETT: Yes, Mr Chairman, good morning.	7	Q. You've also provided to the inquiry some exhibits that
8	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes, Mr Millett.	8	you have to your statement, PD/1 and PD/2, and those are
9	MR MILLETT: So our next witness is Ms Petra Doulova. May	9	IWS00000832 and IWS00000833. IWS00000832 is a plan of
10	I please call Ms Doulova.	10	floor 20 and IWS00000833 is a plan of your flat.
11	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Thank you.	11	If we can just have, first of all, the plan of
12	PETRA DOULOVA (affirmed)	12	floor 20 up.
13	Questions by COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY	13	Is that your first exhibit?
14	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Thank you very much indeed. Do sit	14	A. Yes.
15	down and make yourself comfortable. All right?	15	Q. Secondly, IWS00000833, the plan of your flat, is that
16	Yes, Mr Millett.	16	the plan of your flat?
17	MR MILLETT: Good morning.	17	A. Yes, it is.
18	Can I start, please, by asking you to give the	18	Q. Thank you.
19	inquiry your full name?	19	Can I start, then, just by asking you some
20	A. My name is Petra Doulova.	20	background questions.
21	Q. Can I begin by thanking you very much, Ms Doulova, for	21	I think you moved into Grenfell Tower is this
22	coming here today and giving us your evidence and	22	right? in 1998?
23	assisting the chairman in our work. Your contribution	23	A. That's right.
24	is of course very much appreciated.	24	Q. So at the time of the fire, you'd lived there for
25	If at any time you need a break, all you need to do	25	something like 19 years?
23	if at any time you need a break, an you need to do		
	Page 1		Page 3
1	is say so. We appreciate that going through the events	1	A. Yes.
2	of the night is often quite difficult, so we're very	2	Q. Your husband, I think, had a secure tenancy.
3	happy to take a break at any time you want to. We'll	3	A. Yes.
4	probably not sit for more than 45 minutes at a time in	4	Q. Can you remember who his tenancy was with?
5	order to have proper breaks.	5	A. He initially had a tenancy with a friend, Maria Laosma,
6	If at any time there's a question I ask you which	6	who hasn't lived in there for many years. Since
7	you don't understand or you want me to repeat, I'm very	7	basically I moved in there, she was no longer living in
8	happy to repeat the question or put it in a different	8	the flat. I think she moved back to her country,
9	way.	9	Finland.
10	If I'm not looking at you when you're answering my	10	Q. At the time of the fire, do you know who your husband
11	questions, it's because I'm looking at the screen to	11	had a tenancy with?
12	follow what you're saying on the record.	12	A. I think the tenancy terms haven't changed.
13	Okay?	13	Q. Right. You don't know who the tenancy was with?
14	A. Okay.	14	A. I think it was the same, the initial tenancy he had.
15	Q. Can I ask you, please, first, to be shown your witness	15	Q. Right.
16	statement, IWS00000835.	16	Do you know whether you made any modifications to
17	It's there on the screen on the desk in front of you	17	your flat?
18	or we can look at it on the screen at the back of the	18	A. We made numerous modifications. We put in the floors,
19	hall.	19	we changed the kitchen, usual decorations, paintings.
20	This is the first page of the statement that you've	20	Q. Right.
21	made for the inquiry.	21	Can I ask you to look at page 3 of your statement
22	Can we please go to the last page of that statement,	22	and paragraph 18. You say there:
23	which is page 14. We can see that it carries a date of	23	"18. Everyone on the 20th floor except for us had
		. 24	their front door changed and found them difficult to
24	29 June 2018 and a signature.	24	
24 25	29 June 2018 and a signature. Is that your signature?	25	open and close."

1	Then you go on to say:	1	caused some problems for some people, letting in light,
2	"There was a choice of three new front doors. They	2	and they didn't feel secure and private enough.
3	were all made of PVC/Aluminium and some had frosted	3	So generally from conversation and discussions from
4	glass panel. However, my husband told the TMO we wanted	4	the people we met.
5	to keep our original front door."	5	Q. Right.
6	First of all, the reference to the TMO there, is	6	At paragraph 19, at the bottom of the page, first of
7	that a reference to the person with whom your husband	7	all, you say:
8	had the tenancy?	8	"19. Our front door was wooden and heavy, I believe
9	A. It was the organisation that was employed or organised	9	it was a proper solid fire door. It did not shut
10	to manage the block and the flats. I don't know if the	10	automatically."
11	tenancy initially was with TMO. Probably not, because	11	Was that the case at the time of the fire, that it
12	it's been a long tenancy. So, yes, TMO was basically	12	didn't shut automatically?
13	involved in managing and running and was tasked with all	13	A. It's the way the door is designed. There is a knob and
14	the refurbishments and anything to do with the changes	14	there is a letterbox with a flap, so either you have to
15	to the flats.	15	be quite forceful closing and shutting it, which causes
16	Q. On behalf of RBKC?	16	lots of noise, or use your key to shut it gently.
17	A. On behalf of RBKC, yes.	17	So on the night of the fire, it was my husband that
18	Q. My first question, looking at this paragraph, is: did	18	was leaving after me, and he was a bit delayed trying to
19	the TMO offer you or your husband the choice of keeping	19	close the door. There was a lock, and I think the lock
20	the old front door?	20	was kind of open, so he had difficulty. So he realised
21	A. As I recall, there was no choice. I think the way it	21	he has to open the lock and then close the door. So you
22	was put was that these doors need to be changed.	22	have to manually close the door, yes.
23	I think we didn't like the new doors, we didn't like the	23	Q. You had to manually close the door?
24	quality, we didn't like that it was made of what to me	24	A. Yes.
25	and to us looked like a cheap plastic material. We	25	Q. So if you opened your front door to its fullest extent
	Page 5		Page 7
	1 age 3		1 age /
1	thought the original door was very secure, very hard,	1	into the flat, what would happen to the door if you just
2	wooden door, and we just didn't feel comfortable with	2	left it?
2 3	wooden door, and we just didn't feel comfortable with the changes offered and decided not to have the doors	3	left it? A. I think it would probably close, but I don't think it
3 4	the changes offered and decided not to have the doors changed.	3 4	A. I think it would probably close, but I don't think it would shut. Maybe if there was a draught, I believe,
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1	remember where the dry riser was located. The air vents	1	a thought before, and following the refurbishment, it
2	used to make a lot of noise after the refurbishment."	2	was quite a regular occurrence. I remember discussing
3	I just want to focus on what you say about the air	3	it. It was quite an unusual sound, quite humming,
4	vents.	4	haunting, really quite difficult to comprehend. It was
5	First of all, I want to show you a photograph, taken	5	as if something was sucking up a lot of air at the same
6	by the inquiry through one of its experts, of the	6	time and yes, so definitely it was happening quite
7	interior of the tower after the fire. It doesn't show	7	a lot.
8	the building on fire or anything like that. Are you all	8	Q. I'm interested in what you just said about the kind of
9	right to look at a photograph?	9	noise, your description of the noise.
10	A. Yes.	10	Could you compare it with anything in your normal
11	MR MILLETT: I just ought to pause, just for a moment,	11	life, like a kitchen implement or something like that?
12	because there may be people watching or in this room	12	How would it sound?
13	hearing who might find these photographs distressing.	13	A. It's difficult to really describe. It really was
14	So, Mr Chairman, if we can pause for a few seconds	14	a humming, low kind of like a vent a fan that's
15	to allow them to look away or leave.	15	going on really, really fast.
16	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes.	16	Q. Would it be when you were, say, standing in the
17	MR MILLETT: If we can just ready the picture, it's	17	middle of the lobby louder than a vacuum cleaner if
18	BLA00002513, and also BLA00002514. If we can have both	18	a vacuum cleaner was placed in the same place?
19	of those on the screen at the same time, we can now look	19	A. It wasn't as loud as that. It was more kind of it
20	at those.	20	wasn't as loud as a vacuum cleaner, but it was
21	Take a moment, Ms Doulova, to look at these	21	a quite it was a kind of dull sound. It wasn't very
22	photographs. These were taken on the 6th floor of the	22	high-pitched, it was very dull, but it was very
23	tower, but can I just ask you to look at the right-hand	23	consistent, very loud. You could actually really feel
24	photograph. You'll see towards the ground on that	24	it. It felt like something was wrong with the building,
25	floor, against the far wall or on the far wall, two	25	really.
	D 0		D 44
	Page 9		Page 11
1	vents.	1	Q. Could you feel it as well as hear it?
2	On your floor, floor 20, did you have those, do you	2	A. I don't think so. I don't remember. It was the sound
3	remember?	3	really that caught your attention.
4	A. On that right side, I don't remember these vents.	4	Q. Okay.
5	I remember the ones on the left side.	5	You said it was low. There are technical reasons
6	Q. You remember those on the left side. Okay. So when you	6	for me asking these rather strange questions, but you
7	say the left side, the left-hand photograph?	7	said it was a low sound. Does that mean low in the
8	A. The left-hand photograph, yes.	8	register, in the musical register, or more high-pitched?
9	Q. So you recall is this right? that on the	9	A. Yes, I think so.
10	20th floor, there were two vent inlets or outlets	10	Q. Could you hear the vents when you were inside your flat,
11	towards the ceiling?	11	when they were making the noise you describe?
12	A. Yes.	12	A. I don't think so.
13	Q. Were they in the same orientation as the lift, in other	13	Q. How often did they make the noise that you've described?
14	words, as you're looking at the lifts, to the right?	14	A. Again, I think it's hard for me to remember exactly, but
15	A. Yes.	15	for me to register and remember, and I know we discussed
16	Q. But you don't remember those towards the ground to the	16	it, it definitely was regular. And I think,
17	left of the lifts as you look at the lifts?	17	particularly, shortly after the whole refurbishment has
18	A. I'm not 100 per cent sure, no.	18	been completed, it kind of registered as well. So
19	Q. You say in paragraph 26, just looking back at that	19	I can't really say how often, but it did happen, because
20	paragraph:	20	we did discuss it, I think also with the neighbours,
21	"The air vents used to make a lot of noise after the	21	again, when we met and discussed how we reacted to the
22	refurbishment."	22	refurbishment and the various complaints. That was one
23	Are you clear in your own mind that the air vents	23	of the issues mentioned by neighbours as well.
24	only started making noise after the refurbishment?	24	Q. Did you ever notice anything triggering it, like changes
25	A. Yes, clearly. I don't really remember even giving it	25	in temperature or weather conditions or any particular
	Page 10		Page 12

1	event?	1	Can I first ask you to look at the plan of your flat
2	A. No, I can't really say, no.	2	that you've prepared, which is IWS00000833, page 2.
3	Q. Did you hear this noise at particular times of the day?	3	It's your second exhibit, PD/2.
4	A. I think for me I would've either noticed it in the	4	Can I ask you, by reference to that plan, to
5	morning on the way to work, so that would've been	5	indicate which window you were referring to in this
6	7.00/7.30 in the morning, or it would be in the evening	6	paragraph of your statement?
7	coming back. So, again, 7.00/7.30 in the evening.	7	A. It's the window in the room A, which was our bedroom.
8	Q. Were those the occasions on which you were most often in	8	Q. Which side of the window was the gap that you're talking
9	the lobbies?	9	about?
10	A. Yes.	10	A. It was on the left side as you're facing the window.
11	Q. So you don't actually know whether it was happening at	11	Q. On the left side as you're facing the window, okay.
12	lunchtime or	12	A. It wasn't a physical gap between the outside and us, it
13	A. Exactly, yes.	13	was more the way the windows were installed and the
14	Q. When they did make this noise, did you notice a change	14	standard of work and the attitude that we had when we
15	in the temperature in the lobbies?	15	raised complaints. It was kind of making a point of,
16	A. I don't really remember.	16	you know, it was your home and it was kind of, for me,
17	Q. Did you notice any feeling of airflow in the lobbies	17	destroyed in a way, and it was just a general comment on
18	when you heard that noise?	18	how the council and the contractors and people dealing
19	A. I can't really say. I don't know. It was quite a long	19	with us were kind of completely disregarding our
20	time ago and, you know, it's just really the sound that	20	comments.
21	stayed with me.	21	I would point out, talking about the windows, that
22	Q. Did you ever speak to anybody at the TMO about the noise	22	they were very draughty. I mean, I slept we had the
23	you heard?	23	bed parallel to that wall with the window, and I slept
24	A. I discussed it at home with my husband, and I'm sure	24	close to the wall. Our flat was never cold, and
25	that he had other there were other things,	25	suddenly, going through the draught, the wall was cold
	Page 13		Page 15
1	complaints, that we had. Whether he raised the issue	1	in the winter. It was really, really cold, draughty.
2	with the vents, I'm not sure.	2	I could feel the draught sleeping there, and that was
3	Q. Do you remember what the last occasion was before the	3	a new experience for me.
4	night of the fire when you heard those vents?	4	So something obviously wasn't quite right with the
5	A. I can't really remember, no.	5	design there.
6	Q. Did you hear them, do you think, on the night of the	6	Q. I just want to unpack that, because you've given us
7	fire when you returned home?	7	a lot of information in answering that question. I need
8	A. I can't say. I really don't know.	8	to go back over that a little bit.
9	Q. If I can ask you to turn to page 6, you say at	9	Before I do, can you just describe where your bed
10	paragraphs 39 and 40 that:	10	was in room A?
11	"39. When the new windows were installed, it	11	A. Okay, so it was by the window, parallel to that wall
12	reduced the light coming into the flat by at least 30%.	12	with the window.
13	It was the most depressing thing. We had been used to	13	Q. So the headboard of the bed would be facing north or
14	lots of light streaming into the flat and the most	14	A. Facing north.
15	beautiful view."	15	Q. I see, and you would sleep on the west side, would you?
16	Just a timing question, when you say "When the new	16	A. Yes.
17	windows were installed", was that at the time of the	17	Q. Towards the window?
18	refurbishment?	18	A. That's correct.
19	A. It was, yes.	19	Q. Right.
20	Q. Then you say in paragraph 40:	20	I just want to go back to this gap. You say, "It
21	"40. Our new bedroom window had a gap on one side	21	wasn't a physical gap between the outside and us".
22	between the frame and the wall. We complained to the	22	I just want to understand what this gap looked like.
23	TMO and the response was along the lines that 'no one	23	When you look at the window of your bedroom, you're
24	will see it there,' but we saw the gap everyday."	24	looking at the left-hand side of the window, what could
25	I just want to focus on that.	25	you see? If you were looking for the gap, what would
	Page 14		Page 16

1	you see?	1	A. Yes.
2	A. You couldn't see it from facing the front. For me, it	2	Q. How soon after the refurbishment did the window come
3	was just probably a detail, but it was the frame from	3	away?
4	the side, that you could see when you kind of lean to	4	A. A couple of months.
5	the side, and the frame was the gap between the wall	5	Q. Did you take that up, or did your husband take that up,
6	and the frame was basically widening as it was going	6	with the TMO?
7	down. So that was what really I didn't like; it was	7	A. I think he would probably mention that, yes, but
8	that gap between the wall and the frame which wasn't	8	I cannot say 100 per cent, because usually he was
9	you know, you could see the widening.	9	dealing with the side of, you know, dealing with the TMO
10	Q. You say it widened as it went down is this right?	10	and the council.
11	towards the sill, the windowsill?	11	Q. I am going to ask you in a moment about the signing off
12	A. Yes.	12	that you've just referred to, but before I do, can I ask
13	Q. At the top, how wide would you say the gap was?	13	you to look at paragraph 47 of your statement on page 7.
14	A. I think at the top was pretty snugly fit, and as it went	14	You say there in the third line:
15	to the windowsill, it could've been 1 centimetre,	15	"There was a constant draught through our windows in
16	1.5 centimetres.	16	the flat. At night, the bedroom walls felt cold to
17	Q. Could you see at that bottom part, where you say it's	17	touch and the walls under all of the windows."
18	1 centimetre/1.5 centimetres	18	Which windows in your flat did you feel a constant
19	A. Yes.	19	draught coming through?
20	Q. Could you see inside the gap?	20	A. For me, personally, it would be the bedroom, because
21	A. Yes.	21	I was so close to it at night.
22	Q. Could you see anything in there, behind?	22	Q. Yes.
23	A. It was still part of the window frame. There was no,	23	A. The others, I don't really I can't say. But I think
24	like, as I say, physical gap, but it was just the point	24	importantly as well is that obviously we're talking
25	of how I don't think that the windows were fit	25	about the windows, so I mentioned that the rooms were
	Page 17		Page 19
1	properly and correctly.	1	hot and cold because of the heating system, which we
2	Q. In that gap, did you ever feel air coming through?	2	will probably get to, so that's probably more what
3	A. I cannot say whether it was due to the gap or it was	3	I would notice, rather than the other windows.
4	generally that the windows felt very draughty.	4	We also kept our windows open. We liked to keep
5	Q. Okay.	5	fresh air even during the winter, we would keep them
6	That gap that you've described very clearly for us		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
7	That gap that you've described very clearly for us	6	open during the day and just probably close them at
		6 7	open during the day and just probably close them at night, and always keep at least one window open.
8	just now on that window on that side, was that kind of		night, and always keep at least one window open.
8 9	just now on that window on that side, was that kind of gap anywhere else in your flat?	7 8	night, and always keep at least one window open. So regarding the other windows, I can't really say
8 9 10	just now on that window on that side, was that kind of gap anywhere else in your flat? A. No.	7 8 9	night, and always keep at least one window open. So regarding the other windows, I can't really say whether they were that draughty. But for me, the issue
9 10	just now on that window on that side, was that kind of gap anywhere else in your flat? A. No. Q. You say you complained to the TMO about it. Was it ever	7 8 9 10	night, and always keep at least one window open. So regarding the other windows, I can't really say whether they were that draughty. But for me, the issue was the bedroom.
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1	"There was a constant draught through our windows in	1	A. I don't remember that. I just know that you either sign
2	the flat."	2	or or if there was an option, it wasn't explained to
3	A. Yes.	3	us.
4	Q. We've narrowed that down to the bedroom. I just wanted	4	Q. Did you have a discussion with your husband about
5	to understand where this constant draught you could feel	5	whether he should sign to say he was happy with the
6	was coming from.	6	windows?
7	A. It's just the feeling that I had of the draught.	7	A. Yes, at the time, especially at the time of the windows
8	I don't know exactly which part of the window it was	8	and the heating, we both were at the flat, so we
9	coming from, but it was a feeling of a draught.	9	discussed this on a day-to-day basis, and we both
10	Q. Do you remember ever putting your hand around the	10	agreed, in particular for these two, for the windows and
11	window	11	the heating.
12	A. Yes.	12	Q. Do you remember whether anything happened as a result of
13	Q to work out where it was coming you did?	13	your husband not signing off the form signing off the
14	A. I felt it mainly below the windowsill, on the wall below	14	windows?
15	the window.	15	A. I don't think anything really happened. It looks to me
16	Q. Right. Just exploring that a bit, the windowsill comes	16	again it probably was just a form for the contractors to
17	out and then returns back to the wall, does it? And it	17	show they're finished and completed the work done.
18	was under there that you felt the draught?	18	I don't recall anybody following up why we didn't sign
19	A. I think so, yes.	19	or that there was a problem, us not signing.
20	Q. Right.	20	Q. Can I ask you, then, to go back to page 5 of your
21	At paragraph 48 you say and you've told us just	21	statement, and look at paragraph 33.
22	a few moments ago:	22	This is under the heading "Refurbishments" a couple
23	"48. Due to our dissatisfaction with the work, my	23	of paragraphs above. You say:
24	husband did not sign off the new windows and the heating	24	"33. There were issues with electrical power surges
25	system."	25	at the Tower. My computer and other electrical
	Page 21		Page 23
1	Just focusing on signing off or not signing off the	1	equipment would suddenly turn off. I cannot remember
1 2	new windows, did TMO ever ask your husband to sign off	1 2	when this was, it may have coincided with some of the
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1	and a Thursday and the second section of the second	1	
1 2	again, as I'm not there during the day most of the week,	2	was glued. I have never seen it before, or maybe
3	if there was a small occurrence, probably not having	3	I haven't noticed it before, but that particular time, I did notice it.
4	such an impact, I might not have picked up on it. Q. Can I then ask you some questions about fire safety.	4	Q. Do you remember how long this piece of paper sellotaped
5	We can start, I think, with page 8 of your	5	or glued to the wall stayed there for?
6	statement, please, at paragraph 54. This is two	6	A. I think it stayed there definitely for at least a week
7	paragraphs down from the heading "Fire Safety". We can	7	or two.
8	read paragraphs 52 and 53.	8	Q. Was it replaced by anything?
9	Then at 54, you say:	9	A. I don't remember. If it was taken away, it would not be
10	"54. About two months before the fire, I remember a	10	replaced with anything, it was just there for a purpose,
11	sign in the main lobby on the ground floor had been	11	as an information. It was there between the two lifts,
12	placed by the lifts saying 'do not use the lifts in case	12	so it's in a place where I guess most people would have
13	of fire' and 'stay inside the flat and wait for	13	seen it and would've read it.
14	assistance.' I had not noticed it before. This is the	14	Q. You say it was printed on a piece of paper. Can you
15	only sign that I can remember seeing in the building.	15	just describe that? I mean, it's difficult to do, but
16	When I read it, I remember thinking there was no way	16	did it look like a permanent notice?
17	I would stay put."	17	A. No, no, it looked like a temporary notice. It didn't
18	First of all, can the witness please be shown	18	look permanent. I hope I'm recalling it correctly.
19	INQ0000093.	19	That's my recollection, anyway; that I've seen the note,
20	Is this sign familiar to you?	20	probably just text printed on a paper, glued, for people
21	A. No.	21	to inform and to read.
22	Q. So you've never seen a sign like this in Grenfell Tower?	22	Q. You say this was about two months before the fire you
23	A. I don't remember seeing it, no.	23	saw this sign. How do you know it was two months?
24	Q. What was the sign that you say you did see? What did it	24	A. I think it was a guess. It wasn't later than two
25	look like?	25	months.
	Page 25		Page 27
1	A. It was just a note printed on a paper and it was placed	1	Q. Not later than two months?
1 2	A. It was just a note printed on a paper and it was placed between the two lifts we had in the lobby on the ground	1 2	Q. Not later than two months?A. Yes.
			-
2	between the two lifts we had in the lobby on the ground	2	A. Yes.
2 3	between the two lifts we had in the lobby on the ground floor. I remember, in particular, as I came from work	2 3	A. Yes. Q. Okay.
2 3 4	between the two lifts we had in the lobby on the ground floor. I remember, in particular, as I came from work in the evening, I saw a note, so I'll read it, and it stated I cannot paraphrase, but as you put there, in case of a fire, stay put, wait for assistance. And	2 3 4	A. Yes. Q. Okay. Before you saw that sign there, did you ever see any fire notices in the building advising residents about what they should do in case there was a fire in the
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1 that came to our flat, I think, what my husband	1 A. Yes. It was quite strange that it suddenly appeared,
2 described, was so powerful and overwhelming, that kind	2 and I think it made me, you know, think about what would
3 of reinforced the notion of, you know, if there is	3 happen a little bit more. So I do recall that we did
4 a serious fire, serious occurrence, you definitely don't	4 discuss it and we didn't go into great amount of
5 want to stay somewhere when a fairly small accident	5 details, like asking me why we would leave. I think
6 leads to a flat full of smoke.	6 it's, as I say, more of a feel that we had that we'd
7 So I guess these are the things that led us to	7 really rather be out than in.
8 believe that the right thing to do was to leave in case	8 Q. Was there nothing else in the almost 19 years during
9 there is a fire.	9 which you were living in the tower that had prompted
10 Q. We'll come to that in just a moment. I want to ask you	10 that discussion before?
11 about that.	11 A. No.
12 Before I do, can I just ask you, prior to seeing	12 Q. At page 8, paragraph 56, just below, you say:
this sign, about two months or so before the fire, was	13 "56. A few weeks later, we packed a bag of our most
there any advice to residents that you knew about about	14 important documents and belongings, including our
15 what residents should do in the event of a fire?	passports, in case we were evacuated from the building
16 A. No.	in a hurry. This bag was kept in the bedroom."
17 Q. At paragraph 55 you say, as you've just told us, that	17 What made you do that at that time?
18 you discussed the safety of the building:	18 A. I think, again, that stems back from the initial
19 " and what we would do in the event of a fire.	19 discussions that we had, and you think: what would
We both agreed that we would not follow the stay put	20 happen if we suddenly have to run, if we have to leave?
21 advice."	21 And we said, well, we don't have anything to take with
22 Can you tell us, what were your reasons for coming	22 us, anything ready, anything important. So we had the
23 to that decision?	23 case, and my husband brought it and said, "Let's just
24 A. I think it's just an instinct. Just thinking about how,	24 put some important things in it". Actually, the weekend
you know, the building is, how it's designed, thinking	25 before the fire, I've put some of my personal
Page 29	Page 31
about the two lifts that obviously you shouldn't use in	1 possessions and I put our passports in there, and I had
2 case of a fire, and also thinking about the stairwell.	2 some of my other documents, my birth certificate, and we
3 I mean, it's not the biggest, widest stairwell, it's	3 put it in there. And it just so happened that it
4 quite dark sometimes. I used it on numerous occasions	4 actually proved quite useful at the time, because that
5 when the lifts didn't work.	5 was the only documents we had left.
6 So I think the thinking was: if there is a fire, as	6 It was just these things led to the night, which was
7 soon as we can get out, given all these circumstances,	7 in a way strange, but that's what happened.
8 the better.	8 Q. Was there anything else that had happened between the 9 discussion that you refer to in paragraph 55 that you
9 Also, as I mention, I'm used to, from work, you	
leave the building when there is a fire, and I think	10 had with your husband about the safety of the building,
11 that's just pretty much it.	11 and the time when you packed the bag? 12 A. Yes. We had a sudden visit from the Fire Brigade.
12 Also, I think it's probably relying on advice of	
somebody else, and you just want to make	, · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
14 a responsibility for your own life. You just make	· ·
15 yourself safe. 16 I can understand why the policy of stay put	our door and they wanted to know whether we had a smoke alarm and whether it worked, which was unusual because
	<u>′</u>
17 I mean, I think the building as it was obviously already 18 worked in case of a fire. But I guess still you would	17 it never happened before. 18 Q. You cover that at paragraph 57 of your statement in
e ·	19 pretty much the same terms.
19 probably want to leave the building. 20 Q. You say in paragraph 55:	20 Did you pack this bag before or after the visit from
20 Q. You say in paragraph 33: 21 "This led to my husband and I discussing the safety	21 the London Fire Brigade that you describe there?
21 This led to my husband and I discussing the safety 22 of the building"	22 A. I think this was two unrelated issues. I think the
23 Would I be right in thinking that the "this" you	23 visit from the Fire Brigade was I mean, it was
24 refer to is the appearance of this notice on the ground	24 unusual, but we always had, you know, a smoke alarm and
25 floor by the lifts that you'd seen?	25 always tested the batteries and it works, so it was just
25 Hoor by the first that you'd seen:	arrajo cosca die bacceres and it works, so it was just
Page 30	Page 32

4			
1	a question of my husband saying, "Yes, we have it and it	1	you, as a resident, should do in case there was a fire
2	works", and that was it. They didn't come in, we didn't	2	elsewhere in the block?
3	talk to them, and I didn't really give it much thought.	3	A. I don't think I had a clear idea. I mean, I knew
4	So the packing of the bag was more of the we	4	somehow that the stay-put policy I know that the
5	discussed the notice and what would we do in case of	5	flats were designed, for some reason whether we
6	a fire, and just realising that if we had to evacuate,	6	discussed it or whether we knew it was or maybe it
7	we had nothing to take with us.	7	was just part of the notice that I'm now kind of linking
8	So I would say these were separate. The firemen	8	this.
9	coming to the flat was just what I recall happened,	9	Yes, I don't think we had any discussions or any
10	again, which was quite unusual, that three things kind	10	ideas or knew clearly what to do in case of a fire prior
11	of happened shortly before the fire.	11	to the notice or even I don't recall discussing it
12	Q. My question was really whether you packed this bag	12	before.
13	before the London Fire Brigade came to do their visit or	13	MR MILLETT: Very well.
14	whether you packed it as a result of them making their	14	Mr Chairman, we've been going for just about
15	visit.	15	45 minutes. It may be appropriate now to take a short
16	A. No, it wasn't done as a result of them coming to our	16	break.
17	flat, no. It was more of our discussions and the notice	17	Are you happy to take a short break now?
18	in the lifts and discussing what would we do in case of	18	THE WITNESS: If
19	a fire. That really was the impetus for, you know,	19	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: How do you feel about a break?
20	getting ourselves a little organised and getting the	20	THE WITNESS: I feel okay if everybody else is okay to
21	more important things so that we can easily take them in	21	continue.
22	case we need them.	22	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Why don't we perhaps continue for
23	Q. So was it before their visit that you packed the bag?	23	quarter of an hour and perhaps we might all have a break
24	A. It could've been the similar time or it could've been		1 1 0
25	slightly you know, the following weekend.	24	then.
23	singinity you know, the following weekend.	25	THE WITNESS: Yes, thank you.
	Page 33		Page 35
1	Q. When the LFB visited your flat, as you've described, did	1	MR MILLETT: Ms Doulova, I'm going to turn now to the night
2	they advise you about what to do in case there was	2	of the fire, okay? 13/14 June.
3	a fire?	3	You tell us on page 9 of your statement we pick
4	A. No. As I said, it was a very short discussion. My		
	110 1 tot 115 1 baray 10 was a very short discussion 1/1	1 4	this up at paragraph 60 that you spent the evening of
5	husband opened the door and there was the Fire Brigade	4 5	this up at paragraph 60 that you spent the evening of
5 6	husband opened the door and there was the Fire Brigade	5	13 June 2017 with your husband, having come home from
6	asking whether we had a smoke alarm, whether it was	5 6	13 June 2017 with your husband, having come home from work about 7.15, and you'd gone to bed about 11 pm.
6 7	asking whether we had a smoke alarm, whether it was functional. I think they might have wanted to come in.	5 6 7	13 June 2017 with your husband, having come home from work about 7.15, and you'd gone to bed about 11 pm. You say:
6 7 8	asking whether we had a smoke alarm, whether it was functional. I think they might have wanted to come in. I think my husband said, "No, it's in the hallway,	5 6 7 8	13 June 2017 with your husband, having come home from work about 7.15, and you'd gone to bed about 11 pm. You say: "I think all of our flat windows were opened because
6 7 8 9	asking whether we had a smoke alarm, whether it was functional. I think they might have wanted to come in. I think my husband said, "No, it's in the hallway, I keep an eye on it, it's working, it's functional", and	5 6 7 8 9	13 June 2017 with your husband, having come home from work about 7.15, and you'd gone to bed about 11 pm. You say: "I think all of our flat windows were opened because it was summer and it was a lovely warm evening."
6 7 8 9 10	asking whether we had a smoke alarm, whether it was functional. I think they might have wanted to come in. I think my husband said, "No, it's in the hallway, I keep an eye on it, it's working, it's functional", and that was the extent of the interaction we had with them	5 6 7 8 9	13 June 2017 with your husband, having come home from work about 7.15, and you'd gone to bed about 11 pm. You say: "I think all of our flat windows were opened because it was summer and it was a lovely warm evening." Were all your flat windows open, including the
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1	up when suddenly my husband jumped out of bed. It was	1	outside screaming "Your building is on fire, get out".
2	only probably within a minute or so I realised that the	2	You know, there was quite a lot of that.
3	alarm was, you know, going off.	3	So I just went to the bathroom, put my bathrobe on.
4	Q. Did you put the lights on in the bedroom?	4	My husband said, "Let's pick up two towels, wet them and
5	A. I think my husband did, yes.	5	use them for when we have to leave, because it looks
6	Q. Could you see any smoke inside the flat?	6	like we have to leave". That was when I probably
7	A. At the time, no.	7	started to notice a bit more of the detail and started
8	Q. Could you smell any smoke?	8	to notice the smoke in the hallway. I didn't go to the
9	A. At that time, when I just woke up, no.	9	living room, I just went from bedroom to hallway to
10	Q. You then go on to say that you got up and put some	10	kitchen, bathroom and then hallway again.
11	trousers on and then went into the hallway, where you	11	Q. In the hallway, where was the smoke concentrated?
12	said "I thought I could smell smoke". That's	12	A. I think it would've been more towards the ceiling.
13	paragraph 62.	13	Q. Could you still see the ceiling?
14	When you smelt the smoke, as you say in	14	A. Yes.
15	paragraph 62, did it have a particular smell or taste?	15	Q. At that stage, when you went into the hallway I think
16	A. I don't really remember the exact taste or smell.	16	I asked you before, but let's see if I can get this
17	I think what it was is that previously my husband went	17	right did the smoke have a particular smell? Did it
18	to see what was happening and opened the front door, and	18	smell like anything you'd smelt before?
19	that probably let some of the smoke from the communal	19	A. In the hallway, I don't really remember that the
20	area come in the hallway. I could probably more see and	20	smell I mean, it was like, as I said, in a smoky room
21	sense the smoke. Obviously the hallway was lit, so you	21	where people smoke, at the time, in our hallway.
22	could see the smokiness of the room and it was unusual.	22	Q. In paragraph 63 on page 9, you say:
23	I guess maybe at the time I still wasn't thinking as	23	"63. I then went into the kitchen and looked out of
24	clearly. I just woke up suddenly and, you know, the	24	the window, which was open. I could not see much, but
25	alarm is off and we're kind of trying to figure out what	25	I could hear a commotion outside."
	Page 37		Page 39
1	is happening.	1	Your kitchen window, I think, faces west.
1 2	is happening. Q. Did you get any kind of impression about what time it	1 2	
	••		Your kitchen window, I think, faces west.
2	Q. Did you get any kind of impression about what time it	2	Your kitchen window, I think, faces west. A. Yes.
2 3	Q. Did you get any kind of impression about what time it was?	2 3	Your kitchen window, I think, faces west. A. Yes. Q. You say you couldn't see much, and you then go on to say
2 3 4	Q. Did you get any kind of impression about what time it was?A. I wasn't very clear at first, but I thought which was	2 3 4	Your kitchen window, I think, faces west. A. Yes. Q. You say you couldn't see much, and you then go on to say in the third line:
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		1	
1	Q. So you're standing behind him. He leans out.	1	hazy."
2	A. Yes.	2	So did you go back into your hallway from the
3	Q. He looks up. Do you remember whether he was looking	3	kitchen?
4	upwards to the right or upwards to the left as you're	4	A. Yes.
5	looking out of the window?	5	Q. When you went back into the hallway, you say it felt
6	A. I think he looked on all sides, but then he kind of	6	hazy. Was that hazier or more
7	leaned up and looked upwards, completely up at the top,	7	A. It felt a little more.
8	so kind of straight.	8	Q. Was the smoke thicker at that time?
9	Q. You say in paragraph 63, a line up from the bottom:	9	A. It felt thicker, yes.
10	"He saw smoke pouring out of the top of the tower."	10	Q. Were the conditions in your hallway hotter?
11	Did he tell you that?	11	A. No.
12	A. At the time, no.	12	Q. Could you feel heat?
13	Q. How did you know that he saw that?	13	A. No.
14	A. When we talked later, he told me all this. I think on	14	Q. At that time, on your I think second entry into the
15	the night he probably didn't want to make the situation	15	hallway, did you notice where the smoke was coming into
16	worse. I mean, he was very calm, you know, outwardly,	16	the hallway from?
17	and very decisive, and that kind of calmed me down as	17	A. No, because I just went to the hallway to leave, so
18	well so that when he said, "We need to get out", I just	18	I haven't really noticed anything. So I opened the
19	said, "Yes, let's get out", and that was it. It was	19	door, and that was when I kind of was astounded with
20	really the only thing on our minds afterwards.	20	what I saw and I closed the door again.
21	I think when he told me what he saw you have to	21	Q. Yes.
22	realise, when he jumped out of the bed, he went to check	22	A. And went to, for some reason, the kitchen window to take
23	if there's something inside our flat that's happening,	23	a breath of fresh air before I attempted a second time.
24	and then he went to open the front door. Obviously	24	And that time, I left the flat.
25	I didn't see at the time what he saw or didn't see when	25	Obviously the communal hallway was always well lit,
	Page 41		Page 43
		1	
1	he anened the front door. So he knew there was	1	it was spacious, and obviously I lived there a long
1 2	he opened the front door. So he knew there was	1 2	it was spacious, and obviously I lived there a long
2	something serious going on, and then he saw the smoke	2	time, so I knew where the door to the stairwell was.
	something serious going on, and then he saw the smoke coming from the other side.	2 3	time, so I knew where the door to the stairwell was. But this was just something I've never experienced
2 3	something serious going on, and then he saw the smoke coming from the other side. So all of these kind of inputs led to the decision	2 3 4	time, so I knew where the door to the stairwell was. But this was just something I've never experienced before. It was pitch black, full of really horrible
2 3 4	something serious going on, and then he saw the smoke coming from the other side. So all of these kind of inputs led to the decision of us leaving.	2 3	time, so I knew where the door to the stairwell was. But this was just something I've never experienced before. It was pitch black, full of really horrible what felt like toxic smoke, and the sound was very
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1	say, "What's taking you so long, please hurry up, we	1	I'm going to say 11.15. That's not going to be
2	really have to go."	2	a difficulty?
3	He did, finally, and he ran fast past me, and	3	MR MILLETT: No.
4	unfortunately for him, because he was holding the bag in	4	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Give you time to stretch your legs
5	one hand and holding onto the rail with the other, he	5	and have a cup of coffee.
6	just had his towel on top of his head, where I could	6	I have to ask you, please, not to talk to anyone
7	hold it in front of my mouth. And we just went for it.	7	about your evidence while you're out of the room. If
8	We didn't walk down; we ran down. I mean, we really	8	you go with the usher, she'll look after you, and we'll
9	ran. He would stop a few times to call out to see I was	9	resume at 11.15. Thanks so much.
10	still behind, I was all right. So we're running out,	10	All right, 11.15, then, please.
11	and already then the stairwell was smoky.	11	(11.03 am)
12	I think I just saw my trainers and the handrail, and	12	(A short break)
13	as we were running down, I think the conditions were	13	(11.15 am)
14	getting worse. I mean, the smoke was filled it was	14	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: All right, Ms Doulova? Happy to
15	darker.	15	carry on?
16	We ran towards I think between four and six	16	THE WITNESS: Yes.
17	firefighters, or even more, as we were reaching	17	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Good, thank you.
18	definitely below the 10th floor. As we were running	18	MR MILLETT: Ms Doulova, thank you for coming back to us.
19	towards that space, the smoke was getting really quite	19	Can I ask you first to be shown a picture of a fire
20	worrying and thick, and I felt: wow, are we running into	20	notice, which is IWS00000500.
21	something, you know, quite bad here?	21	Have a moment to look at this notice. It says:
22	But we saw the firemen, they didn't stop us, so	22	"The Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea.
23	I thought it must be okay to go through, and I just	23	"In case of fire
24	recall that they had the fire door open at one floor,	24	"Use nearest telephone and call Fire Brigade.
25	I cannot say which floor that was, and I know the door	25	"Dial 999 and ask for"
	Page 45		Page 47
1	was open and they had a lot of hoses and there was a lot	1	It's not clear what that is:
2	of activity going on, and that's where the smoke was	2	"State clearly the location of the fire.
2 3	of activity going on, and that's where the smoke was really the thickest.	2 3	"State clearly the location of the fire. "Inform the porter immediately.
2 3 4	of activity going on, and that's where the smoke was really the thickest. Once we ran past there, the air cleared and we went	2 3 4	"State clearly the location of the fire. "Inform the porter immediately. "Do not use the lifts.
2 3 4 5	of activity going on, and that's where the smoke was really the thickest. Once we ran past there, the air cleared and we went to the mezzanine and down the stairs. Then we exited	2 3 4 5	"State clearly the location of the fire. "Inform the porter immediately. "Do not use the lifts. "Leave the building using the staircase.
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,		,	
1	the kitchen, so we had that covered. We didn't want it,	1	you have a maybe boiler room, a kind of weird sensation
2	both of us.	2	of which is hard to describe in words.
3	Q. Okay.	3	Q. Was that sound you heard, this low humming, strange
4	Can I pick up the story where we left off just	4	sound, different from the sound that you'd heard being
5	before the break, and you've given us a very helpful and	5	made by the vents on the previous occasions we discussed
6	very detailed description of your descent through the	6	earlier?
7	building, and your exit from the building eventually.	7	A. I think it was similar, it just felt a little bit kind
8	Can I just take a few things in stages, if I can.	8	of lower frequency. Again, it's difficult to put in
9	First of all, when you came out of your flat, who	9	words what it was, but definitely to me, I heard
10	was it who opened the front door, was it you or your	10	something or have association, but I remember a weird,
11	husband?	11	strange, low kind of humming sound as I opened the door
12	A. I was.	12	and then went through the lobby.
13	Q. Did you notice when you came out of your flat a change	13	Q. You described it as weird and strange; does that mean
14	in the temperature?	14	it's a sound you'd never heard before that?
15	A. It felt definitely much warmer than the flat, but	15	A. Yes, that's why I used yes, I've never come across
16	I don't really remember much of a difference. I guess	16	that kind of sound before, yes.
17	at the time, you know, the focus was just to leave, and	17	Q. Was it quieter in volume than the sound that you'd heard
18	I think the confusion in trying to find your way,	18	coming from the vents on the previous occasions you've
19	I probably didn't notice.	19	mentioned?
20	Q. When you opened the door, could you see into the lobby?	20	A. I think so, yes.
21	A. No. It was pitch black.	21	Q. Yes.
22	Q. You say this is paragraphs 65 to 66, and perhaps we	22	I just want to plot your route across the lobby, if
23	just ought to have those on the screen in the second	23	I can.
24	line in paragraph 65:	24	Can I ask you, please, to be shown, first of all,
25	" the landing was full of thick, black smoke."	25	MET00012593 at page 12.
	in the landing was run of unon, classe smole.		
	Page 49		Page 51
1	That's the occasion when you then closed the front	1	This is a plan diagram of the tower at floor 4,
2	door again.	2	because we can see it's 16 on that diagram, and it's the
3	Then you say in 67:	3	same all the way up. Using this plan, you're in the
4	"I composed myself, grabbed my keys in the hallway	4	west-facing flat.
5	and opened the front door again."	5	Can you just describe for us the route that you took
6	When you did that, where was your husband?	6	across the lobby once you'd left your front door but
7	A. He was I think in the living room. He went there for	7	before you got to the stairwell door.
8	some reason. He picked up a phone, mobile phone, which	8	A. So
9	was useful later. I think that's where he was, and	9	Q. We can blow it up. If we blow up, perhaps, the flat and
10	I know he was going to follow shortly after me.	10	the lobby, as far as we can.
11	Q. Do you remember smelling the smoke or tasting it?	11	A. As I mentioned, it was so dark, I used my hands, so
12	A. It was more of a feeling of breathing, it felt just	12	I felt the wall on my right.
13	breathing was very difficult, it's very hard, and	13	Q. So we come out of your front door
14	I think it was all the senses coming together, you know,	14	A. Yes. So I knew I obviously had to go straight and
15	the visual, the pitch black, the smoke, that kind of	15	right. So I felt with my hand, and came to the end, to
16	overwhelmed kind of senses all at once. I think it was	16	the corner there, and made my way across to the other
17	more of that than picking up one particular thing.	17	side, and got to the other side of the wall, basically,
18	Q. You described in your evidence just before the break	18	where the new kind of heating system was put up and it
19	that when you got into the lobby, you heard and I am	19	was boxed in.
20	quoting you from the transcript from this morning	20	Q. Just pausing there, what you've described can you
21	a weird kind of low humming, strange sound.	20	point out the other side you've just referred to by
22	Was it a sound you'd heard before?	22	reference to this plan?
		23	•
23	A. No. It was very strange. Again, as I say, all the	23	A. So O. Do by all manns get up and indicate?
24	senses, and that's what I felt. Opening the door, it	25	Q. Do by all means get up and indicate?
25	felt very strange, like when you are in a basement and	23	A. I would have gotten somewhere around here (Indicates).
	Page 50		Page 52

2 A. I came out here, made my way around here (Indicates), and then sounchow across the halfway, because I knew that the fire door was here, a Jips Kind of crossed here, and initially I came to about here and tried to open the door. 3 Q. I see. 4 A. Then I figured out I had to go slightly more to the right to find the fire door. 4 Q. What you describe in paragraph 68 of your statement, if we could give the was to adjust here when the fire door, the total and and doop open it and thought the was cold give through the stairvell and pushed it is also from the stairvel in we could give through the stairvel in which is a copen. 2 When you opened the door open, did smoke come into the stairvell when I opened the door open, did smoke come into the stairvell when I opened the door open, did smoke come into the stairvell when I opened the door open, did smoke come into the stairvell when I opened the door open, did smoke come into the stairvell when I opened the door open, did smoke come into the stairvell when I opened the door open, did smoke come into the stairvell when I opened the door open, did smoke come into the stairvell when I opened the door open, did smoke come into the stairvell when I opened the door open, did smoke come into the stairvell when I opened the door open, did smoke come into the stairvell when I opened the door. 4 A. Mayer Collection is there was already smoke in the stairvell when I opened the door. 5 Q. What we all and fet account late first can all the stairvell when I opened the door. 4 A. I don't remember really. I think it probably was, but it is way that I saw, yes, this is probably we should be stairvell. 5 A. Yes, I say for a stair of the wall, opposite the lifts. 6 Can we have a photograph, pleuse, which is 9 B. Alfondo 14. 1 A. Yes. 2 Q. Can you help us, was that what you're describing as the wall that you found originally when you said that you found originally when you said thut you found by the door was locked? 1 A. Yes. 9 Q. Was the smoke in the stairvell when you				
and then somehow across the halfway, became Lanew that the fire door was here, so I just kind of crossed here, and initially I came to about here and tried to open the door. Q. Viac. A. Then I figured out I had to go slightly more to the right to find the fire door. Q. What you describe in pangraph 68 of your statement, if we could just throw that up on the screen, is: "6. I managed to make my way around he handing and thought I had reached the fire door, but I could not open in and thought it was not well and the around a little inther and the finally found the fire door, but I could not in open." Just focusing on that experience. You have shown us what you encountered at first on the far side of the wall. opposite the lifts. B. A. Yes. Q. C. any sun help us, was that what you're describing as the wall that you found originally when you said that you found original		Q. So you came out of your	1	for him to join me in the stairwell.
the fire door was here, so I just kind of crossed here, and initially I came to about here and tried to open the door. 7 Q. I see. 8 A. Then I figured out I had to go slightly more to the right to find the fire door. 9 Q. I see. 9 A. Then I figured out I had to go slightly more to the right to find the fire door. 10 Q. What you week holding the door open, did smake come into stairwell. 11 we could just throw that up on the screen, is: 12 "68. I managed to make my way around the landing and thought I had reached the fire door to but I could not open it and thought it was locked. I then realised it is was the wall and left curred and life further and finally found the fire door to the stairwell and pushed it open. 18 Just focusing on that experience. 19 You have shown us what you encountered at first on the far side of the wall, opposite the lifts. 20 El A.Ou002514. 21 BLAOU02514. 22 BLAOU02514. 23 BLAOU02514. 24 See the too lifts, and the opposite the lifts. 25 a cupboard with a blue circular plaque on it. 26 Page 53 1 A. Yes. 2 Q. Can you help us, was that what you're describing as the wall that you found originally when you said that you thought the door was locked? 2 A. Yes, it is, yes. I said wall - basically it's the new box there. 2 Q. Were those cupboards put there as part of the third line: 1 was the way out depast it open. 2 Q. In garagraph 68 of your statement, you say, as we've just seem - if we can just go back to that - in the third line: 1 was harder to push day our encember? 2 A. Yes, it is, yes. I said wall - basically it's the new box there. 2 Q. In paragraph 88 of your statement whether it was harder to push dope to the sairwell. 2 Q. In you open due door into the stairwell. 3 a cupboard with a blue circular plaque on it. 4 A. Yes. 9 Q. Can you help us, was that what you're describing as the way and the sairwell and pushed it open. 10 A. Yes. 11 Q. Jin you for four you remember? 22 Q. In you can be you can be pushed to the door to the stairwell and you can be pus				
5 and initially I came to about here and tried to open the 6 door. 7 Q. I see. 8 A. Then I figured out I had to go slightly more to the 8 right to find the fire door. 10 Q. What you describe in pangapah 68 of your statement, if 11 we could just throw that up on the screen, is: 12 "68. I managed to make my way around the landing 13 and thought I had felt around a little further and 14 copen; that thought it was locked. I then realised it 15 was the wall and felt around a little further and 16 finally found the fire door to the stairwell and pushed 17 it open. 18 Just focusing on that experience. 19 You have shown us what you encountered at first on 10 the far side of the wall, opposite the lifts. 20 Ean we have a photograph please, which is 21 Ela.00002514. 22 This is floor 6, no to your floor, but here we can 23 see the two lifts, and then opposite the lifts. 24 a cupboard with a blue circular plaque on it. 25 a cupboard with a blue circular plaque on it. 26 A. Yes. 27 Q. Can you help us, was that what you're describing as the 28 wall that you for our van locked? 29 Q. Can you help us, was that what you're describing as the 30 wall that you for our was locked? 31 A. Yes. 32 Q. Can you help us, was that what you're describing as the 33 wall that you for our was locked? 34 A. Yes. 35 Q. Were those cupboards put there as part of the 36 tribushment, do you remember? 37 A. Yes, it is, yes. I said wall basically it's the new 38 book there. 39 Q. Were those cupboards put there as part of the 39 tribushment, do you remember? 30 A. It was thinner. 31 A. Yes, 32 Q. Lin paragraph 68 of your statement, you say, as we've 33 just stake that in stages. 34 A. Yes. 35 (Can you help us, was that what Just remember 16 be estairwell and what I remember 16 be estairwell and what I remember 17 be seen to make it in the stairwell and what I remember 18 be clave. If so not much of a visual receilection, it's more emotional, what I felt and what I remember 19 have lowe over your head: 19 So you could see? 20 Q. O you was the you sho	3			
6 A. Sorry, seconds. 7 Q. I see. 8 A. Then I figured out I had to go slightly more to the right to find the fire door. 9 Q. What you describe in paragraph 68 of your statement, if we could just throw that up on the screen, is: 12 "68. I managed to make my way around the landing and thought I had neached the fire door, but I could not open it and thought I had neached the fire door to the stairwell and pushed it open." 15 was the wall and first around a little further and finally found the fire door to the stairwell and pushed it open." 16 finally found the fire door to the stairwell and pushed it open." 17 Just focusing on that experience. 18 Just focusing on that experience. 19 You have shown us what you encountered at first on the finally found the place, which is 22 BALODO2514. 23 This is floor 6, so not your floor, but here we can see the two lifts, and then opposite the lifts see the two lifts, and then opposite the lifts see the wall that you found originally when you said that you the bear of the wall of the transmitted of the wall of the transmitted of the wall and that found or figinally when you said that you the foor was locked. I was thinned to the stairwell and what I remember 1 felt as I opened the door. 2 Q. Can you help us, was that what you're describing as the wall that you found originally when you said that you though the door was locked? 2 A. Yes, it is, yes. I said wall basically it's the new bow there. 3 Q. If is the new cupboards? 4 A. Yes. 4 Yes. 4 Q. If is the new cupboards? 5 A. Yes, it is, yes. I said wall basically it's the new bow there. 4 Q. In paragraph 68 of your statement, you say, as we've just seem if we can just go back to that in the third line: 5 — [I] finally found the fire door to the stairwell and pushed it open." 5 A. Yes. 6 Q. While you were holding the door open, did smoke corne in the stairwell when foreinted the door into the stairwell when pound and what I saw and the sensuation of none I get to the stairwell when pound and what I saw and the sensuatio	4			
7 Q. I see. 8 A. Then I figured out I had to go slightly more to the right to find the fire door. 10 Q. What you describe in paragraph 68 of your statement, if we could just throw that you on the scene, is: 11 we could just throw that you on the scene, is: 12 "68. I managed to make my way around the landing and thought I had reached the fire door, but I could not open and thought it was to slocked. Hen realised it open, it and flotta around a little further and finally found the fire door to the stairwell and pushed it open. 13 Just focusing on that experience. 14 You have shown us what you encountered at first on the far side of the wall, opposite the lifts. 15 ELACO002514. 16 This is floor 6, so not your floor, but here we can see the to lifts, and the opposite the lifts. 17 A. Yes. 18 Just focusing on that experience. 19 You have shown us what you encountered at first on the far side of the wall, opposite the lifts. 20 ELACO002514. 21 Can we have a photograph, please, which is 22 ELACO002514. 22 D. A. Yes, I said wall - basically it's the new wall that your found originally when you said that you thought the door was locked? 22 A. Yes. 23 Q. Can you help us, was that what you're describing as the wall that you found originally when you said that you thought the door was locked? 24 A. Yes, I say the countered at first on thought the door was locked? 25 A. Yes. 26 Q. Were those cupboards? 27 A. Yes. 28 Q. Were those cupboards put there as part of the refurbishment, do you remember? 29 Q. Were those cupboards put there as part of the factory of the sairwell and pushed it open. 29 Q. The paragraph 86 of your statement, you say, as we've just seem have an just go back to that — in the third line: 30 A. Yes. 31 Q. Did you feel any kind the fire door to the stairwell and pushed it open. 32 A. I don't think so, no. 33 A. I don't think so, no. 34 Q. Did you real any kind of pressure against the fire door as you pushed it open. 35 A. I don't think so, no. 36 Q. Did you wait for your busband? 37 A. I don't think so, no	5			
8 A. Then I Figured out I had to go slightly more to the right to find the fire door. 9 C. Wary out describe in panagaph 68 of your statement, if we could just throw that up on the screen, is: 11 we could just throw that up on the screen, is: 2 "8. I managed to make my way around the landing and thought I had reached the fire door, but I could not open it and thought it was locked. I then realised it is was the will and fel at round a little further and finally found the fire door to the stairwell and pushed it open." 18 Just focusing on that experience. 19 Won have shown in what you encountered at first on the fire door to the stairwell and pushed it open." 20 BLAOMOST14. 21 Can we have a photograph, please, which is 21 BLAOMOST14. 22 BLAOMOST14. 23 This is floor 6, so not your floor, but here we can see the two lifts, and then opposite the lifts. 24 a carpboard with a blue circular plaque on it. 25 a carpboard with a blue circular plaque on it. 26 Q. Can you help us, was that what you're describing as the wall that you found originally when you said that you tound originally when you said that you the boot were. 26 Q. It's the new cupboards? 27 A. Yes, It is, yes, I said wall — basically it's the new box there. 28 Q. In paragraph 86 of your statement, you say, as we've just seem — if we can just go back, to that — in the third line: 29 A. I don't remember really. I think it probably was but it stairwell. 30 A. Yes, 31 Q. Did you feel any kind wall and pushed to one in the stairwell and pushed it open." 31 A. Yes. 32 Q. Did you feel any kind be door was probable to breath eit without the assistance of the towel? 32 A. I think the probable was waiting. 33 A. I don't think so, no. 34 A. I don't think so, no. 35 A. I don't remember really. I think it probably was the youn at the stairwell. 36 A. No, I beld it in front or my face. 37 A. Yes. 38 A. Yes. 39 Q. Was the smoke church was probable to door was probable to front the time. 39 A. I was fulner? 30 A. Yes. 31 Q. Did you freed any kind that it is an interest l				• •
9 right to find the fire door.	7	Q. I see.		
stairwell when I opened the door. Q. What you describe in paragraph 68 of your statement, if we could just throw that up on the screen, is: "68. I managed to make my way around the landing and thought I had reached the fire door. But I could not open it and thought it was locked. I then realised it finally found the fire door to the stairwell and pushed it open." By Just focusing on that experience. "79. You have shown as what you encountered at first on the final possible thifts. Can we have a photograph, please, which is can we have a photograph, please, which is deep the two lifts, and then opposite the lifts a cupboard with a blue circular plaque on it. Page 53 A. Yes. Q. Can you help us, was that what you're describing as the wall that you found originally when you said that you thought the door was locked? A. Yes. Q. Can you help us, was that what you're describing as the box there. A. Yes. Q. Were those cupboards? A. Yes. Q. Were those cupboards put there as part of the refurbishment, do you remember? A. Yes. Q. In paragraph 68 of your statement, you say, as we've in stairwell and pushed it open." When you opened the door. Q. Yes, okay. Let me see how we go. At this time you're wearing a towel over your head; is that right? A. No, I held it in front of my face. Page 55 Q. Were those cupboards put there as part of the refurbishment, do you remember? A. Yes. Q. In paragraph 68 of your statement, you say, as we've in the stairwell and pushed it open." When you did push it open, do you remember whether it was harder to push than usual? A. I was quite easy to push open. There was no change from other times I used the stairwell. Q. Did you feel any kind of pressure against the fire door as you pushed it open." A. I was quite easy to push open. There was no change from other times I used the stairwell. Q. Did you wait for your busband? A. I was quite easy to push open. There was no change from other times I used the stairwell. Q. Did you wait for your busband? A. I was quite easy to push open. Th	8			
11 We could just throw that up on the screen, is 12 2 6 km/s of lefs just take that in stages. 13 3 and thought I had reached the fire door, but I could not open it and thought it was locked. I then realised it is was the wall and folt around a little further and 16 finally found the fire door to the stairwell and pushed 17 it open." 18 Just focusing on that experience. 18 Just focusing on that experience. 19 You have shown us what you mecountered at first on the far side of the wall, opposite the lifts. 20 Can we have a photograph, please, which is 21 Can we have a photograph, please, which is 22 BLA00002514. 23 This is floor 6, so not your floor, but here we can see the two lifts, and then opposite the lifts 24 a cupboard with a blue circular plaque on it. 25 a cupboard with a blue circular plaque on it. 24 A. Yes. 20 Can you help us, was that what you're describing as the wall that you found originally when you said that you hought the door was locked? 4 A. Yes. 2 Q. Kes, keys. I said wall — basically it's the new box there. 2 Q. If's the new cupboards? A. Yes. 3 Q. And — 4 A. Yes. 4 A. Yes. 5 Q. Was the smoke in the stairvell when you pushed the door open thicker or thinner than the samoke that you'd come through — 4 A. Yes. 5 Q. Was the smoke in the stairvell when you pushed the door open thicker or thinner than the samoke that you'd come through — 4 A. Yes. 5 Q. Was the smoke in the stairvell when you pushed the door open thicker or thinner than the samoke that you'd come through — 4 A. Yes. 5 Q. Was the smoke in the stairvell when you pushed the door open thicker or thinner than the samoke that you'd come through — 4 A. Yes. 5 Q. Was the smoke in the stairvell when you pushed the door open for your husband to pressure against the fire door as you pushed it open." 4 A. Yes. 6 Q. Did you releal without pressure against the fire door as you pushed it open. 4 A. Yes. 6	9	_		•
12 "68. Imanaged to make my way around the landing and thought I had reached the fire door, but I could not open that and thought it was the wall and felt around a little further and the finally found the fire door to the stairwell and pushed to finally found the fire door to the stairwell and pushed to finally found the fire door to the stairwell and pushed to finally found the fire door to the stairwell and pushed to finally found the fire door to the stairwell and pushed to pen." 18	10	Q. What you describe in paragraph 68 of your statement, if	10	stairwell when I opened the door.
and thought I had reached the fire door, but I could not open it and thought it was locked. I then realised it open it and thought it was locked. I then realised it it was the wall and fet around a little further and finally found the fire door to the stairwell and pushed it open." Just focusing on that experience. Just focusing on that experience. Pour have shown us what you encountered at first on the far side of the wall, opposite the lifts. BLA00002514. BLA00002514. BLA00002514. BLA00002514. This is floor 6, so not your floor, but here we can see the two lifts, and then opposite the lifts a cupboard with a blue circular plaque on it. Page 53 A. Yes. Q. Can you help us, was that what you're describing as the wall that you found originally when you said that you thought the door was locked? A. Yes, it is, yes, I said wall – basically it's the new bow there. Q. It's the new cupboards? A. Yes. Q. Un paragraph 68 of your statement, you say, as we've just seen – if we can just go back to that – in the third line: When you did push it open, do you remember? A. Yes. Q. Il's may there are part of the refurbishment, do you remember? A. Yes. Q. Il's may there are lift we and just go back to that – in the third line: " [I] finally found the fire door to the stairwell and pushed it open." When you did push it open, do you remember whether it was harder to push than usual? A. It was quite easy to push open. There was no change from other times I used the stairwell. Q. Did you feel any kind of pressure against the fire door as you pushed it open? A. I less thinked and he cane after 10 or 15 seconds. Did the door then close behind you? A. Yes. Q. Did you wait for your husband? A. I lon't think so, no. A. Op. Did you wait for your husband? A. I don't remember relardy. I just tenember the senation once I get to the stairwell and what I saw, that I saw, set has that I saw. It at Is as you got and the town once I get to the senation once I get to the senation of nore I get to the senation of no	11	we could just throw that up on the screen, is:		
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swa the wall and felt around a little further and finally found the fire door to the stairwell and pushed it it open." 16 finally found the fire door to the stairwell and pushed it it open." 17 lit open." 18 Just focusing on that experience. 19 You have shown us what you encountered at first on the far side of the wall, opposite the lifts. 20 the far side of the wall, opposite the lifts. 21 Can we have a photograph, please, which is 22 BLA00002514. 23 This is floor 6, so not your floor, but here we can see the two lifts, and then opposite the lifts 24 see the two lifts, and then opposite the lifts 25 a cupboard with a blue circular plaque on it. Page 53 1 A. Yes. 2 Q. Can you help us, was that what you're describing as the whought the door was locked? 5 A. Yes, it is, yes. I said wall basically it's the new box there. 6 box there. 6 Q. Were those cupboards? 8 A. Yes. 9 Q. Were those cupboards? 8 A. Yes. 10 Q. In paragraph 68 of your statement, you say, as we've just seen if we can just go back to that in the third line: 10 " [IJ finally found the fire door to the stairwell and pushed it open." 11 A. Yes. 12 Q. In paragraph 68 of your statement, you say, as we've fix you go the fire door to the stairwell and pushed it open." 12 Q. Did you feel any kind of pressure against the fire door as you pushed it open." 13 A. I twas quite easy to push open. There was no change from other times I used the statirwell. 24 C. A. Yes. 25 A. I don't thinks on, no. 26 Did you wait for your husband? 27 A. I opened the door. 28 A. I opened the door. 29 Did you wait for your husband? 20 Did you wait for your husband? 21 Let as I same, the tisk are a least the stairwell. 22 A. I don't thinks on, no. 23 A. I don't thinks on, no. 24 C. Did you anything about what they might have been doing?	13	and thought I had reached the fire door, but I could not		
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17 it open." 18	15	was the wall and felt around a little further and	15	
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the far side of the wall, opposite the lifts. Can we have a photograph, please, which is 21	17	it open."		sensation of once I get to the stairwell and what I saw,
the far side of the wall, opposite the lifts. Can we have a photograph, please, which is BLA0002514. This is floor 6, so not your floor, but here we can see the two lifts, and then opposite the lifts a cupboard with a blue circular plaque on it. Page 53 A. Yes. Q. Can you help us, was that what you're describing as the wall that you found originally when you said that you 4 thought the door was locked? A. Yes, it is, yes. I said wall basically it's the new box there. Q. Ut's the new cupboards? A. Yes. Q. Were those cupboards put there as part of the refurbishment, do you remember? A. Yes. Q. In paragraph 68 of your statement, you say, as we've just seem if we can just go back to that in the third line: " [If inally found the fire door to the stairwell and pushed it open." When you did push it open, do you remember whether it was harder to push than usual? A. It was quite easy to push open. There was no change from other times I used the stairwell. Q. Did you rela my kind of pressure against the fire door as you pushed it open? A. I don't thinks on no. Q. Did you wait for your husband? A. I opened the door. If left as I opened the door. I felt as I opened the door. A this time you're wearing a towel over your head; is that right? A. No, I held it in front of my face. Page 55 A. No, I held it in front of my face. A. Yes. Q. Os you could see? A. Yes. Q. Was the smoke in the stairwell when you pushed the door open thicker or thinner than the smoke that you'd come through through A. Yes. I was thinner. Q. I that bus provides in the stairwell and pushed it open.'' When you did push it open, do you remember whet	18	Just focusing on that experience.		that I saw, yes, this is probably serious and we really
21 Can we have a photograph, please, which is 22 BLA00002514. 23 This is floor 6, so not your floor, but here we can 24 see the two lifts, and then opposite the lifts 25 a cupboard with a blue circular plaque on it. Page 53 Page 55 1 A. Yes. 2 Q. Can you help us, was that what you're describing as the 3 wall that you found originally when you said that you 4 thought the door was locked? 5 A. Yes, it is, yes. I said wall basically it's the new 6 box there. 7 Q. If's the new cupboards? 8 A. Yes. 9 Q. Were those cupboards put there as part of the 10 refurbishment, do you remember? 11 A. Yes. 12 Q. In paragraph 68 of your statement, you say, as we've 13 just seen if we can just go back to that in the 14 third line: 15 " [I] finally found the fire door to the 16 stairwell and pushed it open." 17 When you did push it open, do you remember whether 18 it was harder to push than usual? 19 A. It was quite easy to push open. There was no change 10 from other times I used the stairwell. 21 Q. Did you feel any kind of pressure against the fire door 22 as you pushed it open? 23 A. I don't think so, no. 24 Q. Did you wait for your husband? 25 A. I opened the door. I kept it open while I was waiting 26 Lifet as I opened the door. 27 At his time you're wearing a towel over your head; 28 that right? 29 A. Yes. 20 A. No, I held it in front of my face. 20 Was the smoke ey. 3 Q. And 4 A. Yes. 3 Q. And 4 A. Yes. 4 A. Yes. 5 Q. Was the smoke in the stairwell when you pushed the door 6 open thicker or thinner than the smoke that you'd come 7 through 8 A. It was thinner. 9 Q in the lobby. It was thinner? 10 A. Yes. 11 Lifet as I opened the door. 12 Q. Did you feel any kind of pressure against the fire door 13 de the tail well. 14 the testairwell as well. 15 Lifet as I opened the door. 16 A. Yes. 18 A. It was lainer. 19 Q in the lobby. It was thinner? 10 A. Yes. 11 Q. Use rey ou able to breathe it without the assistance of 11 the testairwell as well. 12 D. It hink as you say you held the door open for you	19	You have shown us what you encountered at first on	19	have to leave. It's not much of a visual recollection,
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1	A. As I said, I guess at the time what was really on our	1	difficult black, toxic smoke, we only had another four
2	mind, and especially when I opened the front door, it	2	or page floors to go, I would assume that's where we
3	took us together three attempts to leave, and kind of	3	were.
4	feeling disorientation and all the things happening	4	Q. I see.
5	quite quickly, really truly, honestly, I only thought	5	Did you notice, when you got to the 6th floor or so,
6	about running and getting out. I guess it's one of	6	any change in the temperature in the stairwell?
7	these things, you look back and think: what if I could	7	A. The whole atmosphere felt much, much worse. I think as
8	have found the others' doors and knocked on them? It's	8	we were coming down, from about halfway down it was
9	something we obviously have to deal with ourselves.	9	getting more and more difficult, darker, the visibility
10	But, no, we didn't see anybody or didn't come across	10	was getting worse, and the smoke was definitely
11	anybody.	11	getting it filled the whole basically I would say
12	Q. No, I understand.	12	it filled the stairwell where you couldn't really see
13	When you got into the stairwell, did you notice	13	much.
14	a change in the temperature?	14	Q. When you say in paragraph 74 that the firefighters
15	A. I don't think I did notice much, no.	15	opened the door to one of the floors and their hoses
16	Q. Did you notice any air movement in the stairwell?	16	were running into the landing, did you notice, when you
17	A. No.	17	saw that, whether smoke was coming out from that landing
18	I think, given that we really were once we got	18	or lobby into the stairwell?
19	there, and once I had the impression that it's of	19	A. It did look like that, yes.
20	utmost importance to really rush and run. I guess	20	Q. At paragraph 77 you said the CCTV has you coming out
21	because we ran, there was not much time to kind of	21	from the bottom of the stairwell at around 01.42.
22	notice many other kind of important so I don't	22	How long do you think it took you to get from your
23	remember.	23	flat front door to that exit at 01.42?
24	Q. As you came down the stairs, and you've told us in	24	A. I would say 5 minutes. Again, it's an estimate. I've
25	detail earlier this morning the changes that you	25	used the stairwell mainly to go up when the lifts didn't
	Page 57		Page 59
1	experienced, as one of the things you saw, did you	1	work, a few times coming down, but I would say
2	notice whether any doors to other floors were open off	2	5 minutes.
2 3	notice whether any doors to other floors were open off the stairwell into the lobbies?	2 3	5 minutes. Q. Then you say in paragraph 79 of your statement on
2 3 4	notice whether any doors to other floors were open off the stairwell into the lobbies? A. The only door that I noticed that was open was the one	2 3 4	5 minutes. Q. Then you say in paragraph 79 of your statement on page 11:
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1	A. I didn't use it to come in that way, no.	1	his wife was brought by two firemen, I believe, or
2	Q. Was there anybody at the foot of the stairs telling you	2	paramedics and was given treatment as well, and I just
3	where to go or what to do?	3	recall them being taken separately, in separate
4	A. At the time we were leaving, no, there was nobody,	4	ambulances.
5	nobody pointing us, no.	5	MR MILLETT: Yes.
6	Q. At paragraph 82 on page 12 of your statement, you	6	Ms Doulova, thank you very much for all of those
7	describe that you're outside and you say:	7	answers. I've come to the end of my questions for the
8	"82. My throat was burning from the smoke	8	time being.
9	inhalation and my eyes were sore. I could see my	9	Mr Chairman, I wonder whether now might be
10	husband was coughing and bringing up what looked like	10	an appropriate moment to take a short break just to make
11	black soot. We were in utter disbelief about what had	11	sure there's nothing I've missed or others might want to
12	happened to us."	12	suggest.
13	Was your husband treated by ambulance or paramedics	13	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes, of course.
14	at the scene?	14	Well, as you hear, Mr Millett thinks he's got to the
15	A. We were first treated by ambulance. We were by the	15	end of his questions, but, on reflection, it sometimes
16	sports centre by the side. We were there for a little	16	happens that he hasn't. So we're going to have a short
17	bit, and we were taken to hospital for a check-up.	17	break now.
18	I think we arrived there about 04.30 am. So we were	18	Is 11.45 going to give you long enough or do you
19	checked, yes.	19	need a little longer?
20	Q. Where were the people who first checked you and your	20	MR MILLETT: 11.45 should do it. If we need longer, we'll
21	husband? Where were they based?	21	ask.
22	A. Well, we first made our way up Grenfell Road and we were	22	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Right. So we'll break now until
23	taken in by a lady who lived nearby. She took us in her	23	11.45.
24	place and we had some time there to calm down, use the	24	Same rules apply: please don't speak to anyone about
25	bathroom, have a cup of tea, really, and that could've	25	your evidence. Then we'll come back and see whether he
	Page 61		Page 63
1	heen 30 minutes.	1	has more questions for you.
1 2	been 30 minutes. When we made our way out again, we were pointed	1 2	has more questions for you. THE WITNESS: Okay, thank you.
2	When we made our way out again, we were pointed	2	THE WITNESS: Okay, thank you.
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1	themselves, do you remember?	1	didn't see yet what was happening from the outside, so
2	A. I think after the refurbishment, I think a few people	2	we very carefully made our way really close to the side
3	had problems. Obviously the numbers have changed; we	3	of the building, and luckily we didn't get hurt. But it
4	were initially 17th floor and now we were 20th floor.	4	definitely nearly got my husband, yes.
5	I actually used the stairwell a few weeks before the	5	Q. How near to the east door did you see burning debris
6	fire, when the lifts weren't working. I remember that	6	falling?
7	was in the evening, I came from work. I didn't want to	7	A. It seemed quite close, it seemed close so that we were
8	wait for the lifts, so decided to use the stairwell.	8	quite afraid to be hit.
9	I remember it was quite dark in there. I think the	9	Q. Yes. Thank you.
10	lights on some of the floors were not working, and	10	I have just one final question, Ms Doulova.
11	I actually had to leave the stairwell to go into a floor	11	In addition to what you've put in your written
12	to see what the numbers were on the floor to know where	12	witness statement, and in addition to what you've told
13	I was.	13	us this morning, is there anything that you would wish
14	Q. Were the numbers visible to you?	14	to tell the chairman about what you saw or heard or felt
15	A. I didn't see numbers on some floors. I don't know	15	or smelt on the night, that you observed on the night,
16	whether it was because the lighting wasn't working or	16	that you think it's important for the chairman to know?
17	because it was badly painted, but I struggled to see	17	A. I think at this time I don't feel I have anything extra.
18	some of the numbers.	18	I think we've covered a lot of what happened on the
19	Q. Thank you.	19	night.
20	You say in your statement, and as you told us this	20	Maybe just mention that, you know, being here and
21	morning, that when you did come out, you came out of the	21	thinking about what happened and the impact, and how
22	door on the east side of the tower. That, just to be	22	important it is and I know that the inquiry will
23	clear, is the door that would be at the foot of the	23	answer some of these questions in the second stages of
24	stairs on the ground floor to your right as you came	24	the wider issues and topics but to kind of make sure
25	down the stairs.	25	that especially when it comes to the building regulation
	Page 65		Page 67
	1 age 05		1 age 07
1	A. Yes.	1	and health and safety and fire safety, there are some
2	Q. That's right, is it?	2	clear lines of responsibility and compliance and checks
3	A. That's correct, yes.	3	so that this doesn't happen again, and the lives of the
4	Q. We can look at a photograph if we need to, but that's	4	72 people and the families and us who survived are not
4 5	Q. We can look at a photograph if we need to, but that's right?		
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it is an eight-page statement and if we go to the eighth page, it's signed on that page with a statement of truth dated 17 May 2018. Page 69 Page 71 If I could, just before I go to parts of the statement themselves, just give a little background, and that is that Ms O'Connor lived in flat 171 with her apartner and carer, Luke Towner. They had a joint tenancy with the local authority and had lived in the tower for some five years by June 2017. Ms O'Connor herself is disabled and she requires assistance with walking. She has walked with crutches for around five years now. If I could go to paragraph 24, Mr Chairman, and If I read from there, that's the part of the inight. SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes. MR RAWAT: "24. On 13 June 2017, Luke and I were at home during the day as it's difficult for me to get out of the house and travel around due to my disabilities. We say for sure. We called the lift. I remember that one of the lifts was out of order that night. Luckily the one that was working arrived quite quickly. There was no smoke in the lift. It was empty when it arrived. 2 say for sure. We called the lift. I remember that one of the lifts was out of order that night. Luckily the one that was working arrived quite quickly. There was no smoke in the lift. It was empty when it arrived. 5 "28. We got in and pressed the button for the ground floor. On the way down the lift stopped on the 11th floor where two women wearing headscarves got in. 8 When the lift doors opened on the 11th floor, I could 9 see a bit of smoke on the 11th floor landing. The smoke was not so thick that I couldn't see through it, but it was definitely smokier than it had been on the 20th floor. The women who got into the lift looked a bit worried but not truly frightened. They were speaking in their own language. We didn't speak with them. "29. The lift then stopped on the 3rd floor, where we could see a woman running around on the landing shouting 'fire', trying to alert people to get out of the house and travel around due to my disab				
a hand over now to Mr Rawat to do that and take that on, if I finals, if I may, if I m	1	MR MILLETT: Well, now, Mr Chairman, we have some further	1	•
set the fire from the bedroom windrow, but I could see Yes, Mr Ravat. When you're ready, no rush. Mr RAWAT: Thonk you, Mr Chairman. We dike at this point to put into the record six statements. I will, as I go through them, he reading extracts from the statements to put into the record six statements. I will, as I go through them, he reading extracts from the statements themselves, but if I can the statements in their entirety will be entirety— SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes. Mr RAWAT: The first statement would like to put into the reading in that way. Mr RAWAT: — and be considered as evidence before the inquiry in that way. Mr RAWAT: — and be considered as evidence before the reading in that way. Mr RAWAT: — and be considered as evidence before the reading it is that of Forms O'Connor of flat I T on the 20 record is that of Forms O'Connor of flat I T on the 21 and flat page, it is signed on that page with a statement of truth 22 the read of the page, it is signed on that page with a statement of truth 23 that is that Ms O'Connor here in the late of the statement will be cover for some five years by June 2017. Mr RAWAT: The first statement of truth 24 parter and carer, Lake Towner. They had a joint 25 tenancy with the local authority and had lived in the 26 statement that deals with Ms O'Connor fa fat I T and a joint 27 Mr O'Connor here first disabled and she requires 28 assistance with walking. She has walked with crutches 29 for around five years by June 2017. Mr O'Connor hereaff is disabled and she requires 30 for a round five years now. Mr O'Connor hereaff is disabled and she requires 31 for the walking. She has walked with crutches 32 for some five years by June 2017. Mr O'Connor hereaff is disabled and she requires 33 sessionce with walking. She has walked with crutches 34 for a round five years now. Mr O'Connor hereaff is disabled and she requires 35 for a round five years now. Mr O'Connor hereaff is disabled and she requires 36 for a round five years now. Mr O'Connor hereaff is disabled and she	2	statements to be read into the record, and I am going to	2	which was directly opposite our kitchen window. I got
5 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Thank you very much. 6 Wes Mis and this should be fire. 7 MR RAWAT: Thank you, Mr Chairman. 8 Wed like at this point to put into the records ix 8 statements. I will, at go be prough them, he reading of extracts from the statements themselves, but if I can 11 make this point, which applies to all six statements, it 11 is that the statements themselves, but if I can 12 is that the statements themselves, but if I can 11 make this point, which applies to all six statements, it 11 is that the statements themselves, but if I can 11 is that the statements in their entirety will be 12 closer than the dift floor. At that moment, I decided 13 published and will go into the record in their 13 is that the statements in their entirety will be 12 closer than the dift floor. At that moment, I decided 14 entirety — 14 that fifth from speace 14 was coming from, but it was definitely 14 entirety — 15 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes. 15 20 storeys to the ground floor and that the lifts would not be working. 18 MR RAWAT: — and he considered as evidence before the 16 migury in that way. 18 MR RAWAT: The first statement vould like to put into the 20 property of the statement and if we go to the eighth 22 page, it's signed on that page with a statement of truth 24 page, it's signed on that page with a statement of truth 24 page, it's signed on that page with a statement of truth 25 dated 17 May 2018. 25 dated 17 May 2018. 26 dated 17 May 2018. 27 Men we led the lift. I remember that one of the lifts would not be 20th floor landing, we noticed smoke coming up through the vents. It did not feel smoke coming up through the vents. It did not feel smoke coming up through the vents. It did not feel smoke coming up through the vents. It did not feel smoke coming up through the vents. It did not feel statement threshevs, is a give a little background, and that is that Mo Comone level in 11 All with her 24 parter and carer, Lake Towner. They had a joint 24 page, it's signed on the page with a statement of truth 25 for arou	3	hand over now to Mr Rawat to do that and take that on,	3	out of bed to see what was going on as well. I couldn't
6 We, Mr Rawa, When you're ready, no mosh. 7 MR RAWAT: Thank you, Mr Chairman. 8 Wed like at this point to put into the record six 9 statements. I will, as I go through them, he reading 10 extracts from the statements themselves, but If can 11 make this point, which applies to all six statements, it 12 is that the statements in their entirety will be 13 published and will go into the record in their 14 entirety. 15 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes. 16 MR RAWAT: —and the considered as evidence before the 17 inquiry in that way. 18 EMMA OCONNOR (evidence read into the record) 19 MR RAWAT: The first statement I would like to put into the 20 record is that of Emma O'Comor of flat IT1 on the 21 20th floor. The statement reference is INSOMO00121. 22 There are no exhibits to go with the statement, but 23 it is an eight-page statement and if we go to the eighth 24 page, it is signed on that page with a statement of truth 25 dated 17 May 2018. 16 If Lould, just before I go to parts of the 2 statement themselves, just give a little background, and 3 that is that Ms O'Comor lived in that 'T1) with her 4 partner and carer, Luke Towner. They had a joint 5 tenaney with the local authority and had lived in the 6 tower for some five years by June 2017. 17 Ms O'Comor benefit is disabled and she requires 18 assistance with walking. She has walked with cruches 19 for around five years now. 19 Jan Statement thanks or page 5 of the statement. 10 If Lead from there, that's the part of the 11 individual page with a statement of the page, it is signed on that page with a statement of truth 24 page, it is signed on that page with a statement of truth 25 dated 17 May 2018. 19 Page 69 10 If Lould, just before I go to parts of the 26 tenaney with the local authority and had lived in the 27 statement the deals with Ms O'Connor from the individua	4	if I may.	4	see the fire from the bedroom window, but I could see
We'd like at this point to put into the record six 8 We'd like at this point to put into the record six 9 statements. I will, at 5 go through them, be reading 10 extracts from the statements themselves, but if I can 11 make this point, which applies to all six statements, it 12 is that the statements in their entirerty will be 13 published and will go into the record in their 14 entirery— 15 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes. 15 MR RAWAT: — and be considered as evidence before the 17 inquiry in that way. 18 EMMA O'CONNOR (evidence read into the record) 19 MR RAWAT: — the first statement of would like to put into the 20 record is that of Emma O'Connor of flat 171 on the 21 20th floor. The statement reference is INS00000121. 22 There are no exhibits to go with the statement, but 23 till an eight-page statement and if we go to the eighth 24 page, it's signed on that page with a statement of ruth 25 dated 17 May 2018. Page 69 Page 71 1 If I could, just before I go to patts of the 2 statement themselves, just give a little background, and 3 that is that Ms O'Connor (lived in that 17) with her 4 partner and carer, Lake Towner. They had a joint 5 tennancy with the local authority and had lived in the 5 tennancy with the local authority and had lived in the 6 tower for some five years by June 2017. 7 Ms O'Connor herself is disabled and she requires 7 Ms O'Connor herself is disabled and she requires 8 assistance with walking. She has walked with cruches 9 for around five years now. If I could go to paragraph 24. Mr Chairman, and 10 the son page 5 of the statement. 11 that on page it's difficult for me to get out of 12 the house and travel around due to my disabilities. We 19 had a takeaway meal at home that evening and I remember 10 the house and fravel around due to my disabilities. We 10 had a takeaway meal at home that evening and I remember 10 want to be and weren't in that all the could see 21 went to be and weren't in it that I was when we head 22 there was fire in a list near the bottom of the tower. 23 the knew was	5	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Thank you very much.	5	fire engines. I went to the kitchen and looked out of
8 We'd like at this point to put into the record ix 9 statemens. I will, as I go through them, be reading 10 extracts from the statements themselves, but if I can 11 make this point, which applies to all six statements, it 12 is that the statements in their entirety will be 13 published and will go into the record in their 14 entirety— 15 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes. 16 MR RAWAT:—and be considered as evidence before the 17 inquiry in that way. 18 EMMA O'CONNOR (evidence read into the record) 19 MR RAWAT:—The first statement I would like to put into the 20 record is that of Emma O'Connor of flat I'I on the 21 20th floor. The statement reference is IWS00000121. 22 There are no exhibits to go with the statement, but 23 it is an ight-page statement and if we go to the eighth 24 page, it's signed on that page with a statement for truth 25 dated 17 May 2018. Page 69 Page 71 1 If I could, just before I go to parts of the 2 statement themselves, just give a little background, and 3 that is that Ms O'Connor lived in flat 171 with her 4 partner and carer, Luke Towner. They had a joint 5 tenancy with the local authority and hall lived in the 6 tower for some five years by June 2017. 7 Ms O'Connor herself is disabled and she requires 8 assistance with walking. She has walked with crutches 9 for around five years now. 10 If I could go to paragraph 24, Mr Chairman, and 11 that's on page 5 of the statement. 12 If I read from there, that's the part of the 13 statement that deals with Ms O'Connor's account of the 14 night. 15 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes. 16 MR RAWAT: "10 of the partner that deals where we head the sirens from fire engines. Luke do to or be watching television until just after indingly. We bon't was a very warm evening beadcarves got in. 18 the lowes and travel around due to my dissibilities. We 19 had a takeaway neal at home that evening and I remember 19 watching television until just after midnight. We bon't was chiff in the proper on the Barding the wint of the partner of the lift was on to stock orning in	6	Yes, Mr Rawat. When you're ready, no rush.	6	the kitchen window, and that's when I saw the fire.
9 statements. I will, as I go through them, be reading 10 extracts from the statements themselves, but if I can 11 make this point, which applies to all sist statements; it 12 is that the statements in their entirety will be 13 published and will go into the record in their 14 entirety	7	MR RAWAT: Thank you, Mr Chairman.	7	After a few minutes we both noticed that the fire
25. At that point, I heard a fire alarm. I am not make this point, which applies to all six statements, it is that the statements their entirety will be published and will go into the record in their entirety will be published and will go into the record in their entirety. 15	8	We'd like at this point to put into the record six	8	appeared to be getting bigger. We also noticed that a
sure where it was coming from, but it was definitely is that the statements in their entirety will be a published and will go into the record in their entirety — 14	9	statements. I will, as I go through them, be reading	9	fourth fire engine arrived.
12 closer than the 4th floor. At that moment, I decided 13 published and will go into the record in their 14 entirety -	10	extracts from the statements themselves, but if I can	10	"25. At that point, I heard a fire alarm. I am not
Inceded to get out of the building. I was conscious that if the fire spread I wouldn't be able to walk down and that ARATIN MOORE-BICK; Yes. It is SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK; Yes. MR RAWAT: - and be considered as evidence before the inquiry in that way. BEMMA O'CONNOK (evidence read into the record) MR RAWAT: The first statement I would like to put into the record is that of Emma O'Connor of flat 171 on the record is that of Emma O'Connor of flat 171 on the record is that of Emma O'Connor of flat 171 on the record is that of Emma O'Connor of flat 171 on the record is that of Emma O'Connor of flat 171 on the record is that of Emma O'Connor of flat 171 on the record is that of Emma O'Connor of flat 171 on the record is that of Emma O'Connor of flat 171 on the record is that of Emma O'Connor of flat 171 on the record is that of Emma O'Connor of flat 171 on the record is that of Emma O'Connor of flat 171 on the record is that of Emma O'Connor of flat 171 on the record is that of Emma O'Connor of flat 171 on the record is that of Emma O'Connor of flat 171 on the record is that of Emma O'Connor of flat 171 on the record is that of Emma O'Connor of flat 171 on the record is that of Emma O'Connor of flat 171 with personal that is that Ms O'Connor lived in flat 171 with her and partner and carer, Luke Towner. They had a joint tenancy with the local authority and had lived in the tenancy with the local authority and had lived in the tenancy with the local authority and had lived in the tenancy with the local authority and had lived in the tenancy with the local authority and had lived in the tenancy with the local authority and had lived in the tenancy with the local authority and had lived in the tenancy with the local authority and had lived in the tenancy with the local authority and had lived in the tenancy with the local authority and had lived in the tenancy with the local authority and had lived in the tenancy with the local authority and had lived in the tenancy with the local authority and had lived in the tenanc	11	make this point, which applies to all six statements, it	11	sure where it was coming from, but it was definitely
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SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes. MR RAWAT: — and be considered as evidence before the inquiry in that way. BEMMA O'CONNOR (evidence read into the record) MR RAWAT: The first statement I would like to put into the record is that of Emma O'Connor of flat 171 on the record is that of Emma O'Connor of flat 171 on the record is that of Emma O'Connor of flat 171 on the 20 return to the flat shortly. There are no exhibits to go with the statement, but 22 but when we got onto the 20th floor landing, we noticed smoke coming up through the vents. It did not feel unusually bot in our flat or on the 20th floor landing, though it was a very warm evening so it's difficult to 24 page, it's signed on that page with a statement of truth 24 page, it's signed on that page with a statement of truth 25 dated 17 May 2018. Page 69 Page 71 If I could, just before I go to parts of the statement themselves, just give a little background, and that is that MS O'Connor lived in flat 171 with her a partner and carer, Luke Towner. They had a joint 4 partner and carer, Luke Towner. They had	13	published and will go into the record in their	13	I needed to get out of the building. I was conscious
16 MR RAWAT: - and be considered as evidence before the inquiry in that way. 17 inquiry in that way. 18 EMMA O'CONNOR (evidence read into the record) 19 MR RAWAT: The first statement I would like to put into the record is that of Emma O'Connor of flat 171 on the 20 record is that of Emma O'Connor of flat 171 on the 20 return to the flat shore. We were both expecting to return to the flat shore in the flat when we left, 20 return to the flat shore in the flat when we left, 21 20th floor. The statement reference is INVSO000121. 21 22 There are no exhibits to go with the statement, but 22 but when we got onto the 20th floor landing, we noticed smoke coming up through the vents. It did not feel 24 page, it's signed on that page with a statement of truth 24 page, it's signed on that page with a statement of truth 25 dated 17 May 2018. 25 to a statement themselves, just give a little background, and 3 that is that Ms O'Connor lived in flat 171 with her 4 partner and carer, Luke Towner. They had a joint 4 page with a statement themselves, just give a little background, and 3 that is that Ms O'Connor lived in flat 171 with her 4 partner and carer, Luke Towner. They had a joint 4 page with we statement with the local authority and had lived in the 5 tenancy with the local authority and had lived in the 5 tenancy with the local authority and had lived in the 5 tenancy with the local authority and had lived in the 5 tenancy with the local authority and had lived in the 5 tenancy with the local authority and had lived in the 5 tenancy with the local authority and had lived in the 5 tenancy with the local authority and had lived in the 5 tenancy with the local authority and had lived in the 5 tenancy with the local authority and had lived in the 5 tenancy with the local authority and had lived in the 5 tenancy with the local authority and had lived in the 5 tenancy with the local authority and had lived in the 5 tenancy with the local authority and had lived in the 5 tenancy with the local authority and had lived in the	14	entirety	14	that if the fire spread I wouldn't be able to walk down
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IS EMMA O'CONNOR (evidence read into the record) MR RAWAT: The first statement I would like to put into the record is that of Emma O'Connor of flat 171 on the 20 record is that of Emma O'Connor of flat 171 on the 21 22 20th floor. The statement reference is IWS00000121. There are no exhibits to go with the statement, but 22 but when we got onto the 20th floor landing, we noticed smoke coming up through the vents. It did not feel unusually hot in our flat or on the 20th floor landing, we noticed smoke coming up through the vents. It did not feel unusually hot in our flat or on the 20th floor landing, we hot of the lift was a very warm evening so it's difficult to 24 unusually hot in our flat or on the 20th floor landing, we hot of the lifts was out of order that night. Luckily the one that was working arrived quite quickly. There was no smoke in the lift. I remember that one of the lifts was out of order that night. Luckily the one that was working arrived quite quickly. There was no smoke in the lift. I remember that one of the lifts was out of order that night. Luckily the one that was working arrived quite quickly. There was no smoke in the lift. I remember that one of the lifts was out of order that night. Luckily the one that was working arrived quite quickly. There was no smoke in the lift. I remember that one of the lifts was out of order that night. Luckily the one that was working arrived quite quickly. There was no smoke in the lift. I was empty when it arrived. 1	16	MR RAWAT: and be considered as evidence before the	16	not be working.
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21 20th floor. The statement reference is IWS00000121. 22 There are no exhibits to go with the statement, but 23 it is an eight-page statement and if we go to the eighth 24 page, it's signed on that page with a statement of truth 25 dated 17 May 2018. 26 Page 69 27 Page 71 1 If I could, just before I go to parts of the 2 statement themselves, just give a little background, and 3 that is that Ms O'Connor lived in flat 171 with her 4 partner and carer, Luke Towner. They had a joint 5 tenancy with the local authority and had lived in the 6 tower for some five years by June 2017. 6 The order of the statement. 7 Ms O'Connor herself is disabled and she requires 8 assistance with walking. She has walked with crutches 9 for around five years now. 9 for around five years now. 10 If I could go to paragraph 24, Mr Chairman, and 11 that's on page 5 of the statement. 12 If I read from there, that's the part of the 13 statement that deals with Ms O'Connor's account of the 14 night. 15 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes. 16 MR RAWAT: "24. On 13 June 2017, Luke and I were at home 17 during the day as it's difficult for me to get out of 18 the house and travel around due to my disabilities. We 19 had a takeaway meal at home that evening and I remember 20 watching television until just after midnight. We both 21 went to bed and weren't in it that long when we heard 22 the sirens from fire engines. Luke got out of bed to 23 check what was a fire in a flat near the bottom of the tower. 24 the sirens from fire engines. Luke got out of bed to 25 check what was going on and he told me that he could see 26 the own as fire in a flat near the bottom of the tower. 27 the fire brigade with their hoses. At this stage, I 28 was not so thick that I couldn't see through it, but it 29 was not so thick that I couldn't see through it, but it 29 was not so thick that I couldn't see through it, but it 29 was not so thick that I couldn't see through it, but it 20 was not so thick that I couldn't see through it, but it 21 was not yet concerned. 22 when t	19	MR RAWAT: The first statement I would like to put into the	19	didn't take my crutches. We were both expecting to
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Page 69 Page 71 If I could, just before I go to parts of the statement themselves, just give a little background, and that is that Ms O'Connor lived in flat 171 with her partner and carer, Luke Towner. They had a joint tenancy with the local authority and had lived in the tower for some five years by June 2017. Ms O'Connor herself is disabled and she requires assistance with walking. She has walked with crutches for around five years now. If I could go to paragraph 24, Mr Chairman, and that's on page 5 of the statement. If I read from there, that's the part of the statement that deals with Ms O'Connor's account of the night. SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes. MR RAWAT: "24. On 13 June 2017, Luke and I were at home during the day as it's difficult for me to get out of the house and travel around due to my disabilities. We had a takeaway meal at home that evening and I remember watching television until just after midnight. We both check what was going on and he told me that he could see there was a fire in a flat near the bottom of the tower. say for sure. We called the lift. I remember that one of the lifts was out of order that night. Luckily the one that was yorking arrived quite quickly. There was no methat was working arrived quite quickly. There was no most hit was of rower in a mist was of sure working arrived on the lift. It was myte working arrived quite quickly. There was no most work or sure. We called the lift. I remember that one of the lifts was out of dethe lifts was out for der that night. Luckily the one that was working arrived quite quickly. There was no most work or sure working arrived quite quickly. There was no smoke in the lift. It was onte bride the lift is one that the lift. It was entpy work in a rived. "28. We got in and pressed the button for the ground floor. On the way down the lift floor. In the way down the lift floor on the lift floor on the 11th floor, I could was not so thick that I couldn't see through it, but it was definitely smokier than it had been on the 20th the stream w	23	it is an eight-page statement and if we go to the eighth	23	smoke coming up through the vents. It did not feel
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watching television until just after midnight. We both went to bed and weren't in it that long when we heard the sirens from fire engines. Luke got out of bed to check what was going on and he told me that he could see there was a fire in a flat near the bottom of the tower. 20 of the fire brigade with their hoses. At this stage, I was not yet concerned. 21 was not yet concerned. 22 "30. When we arrived on the ground floor it was 1.19am. I know the exact time because I sent a text as 24 soon as we got to the ground. It was not smoky on the			19	floor didn't seem smoky at all, but we could see members
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the sirens from fire engines. Luke got out of bed to 22 "30. When we arrived on the ground floor it was 23 check what was going on and he told me that he could see 24 there was a fire in a flat near the bottom of the tower. 25 "30. When we arrived on the ground floor it was 26 1.19am. I know the exact time because I sent a text as 27 soon as we got to the ground. It was not smoky on the				
23 check what was going on and he told me that he could see 24 there was a fire in a flat near the bottom of the tower. 25 1.19am. I know the exact time because I sent a text as 26 soon as we got to the ground. It was not smoky on the				·
there was a fire in a flat near the bottom of the tower. 24 soon as we got to the ground. It was not smoky on the				
			25	
Page 70 Page 72		Page 70		Page 72

1	noises, as though they were working overtime."	1	image (E) but as if that were cut in half along the
2	That's where I'll stop with that statement,	2	middle of the vertical height of the flames.
3	Mr Chairman.	3	"37. Me and Ellisa ran out of the flat. I got to
4	VIRGILIO CASTRO (evidence read into the record)	4	just outside my front door and then decided to try and
5	MR RAWAT: If I could go to the second statement.	5	grab my personal possessions and those which belonged to
6	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes, thank you.	6	my late wife and my daughter; for example watches,
7	MR RAWAT: That is the witness statement of	7	rings, necklaces, and money but Ellisa grabbed me and
8	Mr Virgilio Castro, the reference is IWS00001091.	8	told me that this was not important. [Redacted] when I
9	The statement incorporates three exhibits labelled	9	left the flat I wasn't carrying anything, I was only
10	VC/1, VC/2 and VC/3, and these are two floor plans and	10	wearing my Fossil watch on my left wrist.
11	then a diagram of the tower from the outside.	11	"38. The two of us then ran out of the flat. The
12	The statement has nine pages to it, and if we go to	12	door to the flat had been left open by Genaro who had
13	the ninth page, please, it's dated 20 September 2018,	13	left earlier. As I said above, the door would only
14	and signed with a statement of truth.	14	close to about a 45 degree angle on its own and then
15	In summary, in the statement, Mr Castro explains	15	remain open. I didn't shut my front door when we left,
16	that he had lived in the tower for 26 years as	16	we left in a panic because of the fire in our flat.
17	of June 2017. At the time of the fire, he was living in	17	"39. There was some smoke in the landing outside my
18	the property with his friend Genaro. His daughter would	18	front door. I have looked at the smoke descriptors and
19	also stay with him on Friday and Saturday nights. On	19	would say the smoke was kind of in between image (B) and
20	that night, his girlfriend was also staying with him.	20	(C). It was black smoke. I could smell the smoke more
21	If I could go, please, to paragraph 34, which is at	21	now, and could taste it in my mouth and I started to
22	page 6 of the statement. I pick it up from there:	22	cough."
23	"34. I was woken up suddenly at about 1.15am. I	23	If I go forward to paragraph 41, please:
24	heard the sound of my smoke alarms in my flat. The	24	"41. Elisa was in front of me and we went straight
25	alarms are linked together and so would usually both go	25	to the stairwell. I had used the stairs in the past
23	diamis are mixed together and so would assumy both go	23	to the stain well. I had used the stains in the past
	Page 73		Page 75
1	off at the same time and they both did that night. My	1	when the lift was broken so I knew where they were. The
2	girlfriend Elisa was shouting 'Fire! Fire! Fire!'. My	2	landing lights were working ok and there were no other
3	friend Genaro was also in our room trying to wake me and	3	people on the landing. However, when I got to the
4	Elisa up. Genaro said to me 'fire'. He was	4	stairwell it was completely dark. I couldn't see my
5	shouting. He looked shocked. He then ran off; he left	5	feet and I couldn't see Elisa. It was dark all the way
6	the flat straight away wearing only his boxer shorts, no	6	down to the bottom of the stairs.
7	slippers or footwear.	7	"42. Once we were in the stairwell I realised that
8	"35. I went to the hallway and from there I could	8	most people were coming down the stairs but some people
9	see into the kitchen and could see the fire there. The	9	were coming back up. I don't know if there were any
10	fire was outside the kitchen window. The window was	10	firefighters in the stairwell, it was dark so I couldn't
11	closed. I could hear a very loud strange sound like a	11	see. I was going to follow the people going up the
12	'Wooo!' The fire was red and around the middle of the	12	stairs until my neighbour who lives in the flat directly
13	window on the outside. I didn't understand why it was	13	above mine (Flat 156 on the 18th floor) shouted at me
14	making that sound.	14	not to go upstairs but to go downstairs instead. He
15	"36. I went into the kitchen. As I mention above,	15	kept shouting 'no, go down' so we all ran down the
16	we have a circular ventilation fan in the top right of	16	stairs. I also thought to myself that the roof door was
17	the kitchen window and I could see flames coming through	17	usually locked so we shouldn't go upstairs. My
18	this ventilation fan into the kitchen. I was confused	18	neighbour [redacted], I have known him for a long time
19	and in a panic I wanted to try and kill the fire but I	19	but didn't know his full name until after the fire. He
20	quickly realised I couldn't do anything. There was a	20	approached me after the fire to apologise to me for
21	strong smell of smoke in my flat but I was not coughing	21	shouting at me that night. I now know his name is Shah
22	at this point. I have been shown the smoke and fire	22	Ahmed.
23	descriptors provided to me by the Grenfell Tower Inquiry	23	"43. All the way down whenever we saw people
24	and I would estimate that the smoke looked like image	24	running up the stairs we stopped them and told them to
25	(B). The fire coming in through the window was like	25	turn around and go back down the stairs or they would be
	Page 74		Page 76

1	trapped. There was thick, black smoke in the stairwell	1	"22. We stood by the lifts. I couldn't see anyone
2	on the way down but it seemed to clear after we got	2	or hear anyone. There was nothing. I could already
3	below around the fourth or fifth floors.	3	smell smoke though and there was this dull humming
4	"44. Once we reached the ground floor I ran out of	4	sound.
5	the stairwell and the lights were on in the mezzanine	5	"23. Fung decided to open the door to the stairwell
6	and ground floor lobby area. Everyone was just running	6	to look down the stairs. She walked down the stairwell
7	out. I ran straight out of the building."	7	and walked down a few floors. She came back up to where
8	Mr Chairman, I stop there, but I just for the record	8	I was standing and she said that she didn't hear anyone
9	make clear that Mr Castro lived in flat 146 on the 17th	9	or see anyone, except for a woman who was wearing a
10	floor and his exit time was 01.31 am.	10	headscarf and was with her daughter. She told me that
11	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Right, thank you.	11	they both looked worried. My girlfriend told me that
12	MESROB KASSEMJDIAN (evidence read into the record)	12	she had asked the woman what was wrong and the woman
13	MR RAWAT: The next statement to put into the record is the	13	said that she was scared because she could smell smoke
14	statement of Mesrob Kassemjdian and he lived in flat 141	14	and so she was evacuating. Fung is convinced now that
15	on the 17th floor, his exit time on the night is	15	she went all the way down to the bottom of the stairs.
16	recorded as 01.26 am.	16	However I don't think she could have done as she was
17	The inquiry's statement is found at IWS00000951.	17	only gone for about 90 seconds.
18	Accompanying it, and to put into the record, is one	18	"24. We went back inside the flat. I felt more
19	exhibit: IWS00000950, marked as MK/1. That is a floor	19	worried. I decided to look out of the window again. I
20	plan.	20	opened the window and really reached my head out the
21	The statement has 15 pages and if we go, please, to	21	living room. It was difficult to see down, even more so
22	the 15th page, we see it's dated 13 July 2018, and	22	than it would have been before the refurbishment because
23	signed with a statement of truth.	23	of the cladding around the window. As I looked down I
24	Before I begin reading some parts of this statement,	24	realised that there was a glow coming from the building
25	again, by way of background, I explain that	25	below and I could see firefighters standing at the
	Page 77		Page 79
1	Mr Kassemjdian had lived in Grenfell Tower for	1	bottom of the Tower. I saw them direct water at the
2	eight years as of June 2017. He was living with his	2	glow and then it looked like the glow exploded and
3	aunt, Rita Tankarian, who had limited mobility due to	3	that's when I felt the heat rising up the Tower. I
4	longstanding health problems, and she had lived in the	4	realised immediately that we needed to leave the
5	flat for 15 years. Also living there at the time was	5	building and I said so to Fung. I told Fung that we had
6	Mr Kassemjdian's girlfriend, and all three of them were	6	one minute to leave the Tower. The heat that came from
7	present on the night of the fire.	7	outside was extremely hot. It felt like a slap in the
8	I would like to read some parts of the statement in	8	face. From this moment I went into a kind of fight or
9	which are Mr Kassemjdian's account of that night.	9	flight mode. After seeing the fire outside and feeling
10	If I take it from page 6, please, and paragraph 20.	10	that heat I thought it was possible that the fire could
11	"20. On the night of the fire my girlfriend Fung	11	spread and reach our flat. That's why I decided we had
12	and I were watching a movie in the living room. My aunt	12	to leave. I wanted to get out before it was too late.
13	had already gone to bed. We heard fire sirens outside	13	I was worried about people using the stairwell at the
14	and I looked out the windows of the living room and then	14	same time and I was worried about Rita getting down the
15	the kitchen and saw fire engines near the bottom of the	15	stairs. This was not like the fire in Grenfell Tower
16	Tower, and I realised that they were underneath us. We	16	before.
17	went back to what we were doing. But not long	17	"25. I went and woke up Rita who was sleeping. I
18	afterwards we looked out again and saw that there were	18	told her that the Tower was on fire and that we had to
19	more fire engines. It was about 01:00 I think.	19	leave. She responded very quickly. She jumped out of
20	"21. My girlfriend and I started to get a little	20	bed and was almost ready to leave when we reached the
21	worried so we decided to look on the stairwell to see	21	front door.
22	what was happening. I opened the front door to the	22	"26. If I hadn't woken Rita up then I don't think
23	stairs and we stepped into the communal area outside my	23	she would have woken up at all. We had a smoke alarm in
24	front door."	24	our flat but it didn't go off. There was not enough
25	The statement then continues:	25	smoke in our flat for it to go off.
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		1	
1	"27. The three of us left the flat within about a	1	get her husband, the door closed and that was the last
2	minute of deciding we had to get out. I took with me	2	time I saw her."
3	only my front door keys, my phone, my wallet, and my	3	If I move to the next paragraph, please:
4	cigarettes. I thought that we would return that night	4	"32. I started to go down the stairs. I rarely
5	but I thought it was going to be a long night until we	5	used the stairs at night because the stair-well was very
6	did.	6	dirty and there were crack addicts there sometimes. I
7	"28. I picked up my laptop, but then I decided	7	did think about using the lift and I pressed the button
8	against taking it as I thought to myself: 'where does it	8	to call it when we began to leave. The lift was still
9	end?' in terms of what to take and what to leave. I	9	working at about 01:10. All the lights were on. I
10	thought that it was best to leave immediately. From	10	asked Rita and Fung whether we should use it and they
11	that moment I was almost certain that there was a good	11	both said no.
12	chance the fire could reach our floor and even if it	12	"33. When we came out and went to the stairs the
13	didn't come inside the house it would have been	13	fire doors were shut. But each of the fire doors were
14	terrifying. I was hoping that it wouldn't come to that	14	shut, except the 4th floor.
15	but I thought there was a good chance and that we have	15	"34. By the time I started to go down the stairs
16	to go.	16	Fung and Rita were two flights of stairs ahead. That
17	"29. When I first opened the door to the flat I	17	was because I had told them to go ahead and make a start
18	couldn't see any smoke but I could smell it. We could	18	when I was banging on Khadija's door. When we were
19	hear the vents making a noise. I think that they were	19	leaving our house I could hear people upstairs crying.
20	smoke vents and they were on, making a lot of noise.	20	Fung said that we should go back and get them, but I
21	Rita still remembers that noise especially.	21	said no. We made a choice and we were running down the
22	"30. Fung said that we should knock on the	22	stairs. I told Fung to hold on to Rita's hand and help
23	neighbours doors but I said no because I was worried	23	me to get Rita out the Tower. I knew that if we
24	that if everyone came now and pushed Rita then she might	24	separated from one another then we might not find each
25	fall. I thought that we needed to make sure that we	25	other again. If we had gone back then it would have
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	<u>_</u>		
1	were careful, because there might have been pandemonium.	1	been difficult for Rita to get out.
2	I wanted us to leave quickly in order to go down the	2	"35. On the 17th floor there was no visible smoke.
3	stairs carefully. Rita moves very slowly. I was	3	At around the 14th floor in the stairwell the smoke
4	expecting an integrated fire alarm to ring at any moment	4	started. It was white, and it was getting stronger and
5	and that everyone would come rushing out down the	5	thicker as we went further down. We were walking into
6	stairs. If someone shoved Rita and she fell then she	6	it and I knew that it was going to get stronger and that
7	might not be able to walk again. Also, on the other	7	it would continue getting worse the further we went. I
8	hand, I didn't think that the entire building would	8 9	was worried that I was taking the two of them to their death. I didn't know if there was a way out.
10	actually go a blaze and so I didn't want to worry people	10	"36. Rita was going slowly, one step, two steps at
	at the time if it was for nothing. I thought it was	11	a time. She was holding the rails on one side, and on
11 12	best to get out quickly just in case the worst happened.	12	to Fung on the other. On about the 8th floor Rita
13	We lived on the 17th floor and I thought that to get down all of those stairs and to move past the floor	13	started coughing. As we progressed the smoke got
14	which was on fire would be very risky and we needed to	14	thicker still. On the 4th floor the smoke was even
15	leave as soon as possible whilst the exit was still an	15	thicker and greyer. Still it was not so thick that you
16	option for us.	16	couldn't see through it but it was a complete mist.
17	"31. Rita said to me 'what about Khadija', and so I	17	"37. As we were going down we could hear people.
18	said that I would go and get her. Khadija lived on the	18	When we left it was still quiet, but when we got to
19	17th floor with her husband. Fung and Rita started	19	about the 14th floor we could already start to hear
20	going down the stairs. I hit on Khadija's front door as	20	people screaming fire. The stairwell was not yet busy.
21	hard as I could and shouted. I knocked very loudly and	21	I think people were packing bags and stuff.
22	shouted at the top of my voice. Everyone on the floor	22	"38. I think that at every stage I could still see
23	would have heard me. After a while Khadija opened the	23	the bottom of the stairs. It smelled like a bonfire.
24	door and I said in no uncertain terms: 'there is a fire,	24	By the 8th floor we were engulfed but it was still
25	you must leave right now'. She turned around to go and	25	possible to see. I remember once I was in Hyde Park and
	Dags 92		
			Da a 9.4

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1	was surrounded by a thick grey mist, it was like that.	1	they were moving the hose between floors. Although I
2	I am sure I could have seen the ceiling had I looked up,	2	couldn't see the water I think the hoses were swollen
3	or the hand rail.	3	and I think that was because there was water coming
4	"39. At the 6th floor I saw a fireman coming up the	4	through. Rita remembers tripping on the hose.
5	stairs. They were getting a hose. I can't remember if	5	"46. When we got to the ground floor Rita was
6	the hose was coming out of the 4th floor or going into	6	coughing. We left the Tower through the main entrance.
7	the 4th floor. We carried on down I saw that they had	7	On our way out of the building we saw a woman whose face
8	left the door open on the 4th floor, and that was where	8	was covered in soot. She was frantic and screaming. It
9	the smoke was coming from. The hose was stopping the	9	looked like she had faced the fire. There were people
10	door from completely shutting. When I saw them I said:	10	who were trying to hold her back from going back
11	'is there a way out?' They didn't have oxygen masks.	11	inside."
12	They were wearing protective clothing, but no oxygen	12	Mr Chairman, if I can stop there and go to the next
13	masks. I thought that was odd. A firefighter said yes	13	statement.
14	and told Rita to be calm. Fung said later that he	14	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Thank you very much, yes.
15	looked at us as though we were being silly, or dramatic.	15	RITA TANKARIAN (evidence read into the record)
16	"40. We carried on down the stairs and at the	16	MR RAWAT: That is the statement of Rita Tankarian,
17	bottom there was a lady who was telling people to use	17	flat 141, floor 17.
18	one door rather than the other, to shield people from	18	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes.
19	falling cladding. The woman who said this was	19	MR RAWAT: Exit time of 01.26.
20	Florentina, who is the daughter of Michael and Elizabeth	20	The reference is IWS00000434.
21	who live in the Tower	21	There are no exhibits accompanying the statement.
22	"41. On the 6th floor was the only time I heard any	22	It is a nine-page statement and, if we go to the
23	kind of alarm — it was a normal smoke alarm that was on	23	ninth page, please, the statement is signed with
24	the 4th floor. We heard it properly when we were on the	24	a statement of truth and dated 24 May 2018.
25	4th floor.	25	As will be clear from the previous statement,
			D 0-
	Page 85		Page 87
1	"42. We saw a Filipino guy coming down the stairs.	1	Mr Chairman, Ms Tankarian was the aunt of
2	He lived on the 17th floor. I think he must have heard	2	Mesrob Kassemjdian, whom she refers to in her statement
3	me knocking on Khadija's door. He was following us on	3	as Robbie, and she says in the statement that on the
4	the stairs and was a couple of floors behind us. Also	4	night of the fire, she went to bed at around 10.30 that
5	behind us also was an older man who was black who was	5	night.
6	walking slowly behind Rita. I can't describe what he	6	If I pick it up, please, from paragraph 12 on
7	looked like beyond this.	7	page 3.
8	"43. The lights were working on the stairs while we	8	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes, thank you.
9	were there. There were no blocks on the landings or	9	MR RAWAT: "12. I was sleeping when suddenly Robbie came
10	anything. The stairwell was very dirty — it was really	10	into my bedroom and woke me up. He said: 'Aunty, wake
11	very disgusting, when I went in there in the past I	11	up we have one minute to leave the flat because the
12	would try to touch nothing. There were no rubbish sacks	12	whole building is on fire.' Robbie is very clear minded
13	— it was clear but not clean.	13	and practical about things. I knew immediately that he
14	"44. On the W floor (the 1st floor) we went the	14	was serious and that we were in danger. Straight away,
15	wrong way. At the bottom we thought that we could get	15	I jumped from the bed. This was a very bad thing for me
16	out into Grenfell Walk. There was a door that leads	16	to do because of my back problems; I knew that I should
17	directly out that way but the door had been closed for a	17	not make any sudden movements but the urgency of the
18	long time, months or maybe even a year. I thought at	18	situation meant that I had to do this. Robbie has said
19	the time that the door may have been open because I saw	19	that he has never seen me move so quickly in my life.
20	a hose coming from that way and I saw a firefighter come	20	Since then my back problems have worsened. I was scared
21	from the direction of the door. The door was shut	21	and knew we were in a dangerous situation but I did not
22	though.	22	think that we were not going to come back to the flat.
	0		
23	"45. There were three people or so that I saw. On	23	II I Had featised. I would at least have brought hiv
23 24	"45. There were three people or so that I saw. On the W floor I think there was one firefighter doing	23	If I had realised, I would at least have brought my handbag and would have opened the wardrobe and taken out
23 24 25	the W floor I think there was one firefighter doing	24	handbag and would have opened the wardrobe and taken out
24			
24	the W floor I think there was one firefighter doing	24	handbag and would have opened the wardrobe and taken out

1	"13. Robbie is very decisive. He was clear minded	1	smelt of burning plastic as in the hallway. As we came
2	and I think that saved us. Robbie saved my life. I had	2	down the stairs, we didn't hear any fire alarms. The
3	taken various tablets that evening and these make me	3	only thing I could hear was a low humming noise. I have
4	sleep very deeply. If Robbie had not woken me up then I	4	no idea what was causing it and had never heard it
5	would never have woken up myself.	5	before.
6	"14. There was no smoke or sign of danger inside	6	"19. Getting out of the Tower was terrifying.
7	our flat. Inside the flat everything was still	7	Smoke was on the stairs from the moment we entered the
8	completely normal at that stage. In the flat there was	8	stairway and was always there as we continued walking
9	no sign of fire. I could not smell any burning or see	9	down the stairs. The further down we went the more
10	any smoke. As soon as we walked out of the front door	10	smoke there was, but we were always able to see where we
11	to our flat I remember looking at the lifts and saw that	11	were going. There was lighting the whole way down. I
12	both were out of order and in the hallway, smoke was	12	found it hard to walk and needed support to get down.
13	coming from every direction.	13	The smoke continued to get worse. I was in pain and my
14	"15. That night Robbie's girlfriend, Fung was also	14	legs were hurting but I knew I had to get out. At the
15	staying with us. There was no sign of the fire inside	15	beginning it was fine to see through the smoke but
16	our flat before we left but as soon as I walked out of	16	later, as we went further down, it became more and more
17	our front door into the lift area, I could immediately	17	hazy.
18	smell the fire. From every corner when we opened the	18	"20. When we were on the 6th floor the smoke
19	flat door the smoke was there. We could smell it. The	19	started increasing a lot. It was a grey white colour
20	smoke smelt like burning plastic but it was not hot.	20	and I remember Robbie cried out to me: 'Don't breathe
21	There was no alarm going off.	21	Aunty! Cover your mouth!' I was really anxious. My
22	"16. I walked towards the stairs. On the way out	22	breathing was getting more and more difficult. I was
23	of my flat I said to Robbie that we should knock on the	23	breathing very quickly but only shallow breaths. On the
24	door to our neighbours' and friends' flat, Khadija and	24	way down Fung was always next to me and Robbie was
25	Sabah. I went to Khadija's flat and rang the bell but	25	behind. In the pictures that the police have shown us,
	D 00		D 04
	Page 89		Page 91
1	she didn't answer. Robbie told me that I should so down	1	Robbie was behind me and I was holding on to Fung on one
1 2	she didn't answer. Robbie told me that I should go down the stairs. I started to walk towards the stairs with	1 2	Robbie was behind me and I was holding on to Fung on one side and the hand rail on the other.
2	the stairs. I started to walk towards the stairs with	2	side and the hand rail on the other.
2 3	the stairs. I started to walk towards the stairs with Fung and Robbie started to bang on the door to Flat 143,	2 3	side and the hand rail on the other. "21. It was only when we reached the 4th floor that
2 3 4	the stairs. I started to walk towards the stairs with Fung and Robbie started to bang on the door to Flat 143, which was Khadija's flat. Khadija opened the door and	2 3 4	side and the hand rail on the other. "21. It was only when we reached the 4th floor that I saw a fire fighter with a hose. We had to step over
2 3 4 5	the stairs. I started to walk towards the stairs with Fung and Robbie started to bang on the door to Flat 143, which was Khadija's flat. Khadija opened the door and Robbie told her that there was a fire and that they	2 3 4 5	side and the hand rail on the other. "21. It was only when we reached the 4th floor that I saw a fire fighter with a hose. We had to step over the hose to carry on down the stairs. I remember Robbie
2 3 4 5 6	the stairs. I started to walk towards the stairs with Fung and Robbie started to bang on the door to Flat 143, which was Khadija's flat. Khadija opened the door and Robbie told her that there was a fire and that they should leave. When Robbie did that I think he also	2 3 4 5 6	side and the hand rail on the other. "21. It was only when we reached the 4th floor that I saw a fire fighter with a hose. We had to step over the hose to carry on down the stairs. I remember Robbie told the fireman, 'We are already here and I know my
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		1	
1	to use. We left the building at around 1:20am."	1	the window side of the bed, where I slept, and said 'Mum
2	That's where I'll stop, Mr Chairman.	2	I think there is a fire'. I didn't say anything, I got
3	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes, thank you.	3	straight up and went to the window that has blinds and
4	CORINNE SIMONE JONES (evidence read into the record)	4	pulled them back. On the right hand side of the
5	MR RAWAT: Our next statement to be read in is that of	5	building I could see bright lights, and glowing embers
6	Corinne Simone Jones. The statement reference if is	6	flying past and also black soot/dust. They were
7	IWS00000033.	7	relatively small particles. I would say the light was
8	It is accompanied by three exhibits, which are,	8	orangey in colour, it looked like lights from a fire. I
9	firstly, IWS00000035, and these are marked floor plans.	9	could not hear anything at this point. The smell of
10	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes.	10	intense burning plastic continued, it had not got any
11	MR RAWAT: We don't need to put these up, but it's	11	worse, it was the same smell as earlier. At this point
12	IWS00000032 and IWS00000034, which are photographs taken	12	I hadn't turned on any lights in my bedroom.
13	on the night and outside the tower.	13	"19. In my head I was thinking 'this has to be a
14	If we go, please, to the last page of the statement,	14	fire? My worst nightmare is actually coming to life and
15	which is page 14.	15	I'm on the 17th floor right now!' I stood at the window
16	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes.	16	for 2/3 seconds - enough to confirm that I was seeing
17	MR RAWAT: The statement is signed and dated 10 April 2018,	17	something abnormal. I was scared, worried and confused
18	and on the preceding page there is a statement of truth.	18	as to what exactly was going on, but I knew one thing
19	If I summarise first, Ms Jones lived in flat 145,	19	and that was to escape the building as quickly as
20	which was on the 17th floor, with her partner,	20	possible. I did not want to panic [redacted] or show
21	Jason Miller, and their two sons. The family had moved	21	him how I was really feeling, I had to be strong so he
22	into Grenfell Tower in July 2016.	22	would not panic. I then said to [redacted] 'We are
23	On the night of the fire, Mr Miller was away from	23	leaving, wake up your brother, get some clothes on'. I
24	home, but Ms Jones was there at home with their boys.	24	went to my wardrobe to put on some trousers (skinny
25	The boys went to bed at around 8.30 pm and Ms Jones at	25	jeans, they were inside out) - I struggled to put them
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	Page 93		Page 95
	along out listed a	,	The second state of the se
1	about midnight.	1 2	on. I saw my work clothes hanging up for the next day,
2	If I pick it up, please, then at page 5, and	2	so I put them on instead. I then went out of my bedroom
3	paragraph if we have from paragraph 16 on page 5,	3 4	to the boys' room, which is next to mine. I went into
5	please.	5	their room and [redacted] was standing by the wardrobe nearer the door, getting clothes to put on and
6	"16. That night Jason was staying with his mum. I sent him a text message to say don't forget that I'll	6	[redacted] was doing the same by his wardrobe on the
7	be leaving the house at 8:30am, and to remind him to	7	other side of the room. I told them to hurry up, and we
8	take the boys to school. I fell asleep at around	8	walked past my room to the shoe rack by the front door.
9	midnight, before I saw his reply.	9	We put on our shoes, and as we were doing this I could
10	"17. The next thing I remember is waking up to the	10	hear voices outside which sounded like other residents.
11	smell of burning plastic. In that bedroom, I usually	11	The tones sounded panicked, people spoke quickly and
12	wake up during the night, and I often feel quite uneasy.	12	loudly and in a higher pitch. The communal area was
13	I used to worry about the building collapsing after	13	normally very quiet, especially at night. I didn't
14	watching the twin towers collapse on 9/11 live on the	14	recognise these voices and I didn't catch what they were
15	news (the towers reminded me of our building). That	15	saying. The boys put on their school shoes. I opened
16	night, I can't say what woke me up, but I thought it	16	the cupboard next to the master bedroom. There is a
17	smelt like someone was burning plastic in my room. It	17	coat rack on the back of the door so I grabbed some
18	was very strong. My bedroom door was open and I lifted	18	jackets which were hanging up. Then I opened the front
19	my head to look out into the corridor to see if	19	door and a plume of smoke came into the flat and set off
20	everything was okay. Everything seemed alright. I was	20	the fire alarm in the hallway opposite the front door.
21	awake for only seconds I think before going back to	21	This is the first time I hear the alarm.
22	sleep. I don't know what time this was.	22	"20. When this happened, I thought 'fire' and I
23	"18. I am also not sure how much later it was, it	23	told the children to run to the fire exit where the
24	could have been 5-10 minutes, but I woke to my son,	24	stairs are, because I thought that was the safest place
25	[redacted], coming into my room. He walked around to	25	and I was now concerned. As I came out the front door I
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saw my neighbour standing outside his front door of flat 146 (his name is Castro, I would say he is in his 50s). I did not say anything to him. I saw black smoke coming from the top of his door, which I believe was coming out of his flat into the communal area. I did not see smoke coming from anywhere else in the communal area. When I first came out my flat, there was not that much smoke, but I could see it moving along the top of the ceiling. There was not that much height between the top of his door and the ceiling. It was very thick, dense, black smoke. I remember breathing it in and thinking I would not be able to breathe this in for much longer. It felt like there were particles in the smoke. It smelt like normal smoke, not like burning plastic as such. "21. I ran back into my flat and got my handbag

from next to the sofa in the front room. I am not sure if I left my front door open. The children had already gone through the fire door to the stairwell. This took me about 4 seconds maximum. When I returned to the communal area, I can only describe a massive difference from the time I first opened my door. The smoke had quadrupled and had covered most of the ceiling and was now just above my head (I am 5ft 4). It reminded me of smoke machines on stage. The area had become much darker at this point. There were normal lights on but

were standing on the stairs were deciding whether to go up or down. I can't say I recognised anyone. I didn't understand what people were saying, they were speaking their own language. From their body language and tone I could tell they were confused and not sure where to go. Nobody was shouting, but everyone had raised voices, I can't remember if anyone was crying at this point.

"23. I thought no one is listening to me, I'm going down the stairs. I said to the boys let's go downstairs now. I had 5 or 6 jackets in my hand, including my sister's big winter jacket, and my handbag in the same hand (quite a large bag). I was wearing my work clothes and black trainers, and a pink headscarf that I wear to sleep in. My youngest son was wearing shorts and a vest, he had not put his top on yet, he had one shoe on.

"24. Both boys were in front of me, and my neighbour Castro was also ahead of us as we went down the stairs. There was no one else going down at the same time as us. There were two flights of stairs per floor. It was bright in the stairwell, the walls were white, I don't remember seeing any smoke. The stair area smelt strongly of plastic. As I went down the stairs I was thinking 'I don't want to black out' and I told the children to cover their noses with their tops. At each floor we didn't stop, we just kept going down.

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it was darker due to the smoke.

"22. I came out of my flat, crossed the communal area to the stairwell, opened the fire door and the boys were waiting for me there. I do not recall seeing smoke on the stairs. I could smell burning plastic on the stairwell and the lights were on in the stair area. As I came onto the landing, I remember seeing some people standing in the middle of the stairs on the flight going up, I would say maybe 4 people were standing there (Muslim women, at least one wearing a hijab). I said 'Where is the fire? Where is the fire?' No one answered me. At this point there seemed to be a lot of confusion. People were coming past me as I was on the landing. There were maybe 10-12 people going up the stairs and some people were going down. It seemed that the people going up the stairs all knew each other and were speaking to the group of women still standing on the stairs. Some people were just staying on the landing area talking. I was pausing there for a second, trying to get a better idea of what was going on so I could decide what to do. This was probably only for about 5 seconds. It didn't seem that anyone had answers, everyone seemed panicked and didn't know what to do or where to go. The people that were going upstairs were questioning and panicking. The people who

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I don't think anyone overtook us. We were going very fast, running down the stairs, sometimes two at a time. I am used to doing this with the boys because the lifts are often out of order, so we would often run down the stairs when going to school (we used to try and beat the lift). About half way down I picked up my youngest son, [redacted], and carried him so to fasten the pace.

"25. It was quite fluid as we went down the stairs, there was nothing in the way to stop us. Between the 5th floor and the 3rd floor, I saw more people, I saw an old man (middle eastern, late 60s/early 70s, I think he was wearing a jacket, trousers) who was struggling with walking and was holding on to the handrail, and a younger man (late 30s, light-coloured skin) was supporting the old man's other side, helping him go down the stairs. Between these floors, it was a lot busier. Apart from the initial group of people, I didn't see anyone else going up the stairs. In the lower area, it was much more congested on the stairs. I didn't see any firefighters on the stairs, and I don't remember hearing any fire alarms. At that time, the only fire alarms that would have been going off were in peoples' flats there were no alarms in the communal areas or on the stairs.

"26. When we got to the mezzanine area, you have to

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	Gremen Towe.	i i ubiic	inquiry 17 October 201
1	walk along the landing to go down the stairs. You can't	1	around knocking on doors to check people's alarms. I
2	get out from the mezzanine area and have to go down two	2	didn't know about the inspection prior to them arriving.
3	flights of stairs to get to the ground floor. There	3	They pressed the button on both our fire alarms to check
4	were more people but we were still able to move at the	4	they were working. I was pleased they were there as I
5		5	had a lot of questions and I have had concerns about
6	same pace. I don't remember seeing anyone and I can't		living so high up on the 17th floor. I was worried
7	remember where our neighbour went. The boys were in	6	about our front door as it didn't automatically close.
8	front of me, [redacted] was at the front and I was still	7 8	
9	carrying [redacted]. I put [redacted] down as we got to	9	I wanted to know why there wasn't an automatic shut on the door and I also asked whether the doors in our flat
10	the mezzanine area and got out my phone to try and call	10	were fire resistant. They reassured me that they did
	Jason. I couldn't think straight and couldn't find his	11	
11	number, so I didn't manage to call him.		not need to automatically close, it only depended on the
12	"27. Once you get to the landing area of the	12	material the doors were made from. He tested the doors
13	mezzanine, you can see outside because there are large	13	by banging on them and told me that the front door and
14	glass windows. This was the first time I saw flames,	14	the doors to the master bedroom, the children's room,
15	outside on the grass. I saw fire covering the grass	15	the kitchen and living room (which had double sliding
16	area, it looked like someone had made a bonfire. The	16	doors with glass) were all fire resistant and would hold
17	flames were about 6ft high and covered the whole area.	17	for 30 minutes. Only the toilet and bathroom doors were
18	I didn't see any fire on the actual building at this	18	not resistant (I did not ask about the storage
19	point. There was no fire inside the mezzanine area. I	19	cupboards).
20	was very confused, I thought that it was my neighbour's	20	"8. There was a one-inch gap at the bottom of all
21	house that was on fire at first, then when we were in	21	the doors, but the rest of the frame fit properly. The
22	the emergency exit area I still didn't know what was	22	fire officers said if there was ever a fire, stay put,
23	happening. When I saw the fire on the grass I realised	23	don't leave your flat, we will always come to you. They
24	that it was bigger than just my floor.	24	also said to put a wet towel at the bottom of the door.
25	"28. We then made our way to the ground floor.	25	The entire flat had a laminated floor.
	Page 101		Page 103
1	Just as you come down the last flight of stairs, on the	1	"9. I had to sign to say that they had come to the
2	right hand side there is a fire exit door, but because I	2	house and completed a fire safety check. I was given a
3	could see fire on the grass area outside the fire exit,	3	copy, but due to the events of Wednesday 14th June, I no
4	I realised I couldn't exit the building from that point.	4	longer have it. There was no information about
5	We headed towards the main entrance, through glass doors	5	evacuation. He said in the event of a fire, stay put,
6	into the lobby. We saw about 10 firefighters who were	6	the doors will hold for half an hour and somebody will
7	in a line heading straight across the lobby for the	7	come and rescue you. I'm on the 17th floor so I would
8	stairs. This was the first time I had seen any	8	not stay put. I would rather be on the ground floor
9	emergency workers. Someone told them to stop once they	9	where I can assess the situation for myself. I am
10	saw us, to let us through the door. They were wearing	10	afraid of heights and never wanted to live on the 17th
11	full gear, with helmets, I can't remember if they were	11	floor.
12	wearing masks. They looked equipped to put out a fire.	12	"10. This occasion was the only time that we had
13	We went straight out the main entrance. As we came out	13	been told anything about what to do in case of fire in
14	the main entrance, we turned left."	14	the building. They didn't even have signs up when we
15	Mr Chairman, I'm going to pause there in terms of	15	first moved in, this came 3 or 4 months after we moved
16	Ms Jones's account of the night, but I would like to	16	into the property. I remember seeing a small sign about
17	just draw attention to an event she describes in her	17	fires by the lifts. It said 'in the event of a fire,
18	statement which happened shortly before the fire.	18	stay put, call 999, don't use the lifts, if your house
19	If I take you back, please, to page 2 of the	19	was on fire, close doors and leave the building via
20	statement.	20	stairs'. I first noticed this sign around Autumn/winter
21	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes, thank you.	20	2016."
∠1	DIA MAKTIN MOOKE-DICK. 168, Halik you.	41	2010.

26 (Pages 101 to 104)

That's where I'll end with that statement, if I may.

JASON MILLER (evidence read into the record)

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MR RAWAT: Our last statement, Mr Chairman, for this morning

SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Thank you very much.

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MR RAWAT: Paragraph 7:

"7. On Saturday 10th June 2017, two firefighters

came to my flat to carry out a fire safety check. They

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said they were having a fire safety day, and were going

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1	is the inquiry witness statement of Jason Miller, who	1	minutes.
2	lived, as we've heard, with his partner, Ms Jones, in	2	"6. There was a clearance underneath all of the
3	flat 145 on the 17th floor.	3	bedroom doors; I could slide my fingers and knuckles
4	The statement is at IWS00000495.	4	under it."
5	There are no exhibits accompanying it, but if we go	5	That's all I wish to read from Mr Miller's
6	to the last page, page 6, it has a statement of truth,	6	statement.
7	is signed and is dated 8 May 2018.	7	That's the reading for the morning, Mr Chairman.
8	Mr Miller, as you will have heard from the reading	8	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes. Well, Mr Rawat, thank you very
9	of Ms Jones's statement, was not there on the night of	9	much.
10	the fire, he was staying at his mother's, but he was	10	I think it's right that I should say that we are
11	woken up by a call from Ms Jones and then drove to the	11	extremely grateful to all those who have made
12	tower to help her and his children. En route, he called	12	statements. The fact that they haven't been called to
13	her and learnt that she had left the tower and then	13	give evidence doesn't in any way diminish the value of
14	travelled to her mother's home.	14	what they've said, and they should understand that their
15	I just want to just read three paragraphs of this	15	statements will form part of the inquiry record and part
16	statement, however, and if we go back to the first page	16	of the evidence that the inquiry takes into
17	and paragraph 3.	17	consideration at the end of the day.
18	"3. I had not been in the building previously when	18	MR RAWAT: Yes, Mr Chairman.
19	there had been a fire. I remember at the lifts on our	19	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Thank you.
20	floor, on the walls outside of each lift door, there	20	Our next witness, I think, is scheduled for
21	were instructions about what to do if there was a fire	21	2 o'clock; is that right?
22	in your flat. These signs were not there when we first	22	MR RAWAT: That's right, yes.
23	arrived. It said if there is a fire in the building,	23	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: So perhaps it would be convenient
24	remain in your flat and call 999 from there. There was	24	it's a little early, but not very early if we rise
25	no mention of evacuating the building, unless the fire	25	now and resume at 2 o'clock, and have a slightly longer
	D 405		D 407
	Page 105		Page 107
1	is in your flat. I remember looking at the sign while	1	lunch hour.
2	waiting for the lift to arrive one day. I was with my	2	MR RAWAT: Thank you, Mr Chairman.
3	family and clearly remember saying to them that if there	3	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Thank you.
4	were to be a fire, we would leave the building and ask	4	2 o'clock, please.
5	questions later. It was quite late into the tenancy	5	(12.50 pm)
6	that we actually noticed the sign. It appeared out of	6	(The short adjournment)
7	the blue so we noticed when it first appeared. There	7	(2.00 pm)
8	was another sign on the door to the stairs but I can't	8	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes, Mr Millett.
9	remember what it said."	9	MR MILLETT: Mr Chairman, we now call our next witness to
10	If I could just jump a little forward to	10	give evidence, Mr Jose Vieiro.
11	paragraphs 5 and 6 of the statement.	11	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Good, thank you.
12	At paragraph 5, Mr Miller says:	12	JOSE VIEIRO (sworn)
13	"5. I was in the flat when it was visited by an	13	Questions by COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY
14	inspector from the fire brigade, who was wearing a polo	14	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Thank you very much, Mr Vieiro.
	P	1	
15	shirt with the fire brigade logo, saying he was doing a	15	Would you like to sit down and make yourself
		15 16	Would you like to sit down and make yourself comfortable.
15	shirt with the fire brigade logo, saying he was doing a		, in the second
15 16	shirt with the fire brigade logo, saying he was doing a check. This was on 10th June 2017. It was nice to be	16	comfortable.
15 16 17	shirt with the fire brigade logo, saying he was doing a check. This was on 10th June 2017. It was nice to be reassured given the concerns Corinne expressed in	16 17	comfortable. THE WITNESS: Thank you.
15 16 17 18	shirt with the fire brigade logo, saying he was doing a check. This was on 10th June 2017. It was nice to be reassured given the concerns Corinne expressed in relation to the fire doors and the front door closer	16 17 18	comfortable. THE WITNESS: Thank you. SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: All right?
15 16 17 18 19	shirt with the fire brigade logo, saying he was doing a check. This was on 10th June 2017. It was nice to be reassured given the concerns Corinne expressed in relation to the fire doors and the front door closer mechanism not being installed. We had never had a fire	16 17 18 19	comfortable. THE WITNESS: Thank you. SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: All right? Yes, Mr Millett.
15 16 17 18 19 20	shirt with the fire brigade logo, saying he was doing a check. This was on 10th June 2017. It was nice to be reassured given the concerns Corinne expressed in relation to the fire doors and the front door closer mechanism not being installed. We had never had a fire inspection before. He checked the fire alarm to check	16 17 18 19 20	comfortable. THE WITNESS: Thank you. SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: All right? Yes, Mr Millett. MR MILLETT: Thank you, Mr Chairman.
15 16 17 18 19 20 21	shirt with the fire brigade logo, saying he was doing a check. This was on 10th June 2017. It was nice to be reassured given the concerns Corinne expressed in relation to the fire doors and the front door closer mechanism not being installed. We had never had a fire inspection before. He checked the fire alarm to check that it worked. It was mainly Corinne talking to him	16 17 18 19 20 21	comfortable. THE WITNESS: Thank you. SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: All right? Yes, Mr Millett. MR MILLETT: Thank you, Mr Chairman. Mr Vieiro, can I ask you, please, to give the
15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	shirt with the fire brigade logo, saying he was doing a check. This was on 10th June 2017. It was nice to be reassured given the concerns Corinne expressed in relation to the fire doors and the front door closer mechanism not being installed. We had never had a fire inspection before. He checked the fire alarm to check that it worked. It was mainly Corinne talking to him but I listened to his answers. I didn't hear the	16 17 18 19 20 21 22	comfortable. THE WITNESS: Thank you. SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: All right? Yes, Mr Millett. MR MILLETT: Thank you, Mr Chairman. Mr Vieiro, can I ask you, please, to give the chairman your full name.
15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	shirt with the fire brigade logo, saying he was doing a check. This was on 10th June 2017. It was nice to be reassured given the concerns Corinne expressed in relation to the fire doors and the front door closer mechanism not being installed. We had never had a fire inspection before. He checked the fire alarm to check that it worked. It was mainly Corinne talking to him but I listened to his answers. I didn't hear the conversation about the front door, because I was in the	16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	comfortable. THE WITNESS: Thank you. SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: All right? Yes, Mr Millett. MR MILLETT: Thank you, Mr Chairman. Mr Vieiro, can I ask you, please, to give the chairman your full name. A. It's Jose Vieiro.
15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	shirt with the fire brigade logo, saying he was doing a check. This was on 10th June 2017. It was nice to be reassured given the concerns Corinne expressed in relation to the fire doors and the front door closer mechanism not being installed. We had never had a fire inspection before. He checked the fire alarm to check that it worked. It was mainly Corinne talking to him but I listened to his answers. I didn't hear the conversation about the front door, because I was in the front room. Afterwards we understood that if there was a fire, the bedroom and front doors would hold for 30	16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	comfortable. THE WITNESS: Thank you. SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: All right? Yes, Mr Millett. MR MILLETT: Thank you, Mr Chairman. Mr Vieiro, can I ask you, please, to give the chairman your full name. A. It's Jose Vieiro. Q. Can I start by thanking you very much for coming here today to give evidence to the inquiry. It is immensely
15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	shirt with the fire brigade logo, saying he was doing a check. This was on 10th June 2017. It was nice to be reassured given the concerns Corinne expressed in relation to the fire doors and the front door closer mechanism not being installed. We had never had a fire inspection before. He checked the fire alarm to check that it worked. It was mainly Corinne talking to him but I listened to his answers. I didn't hear the conversation about the front door, because I was in the front room. Afterwards we understood that if there was	16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	comfortable. THE WITNESS: Thank you. SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: All right? Yes, Mr Millett. MR MILLETT: Thank you, Mr Chairman. Mr Vieiro, can I ask you, please, to give the chairman your full name. A. It's Jose Vieiro. Q. Can I start by thanking you very much for coming here

		1	
1	important that we hear from you and we're very grateful	1	A. Yes.
2	to you for your assistance.	2	Q. Who lived in flat 46 with you in June 2017?
3	If at any time you need a break from giving	3	A. My wife, my daughter and me.
4	evidence, or you find it all too much, then please just	4	Q. Did you rent or did you own flat 46?
5	say and we can take a break at any time. It's not	5	A. Rent.
6	a problem and there's no rush.	6	Q. Do you remember who you rented it from?
7	If you find my questions difficult to understand or	7	A. From the council, Kensington and Chelsea.
8	you can't hear them, I'm very happy to repeat the	8	Q. Your daughter at the time, was she an adult?
9	question or put the question in a different way, so just	9	A. Yes.
10	say. Again, there's no problem.	10	Q. She was living with you. Which bedroom did she occupy?
11	A. Okay.	11	A. The second bedroom as you go in.
12	Q. Sometimes when you're answering, I may be looking at the	12	Q. Yes, I see. We'll look at the plan shortly.
13	screen or at my notes, but I will be still listening to	13	Before I turn to the events of the night of
14	what you have to tell us, because of course it's	14	13/14 June 2017, I just want to ask you some questions
15	extremely important.	15	about windows in your flat.
16	Can I start, then, by showing you your witness	16	Can I ask you, please, to go to page 12 of your
17	statement to the inquiry, which is IWS00001122.	17	statement and turn to paragraph 52.
18	That is page 1 of your statement.	18	You can see that on that page there, Mr Vieiro,
19	You can either look at it on the monitor in front of	19	there's a heading "Windows", and you describe at
20	you on your desk or at the screen at the back of the	20	paragraphs 52 to 55, all down page 12, your experiences
21	room.	21	with the windows and how they were replaced.
22	If you turn, please, to page 14, you can see a date	22	At paragraph 53, you say:
23	at the bottom, 12 October 2018, and a signature there.	23	"53. I was in the flat when the windows were
24	Is that your signature?	24	installed."
25	A. It is.	25	Then you go on to say, in the third line:
	Page 109		Page 111
1	O Harry was had an amount with the madels at the statement	1	"The new windows were installed 10 centimetres
1	Q. Have you had an opportunity to read this statement	1	
2	recently?	2	further out from the wall of the flat. Than the
3 4	A. Yes, I have.	3 4	location of the old windows. There was also a very big
5	Q. Can you confirm for the chairman that its contents are true?	5	windowsill. I recall that despite the distance between the walls of the flat and the windows, the windows
6	A. Yes.	6	themselves were noticeably smaller than the old windows
7	MR MILLETT: Thank you.	7	they were replacing."
8	Mr Chairman, there are no exhibits to this statement	8	Then you say:
_	to put into the record.	9	"The new windows were installed 10cm further out
9 10	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Right, thank you very much.	10	from the wall of the flat than the location of the old
11	MR MILLETT: I am going to begin, Mr Vieiro, if I can, by	11	windows. There was also a very big window cill[sic].
		12	I recall that despite the distance between the walls of
12 13	asking you a number of background questions, first of all.	13	the flat and the windows, the windows themselves were
13	an. You lived at flat 46	14	noticeably smaller than the old windows that they were
15	A. Yes.	15	replacing."
16	Q didn't you, at Grenfell Tower? That's on the	16	Then you say:
17	7th floor?	17	"I noticed that there was a 2 or a 3 inch gap
18	A. Yes.	18	between the edge of the window and the wall of the
19		19	building."
20	Q. When did you first move into Grenfell Tower?A. In March 1976.	20	Which windows are you referring to there in the
21	Q. So at the time of the fire, you'd been living in	21	flat?
22	Grenfell Tower for about 41 years?	22	A. All the windows.
23	A. Yes.	23	Q. All of them?
24	Q. I think it's right that you raised your three children	24	When you refer to the edge of the window, can you
25	in your flat at Grenfell Tower.	25	describe which edge it is?
2.5	in your nat at Oremen Tower.		
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	<u> </u>		<u> </u>

A. It was in both sides of the windows, and the outside, between the previous wall and this cladding that they put. Q. The 2- to 3-inch gap, was that a gap which faced you as you looked at the window from the inside, or was it to the side, parallel with the wall? A. It was a gap in both sides of the window, as you look at the window, and between the old window and the new window as well on the outside. Q. You then say: "To fill that gap, the window contractors used thick sheets of a white foamy material. I would describe it as being very similar to polystyrene but I cannot recall much more about the material that they used. I do not for the side, parallel with the window contractors used thick material was used." A. Not really strong, but you can notice, especially it was cold. You can feel the breeze coming in. It cold. A. Probably it was my daughter's bedroom and one the living room. A. Probably it was my daughter's bedroom and one the living room. B. First of all, Mr Vieiro, which windows in your flat did you see being replaced? Methodow. A. Not the window, it came in. Q. Okay. A. Not the window itself; it was underneath the sill window. A. Not the window itself; it was underneath the sill window. A. Not the window. A. Not the window. A. Not method itself; it was underneath the sill window. A. Not eall of the windows it strong, was that true, in respect of all of the window as the other, by them, they have some kind of draught coming in. A. Some of them, they were more than the other, by them, they have some kind of draught coming in. A. Some of them, they were more than the other, by them, they have some kind of draught coming in. A. Not really strong, but you can notice, especially it was cold. A. Not really strong, but you can notice, especially it was cold. A. Not really strong, but you can notice, especially it was cold. A. Probably it was my daughter's bedroom and one the living room. A. Probably it was my daughter's bedroom and one the living room. B. First of all, Mr Vieiro,	t most of when was eze? e of them in
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4 Q. The 2- to 3-inch gap, was that a gap which faced you as you looked at the window from the inside, or was it to the side, parallel with the wall? A. It was a gap in both sides of the window, as you look at the window, and between the old window and the new window as well on the outside. Q. You then say: "To fill that gap, the window contractors used thick sheets of a white foamy material. I would describe it as being very similar to polystyrene but I cannot recall much more about the material that they used. I do not recall observing the installation of my kitchen window, the material was used." A. Not really strong, but you can notice, especially to cold. A. Probably it was my daughter's bedroom and one the living room. A. Probably it was my daughter's bedroom and one the living room. G. Just so we can be absolutely clear, can I ask you to be shown the plan of the flat, please, which is did you see being replaced? METO0012593, page 12.	t most of when was eze? e of them in
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10 Q. You then say: 11 "To fill that gap, the window contractors used thick 12 sheets of a white foamy material. I would describe it 13 as being very similar to polystyrene but I cannot recall 14 much more about the material that they used. I do not 15 recall observing the installation of my kitchen window, 16 but on all of the windows I did see being installed this 17 material was used." 18 First of all, Mr Vieiro, which windows in your flat 19 did you see being replaced? 10 strong? 11 A. Not really strong, but you can notice, especially to it was cold. 12 it was cold. You can feel the breeze coming in. It 13 cold. 14 Q. Do you remember which window let in the most bree the living room. 15 A. Probably it was my daughter's bedroom and one the living room. 16 U. Just so we can be absolutely clear, can I ask you to be shown the plan of the flat, please, which is 18 MET00012593, page 12.	when was eze? e of them in
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First of all, Mr Vieiro, which windows in your flat 18 shown the plan of the flat, please, which is 19 did you see being replaced? 19 MET00012593, page 12.	oe
19 did you see being replaced? 19 MET00012593, page 12.	
20 A. The two bedrooms and the living room. 20 I should just be clear, Mr Vieiro, this is a plan 21 I should just be clear, Mr Vieiro, this is a plan 22 I should just be clear, Mr Vieiro, this is a plan	
21 Q. Okay. So all of them except the kitchen? 21 diagram of Grenfell Tower on the 4th floor, as you can be seen as a second of them except the kitchen?	.n
22 A. Yes. 22 see, because it refers to flat 16 in the top-right,	
23 Q. Thank you. 23 which we know is on the 4th floor, but the design and	
24 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Should I understand that the gaps 24 layout of each floor above the 4th floor is the same.	1.6
25 that you are describing, you saw there during the course 25 Your flat would have been immediately above flat	16
Page 113 Page 115	
1 of the work going on? 1 in the north-east corner.	
2 A. Well, I noticed that then even before that, because the 2 A. Yes.	
3 frames for the window, they were fitted before. 3 Q. Is that right?	
4 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes. 4 A. Yes.	
5 A. And I knew that the windows, they're going to be 5 Q. When I say immediately above flat 16, some flow	oors above
6 smaller, the ones because I can see it was a piece in 6 it, three floors above it.	
7 each side from the frames on the outside and the frame 7 Was the layout of your flat the same as we can	ı see
8 from the old windows. 8 here on the diagram, on the plan?	
9 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Thank you. 9 A. Yes.	
MR MILLETT: When you say in your statement at paragraph 53: 10 Q. So which bedroom did you occupy?	
11 "To fill that gap, the window contractors used thick 11 A. The first bedroom as you go in, just in front	of the
sheets of a white foamy material." 12 main door.	
Did they do that, did they fill the gap because you 13 Q. So the one of the two, the bedroom on the left?	
14 asked them to, or did they do that anyway? 14 A. Yes.	
A. No, no, they do that. I didn't ask them to do anything. 15 Q. Did your daughter occupy the one on the right?	
16 Q. I see. 16 A. Yes.	
17 At paragraph 54, you go on to say: 17 Q. So the windows that let in the most breeze you	think
18 "54. After the installation of the new windows, 18 were the window to the second bedroom, the one	e on the
19 I noticed that there was a breeze coming into the flat 19 right, and the windows around the living room.	
from underneath all of the windows. I complained about 20 Of the windows around the living room, whic	h were
21 this to the window installers themselves." 21 the windows that let in the most breeze, do you	
22 Can you tell us exactly where the breeze was coming 22 remember?	
23 from? 23 A. Yes, was the one in the corner facing north.	
24 A. From underneath the window. The sill, underneath the 24 Q. So just to the left of the corner column; is that in	ight?
25 sill, they place it on top of the old sill, but 25 If you look at the plan, just to the left of the corr	
D 444	
Page 114 Page 116	

1	column.	1	Q. Okay.
2	A. Just one second. Because it's	2	Then you go on to say:
3	Q. Yes, of course, take your time.	3	"I cannot recall to whom I complained, but
4	(Pause)	4	eventually Rydon staff did come to the flat to observe
5	A. It's because from my position, the flat, number 6, it	5	the problems about which I was complaining. The people
6	doesn't match with the north-west position I mean,	6	that came back to remedy the problem with the windows
7	north-east. Some I have it in my mind. The layout	7	were not the contractors that had completed the work but
8	is the same, it's exactly the same, but it's there where	8	rather Rydon staff. I do remember that they were
9	is I cannot make it from the	9	different people from different companies."
10	Q. Yes.	10	First of all, do you remember when, even roughly,
11	A. Yes, yes, it's okay, I can see now.	11	they came back to remedy the problem?
12	Q. You think? I mean, we can take time and go through the	12	A. A few weeks after they did the windows, after
13	diagram if you would like to.	13	I complained, they come and do the work.
14	A. No, no, no.	14	Q. Were Rydon still on site during the refurbishment at
15	Q. Okay. So you think that the window	15	that time?
16	Well, perhaps if we do it differently, Mr Vieiro.	16	A. Yes.
17	Shut our eyes and imagine you going into your living	17	Q. After the Rydon staff returned to fill the gaps, was
18	room and go into the door. As you go into the living	18	there still a breeze coming through the windows?
19	room, which was the window that let in the most breeze,	19	A. No. Sometimes I feel that there was cold coming in, but
20	do you think?	20	there was no way that we can figure that it was a breeze
21	A. The one on the right side.	21	coming underneath the windows. I think after the
22	Q. The one on the right side?	22	repair, they were okay.
23	A. Yes.	23	Q. Right.
24	Q. The living room is sort of L-shaped, so you have windows	24	Then you go on to say in paragraph 55:
25	on two sides.	25	"55. To fix the problems with the breeze in the
	Page 117		Page 119
	1 age 117		rage 117
1	A. Yes.	1	living room, I recall that Rydon sealed the bottom of
2	Q. As you go into the living room, it's the one on the	2	the window cill with silicone, or some other sealant
3	right, facing north?	3	from a gun. In my bedroom, they put a strip of plastic,
4	A. The one on the right, facing north, but it's the window	4	similar in appearance to the material from which the
5	that is near the east side.	5	windows were made, directly under the window cill in
6	Q. If we can go back to paragraph 54 of the statement, you	6	order to block the flow of air coming into the bedroom."
7	say, Mr Vieiro, in your statement there, in the second	7	Did you observe them doing that work?
8	line:	8	A. Yes.
9	"I complained about this to the window installers	9	Q. Did it take them long?
10	themselves. The people that installed the windows told	10	A. No.
11	me that they were doing as they were told. I complained	11	O. D
		11	Q. Do you remember whether it worked and kept the breezes
12	to Rydon, in person, that there were gaps."	12	Q. Do you remember whether it worked and kept the breezes out?
12 13			
	to Rydon, in person, that there were gaps."	12	out?
13	to Rydon, in person, that there were gaps." Do you remember who the people were who installed	12 13	out? A. Sorry?
13 14	to Rydon, in person, that there were gaps." Do you remember who the people were who installed the windows? Do you remember the name?	12 13 14	out? A. Sorry? Q. Did it work to keep the breezes out?
13 14 15	to Rydon, in person, that there were gaps." Do you remember who the people were who installed the windows? Do you remember the name? A. No.	12 13 14 15	out? A. Sorry? Q. Did it work to keep the breezes out? A. Yes.
13 14 15 16	to Rydon, in person, that there were gaps." Do you remember who the people were who installed the windows? Do you remember the name? A. No. Q. Do you remember who you complained to at Rydon about the	12 13 14 15 16	out? A. Sorry? Q. Did it work to keep the breezes out? A. Yes. Q. As at the night of the fire in June 2017, were you
13 14 15 16 17	to Rydon, in person, that there were gaps." Do you remember who the people were who installed the windows? Do you remember the name? A. No. Q. Do you remember who you complained to at Rydon about the gaps?	12 13 14 15 16 17	out? A. Sorry? Q. Did it work to keep the breezes out? A. Yes. Q. As at the night of the fire in June 2017, were you experiencing any kind of draughts or breezes through the
13 14 15 16 17 18	to Rydon, in person, that there were gaps." Do you remember who the people were who installed the windows? Do you remember the name? A. No. Q. Do you remember who you complained to at Rydon about the gaps? A. I complained it was two people that they go around,	12 13 14 15 16 17 18	out? A. Sorry? Q. Did it work to keep the breezes out? A. Yes. Q. As at the night of the fire in June 2017, were you experiencing any kind of draughts or breezes through the windows in your flat?
13 14 15 16 17 18 19	to Rydon, in person, that there were gaps." Do you remember who the people were who installed the windows? Do you remember the name? A. No. Q. Do you remember who you complained to at Rydon about the gaps? A. I complained it was two people that they go around, checking on everything, and asking for signatures to do	12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19	out? A. Sorry? Q. Did it work to keep the breezes out? A. Yes. Q. As at the night of the fire in June 2017, were you experiencing any kind of draughts or breezes through the windows in your flat? A. No.
13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	to Rydon, in person, that there were gaps." Do you remember who the people were who installed the windows? Do you remember the name? A. No. Q. Do you remember who you complained to at Rydon about the gaps? A. I complained it was two people that they go around, checking on everything, and asking for signatures to do the work and the appointments, and they were the ones,	12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	out? A. Sorry? Q. Did it work to keep the breezes out? A. Yes. Q. As at the night of the fire in June 2017, were you experiencing any kind of draughts or breezes through the windows in your flat? A. No. Q. Can I then ask you about a different subject, which is
13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	to Rydon, in person, that there were gaps." Do you remember who the people were who installed the windows? Do you remember the name? A. No. Q. Do you remember who you complained to at Rydon about the gaps? A. I complained it was two people that they go around, checking on everything, and asking for signatures to do the work and the appointments, and they were the ones, I complained to them.	12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	out? A. Sorry? Q. Did it work to keep the breezes out? A. Yes. Q. As at the night of the fire in June 2017, were you experiencing any kind of draughts or breezes through the windows in your flat? A. No. Q. Can I then ask you about a different subject, which is knowledge of fire safety.
13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	to Rydon, in person, that there were gaps." Do you remember who the people were who installed the windows? Do you remember the name? A. No. Q. Do you remember who you complained to at Rydon about the gaps? A. I complained it was two people that they go around, checking on everything, and asking for signatures to do the work and the appointments, and they were the ones, I complained to them. Q. Were you ever asked to sign a piece of paper saying you	12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	out? A. Sorry? Q. Did it work to keep the breezes out? A. Yes. Q. As at the night of the fire in June 2017, were you experiencing any kind of draughts or breezes through the windows in your flat? A. No. Q. Can I then ask you about a different subject, which is knowledge of fire safety. If you'd go, please, to page 2 of your statement, so
13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	to Rydon, in person, that there were gaps." Do you remember who the people were who installed the windows? Do you remember the name? A. No. Q. Do you remember who you complained to at Rydon about the gaps? A. I complained it was two people that they go around, checking on everything, and asking for signatures to do the work and the appointments, and they were the ones, I complained to them. Q. Were you ever asked to sign a piece of paper saying you were happy with the windows?	12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	out? A. Sorry? Q. Did it work to keep the breezes out? A. Yes. Q. As at the night of the fire in June 2017, were you experiencing any kind of draughts or breezes through the windows in your flat? A. No. Q. Can I then ask you about a different subject, which is knowledge of fire safety. If you'd go, please, to page 2 of your statement, so going back in your statement, at paragraph 7, you say in
13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	to Rydon, in person, that there were gaps." Do you remember who the people were who installed the windows? Do you remember the name? A. No. Q. Do you remember who you complained to at Rydon about the gaps? A. I complained it was two people that they go around, checking on everything, and asking for signatures to do the work and the appointments, and they were the ones, I complained to them. Q. Were you ever asked to sign a piece of paper saying you were happy with the windows? A. I don't know. I don't remember sadly if it was for the	12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	out? A. Sorry? Q. Did it work to keep the breezes out? A. Yes. Q. As at the night of the fire in June 2017, were you experiencing any kind of draughts or breezes through the windows in your flat? A. No. Q. Can I then ask you about a different subject, which is knowledge of fire safety. If you'd go, please, to page 2 of your statement, so going back in your statement, at paragraph 7, you say in the fourth line:

'stay-put' policy that existed in the Tower, from signs outside of the lifts, again which I will discuss in more detail later in this statement. I knew from my work in hotels and restaurants, however, that you should take an early opportunity to escape the scene of a fire if it is safe to do so. My experience with work is the reason that I decided to check the landing immediately outside the front door of our flat." I just want to ask you, first of all, about the signs that you'd seen. Can we please have up on the screen BLA00002416. This is a safety notice which our experts took after the fire sited between the lifts in one of the lobbies. This is the one taken at floor 3. Is that the sign that you were referring to in your statement? A. Yes, that's the last one, yes. Q. Do you remember how long before the fire, how soon before the fire, you saw these signs?	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	given to all residents of Grenfell Tower about what they should do if there was a fire somewhere in the tower? A. Sorry, can you ask it again, I didn't catch the first part. Q. Okay. As at June 2017, at that time, did you have any understanding about what the general advice to Grenfell Tower residents was about what they should do if there was a fire? A. To stay put, unless the fire is in their own flat. Q. Did you have that understanding because of the notice or some other A. Yes no, no, from the notice, from the notice. Q. Okay. I am now going to turn to the night of 13/14 June 2017, Mr Vieiro, if I can.
detail later in this statement. I knew from my work in hotels and restaurants, however, that you should take an early opportunity to escape the scene of a fire if it is safe to do so. My experience with work is the reason that I decided to check the landing immediately outside the front door of our flat." I just want to ask you, first of all, about the signs that you'd seen. Can we please have up on the screen BLA00002416. This is a safety notice which our experts took after the fire sited between the lifts in one of the lobbies. This is the one taken at floor 3. Is that the sign that you were referring to in your statement? A. Yes, that's the last one, yes. Q. Do you remember how long before the fire, how soon	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	 A. Sorry, can you ask it again, I didn't catch the first part. Q. Okay. As at June 2017, at that time, did you have any understanding about what the general advice to Grenfell Tower residents was about what they should do if there was a fire? A. To stay put, unless the fire is in their own flat. Q. Did you have that understanding because of the notice or some other A. Yes no, no, from the notice, from the notice. Q. Okay. I am now going to turn to the night of
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A. Yes, that's the last one, yes.Q. Do you remember how long before the fire, how soon		13/14 June 2017, Mr Vieiro, if I can.
Q. Do you remember how long before the fire, how soon	17	
		I would just like to show you page 2 of your
	18	statement, where I think we still are.
	19	You start your description of that night at
A. I don't know exactly the time when they were fitted, but	20	paragraph 5.
it was at the time of or shortly after the	21	You say:
refurbishment.	22	"5. At approximately 1.05am, Mrs Costa from Flat
Q. Do you remember whether there was a sign like this	23	103, on the 13th floor, phoned our flat on our landline
between the lifts on the 7th floor where you lived?	24	telephone."
A. No, I cannot remember for sure. I have seen it there,	25	And is that Dorinda?
Page 121		Page 123
0		0
but it probably was in the lobby downstairs on the	1	A. Yes.
ground floor.	2	Q. Dorinda Costa.
Q. Do you have any recollection of seeing this sign or this	3	Can I ask you, how do you know that she called at
kind of sign anywhere else in Grenfell Tower before the	4	approximately that time?
fire?	5	A. Because I look at the watch, because it was not a time
A. No, because apart from the ground floor lobby or the 7th	6	that we receive phone calls that late at night. Because
floor, I rarely used to go to the other floors.	7	of that, I thought it was something going on. I checked
Q. Can I just ask you to look, then, at the beginning of	8	my watch.
paragraph 7, where you say this:	9	Q. I didn't quite catch the first part of your answer and
"I was not particularly worried when we first	10	I don't think the transcriber did either.
discovered that there was a fire, as I have experienced	11	What did you look at to check the time when she
a number of fires in the Grenfell Tower during my time	12	called?
living there. None of those fires escaped the flats	13	A. Well, my wife took the call and I looked at my watch,
that the fires were in"	14	because it was no time to receive a phone call.
You do go on to discuss those later on.	15	Q. Okay.
Just while we're on that, during those fires, do you	16	Were you in bed at the time?
remember anybody telling you to stay put in your flat	17	A. Yes.
while the fire was dealt with?	18	Q. In paragraph 5, you say:
A. Yes, once somebody was telling us that not to go out, to	19	"My wife answered the telephone, and her and
stay in the flat because it was okay to be in there.	20	Mrs Costa had a conversation. Mrs Costa sounded
Q. Do you remember who that was?	21	panicked."
A. No.	22	Could you hear what Mrs Costa was saying or could
Q. Was it someone from the Fire Brigade?	23	only your wife hear?
A. It was somebody from the emergency, yes.	24	A. My wife was telling me what it was, but it was I can
Q. As at June 2017, what did you understand was the advice	25	hear that she voices on the phone as well, but my
Page 122		Page 124
	between the lifts on the 7th floor where you lived? A. No, I cannot remember for sure. I have seen it there, Page 121 but it probably was in the lobby downstairs on the ground floor. Do you have any recollection of seeing this sign or this kind of sign anywhere else in Grenfell Tower before the fire? A. No, because apart from the ground floor lobby or the 7th floor, I rarely used to go to the other floors. C. Can I just ask you to look, then, at the beginning of paragraph 7, where you say this: "I was not particularly worried when we first discovered that there was a fire, as I have experienced a number of fires in the Grenfell Tower during my time living there. None of those fires escaped the flats that the fires were in" You do go on to discuss those later on. Just while we're on that, during those fires, do you remember anybody telling you to stay put in your flat while the fire was dealt with? A. Yes, once somebody was telling us that not to go out, to stay in the flat because it was okay to be in there. Do you remember who that was? A. No. Was it someone from the Fire Brigade? A. It was somebody from the emergency, yes.	between the lifts on the 7th floor where you lived? A. No, I cannot remember for sure. I have seen it there, Page 121 but it probably was in the lobby downstairs on the ground floor. Do you have any recollection of seeing this sign or this kind of sign anywhere else in Grenfell Tower before the fire? A. No, because apart from the ground floor lobby or the 7th floor, I rarely used to go to the other floors. C. Can I just ask you to look, then, at the beginning of paragraph 7, where you say this: "I was not particularly worried when we first discovered that there was a fire, as I have experienced a number of fires in the Grenfell Tower during my time living there. None of those fires escaped the flats that the fires were in" You do go on to discuss those later on. Just while we're on that, during those fires, do you remember anybody telling you to stay put in your flat while the fire was dealt with? A. Yes, once somebody was telling us that not to go out, to stay in the flat because it was okay to be in there. Do you remember who that was? A. No. Was it someone from the Fire Brigade? A. It was somebody from the emergency, yes.

1	wife told me that she was phoning and there was a fire.	1	Q. There are three on the right, or there are two in the
2	Q. Right.	2	living room, one in the
3	You then say at paragraph 6:	3	A. There's two in the living room, one in the kitchen. It
4	"6. We both got up immediately. Whilst my wife was	4	is the one in the middle.
5	still on the telephone, I ran to the living room via the	5	Q. The second time you looked out, did you look out of the
6	hallway, past my daughter's bedroom and the bathroom."	6	same window?
7	At that time, do you remember whether you smelt or	7	A. Yes.
8	saw any signs of fire?	8	Q. You then say this is the third line of paragraph 9:
9	A. No.	9	"I saw thick black smoke moving upwards from below
10	Q. What about smoke, did you see or smell any smoke?	10	the window. The thickness of the smoke meant that
11	A. No, I didn't see any smoke or smell any smoke at that	11	I could not see where it was coming from."
12	time.	12	Then you say:
13	Q. Were your living room windows open?	13	"I could also see orange sparks below my kitchen
14	A. They were, some of them.	14	window, although I cannot recall how far below my window
15	Q. What about the windows in your bedroom?	15	they were. I also caught the strong smell of plastic
16	A. It was open as well.	16	burning."
17	Q. What about your daughter's bedroom, do you remember?	17	At that point, when you were looking out, did any
18	A. It was open.	18	smoke or sparks enter your flat?
19	Q. At paragraph 8 of your statement, on the top of page 3,	19	A. No, not inside, no.
20	you say:	20	Q. Did you see any signs of fire about to enter your flat
21	"8. From the window in the dining room I went to	21 22	at that time?
22	the landing and opened the door." Where is the dining room in your flet? Is it port	23	A. No.
23	Where is the dining room in your flat? Is it part	23	Q. When you describe the strong smell of plastic burning, was that when you looked out of the window or could you
24	of the living room?	25	smell that in your living room if you weren't looking
25	A. Sorry?	23	shien that in your riving room it you weren't looking
	Page 125		Page 127
1	Q. Where is the dining room in your flat? Is it part of	1	out of the window?
2	the living room?	2	A. No, if you go to the window, you will smell it. Inside
3	A. It is part of the living room.	3	the flat, at that time, there was not a smell.
4	Q. You say:	4	Q. At paragraphs 10 and 11, you continue to refer to what
5	" I went to the landing and opened the door."	5	you did next.
6	You say:	6	You say at the beginning of paragraph 10:
7	" there was no sign of smoke or fire on the	7	"10. I opened the front door to the landing again,
8	landing."	8	my wife was with me by the front door."
9	Did you shut the front door?	9	Why did you do that? Why did you open the front
10	A. Yes.	10	door?
11	Q. At paragraph 9, you say you went back to the bedroom and	11	A. Well, because I was hesitating to go out or to wait to
12	got dressed. Then you say in the second line:	12	see what is going on, and I want a reference, I want to
13	"Whilst my wife was changing, I went back to the	13	see if it was smoke or it was something that it tells me
14	window in the living [room] from which I had looked	14	for sure that there was a big fire going on.
15	before."	15	Q. Yes.
16	Just pausing there, which window in the living room	16	A. And that in case I have to leave, that the way out, it
17	did you look out of, the first time?	17	was clear.
18	A. I looked out the one on the right, near the kitchen.	18	Q. You say in the next sentence:
19	Q. Okay. Let's just have that up on the screen, if we can,	19	"I recall that there was no smoke in the lobby, and
20	again.	20	certainly no fire."
21	Can we look back, please, at the flat plan, which is	21	Could you smell anything when you put your head out
22	MET00012593, and if we just expand flat 6.	22	into the lobby?
23	Can you tell us which window you looked out the	23	A. No, not in the lobby, no.
		24	Q. So it was clear as normal, was it?
24	first time?		
24 25	first time? A. The one on the right.	25	A. Yes.

1		1	
1	Q. Then you say, three lines up from the bottom of	1	Q. The left side of the window?
2	paragraph 10:	2	A. Yes.
3	"On my way back into the flat, I got small towels	3	Q. At the bottom of the window or the side or the top?
4	from the bathroom, as I knew from fire drills at work	4	A. All the left side.
5	that you need something to cover your mouth in the event	5	Q. The whole of the left side?
6	that you need to escape the fire where there is smoke."	6	A. But more towards the top than the bottom.
7	Did you wet the towels?	7	Q. You then say in paragraph 11:
8	A. No.	8	"Once again the strong smell of plastic burning was
9	Q. You then say in paragraph 11:	9	overpowering."
10	"11. I walked into the kitchen and as soon as I did	10	Did it have a physical effect on you?
11	so, I saw my nylon kitchen curtains had caught fire with	11	A. Not at that moment, no.
12	a bright, orange flame. I closed the kitchen door	12	Q. You then in paragraph 12 say:
13		13	
	behind me, so as my wife would not know that there was now fire in the flat."		"12. I pulled the curtains down with my hands, onto
14		14	the floor of the kitchen. In pulling the curtain down,
15	How long did you spend in the kitchen?	15	I caused small burns on my hands. I attempted to stamp
16	A. Seconds.	16	out the flames by jumping on the curtains, that were now
17	Q. Seconds.	17	on the ground, and the flames subsided."
18	A. One minute, two minutes, I don't know exactly. Timing	18	Then you say:
19	was very long.	19	"The left-hand side of the window caved in, and
20	Q. Could you see anything else burning around the window at	20	landed inwards, into the building and landed against my
21	that time?	21	fridge, the back of which was placed tight against the
22	A. The first thing I noticed burning was the extractor.	22	window frame."
23	That's the one it put the fire on the curtains.	23	Do you remember whether there was a noise when that
24	Q. Sorry, I'm not sure I caught what you just said. I'm so	24	happened?
25	sorry, Mr Vieiro. The first thing you saw burning was	25	A. Yes, there was a bit of a noise, a crashing nice, but it
	Page 129		Page 131
1		1	was not because it didn't the window didn't travel
2	A. The curtains because they catch fire from the extractor.	2	very far, because it came from the top and it landed on
3	Q. From the "strata"?	3	top of the fridge. It was a tall fridge that was near
4	A. Yes.	4	there.
5	Q. What's the "strata"?	5	Q. That's the left-hand side of the window.
6	A. The fan.	6	A. Yes.
7	Q. The fan oh, the extractor.	7	Q. What happened to the right side?
8	So did you see the fan on fire?	8	A. Stay put.
9	A. Yes.	9	Q. It stay put, okay.
10	Q. Okay.	10	Did you see what had caused the window on the left
11	Did you see any flames around the edges of the	11	side to cave in in that way?
12	windows?	12	A. No, I assume it was the fire, that it was covered in it.
13	A. No, the flames first came through the fan, the hole	13	Q. Could you see what was happening to the windowsill?
14	where the fan was.	14	A. The windowsill, it start to melt, top and left side
15	Q. Did you see whether the fan was still in its place?	15	first and then all around the window and the sill down.
16	A. No, it was it gave in and it was hanging by the	16	Q. Once it started to melt, did it start to drip and pull
17	electric wire that support it.	17	away? Did it start to melt away from the window?
18	Q. So was there a hole where it had been?	18	A. Yes, it was completely separated. Only the skeleton of
19	A. There was a hole where the fire was coming in.	19	the window stays there, the rest was melting.
20	Q. The fire was coming in through the hole, was it?	20	Q. How close to the window were you when it was doing that?
21	A. Yes.	21	A. 1 metre.
22	Q. Is that the only place at that time where fire was	22	Q. Really? Did it feel very hot?
23	coming in?	23	A. Yes, it started to get hot, but it wasn't really a big
24	A. At the beginning, it was the only place. Then it start	24	fire. The time I was there, it was not a big fire. It
25	to come through the left side of the window.	25	was fire around the window but it was nothing big and
	Page 130		Page 132

		T	
1	nothing	1	You say, as we've just seen, that there were no
2	Q. When the windowsill and the side of the window started	2	signs of smoke or fire in the landing area on the 7th
3	to melt, did you see behind it? Could you see anything	3	floor.
4	behind that?	4	A. Yes.
5	A. No.	5	Q. Did you notice anything about the temperature in the
		6	
6	Q. Okay.	7	communal landing on your floor at that time?
7	Could you see what was happening at the top of the		A. No.
8	window frame at that time when the left-hand side of the	8	Q. Were the lights still on and working?
9	window collapsed?	9	A. They were on.
10	A. It was melting, exactly the same, around the sides. It	10	Q. Could you hear any sound?
11	was the same material. It was burning exactly the same	11	A. Yes, I heard voices, people walking past, on the stairs.
12	and melting and dripping down.	12	I can hear them.
13	Q. You then say in paragraph 12, the last sentence:	13	Q. Could you hear any mechanical sound?
14	"I could now see fire burning in my flat, and the	14	A. No.
15	smoke was getting worse."	15	Q. I wonder whether the witness could please be shown
16	Was anything actually burning in your flat, apart	16	INQ0000461.
17	from the curtains that you've extinguished? Was	17	This is a still photograph, Mr Vieiro, taken from
18	anything else on fire in your kitchen at that time?	18	the CCTV from the camera placed on the 7th floor
19	A. No, not that I can see.	19	communal lobby.
20	Q. So when you say the smoke was getting worse, was the	20	This, I think, is the first picture of you on that
21	smoke coming in from outside?	21	camera that night after 01.00 am. With an adjusted
22	A. Yes, it came from outside.	22	time, it's 01.14.10.
23	Q. What colour was the smoke that you could see at that	23	There's an unadjusted time in the bottom left-hand
24	time?	24	corner of 01.14.50, but when it's adjusted, as it must
25	A. It was grey, black, it was a dark colour, but it was not	25	be, it's 01.14.10.
	Page 133		Page 135
	1 age 133		1 age 133
1	a huge amount that was coming in.	1	Does this trigger a recollection of your leaving
1 2	a huge amount that was coming in. Q. Could you taste it or smell it? Did it	1 2	Does this trigger a recollection of your leaving your flat at about that time?
2	Q. Could you taste it or smell it? Did it	2	your flat at about that time? A. No.
2 3	Q. Could you taste it or smell it? Did itA. You smell, yes, you smell plastic, yes.Q. Okay.	2 3	your flat at about that time? A. No. Q. Can you identify yourself in that picture?
2 3 4	Q. Could you taste it or smell it? Did it A. You smell, yes, you smell plastic, yes.	2 3 4	your flat at about that time? A. No. Q. Can you identify yourself in that picture? A. Yes, I think it's me, yes.
2 3 4 5	 Q. Could you taste it or smell it? Did it A. You smell, yes, you smell plastic, yes. Q. Okay. Then you say at paragraph 14 on page 4: "I went back towards the bedroom, closing the 	2 3 4 5	your flat at about that time? A. No. Q. Can you identify yourself in that picture?
2 3 4 5 6	 Q. Could you taste it or smell it? Did it A. You smell, yes, you smell plastic, yes. Q. Okay. Then you say at paragraph 14 on page 4: 	2 3 4 5 6	your flat at about that time? A. No. Q. Can you identify yourself in that picture? A. Yes, I think it's me, yes. Q. Do you remember wearing a stripey shirt? A. Yes.
2 3 4 5 6 7	 Q. Could you taste it or smell it? Did it A. You smell, yes, you smell plastic, yes. Q. Okay. Then you say at paragraph 14 on page 4: "I went back towards the bedroom, closing the kitchen door behind me. My wife was standing outside of the front door waiting for me to leave." 	2 3 4 5 6 7	your flat at about that time? A. No. Q. Can you identify yourself in that picture? A. Yes, I think it's me, yes. Q. Do you remember wearing a stripey shirt?
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	Q. Could you taste it or smell it? Did it A. You smell, yes, you smell plastic, yes. Q. Okay. Then you say at paragraph 14 on page 4: "I went back towards the bedroom, closing the kitchen door behind me. My wife was standing outside of the front door waiting for me to leave." You continue to explain what you collect, and you say in the fourth line: "I left the flat as quickly as I could, locking our front door behind us. My wife and I walked into the landing area immediately outside the front door of our flat. At this time, between 1.10am and 1.15am, there was no evidence of fire or smoke in the landing area on the 7th floor." I just want to ask you about the timing. How did you know that it was this time or between these two times, do you think? A. Well, I cannot be sure exactly the time. I wasn't looking at my watch, but it was about the time that it took me, and by the time that we get down, it was around that time. It can be a minute more or less, but I cannot say precisely what time it was. Q. Okay.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	your flat at about that time? A. No. Q. Can you identify yourself in that picture? A. Yes, I think it's me, yes. Q. Do you remember wearing a stripey shirt? A. Yes. Q. Okay. You say in your statement at the end of paragraph 14, beginning of paragraph 15, if we can just have both of those up: "As we were walking toward the stairwell, we saw a single fire fighter emerge from the doorway to the stairs. "15. The fire fighter was only slightly taller than me, approximately 5'4" tall. He did not have any equipment with him, only a cylinder of about 2 feet length on his back. He did not have a mask on and he was not wearing breathing apparatus." I think you then go on to say that you took him into your flat and showed him the fire in the kitchen. A. Yes. Q. Picking it up at paragraph 17 of your statement, at the bottom of the page, you say: "17. At this time, the whole of the plastic window
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	Q. Could you taste it or smell it? Did it A. You smell, yes, you smell plastic, yes. Q. Okay. Then you say at paragraph 14 on page 4: "I went back towards the bedroom, closing the kitchen door behind me. My wife was standing outside of the front door waiting for me to leave." You continue to explain what you collect, and you say in the fourth line: "I left the flat as quickly as I could, locking our front door behind us. My wife and I walked into the landing area immediately outside the front door of our flat. At this time, between 1.10am and 1.15am, there was no evidence of fire or smoke in the landing area on the 7th floor." I just want to ask you about the timing. How did you know that it was this time or between these two times, do you think? A. Well, I cannot be sure exactly the time. I wasn't looking at my watch, but it was about the time that it took me, and by the time that we get down, it was around that time. It can be a minute more or less, but I cannot say precisely what time it was.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	your flat at about that time? A. No. Q. Can you identify yourself in that picture? A. Yes, I think it's me, yes. Q. Do you remember wearing a stripey shirt? A. Yes. Q. Okay. You say in your statement at the end of paragraph 14, beginning of paragraph 15, if we can just have both of those up: "As we were walking toward the stairwell, we saw a single fire fighter emerge from the doorway to the stairs. "15. The fire fighter was only slightly taller than me, approximately 5'4" tall. He did not have any equipment with him, only a cylinder of about 2 feet length on his back. He did not have a mask on and he was not wearing breathing apparatus." I think you then go on to say that you took him into your flat and showed him the fire in the kitchen. A. Yes. Q. Picking it up at paragraph 17 of your statement, at the bottom of the page, you say:

1	frame had melted. The pane of glass on the right was	1	collect your mobile phone and your glasses.
2	still in place; it had not yet collapsed onto the floor.	2	A. Yes.
3	Whilst nothing else in the kitchen had caught fire, the	3	Q. So you go back into the flat
4	whole of the window surround was aflame. The fire	4	A. Yes.
5	fighter looked at the window, and said 'there is nothing	5	Q as it were, a second time.
6	we can do with this', or 'there is nothing we can do, we	6	At 19, you say:
7	have to go out', or words to that effect. I cannot	7	"19. With the towel over my mouth, I walked back
8	recall the precise words that he used."	8	into our flat. The smoke hit me immediately. Whilst it
9	Did the firefighter mention staying put at that time	9	was not thick, it was pungent and particularly acrid.
10	or did he make it pretty clear to you that you had to	10	It was like nothing I had ever smelt before, and nothing
11	go?	11	I have smelt since. I could see in front of me, but the
12	A. No, he told me that I had to leave.	12	smell was simply indescribable. It immediately made my
13	Q. Right.	13	eyes extremely painful. I decided to leave my phone and
14	When you went into the kitchen at that time, how	14	my glasses in the flat as retrieving them was just not
15	much had the fire spread into the kitchen?	15	worth the risk."
16	A. Not much, it was I think it was starting to burn in	16	At the end you say:
17	the sliding doors between the kitchen and the living	17	"I walked no more than 2 paces in the flat before
18	room.	18	I turned around and left."
19	Q. Right.	19	Looking at all that together, when you opened the
20	A. But still it was not a huge fire.	20	flat, where had the smoke reached in your flat?
21	Q. Did the firefighter show surprise? Was he	21	A. It was starting to come into the corridor, but it was
22	A. Not really, no, not like I seen that he was surprised.	22	not it was a bit of smoke in the corridor leading to
23	He was not	23	the sitting room and the kitchen, but it was nothing
24	Q. Did you see the firefighter using his radio to contact	24	big. The worst thing was the smell. The smell reached
25	anybody?	25	even the front door. You can smell it from the front
	Page 137		Page 139
1	A. No. I doubt monombou	1	A
1	A. No, I don't remember.	1	door, you can
2	Q. You don't remember?	2	Q. Were you in the hallway when you felt the effect of that
2	Q. You don't remember?A. I don't remember.	2 3	Q. Were you in the hallway when you felt the effect of that smoke?
2 3 4	Q. You don't remember?A. I don't remember.Q. Do you remember what the smoke was like inside your flat	2 3 4	Q. Were you in the hallway when you felt the effect of that smoke?A. Yes, I was about in front of the second bedroom.
2 3 4 5	Q. You don't remember?A. I don't remember.Q. Do you remember what the smoke was like inside your flat at that time?	2 3 4 5	 Q. Were you in the hallway when you felt the effect of that smoke? A. Yes, I was about in front of the second bedroom. Q. Right.
2 3 4 5 6	Q. You don't remember?A. I don't remember.Q. Do you remember what the smoke was like inside your flat at that time?A. It was getting thicker and darker all around the ceiling	2 3 4 5 6	 Q. Were you in the hallway when you felt the effect of that smoke? A. Yes, I was about in front of the second bedroom. Q. Right. A. But then I decided to turn back.
2 3 4 5 6 7	Q. You don't remember?A. I don't remember.Q. Do you remember what the smoke was like inside your flat at that time?A. It was getting thicker and darker all around the ceiling of the kitchen.	2 3 4 5 6 7	 Q. Were you in the hallway when you felt the effect of that smoke? A. Yes, I was about in front of the second bedroom. Q. Right. A. But then I decided to turn back. Q. Looking at the smoke from the front door, was it
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	 Q. You don't remember? A. I don't remember. Q. Do you remember what the smoke was like inside your flat at that time? A. It was getting thicker and darker all around the ceiling of the kitchen. Q. So it had come down from the ceiling. How far down from 	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	 Q. Were you in the hallway when you felt the effect of that smoke? A. Yes, I was about in front of the second bedroom. Q. Right. A. But then I decided to turn back. Q. Looking at the smoke from the front door, was it a dense, thick, black cloud, or could you see through
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	 Q. You don't remember? A. I don't remember. Q. Do you remember what the smoke was like inside your flat at that time? A. It was getting thicker and darker all around the ceiling of the kitchen. Q. So it had come down from the ceiling. How far down from the ceiling had it come, do you remember? 	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	 Q. Were you in the hallway when you felt the effect of that smoke? A. Yes, I was about in front of the second bedroom. Q. Right. A. But then I decided to turn back. Q. Looking at the smoke from the front door, was it a dense, thick, black cloud, or could you see through it?
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1	Q. Was that the smoke or just the air around the smoke?	1	A. It was close to the ceiling. It was just a small cloud
2	A. I don't know what it was. I felt that my eyes, they	2	of smoke. It was not moving, it was staying on the
3	were hurting, but I don't know if it was from the smell	3	ceiling.
4	or from the smoke itself.	4	Q. Did you see where the smoke was coming from?
5	Q. When you left to go out of the flat, did the pain in	5	A. No.
6	your eyes stop or did it carry on?	6	Q. Did you know whether it had come out of your flat into
7	A. Yes, mostly there was no pain after that, no.	7	the lobby?
8	Q. You say at paragraph 20:	8	A. I don't think so, it was on the other side of my flat
9	"I walked out of the flat, closing but not locking	9	when I saw the
10	the door behind me."	10	Q. It was on the other side of the lobby from your flat?
11	Was your door self-closing?	11	A. Yes.
12	A. Sorry?	12	Q. So is this right: outside your flat there was no smoke,
13	Q. Was your door self-closing? Did it have a self-closing	13	but the smoke you saw in the lobby was on the other side
14	mechanism on it or did you have to pull it shut?	14	of the lobby?
15	A. You had to pull it.	15	A. Yes, in front of the lifts.
16	Q. Did your door ever have a self-closing mechanism on it?	16	Q. In front of the lifts?
17	A. I don't know. At the beginning it was, but there were	17	A. Yes, between the lifts and the door to the stairwell.
18	so many doors replaced that I don't remember exactly.	18	Q. Right. You didn't see where it was coming from.
19	Q. Where was your wife at this time, when you'd gone in?	19	After you closed the front door behind you, you then
20	A. In the lobby, in front of the lifts.	20	went across the lobby and then took the stairs; is that
21	Q. When you came out of your flat, what were the conditions	21	right?
22	in the lobby like at that point?	22	A. Yes.
23	A. The same. It was no smoke or smell in there.	23	Q. Do you remember who opened the doors to the stairwell?
24	Q. Did you see the firefighter at that point, that you'd	24	A. I don't know if it was me or my wife. Probably my wife
25	shown your flat to?	25	because she was standing there, but I don't remember
	•		,
	Page 141		Page 143
1	A. No.	1	exactly who opened it.
1 2	A. No. O. We have another picture, which is INO00000466, which has	1 2	exactly who opened it. O. Where was the firefighter?
2	Q. We have another picture, which is INQ00000466, which has	2	Q. Where was the firefighter?
2 3	Q. We have another picture, which is INQ00000466, which has an unadjusted time of 01.22.18, which, adjusted, gives	2 3	Q. Where was the firefighter?A. Sorry?
2 3 4	Q. We have another picture, which is INQ00000466, which has an unadjusted time of 01.22.18, which, adjusted, gives us 01.21.38.	2 3 4	Q. Where was the firefighter?A. Sorry?Q. Where was the firefighter? Where did he go?
2 3	Q. We have another picture, which is INQ00000466, which has an unadjusted time of 01.22.18, which, adjusted, gives us 01.21.38. We've worked out that this is the last in the	2 3 4 5	 Q. Where was the firefighter? A. Sorry? Q. Where was the firefighter? Where did he go? A. I don't know, he left before I when we came out from
2 3 4 5 6	Q. We have another picture, which is INQ00000466, which has an unadjusted time of 01.22.18, which, adjusted, gives us 01.21.38. We've worked out that this is the last in the sequence of pictures on the camera, Mr Vieiro, on this	2 3 4 5 6	 Q. Where was the firefighter? A. Sorry? Q. Where was the firefighter? Where did he go? A. I don't know, he left before I when we came out from my flat, he left from the floor.
2 3 4 5 6 7	Q. We have another picture, which is INQ00000466, which has an unadjusted time of 01.22.18, which, adjusted, gives us 01.21.38. We've worked out that this is the last in the sequence of pictures on the camera, Mr Vieiro, on this floor at this time.	2 3 4 5 6 7	 Q. Where was the firefighter? A. Sorry? Q. Where was the firefighter? Where did he go? A. I don't know, he left before I when we came out from my flat, he left from the floor. Q. Do you remember whether you or your wife, when you
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1	ople ome out,
Q. Could you smell it? Could you smell smoke in the stairwell? A. Start to smell burning when we are getting close to the 4th floor, but not before that. Q. As you went down, do you remember whether you could see 2 fighters about where we should go. I assumed that was going to be a roll call to ascertain how many p had been in the Tower and how many people had c as was the norm in the fire drills I had experienced work. I only heard 'move back, move back' as the	ople ome out,
3 stairwell? 3 was going to be a roll call to ascertain how many p 4 A. Start to smell burning when we are getting close to the 5 4th floor, but not before that. 5 as was the norm in the fire drills I had experienced 6 Q. As you went down, do you remember whether you could see 6 work. I only heard 'move back, move back' as the	ople ome out,
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6 Q. As you went down, do you remember whether you could see 6 work. I only heard 'move back, move back' as the	at
/ If any doors were open into toobles? / Tesponse.	
8 A. No, I don't remember, but I think all the doors to 8 Had you ever had any roll calls at Grenfell Towe	. .?
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	1.4
11 Q. The door on the 4th floor, I think you say in 12 paragraph 22 of your statement, was held open by a hose. 13 experience, was it? 14 A. Well, I thought that they should they want to	l
	Know
	:-1- 41-4
Q. At paragraph 23 of your statement on page 6, you say	nen mat
that when you reached the ground floor: 15 you'd come from?	
16 " I could see 3 or 4 fire fighters in the lobby 16 A. No. Or at least not that I can remember.	
of the Tower. I tried to get through the 'stairs door' 17 Q. Did anybody ask you that question at any time du	ing the
out of the building, one of two doors to exit the 18 night?	
building. One of the fire fighters told me to go to the 19 A. No.	
other doors on the other side of the building, the	
21 'lifts door'." 21 firefighters where you should go, as you can see th	ere
Did he tell you why? 22 in paragraph 24.	
23 A. Yes, I think he mentioned something about debris coming 23 Did they answer you?	
24 down from the fire, because the door was on the same 24 A. No. They didn't know where to send me, and t	ell me to
25 side where the fire was. 25 move back, move away from the tower.	
D 445	
Page 145 Page 147	
Q. Was that firefighter you spoke to who told you not to go 1 Q. Did anybody check on you, whether you required any	
2 out of that door standing by that door or did he come 2 treatment when you came out of the tower?	
3 after you? 3 A. No.	
4 A. Yes, he was near there, he was. 4 MR MILLETT: Mr Vieiro, thank you very much. I've con	ne to
5 Q. When you left him and turned around and went out through 5 the end of my first set of questions.	
6 the lobby, the main entrance, did that firefighter stay 6 I am going to ask the chairman to have a short break	
7 there? 7 now just to make sure I've caught all the questions	
8 A. Stayed there, yes. 8 I want to ask you, and to see whether there are any	
9 Q. Did you notice whether that firefighter spoke to any 9 other questions which any other people might have.	
10 other residents coming down the stairs? 10 Mr Chairman, is it convenient to take a 5-minute	
11 A. No, I cannot be sure. I think he was talking to 11 break now?	
everybody because people keep coming down the stairs and 12 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: It is. In fact, it's probably	
probably telling them, but I don't know. I didn't took 13 convenient to take a 10-minute break, isn't it?	
the time to look anything else than get out. 14 MR MILLETT: It probably is.	
15 Q. Do you remember on your journey down the stairs whether 15 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: We've reached halfway the	ough the
16 you saw anybody else on the stairs? 16 afternoon.	ough the
17 A. I saw a few firefighters, and my neighbour from flat 45, 17 Mr Vieiro, we're going to have a short break now so	
he passed us on the stairs. 18 Mr Millett can consider whether there are more question	,
19 Q. Yes, as you said in your statement. 19 which he needs to ask you.	,
20 What about firefighters coming up? 20 I'm going to ask you to go with the usher in just	
21 A. Yes, I saw a couple of firefighters going up, but not 21 a moment, and also I'm going to ask you not to talk to	
22 many, no. 22 anyone about your evidence while you're out of the roor 23 Q. At paragraph 24 of your statement, you say: 23 All right?	•
24 "24. Outside the Tower I found a very confused 24 If you go with the usher now, we'll start again at	
25 situation, with fire fighters and police officers 25 3.05. Thank you very much.	
25 Situation, with the righters and ponce officers 25 5.05. Thank you very much.	
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37 (Pages 145	. 1.10\

1	All right, 3.05, then, please.	1	on, that's what we shall do.
2	(2.55 pm)	2	MR MILLETT: He is, and I shall go and pass my thanks to the
3	(A short break)	3	witness.
4	(3.05 pm)	4	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes, of course. Thank you.
5	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Thank you. Do sit down, Mr Vieiro.	5	Take a moment to get organised, Mr Rawat.
6	I think there are just a couple of questions.	6	MR RAWAT: Thank you, sir.
7	MR MILLETT: Mr Vieiro, thank you for coming back to us.	7	Mr Chairman, if I start with an explanation that
8	I just have one or two further questions.	8	what we are going to do this afternoon is to put ten
9	When you and your wife went into the stairwell from	9	statements into the record.
10	the lobby, through the stairwell door, do you remember	10	I say again, as I did this morning, that in relation
11	whether the stairwell door closed automatically behind	11	to all ten statements, whilst I will be reading extracts
12	you?	12	from some of them, they will be published in their
13	A. Yes.	13	entirety, subject to any appropriate redaction, but the
14	Q. It did?	14	statement in full stands as part of the evidence before
15	A. Yes.	15	the inquiry and will be considered in full as part of
16	Q. That brings me to my final question, then, and that is	16	that.
17	this: is there anything further, additional, in addition	17	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes. Thank you.
18	to your written witness statement, and in addition to	18	VANESSA VIEIRO (evidence read into the record)
19	what you've told us today, about what you saw or heard	19	MR RAWAT: I start, if I may, Mr Chairman, with the witness
20	or smelt or felt on the night of the fire itself, that	20	statement to this inquiry of Vanessa Vieiro.
21	you think it's important that the chairman should know?	21	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes.
22		22	MR RAWAT: She was a resident in flat 46 on the 7th floor
23	A. No, I don't have nothing to say. Nothing more to say than that.	23	and, in fact, is the daughter of Jose Vieiro, from whom
24	MR MILLETT: Well, Mr Vieiro, it only remains for me to say	24	we've just heard, and his wife, Carmen.
25	thank you very much to you for coming here today and	25	The reference for the statement is IWS00000874.
23	thank you very much to you for confing here today and	23	The reference for the statement is 1 w 500000074.
	Page 149		Page 151
1	giving us your evidence and helping us with our	1	There are no exhibits accompanying the statement,
2	inquiries. We really very much appreciate it. Thank	2	but if we go to the last page, page 5, we can see that
3	you.	3	there is a statement of truth, the statement is signed
4	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes. I would like to add my thanks	4	and it's dated 21 May 2018.
5	to those of Mr Millett. It is really important to us to	5	I don't propose to read any particular paragraphs
6	know what was going on within the building at different	6	but just to simply say this: in the statement, Ms Vieiro
7	times on different floors, so every bit of evidence is	7	confirms that she was living with her parents in
8	really valuable and helpful and we're very grateful to	8	Grenfell Tower at the time of the fire but wasn't
9	you for coming to give the bit that you can give. Thank	9	actually present there on the night itself.
10	you very much indeed.	10	She learnt of the fire at around 03.00 am on 14 June
11	THE WITNESS: My pleasure.	11	after a friend from the tower contacted her, and she
12	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: You are free to go. Would you like	12	then travelled back to the scene. She was able to find
13	to go with the usher, she'll look after you. Thank you	13	her parents, who were by then outside the tower.
14	very much.	14	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes. Well, it's right that I should
15	THE WITNESS: Thank you.	15	say at this stage that even though you're not reading
16	(The witness withdrew)	16	out any particular passage, we are very grateful to
17	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes, Mr Millett.	17	Ms Vieiro for making the statement and taking the time
18	MR MILLETT: Mr Chairman, we will now continue with further	18	and trouble to do that, and what she tells us will form
19	reading. I'm in your hands as to whether we should take	19	part of the evidence and will be taken into account.
20	another short break or plough straight on.	20	MR RAWAT: What we can say, obviously, is that part of the
21	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Is it convenient to plough straight	21	work that the inquiry is doing is establishing who was
22	on?	22	and was not in the tower.
23	MR MILLETT: It is convenient for Mr Rawat to plough	23	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes, of course.
24	straight on.	24	MR RAWAT: For someone to make a statement to say where they
25	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: If he is ready to plough straight	25	were at the time is always very helpful.
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1	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Valuable in itself, I agree, yes.	1	Ms Kasote's recollection of those events. As I said,
2	BETTY KASOTE (evidence read into the record)	2	she recounts in her statement we start on page 6 at
3	MR RAWAT: The next statement I would like to put on the	3	paragraph 24 that she was woken up and it was 12.45.
4	record is a statement from another person who lived on	4	What she says is:
5	floor 7 and who was present at the time of the fire.	5	"I could hear some sort of noise in the distance — I
6	This is the witness statement of Betty Kasote, and that	6	think it was an alarm going off in the building
7	reference is IWS00000768, please.	7	somewhere (I now think that this was in the flat where
8	Again, it's not accompanied by any exhibits, but if	8	the fire started). I looked at the clock in my bedroom,
9	we go to the last page, page 10, there is a statement of	9	and it said it was 12:45. "
10	truth, it's signed and it's dated 27 June 2018.	10	If I take it now from paragraph 25, the statement
11	I do propose here to read some parts of the	11	continues:
12	statement, but to begin with a little bit of background.	12	"25. The alarm continued to go off for the minutes
13	Ms Kasote confirms she lived on her own and she was	13	afterward and I started to hear noise from outside. I
14	in flat 41 on the 7th floor. She'd moved there in 1996.	14	got up out of bed and looked down from my bedroom
15	Before that she'd lived in Testerton Walk, and so she'd	15	window. I could see fire engines — 3 or 4 of them -
16	been part of the community for many years.	16	around the base of the Tower and along the road leading
17	On that night, she had gone to bed around 10 pm, on	17	up to the Tower. Firefighters were pulling hoses
18	13 June 2017, and was then woken around 12.45 am by	18	towards the building. I had not seen this before when
19	a noise in the distance.	19	the other fires had happened. I felt that something
20	I will come back to that, but if I could start,	20	wasn't quite. They were pulling hoses and looking up a
21	please, with paragraph 3 on page 1.	21	lot.
22	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes.	22	"26. I put some jeans and a top on, and decided to
23	MR RAWAT: The statement there reads:	23	leave my flat to see what was going on. I put my shoes
24	"3. I knew some of the neighbours who lived on the	24	on, took my keys and went out. Usually, I would have
25	7th floor. Mrs Harris lived in Flat 42. Michael,	25	had to go to a cupboard in the living room to get my
	Page 153		Page 155
1	Elizabeth and their develter lived in Elet 42. Turnfot	1	chase but this time. I had a pair citting in my hadroom
2	Elizabeth and their daughter lived in Flat 43. Turufat,	1 2	shoes, but this time, I had a pair sitting in my bedroom for some reason. As I went out I met Elizabeth from
3	her husband and their little boy lived in Flat 44. A new couple and their little girl lived in Flat 45 (I	2 3	Flat 43 on the landing. I noticed there was a faint
4	don't know exactly when they moved in) and Jose and	4	smell of smoke in the hallway. I wasn't able to see any
5	Carmen lived in Flat 46."	5	smoke but I could smell it. I actually startled
6	If I could then, just before going to the events of	6	Elizabeth and she jumped as she wasn't expecting to see
7	the night, turn to paragraph 16 on page 4.	7	me there. I said that something was going on and I told
8		8	her I could smell smoke. She said that she had come out
9	Ms Kasote says: "16. I had not been told about any fire safety	9	
10	•	10	as she could hear a noise in her flat that sounded like a big fan turning on. I said that I had seen
11	issues by the TMO or anyone else, but it had occurred to me that if there was a fire, there was only one place	11	
12	• • •	12	firefighters outside and that we should leave. She said that we could not see the fire so we should stay in our
	for us to get out — down the stairwell. I remember a		
13 14	friend coming to visit me a few months before the fire who said to me 'Betty, what will you do if there is a	13 14	flats as we were supposed to. I thought perhaps she was right — that we could not see the fire and so why would
		15	-
15 16	fire? What if the stairs are blocked?' That really worried me and it stuck with me."	16	we leave? I thought I would wait until we were told to leave if we had to, as had happened before.
		17	
17	Could I also just go to the next page, page 5,	18	"27. I went back into my flat, with the intention of going to bed. I decided change into a dress so that
18 19	paragraph 21, please.	19	
20	What Ms Kasote also says is: "21. I do remember that the fire policy was to	20	I was more comfortable if I decided to sleep, but if I
		20 21	had to run out then I could do so. Before I got on my
21	'stay put' unless you see a fire or had been told to		bed, I had another look out of the window. I could hear
22	leave by a firefighter. I remember seeing a notice	22	sirens and it was busy outside with a lot of people
23	pinned up on a noticeboard by the lifts which said this."	23	gathered across the green looking towards the Tower. I
24 25		24 25	couldn't see or smell any smoke. I decided to walk around to the kitchen/living room to see if I could see
23	If I turn now to the events of the night, and	23	around to the kitchen/hving room to see it i could see
	Page 154		Page 156
		1	0

1 from ours. Neither of the fire fighters had masks on. 1 anything else. 2 2 "28. I was totally shocked as I could immediately "32. There was no smoke on the stairwell. We all 3 3 see from the kitchen and living room windows a very just started running down the stairs — I had been really 4 large fire coming around the corner of the building 4 scared by how the firefighters had acted - clearly it 5 5 was something serious. We met a woman with a baby towards the far end of my living room. The flames were 6 huge and burning upwards. They were a very deep orange. 6 halfway down the stairs, I think around the 4th floor, 7 7 and we told her to run as she was just slowly walking I had never seen anything like it. There was very dark 8 black smoke billowing away from the flames. The kitchen 8 down. I think she had just come out to check what was 9 9 smelled strongly of smoke, which I now think is rather going on — she did not seem like she had been told there 10 odd as my bedroom really did not smell strongly of 10 was a fire or anything like that. We ran to the bottom 11 smoke. It was terrifying to see the fire coming towards 11 and out to the main door at the front of the building. 12 12 I understand that I am recorded on CCTV as leaving the my flat. I felt panicked, and remember thinking that I 13 just needed to get out. 13 Tower at 01:23. 14 "29. I ran back to my bedroom, and grabbed my keys 14 "33. The main front door was shut as far as I can 15 and phone. I put my shoes on as quickly as possible. I 15 remember it. As soon as we opened the door we could 16 remember thinking that if my shoes were in the cupboard 16 feel the heat. It was really strong and unlike anything 17 17 like usual, I would have seen the fire when I have first I had felt before. We ran away from the Tower towards a 18 decided to get up and see what was going on when I met 18 small group of people, but we were one of the first 19 Elizabeth outside. 19 groups to come out so there weren't a lot of people at 20 20 "30. I checked my watch. It was 1:10am. I ran to this point. It wasn't organised — there wasn't anyone 21 the hallway and across to Flat 43. I knocked on the 21 there to tell us what to do and so we decided to run 22 22 door. Elizabeth answered - she was awake and dressed, towards the Sports Centre. We were running past but I 23 23 her daughter was in a night gown and her husband Michael stopped and stood to take a picture of the building. It 24 was dressed. I said I saw a massive fire coming towards 24 was horrifying. I could not believe what was 25 25 my flat. I then rang the bell of number 42 and they happening." Page 157 Page 159 1 HERMINE HARRIS (evidence read into the record) 1 didn't answer. Michael banged on the door shouting that 2 there was a fire. Mrs Harris and her partner then came 2 MR RAWAT: Mr Chairman, I'll stop reading there and move on 3 3 to the next statement, which is, again, a statement from to the door. I walked towards number 46. Jose and 4 4 a resident of floor 7. This is the statement of Carmen opened the door before I could knock and smoke 5 started to pour out from the ceiling of their flat - I 5 Hermine Harris of flat 42. 6 guess because the fire had reached their flat. Turufat 6 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes, thank you. 7 and her family, and the new couple had come out of their 7 MR RAWAT: The statement reference is IWS00000087. 8 flats in the meantime, I guess because of all the noise 8 There are no exhibits accompanying the statement, 9 9 we were making. Everyone from our floor was out of but if we go to page 7, the last page, we can see that 10 their flats and gathered in the hallway. It was me, 10 there is a statement of truth and the statement is 11 Elizabeth, Michael, their daughter, Mrs Harris, her 11 signed and dated 11 May 2018. partner, Turufat, her husband, their son, the new couple 12 12 In her statement, Ms Harris explains that she had 13 and their daughter, and Jose and Carmen. 13 lived in Grenfell Tower for 41 years as of summer 2017. 14 "31. There was hardly any smoke in the hallway but 14 She lived alone, although her partner, Jean Lavine, 15 the smell was getting stronger. It was only flat 46 of 15 often stayed with her and, indeed, was staying with her 16 our group of flats which had smoke coming out through 16 on the night of 13 June. 17 the door — the smoke was gradually collecting towards 17 I just want to read three paragraphs of the 18 the top of the hallway, although was very thin and grey. 18 statement, and that's from page 3, paragraph 13. That's 19 You could however smell the smoke quite strongly. I 19 the events of the night. 20 walked in front and opened the door to the stairwell, 20 "13. On Tuesday 13 June 2017 I went to bed, leaving 21 where I met a firefighter who was going up the stairs, 21 Jean up in the living room reading. I usually go to bed 22 quite quickly. He stopped for a moment and just said 22 about 12 or 1 am but I was tired that night so I got 23 'run, get out'. We started running down. We met a 23 myself ready for bed and I went to watch television in 24 second firefighter who also said: 'run, get out.' He 24 the small bedroom. I must have fallen asleep as I was 25 was connecting a hose to a water point a few floors down 25 then woken up by knocking at the front door. I think

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1	this was about 1am. I got out of bed and went to the	1	to get down the stairs, maybe 10 minutes. I could hear
2	door. Jean said to me 'There was someone knocking.'	2	other peoples' footsteps on the stairs but I didn't look
3	Sometimes we have people come and knock on the door late	3	round to see who they were. No-one tried to push past
4	at night, so I thought it might be that. There was	4	us so I didn't see anyone else. I was trying to get
5	nothing to suggest that anything was wrong. I looked	5	down the stairs quickly, just focused on getting out of
6	through the spyhole in the door but I couldn't see	6	the building. I don't remember seeing any other people
7	anyone there. I went to the bathroom and I was going to	7	or noticing any of the fire doors being open or shut as
8	go back to bed when I heard more knocking. I said to	8	we went down the stairs as we were moving fast and I was
9	Jean 'Who is that?' I looked through the spyhole again	9	in a panic."
10	and saw my neighbour Florence and a fireman. Florence	10	Mr Chairman, that is where I am going to stop
11	was in her dressing gown. The fireman was wearing a	11	reading from that statement, but if I just, for the
12	yellow helmet and a suit. I was so shocked. I opened	12	record, note that the recorded exit time for Ms Harris
13	the front door and Florence said, 'Mrs Harris, there's	13	is 01.26 am.
14	afire — get out, get out.' She sounded really panicked.	14	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes, thank you.
15	I stood there for a second and I didn't know what to do.	15	ABRAHAM ABEBE (evidence read into the record)
16	I don't remember if the fireman said anything. Jean was	16	MR RAWAT: The next statement I want to put on the record is
17	still awake reading so I said to him 'Come on, let's get	17	that of Mr Abraham Abebe, who lived in flat 44 on the
18	out'. We both got ready straight away and all I grabbed	18	7th floor.
19	was my front door keys. I thought we would be coming	19	The reference for the statement is IWS00000847.
20	back in. Jean was already fully clothed. I put my	20	There are no accompanying exhibits, but if we go to
21	slippers and my dressing gown on, and Jean and I left	21	page 14, the last page, please, the statement is signed
22	the flat. I was saying to Jean 'Come on, come on'.	22	and dated 14 June 2018. It has a statement of truth,
23	"Leaving the flat	23	the heading of which begins on the preceding page.
24	"14. As we left I remember shutting the front door	24	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes.
25	behind us. This door had been replaced some years ago	25	MR RAWAT: To begin with, a brief summary.
	Page 161		Page 163
1	and was fairly heavy and it would close on its own due	1	Mr Abebe lived in flat 44 with his wife and his son.
1		2	His wife, Turufat, had lived in the tower since 1996,
2	to the self-closing hinges and spring it had on it. I think it was made of wood. I closed the door ready to	3	and Mr Abebe had moved in in 2015.
3 4	return to later and we went towards the stairwell. The	4	On the evening of 13 June 2017, all three of the
5	stairwell is across the corridor from my flat. I didn't	5	family were at home. Mr Abebe and his wife had gone to
6	•	6	bed by around 11.30 pm on that night.
7	look to see if anyone else was coming out of their flats. I didn't smell or see any smoke. The landing	7	If I pick it up, then, at paragraph 6 on page 2,
8	-	8	
9	was clear. I made a beeline straight for the stairwell.	9	please:
	"15. The lobby area outside our flat was well lit and I could see no fire or smoke at this time which was	10	"6. I now understand that the fire in Grenfell Tower started at around 12.54am. The first time that I
10			
11 12	just after 1am now. We pushed open the fire door which is on self-closing hinges and worked OK and this led us	11 12	became aware there was any problem at all in the early
		1	hours of 14 June 2017 was when my friend, Paulos, who
13	into the stairwell and we started to go down the stairs.	13	lived on the 18th floor of Grenfell Tower, telephoned my
14	It looked the same as the lobby — it was well lit and	14	mobile telephone (which I had on charge near to my bed)
15	there was no smoke when I opened the door, it looked	15	at 1:32 am. I was confused by the call, as I was
16	normal.	16	partially asleep, and I did not answer it. As the
17	"The route to the ground floor	17	mobile telephone was a bit of a distance from me, I
18	"16. Once we were inside the stairwell I started to	18	could not see who was calling me at the time. My mobile
19	smell the smoke and it became hotter, but not too hot.	19	telephone then rang again, at 1:34 am, and I allowed it
20	I still couldn't see any smoke though. We moved quickly	20	to ring through to my voicemail. As I began to wake-up,
21	and there were not obstacles in our way to stop us	21	a few minutes later I decided to get out of bed and I
22	getting down the stairs but by now I was a bit panicky.	22	looked at who had called me at such an early hour of the
23	The fireman didn't give us any advice about how to leave	23	morning. It was then that I realised I had missed calls
24	safely, but I live opposite the doors to the stairs —	24	from my friend, Paulos, who lived in Flat 153 with his
25	there's only one way to leave. It didn't take us long	25	wife Genete, and their sons I was not expecting
	Page 162		Page 164

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a call from Paulos, and a call from anyone at that time of the morning was cause for concern."

"7. I rang Paulos back. He told me that there was

"7. I rang Paulos back. He told me that there was a fire in the Tower and that it was on his floor, floor 18. He said that he had been woken up by noises, and had checked and then found out about the fire. Paulos told me that I should check my floor and around our flat. The call ended there. Panicked, I went immediately to check our flat and landing, and in doing so I woke up my wife and my son. I cannot recall whether my wife came with me, but I remember going over to the window in the kitchen. From the window, I could see the reflection of the blue lights of the emergency vehicles in and around the playground at the bottom of the Tower, directly underneath the window from which I was looking. I could not see fire.

"8. I instinctively went to look at the situation on our landing and it occurred to me that the best thing to do was to leave the flat and the Tower as soon as possible. I looked outside to the landing using the peephole in our front door and I could see smoke, which was a grey white in colour and clearly visible on our landing. At that time I thought it was relatively thick, but given how the fire and smoke progressed on that night I would now describe the smoke as thin,

discovering that there was a fire in the building before my family and I left our flat. I ran out of my flat with my son in my arms. My wife, who had locked the front door behind her, was no more than two or three steps behind me. We ran to the stairwell on our floor, and ran down the stairs. The lights were still on both in the landing and on the stairwell. I could however see where I was going, so it was not very thick. The smoke, initially, was similar on the stairwell to that on our landing. I could see through it all right, and it was white in colour. I ran down the stairs as quickly as I possibly could, with the smoke getting progressively worse as I descended with my son. Eventually, I came to the landing between the 5th and the 4th floors. By this stage there was a large amount of smoke in the stairwell and it was heavy and coloured black. I was able to look into the 4th floor landing. I could see a lone fire fighter slightly below me with his back opening the door to the 4th floor communal landing. He was pulling at a folded, flat fire hose. I think he was pulling the hose into the 4th floor but I cannot be sure what he was trying to do. There was thick, acrid black smoke pouring out of the door he was holding open. It was filling the stairwell at that level. It was unbelievable. I could not see down past

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especially because we eventually battled our way through heavier smoke, later on, in order to leave the Tower. I could still see the landing lights were on outside the door, and they were visible through the smoke.

"9. We were still in our nightclothes, so I told my wife that we should put on outdoor clothes over them and said to her not to panic. We decided to leave the flat. I grabbed my son in my arms, and with my right hand I held a scarf over his mouth and face. I knew that he was more susceptible to harm from smoke than I was and I thought that the scarf would reduce some of the risk of harm from the smoke than might otherwise be without something covering his mouth. It was very scary having to think of ways in which I would have to try and prevent my child being harmed or even worse. My wife grabbed her purse and the flat keys, and she locked the door as we left.

"10. I was given no information about fire safety advice or guidance between moving into the Tower and the eventual tragedy. I do recall seeing notices in the lobby and the lift areas stating that there was a 'stay put' policy in the Tower in the event of a fire.

Instinct told me, however, that I should leave the Tower as soon as possible.

"11. It was no more than 2 or 3 minutes after

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the fire fighter because of the smoke.

"12. I was going to push on through the smoke, continuing my attempt to get down the stairs with my son and get out of the burning building. I did not stop to consider whether there were flames behind the smoke. Nor did I consider whether it was safe to continue down the sole escape route out of the building. Just as I began to step onto the 4th floor of the stairwell, where the smoke was heaviest, I heard my wife shout behind me 'Stop! Come back!' or similar words. She shouted about three times. I did not know whether she was in danger or if she had fallen, and I did not stop to think or ask why she was shouting. I immediately turned around and followed her back up the stairs, as she had turned back up the building. Once again, as I had on the way down, I ran with my son in my arms as fast as I could. I followed my wife, as I could not see the floor numbers on the stair landings. We ran back to our flat in a rapid time frame. I did not see anyone coming up or down the stairs at any time during this period, which was had been our first attempt to escape the Tower.

"13. My wife telephoned 999 from her mobile telephone almost as soon as we re-entered the flat. She was not on the telephone very long, and I recall that she explained slowly and clearly the situation. There

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42 (Pages 165 to 168)

was not much conversation and, from what she has since told me, the operator did not ask her many questions. When she got off the phone, my wife seemed slightly less worried. She was reassured by having spoken to someone who seemed to know what they were talking about. My wife told me that the 999 operator had told her to put items around the bottom of door in order to stop smoke coming into our flat. I went immediately to get a quilt and I started putting it around the bottom of the door.

"14. I recall looking out of the windows from our flat, and I could see people on the ground below waving and I could hear them shouting to people to get out of the Tower. I still could not see any fire, at this stage. In my mind I rapidly thought that we needed to try again and escape. However, I remembered the notices in the Tower and the advice that we should stay in our flat as it was not on fire. We had received advice from the 999 operator on how to stem smoke ingress, but I realised by now that this would not help us to eventually escape. Turufat was saying things like 'What are we going to do? Are we going to have to jump?' It was a harrowing experience to see my wife with those thoughts in her mind. We had made an attempt to leave, we had tried to get out of the Tower, but we had failed.

scarf again, and I left the flat. On the landing, as I exited the flat door, I could see another fire fighter banging on other front doors of other flats on 7th floor. I got to the stairwell before my wife, and started descending the stairs with my son. My wife, who I now know went back to the flat to get water for our son for the moment we left the building, was about six or seven steps behind me. I had not reached the bottom of the first flight of stairs before she came into the stairwell.

"17. Whilst the lights were on and I could see where I was going, the smoke was heavier higher up in the stairwell than it had been when I first tried to escape but there was no problem with visibility. I ran down the stairs as quickly as I could, hearing my wife just behind me. Like our first attempt to escape, the smoke became thicker the further down the stairs we got. By the 4th floor, where we had seen the fire fighter on our previous attempt to get down the stairs, a fire fighter (I cannot recall whether it was the same fire fighter) was on the stairs to the 4th floor again. I do not recall seeing the landing door open this time, and as a result the smoke in that area was not as thick as it had been before. I do not talk to the fire fighter and I did not make eye contact with him. I do not know

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"15. We had been in our flat for no more than five

minutes when there was a loud banging and knocking at the door. I cannot recall whether it was my wife or whether it was me who opened the door but when it was opened, there was a tall fire fighter standing there. He was wearing a mask, and had a torch on his head. He said something like, 'You need to get out of the building!' Then he shouted 'Out!' I cannot recall the exact words spoken by the fire fighter, because of the panic and the state of mind that I was in at the time, but I do recall that my wife then tried to explain to him our previous attempts to leave the building. I could hear the desperation and the urgency in her voice as she spoke rapidly to him. The fire fighter did not engage with my wife. He said, shouting again, 'Out!' We did not need to be told more than twice. The fire fighter did not give us any, such as breathing apparatus or a smoke hood. I already knew the grave and unimaginable danger that I and my family could be in, having seen the smoke billowing from the stairs on the 4th floor staircase. There was no hesitation, however, as I was going to leave the flat and the Tower immediately and regardless of the conditions below us. "16. Our second and final attempt to leave the Tower was at some point before 1:45 am. I grabbed [redacted] into my arms, covering his mouth with the

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whether he saw us coming down the stairs. I could feel the panic rising as the smoke hit the back of my throat, in the stairwell, as it was black and smelled toxic.

Turufat was coughing behind me, she was muttering but I could not hear what she was saying. I now know that she was praying. We did not have time to stop and ask the fire fighter what was going on, or whether it was safe to carry on down the stairs. I pushed on rapidly running down the stairs.

"18. After we passed the 4th floor, the smoke thinned out. We did not see anyone, apart from the fire fighter who had been on the 4th floor stairwell. There was no one ascending or descending the stairs whilst we made our final attempt to leave the building. I have since been told by my wife that the floor of the stairwell was wet, but I cannot recall noticing that at the time.

"19. As we reached the ground floor, I put my son down so that he could walk for himself. The relief started to set-in as I realised that my family and I had escaped the building. I do not recall seeing fire fighters or other emergency services personnel inside the ground floor (reception) area of Grenfell Tower at this time. I cannot recall when we left exactly, but I am now aware from a still image from the CCTV cameras,

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42 (Dana = 160 to

1	provided to me by the Metropolitan Police, that the	1	from the fire. At that time, I could not smell smoke	
2	police have a record that I left the building at 1:48	2	inside my flat, and I could not hear sirens, or any	
3	am. I believe that we were in the Tower for	3	smoke alarms going off either inside my flat our outside	
4	approximately twenty minutes from being alerted that	4 in the hallway.		
5	there was a fire in the building, to making it out to	5	"19. It was less than 2 minutes between us getting	
6	safety. It felt like an awful lot longer than that, at	6	up and then deciding to leave Grenfell Tower. My	
7	the time."	7	husband grabbed our young son. We knew that it was	
8	That's where I am going to end reading from that	8	common sense not to use the lift, as I remember from	
9	statement Mr Chairman.	9	other buildings (not Grenfell Tower) that there were	
10	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes, thank you.	10	signs I had seen telling people that you are not	
11	TURUFAT YILMA GIRMA (evidence read into the record)	11	supposed to use the lift in the event of fire. We left	
12	MR RAWAT: The next statement I turn to is that of	12	the flat. I locked the front door behind me and,	
13	Mr Abebe's wife, Turufat Yilma Girma.	bringing only my key and my phone, we ran to the		
14	The statement is at reference IWS00000848.	stairwell. My husband was in front of me by only two		
15	There is one exhibit to that, which is marked in the	15	three steps, he was carrying our young son in his arms.	
16	statement as $TG/1$ and has the reference we don't need	16	My husband had put a scarf over our son's mouth and	
17	to put it up IWS00000934. It's a photograph taken	17	nose.	
18	after Mrs Girma had left the building.	18	"20. When we went out on to the landing there was	
19	As I have said, Mrs Girma is the wife of	19	light grey coloured smoke but you could see through it.	
20	Abraham Abebe, and, as I previously indicated, she'd	20	The light on the landing was on so I ran to the door to	
21	lived in the tower since 1996 and, as of June 2017, was	21	the stairwell. Abraham was in front of me carrying our	
22	living in flat 44 with her husband and son.	22	son.	
23	You will have noted, Mr Chairman, from Mr Abebe's	23	"21. The lights were on in the stairwell. I cannot	
24	statement that he recalls being woken up by a phone	24	remember whether there was smoke on the stairs when we	
25	call.	25	entered the stairwell. However, I do know that I could	
	D 450		D 475	
	Page 173		Page 175	
1 5	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes.	1	breathe relatively easily in the stairwell at our level.	
	MR RAWAT: He then went out to see what was going on in the	2	Certainly there was no thick smoke going down the stairs	
3	hallway, saw smoke and the family decided to leave with	3	from the seventh floor until we got to the fifth and	
4	their son.	4	fourth floors, and we were able to see ahead of us. I	
5	If I could pick up and read some extracts from			
6	1 1	5	•	
U	Mrs Girma's statement, from page 4, please,	5 6	was not coughing and nor was my son and husband.	
7	Mrs Girma's statement, from page 4, please, paragraph 18.		was not coughing and nor was my son and husband. Between each floor, there were two flights of stairs	
-	paragraph 18.	6	was not coughing and nor was my son and husband. Between each floor, there were two flights of stairs divided by a small landing. We ran down the stairs as	
7	paragraph 18. This is from the point Mrs Girma recalls that she	6 7 8	was not coughing and nor was my son and husband. Between each floor, there were two flights of stairs divided by a small landing. We ran down the stairs as quickly as we could manage.	
7 8	paragraph 18.	6 7	was not coughing and nor was my son and husband. Between each floor, there were two flights of stairs divided by a small landing. We ran down the stairs as quickly as we could manage. "22. When we got to the landing between the fifth	
7 8 9	paragraph 18. This is from the point Mrs Girma recalls that she was woken up by her husband: "18. My husband and I went to check out of the	6 7 8 9	was not coughing and nor was my son and husband. Between each floor, there were two flights of stairs divided by a small landing. We ran down the stairs as quickly as we could manage. "22. When we got to the landing between the fifth floor and the fourth floor, we could see a fire fighter	
7 8 9 10	paragraph 18. This is from the point Mrs Girma recalls that she was woken up by her husband:	6 7 8 9 10	was not coughing and nor was my son and husband. Between each floor, there were two flights of stairs divided by a small landing. We ran down the stairs as quickly as we could manage. "22. When we got to the landing between the fifth floor and the fourth floor, we could see a fire fighter holding open the door to the landing on the fourth	
7 8 9 10 11	paragraph 18. This is from the point Mrs Girma recalls that she was woken up by her husband: "18. My husband and I went to check out of the window in the living room. That window looks out to the	6 7 8 9 10 11	was not coughing and nor was my son and husband. Between each floor, there were two flights of stairs divided by a small landing. We ran down the stairs as quickly as we could manage. "22. When we got to the landing between the fifth floor and the fourth floor, we could see a fire fighter	
7 8 9 10 11 12	paragraph 18. This is from the point Mrs Girma recalls that she was woken up by her husband: "18. My husband and I went to check out of the window in the living room. That window looks out to the playground area below the Tower. On the walkways,	6 7 8 9 10 11	was not coughing and nor was my son and husband. Between each floor, there were two flights of stairs divided by a small landing. We ran down the stairs as quickly as we could manage. "22. When we got to the landing between the fifth floor and the fourth floor, we could see a fire fighter holding open the door to the landing on the fourth floor. I cannot recall exactly what he was doing, but	
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fighter, but I did not speak to him, and he did not say anything to me. When I saw the smoke, I expected fire to also be there. I panicked thinking that there might be fire coming into the stairwell. I did not know what was behind the smoke and assumed that whatever had caused the smoke would certainly kill me and my family, in the stairs.

"24. I called ahead to my husband. I shouted at him, three times, 'Come back! Come back! Come back!' He turned around immediately and then we began to run to back up the stairs to our flat.

"25. Now, when I think about it, the fire fighter could have told us to continue down the stairs and out of the building, as we were on the stairwell. I assume he must have known that there was not likely to be smoke down below us, in the stairwell and certainly no fire from where he had come up the stairs. When we began to ascend the stairs again, the fire fighter could have told us that we should come back and continue escaping the burning building, but he did not. He saw us clearly going up the stairs, higher into the building.

"26. I cannot recall seeing anyone ascending or descending the stairs either on our way down or our way up, at this time, which would be just after 1:40 am.

10 11 12 13 14 15 16

When we were running back up, panic started to hit me.

calm, but I was a lot less panicked than I had been before on the stairwell. We had spoken to the Fire Brigade and they had given us advice to stay in our

"29. However, I could feel the panic and the terror rising within me. I kept saying to Abraham 'What are we going to do? Are we going to jump?' However, I still had confidence that something was going to happen and that we were going to be rescued. At that point, I thought that it was impossible that we were going to go out unaided and that we were going to try and leave again via the stairs. We had seen the thick black smoke on the fourth floor. I knew that the smoke was coming into the stairwell, and possibly the fire. I thought that the only way to get out of the smoke, as I thought fire was behind the smoke, would be to jump. I thought that there was no way that we were going to be able to get out of the Tower through the stairs. At the time I did not know whether I would have survived that jump from the seventh floor. I knew there was a playground below. I just do not know what I was thinking at the time, as I was in a panic. I now know that I would not have survived a jump from the seventh floor, which is so high up it almost guarantees certain death. In my mind, in that situation, jumping was the only chance of not

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I noticed that the signs on the stairwell marking each floor were so small and hard to see. I had to count each flight of stairs so that I knew when we had reached the 7th floor, where we lived, as it was not clear which floor we were on.

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"27. I called 999 as soon ... as we got back to the flat. It would have been between 1:42 am and 1:45 am on 14 June 2017. I called 999 on my mobile telephone, with the number [redacted] I told the operator, a woman, where I was in Grenfell Tower and the floor we were on in the building. I said that I was with my husband and my son, and I told her that we had tried to get out but we were unable to because there was too much smoke. She did not ask me any questions, and told me that the Fire Brigade were aware of the fire and that help was coming. She told me that we should stay inside the flat, and we should put towels around the front door. I told my husband the advice I received and he put a quilt cover down by the bottom of the front door.

"28. I was significantly less panicked as a result of the phone call. After all, I thought that I had received advice from people who knew what they were talking about. I was confident that the fire services were going to come, even by helicopter, to put out the fire and to rescue the people in the Tower. I was not

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1 being burned to death, even if I did not survive the 2 fall it was going to be a less painful way of dying than 3 burning to death. But surviving was my main priority. 4 The only thing that was in my mind, as in so many 5 others, was getting out of the fire and saving my 6 family.

> "30. We were in our flat, for what would subsequently be the last time, for only a matter of minutes. Then I heard a loud knock at the door. My husband was by the front door putting the quilt cover at the bottom of the door so he opened the door. A fire fighter, I could only see one fire fighter, stood at the front door of our flat. He had a mask on and a light on his head. Behind the fire fighter, I could see grey/white smoke, significantly thicker in the landing than it was before. The fire fighter was tall. He told us, 'You have to leave the building. Get out!' I told him that we had tried to leave the building already, that I had my young son in the flat and that we had considered it was too unsafe when we left before. I explained that I wanted to try and leave the building but there was too much smoke. He did not respond to what I had said, and simply shouted, 'Out!' He did not give us any advice about how to get out, or that we should use any wet towels to cover our faces or suggest

> > Page 180

45 (Pages 177 to 180)

1	anything to help with the smoke.	1	building, the smoke was still pouring into the stairwell
2	"31. I believe that as we were talking to the fire	2	from the open door to the landing leading to flats on
3	fighter, smoke came into our flat from the landing.	3	the fourth floor. The floor was wet on this level.
4	However, I cannot recall this with absolute certainty,	4	"36. There was a fire fighter by the door of the
5	but there was smoke on the landing at the time we were	5	fourth floor, as I could just see through the smoke. He
6	talking. As soon as the fire fighter had said 'out', my	6	said nothing to us, and I did not say anything to him.
7	husband grabbed our son, and put the scarf over our	7	He was stood holding the door open, and there was thick
8	child's mouth and nose in order to help with the thick	8	black smoke pouring out from the hallway into the
9	smoke which we knew we would meet on the fourth and	9	stairwell where we were.
10	fifth floors. I ran into the kitchen and I grabbed my	10	"37. I was running at such a speed, plus I was so
11	'BRITA' water filter. I felt that my son would need it	11	panicked and scared, that I did not take any time to
12	if we were able to get out of the building. Leaving my	12	stop and look for any great length of time to see what
13	home for what would be the last time, I locked the door	13	he was doing.
14	behind me and ran to the stairwell with my husband. The	14	"38. After I passed the fourth floor, the smoke
15	fire fighter did not come with us. I cannot recall	15	started to get less dense and less thick. It became
16	where the fire fighter went when he left the front door	16	incrementally less toxic and acrid, as we reached the
17	of our flat.	17	lower floors of the building. Mercifully, there was
18	"32. Abraham was running ahead of me, and he had	18	little smoke when we reached the lobby area on the
19	[redacted] in one hand and in his other hand he was	19	ground floor of the Tower."
20	holding the scarf up to [redacted]'s mouth and nose.	20	Mr Chairman, that's where I intend to pause reading
21	"33. There was grey smoke on the landing, but I do	21	from that statement.
22	not recall it being difficult to breathe on our second	22	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes, thank you very much.
23	attempt to escape. When I left the flat, there were	23	MICHAEL PARAMASAVIAN (evidence read into the record)
24	none of our neighbours on the landing. I pulled the	24	MR RAWAT: The next statement that we need to put into the
25	door to the stairwell open. Abraham had gone slightly	25	record is at IWS00001003, and it is the statement of
	Page 181		Page 183
	0		0
1		I	
	ahead of me with [redacted], and he was down the first	1	Michael Thomas Philip Paramasavian.
2	ahead of me with [redacted], and he was down the first flight of stairs by the time that I had opened the door	1 2	Michael Thomas Philip Paramasavian. He was living in flat 45 on the 7th floor, and he
		1	•
2	flight of stairs by the time that I had opened the door	2	He was living in flat 45 on the 7th floor, and he
2 3	flight of stairs by the time that I had opened the door to the stairwell. I was possibly six or seven steps	2 3	He was living in flat 45 on the 7th floor, and he exited the building at a time of 01.24.
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above the floor on which flat 45 is located which is the 7th floor. The smoke appeared to change colours as the fire progressed. The colour of the smoke appeared to be blue at the time that explosions which I assumed were caused by gas occurred in the black and the smoke then appeared to take on orange, red and yellow shades The smoke was very dense and also took on shades of black, white and grey.

"20. I did not actually see the fire spread outside of the block and I did not take any pictures or recordings of the fire. The fire appeared to spread upwards from the 4th floor of Grenfell Tower before engulfing the whole building. Within 15 to 20 minutes of evacuating Grenfell Tower the whole building appeared to be ablaze and the fire was producing a distinctly acrid smell. Apart from the flames the entire building appeared to also be engulfed in smoke. I did not call 999 as in the panic I left my phone in the flat. The maximum time I remained in the flat before evacuating with my partner and her daughter was 5 minutes. As we were making our way down the stairs to evacuate I definitely recall a person in uniform who I assume was a firefighter shouted 'stay in your flats' or words to that effect. I did not have any contact with firefighters before vacating the flat.

caused an acrid smell and I was aware of this acrid taste as I breathed. Although there was smoke on the landing I did not see any actual flames. Because of the smoke I did not see any other flat doors on the landing as we evacuated. To the best of my recollection I saw 3 other people on the landing as we evacuated Flat 45 - I believe one of these persons was a firefighter. This was the person who shouted, 'Get back to your flats'. I did not respond to this advice. My only concern was to evacuate with my partner and her child as quickly as possible. I had to open the door between the landing and the stairs and we immediately descended the stairs. I could hear people screaming. Because of the thick smoke I could not actually see my feet until we reached the second floor. I could only see about 2 steps in front of me until we reached the lower floors. I did not use the handrail and as I was holding [redacted] I could not say if I could see my outstretched hand. I held my breath for as long as possible between breaths to avoid inhaling the smoke. The temperature was very high - I perspired. It took approximately 10 minutes to evacuate the building. The stairs were not slippery and there were no obstructions blocking our path. It did not occur to me or cross my mind to evacuate via the lift as I knew that this could potentially present a

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"21. Prior to the fire Flat 45 was in a good state of decorative repair. I was informed after the fire that there was fire present in Flat 45. I was unable to do anything to stop the fire spreading. There was no actual smoke in Flat 45 prior to our evacuation but there was dense smoke on the landing and stairs. We did not take any possessions with us when we evacuated the flat. We were in genuine fear for our lives and were completely focussed on leaving the block. We did not take any protective clothing when we evacuated; to protect my partner's child from smoke inhalation I covered her with my dressing gown as we made our way down the stairs. There was nobody left in the flat following our evacuation. No one helped us to evacuate. I think the front door of the flat was left open when we evacuated and no-one provided any advice or assistance about evacuation procedures. As we left the flat, the smoke was quite dense on the landing and stairs. I was aware of other persons probably neighbours on the landing. I felt very scared but focused on protecting my partner and her daughter and just getting out of the block as quickly as possible. I was holding [redacted] my partner's daughter and Hannah my partner was in front of me. I was not aware a large number of other residents on the stairs as we evacuated. The smoke

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greater danger and impair our escape. We immediately

made our way down the stairs and left the block by the communal doors which were open. When we got out of Grenfell Tower we were shepherded to a nearby block, then to Chelsea and Kensington Town Hall and then to the Latimer Road Christian Centre. As we moved from one location to another we spoke to other residents and people watching the fire." That's where I'll stop, if I may. SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes. HANNAH WEST (evidence read into the record) MR RAWAT: The next statement to put on the record is the statement of Hannah West, who, we've just heard, was living in flat 45 with her daughter and her partner, whose statement we've just read. In her statement, she explains that she'd moved into flat 45 in the spring of 2016. The statement reference is IWS00000021. There are no exhibits to put on the record, but it's a 12-page statement, and if we go to the last page, please, page 12, it has a statement of truth, it is signed and it is dated 24 April 2018. Mr Chairman, again, I would like to just read a few paragraphs from this statement. SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes. Page 188

47 (Pages 185 to 188)

1	MR RAWAT: If I go to page 3, paragraph 15, please.	1	lights in the lobby were on. We came out of the door
2	The name of Ms West's daughter has been redacted	2	and made our way towards the staircase. Although it was
3	from this statement, so as we come to it, I'll just	3	smoky, I was able to see but not far. I went towards
4	refer to her as Ms West's daughter.	4	the staircase relying upon my memory. I was in front
5	5 "15. On the evening of 13 June 2017 Mickey,		with Mickey and [redacted] behind. As I got towards the
6	6 [redacted] and I were at home in the flat. I put		door to the stairwell, I saw a firefighter on his knees
7	7 [redacted] to bed at about 8pm. Mickey and I watched TV		holding the door open to the stairwell. As I saw the
8	for a bit until I felt really tired and went to bed at	8	firefighter I pulled my t-shirt up over my mouth and
9	about 10.30pm. I was woken up by Mickey saying, 'Babe,	9	nose. This was because the smoke was getting thicker
10	babe there's a fire'. Mickey was shouting and sounded	10	and I didn't want to breathe it in. My t-shirt was now
11	scared which was unusual. I was half asleep. I think	11	across half of my face. I was quite close to the door
12	this must have been about 1.20 am because I think we got	12	to the staircase before I saw the fire fighter. The
13	out of the Tower at 1.30am. I said, 'What's going on?'	13	landings are not large anyway. I was almost within
14	I sat up in bed. Our bed faced the bedroom door and the	14	touching distance of him when I first saw him. It was
15	bedroom door is opposite the front door. The bedroom	15	his uniform that stuck out to me. I did not stop; I
16	door was open and I could see smoke coming through the	16	just continued towards the staircase but I can remember
17	front door. The smoke was grey, it was quite thick but	17	the sheer look of fear and dread on his face. To the
18	I could see through it. It was scary to see that, I was	18	best of my recollection he was a white man. I can't
19	confused and I was panicking - thinking about my	19	remember what colour his helmet was but I do recall that
20	daughter. It smelt just like normal smoke. I was still	20	he was wearing a helmet. I do not know what he was
21	half asleep but remember thinking, 'What the fuck is	21	doing there. I was focused on getting out. He was
22	going on!' I got out of bed.	22	holding the door open. He was squatting with his back
23	"16. I was wearing a grey Oxford University t-shirt	23	to the open door. The door opened into the stairwell.
24	and underwear. Mickey was wearing a black dressing gown	24	There was no one immediately in front of me. I could
25	and dark coloured boxer shorts. I moved quickly — I	25	not work out why he was doing that — holding the door
	. ,		, ,
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1	knew I had no time to waste. Even as I came out of the	1	open — it was easy to open that door. I could hear
2	bedroom - the smoke was getting thicker.	2	shouting and screaming. I am not sure whether the noise
3	"17. Mickey got [redacted] from her bedroom and	3	of people shouting/screaming was from above or below at
4	wrapped her in his dressing gown. [redacted] was	4	this point. I heard shouts of 'help' and 'hello'. I
5	wearing a dark coloured nightie that came down to just	5	now believe it must have been this fire fighter who I
6	below her knee. Mickey put me in front of him and	6	heard say 'get out, get out' as there was no one else
7	guided me forward in front of him as all 3 of us came	7	around. I did not hear him saying anything other than
8	out of the front door. We didn't take anything with us.	8	that. There was definitely no hose with him that I saw.
9	We knew we had to get out fast as there was smoke in the	9	I did not touch anything before entering the stairwell.
10	flat.	10	Once we got to the stairs the smoke on the stairwell was
11	"Leaving the flat	11	really thick and getting thicker. It was worse than the
12	"18. As we came out of the flat, I heard someone	12	lobby. The heat was intense. My priority was to get
13	say, 'get out, get out' but I could not tell who this	13	off those stairs. There was a lot of commotion. I
14	person was or where he was at that point. It was	14	could hear screams.
15	definitely a male voice. In the lobby I was aware of my	15	"The route to the ground floor.
16	neighbours — an elderly Spanish or Portuguese couple —	16	"20. The lights were on in the stairwell but it
17	carrying suitcases. I'm pretty sure we were in front of	17	became dark as we made our way down. I believe the
18	them as we made our way to the staircase. I was not	18	light on my floor stayed on but there was no light lower
19	aware of any one else in the lobby.	19	down. The heat on that stairwell was intense. I
20	"19. We knew that the stairs were to our left just	20	
21	around the corner from our flat. We made our way in	21	remember other people on the stairs, there was a bit of
	-	21 22	pushing and shoving. I did not find my way blocked by
22 23	that direction without needing to discuss it. The smoke	22 23	other people. It was dark and hard to tell what was
23	on the landing was cloudy but not thick, It was though	23	happening. Everyone knew it was serious and everyone's
25	getting thicker and thicker even in the short time it	25	aim was to get out as soon as possible. It was definitely not a stampede.
23	took for us to get from our flat to the staircase. The	23	definitely not a stampede.
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1 "21. The stairs were not slippery; I did not slip. 1 Mickey and me out. At this time, we 2 I knew that there was no time. I wasn't going too 2 what had happened. Time was moving 3 quickly because I did not want to fall on the stone 3 though it was probably 10 seconds s	
	ing really clowly — even
3 quickly because I did not want to fall on the stone 3 though it was probably 10 seconds s	ing icany slowly — even
	since we left the flat
4 stairs. I was bare footed. I was trying to go fast but 4 — it felt like 10 minutes.	
5 I could not see where I was going. I was holding onto 5 "25. When we got to the bottom of	of the stairs and
6 the handrail because I couldn't see the steps. The 6 opened the door, everything was ligh	ht and there was no
7 handrail felt cold to the touch. I think it is a metal 7 smoke. It was as if nothing had happened 7	pened. It was like
8 handle. When we were going down the stairs there was 8 coming out of a nightmare, that's the	only way I can
9 thick smoke and as we went down the heat became more and 9 describe it. We went through a door	r .
more intense. On the stairs the smoke was thick, thick 10 "26. As I came out of the staircas	se into the lobby
11 enough that you didn't want to breathe it in and thicker 11 — even before leaving the Tower —	- everything seemed
than the smoke that there had been on the landing. It 12 normal. The lights were on and ther	e was no smoke. It
got thicker the further down we went. I still had my 13 was as if there was nothing wrong.	I went through the
14 t-shirt up over my nose and mouth. My eyes were 14 two doors and onto the stairs on the	outside of the
15 burning. My throat was burning. I was trying to keep 15 building.	
my eyes open. I did not look backwards but at one point 16 "27. As we came out of our flat o	on to the landing I
17 I felt Mickey touch my shoulder. I knew he had 17 would describe the smoke as similar	to the diagram
18 [redacted] in his arms. I kept holding onto the 18 marked (D) that I have been shown a	and that when I went
19 handrail. I was right in front of him. Mickey has told 19 in to the staircase it was like the diag	gram marked (E)."
20 me that he put me in front of him as we came out of the 20 I pause there, Mr Chairman. Just	for the record,
21 flat because he did not want to lose me on the stairs, I 21 that's a reference to the smoke descri	iptor provided by
22 knew the layout of the stairs, I would have been able to 22 the inquiry to witnesses.	
23 walk down those stairs with my eyes shut — there are 23 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes.	
24 about 12 steps on each flight. I wasn't talking to 24 MR RAWAT: "I believe the fire fighte	er might have been on
25 Mickey because I didn't want to breathe in any of the 25 his knees as there was less smoke at	
Page 193 Page 195	
1 smoke. 1 have had oxygen; I don't know. In the	e staircase I had
2 "22. I heard loads of screams in the stairs. There 2 to put myself in the smoke to be able to	
3 was a lot of activity — screaming, shouting, the calling 3 I would say the smoke was grey on the	-
4 out of people's names. I cannot remember any particular 4 in the staircase it was thick, toxic smol	-
5 names being shouted out. The noise was mostly happening 5 of 10 with black being 10 and clear gla	ass being 0; I
6 above us but I could hear commotion below us as well. 6 would describe the smoke in the stairs	-
7 "23. I could feel bodies push past. There were 7 landing outside my flat as a 5.	
8 firefighters present — I remember seeing yellow helmets 8 "28. As I left the Tower, I could see	e the
9 — it's a clear image — my eyes were burning. There was 9 firefighters running in. When I first go	ot down there
just so much action on the stairs. To the best of my 10 wasn't a lot of firefighters there, there	was only a
11 recollection there was a fire fighter going up the 11 couple. I can remember the firefighter	•
stairs as I came down but it was difficult to tell what 12 a firefighter with a hose outside, but th	ne water wasn't
was happening. My strongest sense was my hearing. 13 coming out."	
There was a lot of panic and fear. On that staircase 2 14 That's where I propose to stop reading the staircase 2 14 That's where I propose to stop reading the staircase 2 14 That's where I propose to stop reading the staircase 2 14 That's where I propose to stop reading the staircase 2 14 That's where I propose to stop reading the staircase 2 14 That's where I propose to stop reading the staircase 2 14 That's where I propose to stop reading the staircase 2 14 That's where I propose to stop reading the staircase 2 14 That's where I propose to stop reading the staircase 2 14 That's where I propose to stop reading the staircase 2 14 That's where I propose to stop reading the staircase 2 14 That's where I propose to stop reading the staircase 2 14 That's where I propose to stop reading the staircase 2 14 That's where I propose to stop reading the staircase 2 14 That's where I propose to stop reading the staircase 2 14 That's where I propose to stop reading the staircase 2 14 That's where I propose to stop reading the staircase 2 14 That's where I propose to stop reading the staircase 2 14 That's where I propose to stop reading the staircase 2 14 That's where I propose 2 14 That's where I pro	ng from that
people can pass if they make room for one another. I 15 statement.	
would estimate that there were about 3 or 4 people whom 16 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Thank y	ou very much.
17 I came into contact with as I went down those stairs 17 MAHBOUBEH JAMALVATAN (evic	dence read into the record)
including the firefighter coming up — so, 2 or 3 coming 18 MR RAWAT: There are three more state	ements to put on the
down. I do not recall them saying anything to me as 19 record this afternoon. They are statem	nents from three
they passed. I was dazed from being asleep; everyone 20 members of the Jamalvatan family who	o lived in flat 10,
21 was confused. 21 floor 3 of Grenfell Tower.	
22 "24. I cannot say which floor it was that there 22 The first statement I will put on the	record is the
were no lights and we had to continue down in darkness. 23 witness statement of Mahboubeh Jama	alvatan.
23 were no rights and we had to continue down in darkness. 23 withess statement of infalloction falls.	
24 It felt like a nightmare. Everything was just getting 24 The reference is at IWS00000078.	
	ş it.
24 It felt like a nightmare. Everything was just getting 24 The reference is at IWS00000078.	g it.

2 fire and she exited at 01.24. 3 It's a nine-page statement. On page 9, if we go to 4 that, we see that there is a statement of truth. The 5 statement is signed and is dated 1 May 2018. 5 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes, thank you. 6 Key to the flat, and I picked up my mobile phone so could call my children. I also switched off the electricity in the fuse box to the right of the front door. 9 They'd moved there in August 2016. 9 They'd moved there in August 2016. 9 They'd moved there in August 2016. 10 Mrs Jamalvatan is disabled, she has mobility issues, and her daughter, Sahar, was her registered carer on the night of the fire. She was home alone, her two children having gone out that evening to the cinema. 11 If I could just pick it up, please, with 12 Mrs Jamalvatan's account of the night of the fire at paragraph 25 on page 4. 16 Ji SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes. 17 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes. 18 MR RAWAT: She recalls that she went to bed at around 19 11.00 pm. 20 If we start with paragraph 25, it continues: 21 "25. Shortly after I was woken up by shouting and 22 screaming but I could not figure out what was being 23 said. Through my bedroom window I saw small pieces of 23 what to do. I was shaking. I could smell burning for the smoke inside the children's bedrooms but there was no smoke inside the children's bedrooms but there was no smoke inside the children's smoke inside the flat. 2 what to do. I was shaking. I could smoke inside the flat. 3 the side of the children's bedrooms but there was no smoke inside the flat. 4 the side of the children's bedroom smoke inside the flat. 5 "29. I picked up my handbag, which contained the key to the flat, and I picked up my handbag, which contained the key to the flat, and I picked up my handbag the flat. 5 "29. I picked up my handbag, which contained the skey to the flat, and I picked up my handbag door. 10 door. 11 door left flat in picked up my handbag the flat. 12 what to do. I was shaking. I could see left flat and I picked up my handbag door. 13 hat be flat.	what to do. I was shaking. I could smell burning from the side of the children's bedrooms but there was no ruth. The 4 smoke inside the flat. 2018. 5 "29. I picked up my handbag, which contained the keyou. 6 key to the flat, and I picked up my mobile phone so I could call my children. I also switched off the Grenfell Tower. 8 electricity in the fuse box to the right of the front
It's a nine-page statement. On page 9, if we go to that, we see that there is a statement of truth. The statement is signed and is dated 1 May 2018. SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes, thank you. MR RAWAT: In summary, Mrs Jamalvatan lived with her two children, Sahar and Sajad, in flat 10 of Grenfell Tower. They'd moved there in August 2016. Mrs Jamalvatan is disabled, she has mobility issues, and her daughter, Sahar, was her registered carer on the night of the fire. She was home alone, her two children having gone out that evening to the cinema. If I could just pick it up, please, with Mrs Jamalvatan's account of the night of the fire at paragraph 25 on page 4. SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes. MR RAWAT: She recalls that she went to bed at around Mrs AWAYT: She recalls that she went to bed at around Mrs AWAYT: She recalls that she went to bed at around Mrs AWAYT: She recalls that she went to bed at around Mrs AWAYT: She recalls that she went to bed at around Mrs AWAYT: She recalls that she went to bed at around Mrs AWAYT: She recalls that she went to bed at around Mrs AWAYT: She recalls that she went to bed at around Mrs RAWAYT: She recalls that she went to bed at around Mrs AWAYT: She recalls that she went to bed at around Mrs AWAYT: She recalls that she went to bed at around Mrs RAWAYT: She recalls that she went to bed at around Mrs AWAYT: She recalls that she went to bed at around Mrs AWAYT: She recalls that she went to bed at around Mrs AWAYT: She recalls that she went to bed at around Mrs AWAYT: She recalls that she went to bed at around Mrs AWAYT: She recalls that she went to bed at around Mrs AwayAYT: She recalls that she went to bed at around Mrs AwayAYT: She recalls that she went to bed at around Mrs AwayAYT: She recalls that she went to bed at around Mrs AwayAYT: She recalls that she went to bed at around Mrs AwayAYT: She recalls that she went to bed at around Mrs AwayAYT: She recalls that she went to bed at around Mrs AwayAYT: She recalls that she went to bed at around Mrs AwayAYT: She recalls that she went	the side of the children's bedrooms but there was no smoke inside the flat. 1018. 5 "29. I picked up my handbag, which contained the key to the flat, and I picked up my mobile phone so I could call my children. I also switched off the Grenfell Tower. 8 electricity in the fuse box to the right of the front
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6 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes, thank you. 7 MR RAWAT: In summary, Mrs Jamalvatan lived with her two 8 children, Sahar and Sajad, in flat 10 of Grenfell Tower. 9 They'd moved there in August 2016. 9 door. 10 Mrs Jamalvatan is disabled, she has mobility issues, 11 and her daughter, Sahar, was her registered carer on the 12 night of the fire. She was home alone, her two children 13 having gone out that evening to the cinema. 14 If I could just pick it up, please, with 15 Mrs Jamalvatan's account of the night of the fire at 16 paragraph 25 on page 4. 17 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes. 18 MR RAWAT: She recalls that she went to bed at around 19 11.00 pm. 10 Mrs RAWAT: In summary, Mrs Jamalvatan lived with her two 10 door. 10 door. 11 door. 12 a rush to leave that I forgot my stick which I use to 13 help me walk. 14 "31. There was no one else in the hallway outsid 15 my flat. The lights were on and I could see clearly. 16 went towards the lift and pressed the button to call in the fire at 15 my flat. The lights were on and I could see clearly. 17 When the lift arrived and the door opened, it was further thanks of people and there was not space for me to fit in. 18 Mr RAWAT: She recalls that she went to bed at around 19 In.00 pm. 19 People were screaming. 19 People were screaming. 20 If we start with paragraph 25, it continues: 20 "32. I decided to go down the stairs instead. Thi was very difficult for me without my stick. I had to screaming but I could not figure out what was being 22 sit on each stair and bump my way down. I then ture 23 said. Through my bedroom window I saw small pieces of 23 around and crawled down backwards using my hand.	k you. 6 key to the flat, and I picked up my mobile phone so I 7 could call my children. I also switched off the Grenfell Tower. 8 electricity in the fuse box to the right of the front
7 MR RAWAT: In summary, Mrs Jamalvatan lived with her two 8 children, Sahar and Sajad, in flat 10 of Grenfell Tower. 9 They'd moved there in August 2016. 9 door. 10 Mrs Jamalvatan is disabled, she has mobility issues, 11 and her daughter, Sahar, was her registered carer on the 12 night of the fire. She was home alone, her two children 13 having gone out that evening to the cinema. 14 If I could just pick it up, please, with 15 Mrs Jamalvatan's account of the night of the fire at 16 paragraph 25 on page 4. 17 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes. 18 MR RAWAT: She recalls that she went to bed at around 19 11.00 pm. 20 If we start with paragraph 25, it continues: 21 "25. Shortly after I was woken up by shouting and 22 screaming but I could not figure out what was being 23 said. Through my bedroom window I saw small pieces of 25 could call my children. I also switched off the electricity in the fuse box to the right of the firent door. 8 electricity in the fuse box to the right of the firent door. 9 door. 10 "30. I then hurried out of the flat, shutting the door behind me. I did not lock the door. I was in st a rush to leave that I forgot my stick which I use to help me walk. 14 "31. There was no one else in the hallway outsid my flat. The lights were on and I could see clearly. When the lift and pressed the button to call in the fuse box to the right of the firent door. I was fusure to leave that I forgot my stick which I use to help me walk. 15 my flat. The lights were on and I could see clearly. When the lift arrived and the door opened, it was fusure for people and there was not space for me to fit in. 19 People were screaming. 20 "32. I decided to go down the stairs instead. This was very difficult for me without my stick. I had to screaming but I could not figure out what was being around and crawled down backwards using my hand around and crawled down backwards using my	an lived with her two 7 could call my children. I also switched off the Grenfell Tower. 8 electricity in the fuse box to the right of the front
8 children, Sahar and Sajad, in flat 10 of Grenfell Tower. 9 They'd moved there in August 2016. 9 door. 10 Mrs Jamalvatan is disabled, she has mobility issues, 11 and her daughter, Sahar, was her registered carer on the 12 night of the fire. She was home alone, her two children 13 having gone out that evening to the cinema. 14 If I could just pick it up, please, with 15 Mrs Jamalvatan's account of the night of the fire at 16 paragraph 25 on page 4. 17 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes. 18 MR RAWAT: She recalls that she went to bed at around 19 11.00 pm. 10 gene out what was being 20 screaming but I could not figure out what was being 21 said. Through my bedroom window I saw small pieces of 22 around and crawled down backwards using my hand	Grenfell Tower. 8 electricity in the fuse box to the right of the front
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17 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes. 18 MR RAWAT: She recalls that she went to bed at around 19 11.00 pm. 19 People were screaming. 20 If we start with paragraph 25, it continues: 21 "25. Shortly after I was woken up by shouting and 22 screaming but I could not figure out what was being 23 said. Through my bedroom window I saw small pieces of 24 When the lift arrived and the door opened, it was further of people and there was not space for me to fit in. 25 People were screaming. 26 "32. I decided to go down the stairs instead. Thi was very difficult for me without my stick. I had to screaming but I could not figure out what was being 25 sit on each stair and bump my way down. I then ture around and crawled down backwards using my hand.	f the fire at 15 my flat. The lights were on and I could see clearly. I
MR RAWAT: She recalls that she went to bed at around 19 11.00 pm. 19 People were screaming. 20 If we start with paragraph 25, it continues: 21 "25. Shortly after I was woken up by shouting and 22 screaming but I could not figure out what was being 23 said. Through my bedroom window I saw small pieces of 24 of people and there was not space for me to fit in. 25 People were screaming. 26 "32. I decided to go down the stairs instead. Thi was very difficult for me without my stick. I had to screaming but I could not figure out what was being 25 said. Through my bedroom window I saw small pieces of 26 around and crawled down backwards using my hand	went towards the lift and pressed the button to call it.
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20 If we start with paragraph 25, it continues: 21 "25. Shortly after I was woken up by shouting and 22 screaming but I could not figure out what was being 23 said. Through my bedroom window I saw small pieces of 20 "32. I decided to go down the stairs instead. Thi 21 was very difficult for me without my stick. I had to 22 sit on each stair and bump my way down. I then tur 23 around and crawled down backwards using my hand	bed at around 18 of people and there was not space for me to fit in.
21 "25. Shortly after I was woken up by shouting and 21 was very difficult for me without my stick. I had to screaming but I could not figure out what was being 22 sit on each stair and bump my way down. I then tur 23 said. Through my bedroom window I saw small pieces of 23 around and crawled down backwards using my hand	19 People were screaming.
22 screaming but I could not figure out what was being 22 sit on each stair and bump my way down. I then tur 23 said. Through my bedroom window I saw small pieces of 23 around and crawled down backwards using my hand	nues: 20 "32. I decided to go down the stairs instead. This
23 said. Through my bedroom window I saw small pieces of 23 around and crawled down backwards using my hand	shouting and 21 was very difficult for me without my stick. I had to
	at was being 22 sit on each stair and bump my way down. I then turned
24 fire were falling. Could see this from my hed. I. 24 legs. The lights were on and I could see clearly	aw small pieces of 23 around and crawled down backwards using my hands and
24 legs. The lights were on and reduit see that from my bed. 1	y bed. I 24 legs. The lights were on and I could see clearly.
25 thought the person in the flat above may have 25 There was some smoke and I could hear shouting in	have 25 There was some smoke and I could hear shouting in the
Page 197 Page 199	Page 199
	- "60 - 77
1 accidently[sic] set something on fire, such as a pillow, 1 stair well. I knew now that it was serious.	such as a pillow, 1 stair well. I knew now that it was serious.
2 and that they were shaking it out of the window. I do 2 "33. I did not see anyone else while I was going	ne window. I do 2 "33. I did not see anyone else while I was going
3 not know who lives in the flat above me. As I thought 3 down the stairs until I reached the first floor. On the	me. As I thought 3 down the stairs until I reached the first floor. On the
4 it was unimportant I went back to sleep. I take 4 first floor two fire fighters passed me, heading up the	ep. I take 4 first floor two fire fighters passed me, heading up the
5 sleeping pills which means I can go to sleep quickly. 5 stairs. They seemed quite relaxed. They were not	o sleep quickly. 5 stairs. They seemed quite relaxed. They were not
6 "26. At around 1.20am to 1.30am, I was woken by a 6 wearing full protective clothing and they were carry	I was woken by a 6 wearing full protective clothing and they were carrying
7 very loud bang as if something hit the floor of the flat 7 boxes in their hands. They did not ask me if I needs	e floor of the flat 7 boxes in their hands. They did not ask me if I needed
8 above me. It sounded like bombing. I got out of bed, 8 any help. I asked them what was happening and the	I got out of bed, 8 any help. I asked them what was happening and they told
9 went to the living room and looked through the window 9 me to leave.	rough the window 9 me to leave.
which faces the gym and saw a fire engine outside. I 10 "34. Eventually I reached the ground floor. I	ngine outside. I 10 "34. Eventually I reached the ground floor. I
could also see hundreds of people gathered below. 11 think in total it took me around 10 to 15 minutes. I	thered below. 11 think in total it took me around 10 to 15 minutes. I
12 "27. I saw a fire fighter spraying water from a 12 think I left the building at approximately 1.20am. I	water from a 12 think I left the building at approximately 1.20am. I do
hose on to the building. I could see big flames 13 not think I inhaled any smoke, but I was slightly sho	oig flames 13 not think I inhaled any smoke, but I was slightly short
14 covering the entire window facing the gym. Burning 14 of breath because I was panicked.	
pieces were falling from above my flat and past my 15 "35. I did not hear any alarms while I was in my	
facing the gym to the direction of the school. I leave; it was my own decision to exit the building."	_
	·
19 shaking; it was not only a mattress on fire as I had 19 statement.	
20 initially thought. The water that the fire fighter was 20 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: All right.	1) statement.
	fire fighter was 20 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: All right.
l	fire fighter was 20 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: All right. w that faced the 21 SAJAD JAMALVATAN (evidence read into the record)
24 any higher than the level of my flat. I could feel the 24 of 13 June. They had gone to the cinema, and they	fire fighter was 20 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: All right. w that faced the 21 SAJAD JAMALVATAN (evidence read into the record) de of the 22 MR RAWAT: If I can turn to her son's statement, Sajad. As
25 heat from the fire and was slightly sweating. 25 received a call from their mother around 01.00 am	fire fighter was 20 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: All right. 21 SAJAD JAMALVATAN (evidence read into the record) 22 MR RAWAT: If I can turn to her son's statement, Sajad. As 23 I explained, he was out with his sister on the evening
D 400	fire fighter was w that faced the de of the so could not reach I could feel the 20 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: All right. SAJAD JAMALVATAN (evidence read into the record) MR RAWAT: If I can turn to her son's statement, Sajad. As I explained, he was out with his sister on the evening of 13 June. They had gone to the cinema, and they
Page 198 Page 200	fire fighter was w that faced the de of the so could not reach I could feel the veating. 20 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: All right. SAJAD JAMALVATAN (evidence read into the record) MR RAWAT: If I can turn to her son's statement, Sajad. As I explained, he was out with his sister on the evening of 13 June. They had gone to the cinema, and they received a call from their mother around 01.00 am

1	informing them about the fire. They then returned home	1	area. I could not see the Tower any more."
2	immediately and found their mother outside.	2	Mr Chairman, if I then move down to paragraph 29,
3	There's just two parts of the statement that I would	3	Sajad then says:
4	wish to highlight today.	4	"29. I went back to where my Mum was, she did not
5	Before I do that, what I need to do, of course, is	5	appear to be breathing. I shouted at anyone who would
6	formally put it into the record.	6	listen to me to 'Help' 'Help' 'my Mum is looking for
7	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes.	7	her breath'. I saw an ambulance and I was so lucky that
8	MR RAWAT: To put onto the record the witness statement of	8	someone was there to offer me an oxygen mask. I had to
9	Sajad Jamalvatan, the statement reference is	9	beg for it. Everyone including the ambulance personnel
10	IWS00000068.	10	and firefighters all seemed so shocked and not sure what
11	It has, as part of the statement, an exhibit, which	11	they were doing.
12	is on page 9, and which is a floor plan.	12	"30. I gave my Mum the oxygen mask, so that she
13	If we go to page 8 of the statement, it carries	13	could breathe."
14	a statement of truth. It is dated 17 April 2018 and is	14	That's as far as I propose to read from that
15	signed.	15	statement, if I may.
16	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Right.	16	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Right.
17	MR RAWAT: As I explained, Mr Chairman, Sajad wasn't in	17	SAHAR JAMALVATAN (evidence read into the record)
18	flat 10 on the night of the fire, he had gone to the	18	MR RAWAT: The last statement we are going to put on the
19	cinema with his sister, but whilst they were out, they	19	record today is that of Sahar Jamalvatan, Sajad's
20	received a call from their mother, whose statement we've	20	sister.
21	just put into the record, and that was to tell them	21	The statement is at IWS00000325.
22	about the fire.	22	If we go to page 7, it carries on that page
23	They then obviously returned back home immediately	23	a statement of truth, is signed and is dated
24	and they were able to meet their mother outside.	24	18 May 2018.
25	If I then just pick it up, please, at page 5,	25	As part of the statement there is incorporated
	Page 201		Page 203
1		,	:d: :,
1	paragraph 23.	1	within it a floor plan of flat 10.
2	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes, right.	2	Sahar was with her brother and outside the tower on
3	MR RAWAT: "23. I eventually found my Mum about 30 minutes after we got to Grenfell. I cannot be sure what time I	3	the night of the fire, but it's helpful if I could just
5	found my Mum. It could have been about 1.40 a.m. I was	4	take you, Mr Chairman, to page 3 of the statement and
6	so relieved to find her; she was with a group of people	5 6	paragraph 13.
7	so reneved to find her, she was with a group of people		CID MADTIN MOODE DICK: Voc
/			SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes.
	from the Tower.	7	MR RAWAT: "13. The flat did not have a balcony and the
8	from the Tower. 24. The police were pushing people back trying to	7 8	MR RAWAT: "13. The flat did not have a balcony and the windows could not be opened fully in order to be used as
8 9	from the Tower. 24. The police were pushing people back trying to clear the area. They put barriers up as they thought	7 8 9	MR RAWAT: "13. The flat did not have a balcony and the windows could not be opened fully in order to be used as escape route. The main door of the flat was
8 9 10	from the Tower. 24. The police were pushing people back trying to clear the area. They put barriers up as they thought the building was going to collapse and they wanted to	7 8 9 10	MR RAWAT: "13. The flat did not have a balcony and the windows could not be opened fully in order to be used as escape route. The main door of the flat was self-closing. It would spring shut, but I usually
8 9 10 11	from the Tower. 24. The police were pushing people back trying to clear the area. They put barriers up as they thought the building was going to collapse and they wanted to ensure those of us outside the Tower were safe. I could	7 8 9 10 11	MR RAWAT: "13. The flat did not have a balcony and the windows could not be opened fully in order to be used as escape route. The main door of the flat was self-closing. It would spring shut, but I usually pushed it shut at the end. I am not sure if it would
8 9 10 11 12	from the Tower. 24. The police were pushing people back trying to clear the area. They put barriers up as they thought the building was going to collapse and they wanted to ensure those of us outside the Tower were safe. I could hear people speaking on their mobile phones to their	7 8 9 10 11 12	MR RAWAT: "13. The flat did not have a balcony and the windows could not be opened fully in order to be used as escape route. The main door of the flat was self-closing. It would spring shut, but I usually pushed it shut at the end. I am not sure if it would have closed by itself fully if I had not done this. On
8 9 10 11 12 13	from the Tower. 24. The police were pushing people back trying to clear the area. They put barriers up as they thought the building was going to collapse and they wanted to ensure those of us outside the Tower were safe. I could hear people speaking on their mobile phones to their families in the tower. I was telling them to say to who	7 8 9 10 11 12 13	MR RAWAT: "13. The flat did not have a balcony and the windows could not be opened fully in order to be used as escape route. The main door of the flat was self-closing. It would spring shut, but I usually pushed it shut at the end. I am not sure if it would have closed by itself fully if I had not done this. On leaving the flat you could see a rubbish chute on your
8 9 10 11 12 13 14	from the Tower. 24. The police were pushing people back trying to clear the area. They put barriers up as they thought the building was going to collapse and they wanted to ensure those of us outside the Tower were safe. I could hear people speaking on their mobile phones to their families in the tower. I was telling them to say to who ever was in their homes in the Tower that they needed to	7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	MR RAWAT: "13. The flat did not have a balcony and the windows could not be opened fully in order to be used as escape route. The main door of the flat was self-closing. It would spring shut, but I usually pushed it shut at the end. I am not sure if it would have closed by itself fully if I had not done this. On leaving the flat you could see a rubbish chute on your left next to a storage area and beside the storage there
8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	from the Tower. 24. The police were pushing people back trying to clear the area. They put barriers up as they thought the building was going to collapse and they wanted to ensure those of us outside the Tower were safe. I could hear people speaking on their mobile phones to their families in the tower. I was telling them to say to who ever was in their homes in the Tower that they needed to put wet towels on the floors under the doors to keep the	7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	MR RAWAT: "13. The flat did not have a balcony and the windows could not be opened fully in order to be used as escape route. The main door of the flat was self-closing. It would spring shut, but I usually pushed it shut at the end. I am not sure if it would have closed by itself fully if I had not done this. On leaving the flat you could see a rubbish chute on your left next to a storage area and beside the storage there was a staircase and on your right there were two lifts.
8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	from the Tower. 24. The police were pushing people back trying to clear the area. They put barriers up as they thought the building was going to collapse and they wanted to ensure those of us outside the Tower were safe. I could hear people speaking on their mobile phones to their families in the tower. I was telling them to say to who ever was in their homes in the Tower that they needed to put wet towels on the floors under the doors to keep the fire out. They also needed to keep low."	7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	MR RAWAT: "13. The flat did not have a balcony and the windows could not be opened fully in order to be used as escape route. The main door of the flat was self-closing. It would spring shut, but I usually pushed it shut at the end. I am not sure if it would have closed by itself fully if I had not done this. On leaving the flat you could see a rubbish chute on your left next to a storage area and beside the storage there was a staircase and on your right there were two lifts. The staircase and the lifts were opposite each other.
8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	from the Tower. 24. The police were pushing people back trying to clear the area. They put barriers up as they thought the building was going to collapse and they wanted to ensure those of us outside the Tower were safe. I could hear people speaking on their mobile phones to their families in the tower. I was telling them to say to who ever was in their homes in the Tower that they needed to put wet towels on the floors under the doors to keep the fire out. They also needed to keep low." If I move to the next paragraph:	7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	MR RAWAT: "13. The flat did not have a balcony and the windows could not be opened fully in order to be used as escape route. The main door of the flat was self-closing. It would spring shut, but I usually pushed it shut at the end. I am not sure if it would have closed by itself fully if I had not done this. On leaving the flat you could see a rubbish chute on your left next to a storage area and beside the storage there was a staircase and on your right there were two lifts. The staircase and the lifts were opposite each other. "14. If you went a few steps down the stairs on my
8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	from the Tower. 24. The police were pushing people back trying to clear the area. They put barriers up as they thought the building was going to collapse and they wanted to ensure those of us outside the Tower were safe. I could hear people speaking on their mobile phones to their families in the tower. I was telling them to say to who ever was in their homes in the Tower that they needed to put wet towels on the floors under the doors to keep the fire out. They also needed to keep low." If I move to the next paragraph: "25. At about 2 a.m I heard an explosion on the	7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	MR RAWAT: "13. The flat did not have a balcony and the windows could not be opened fully in order to be used as escape route. The main door of the flat was self-closing. It would spring shut, but I usually pushed it shut at the end. I am not sure if it would have closed by itself fully if I had not done this. On leaving the flat you could see a rubbish chute on your left next to a storage area and beside the storage there was a staircase and on your right there were two lifts. The staircase and the lifts were opposite each other. "14. If you went a few steps down the stairs on my floor you could see a door which was self-closing and
8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	from the Tower. 24. The police were pushing people back trying to clear the area. They put barriers up as they thought the building was going to collapse and they wanted to ensure those of us outside the Tower were safe. I could hear people speaking on their mobile phones to their families in the tower. I was telling them to say to who ever was in their homes in the Tower that they needed to put wet towels on the floors under the doors to keep the fire out. They also needed to keep low." If I move to the next paragraph: "25. At about 2 a.m I heard an explosion on the other side of the building I am not really sure of the	7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19	MR RAWAT: "13. The flat did not have a balcony and the windows could not be opened fully in order to be used as escape route. The main door of the flat was self-closing. It would spring shut, but I usually pushed it shut at the end. I am not sure if it would have closed by itself fully if I had not done this. On leaving the flat you could see a rubbish chute on your left next to a storage area and beside the storage there was a staircase and on your right there were two lifts. The staircase and the lifts were opposite each other. "14. If you went a few steps down the stairs on my floor you could see a door which was self-closing and led to the main staircase. By using the staircase and
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1	"15. My front door was not replaced during the time	1 INDEX
2	I lived at Grenfell Tower and there was no damage to it.	2 PETRA DOULOVA (affirmed)1
3	It had two hinges on the side. There was a gap between	Questions by COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY1
4	the bottom of the door and the floor and there was a	EMMA O'CONNOR (evidence read into69 4 the record)
5	draft seal fitted. We had a letterbox which sprung shut	5 VIRGILIO CASTRO (evidence read into73
6	after being opened. All rooms in my flat had doors	the record)
7	which opened and closed."	MESROB KASSEMJDIAN (evidence read77
8	If I finish reading there, but just add, perhaps, as	7 into the record) 8 RITA TANKARIAN (evidence read into87
9	a final point that the Jamalvatan family had moved into	the record)
10	•	CORINNE SIMONE JONES (evidence read93
	flat 10 in August 2016.	10 into the record) 11 JASON MILLER (evidence read into the104
11	Mr Chairman, that is all of the reading for today.	record)
12	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Right. Well, thank you very much.	JOSE VIEIRO (sworn)108
13	I think it's right that, as I said this morning, I'm	13 Questions by COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY108 14 VANESSA VIEIRO (evidence read into151
14	very grateful to all those who have taken so much time	the record)
15	and trouble to produce the statements that you've been	BETTY KASOTE (evidence read into the153
16	reading extracts from this afternoon. I'm very struck	16 record)
17	by the fact that many of them are honestly very	17 HERMINE HARRIS (evidence read into160 the record)
18	detailed, very lengthy, and in all cases they have been	ABRAHAM ABEBE (evidence read into163
19	compiled with great care. They will all form part of	19 the record)
20	the evidence before the inquiry, and will be taken into	20 TURUFAT YILMA GIRMA (evidence read173 into the record)
21	account when the inquiry makes its findings.	21
22	MR RAWAT: Thank you, Mr Chairman.	MICHAEL PARAMASAVIAN (evidence read183 22 into the record)
23	SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Good, thank you very much.	23 HANNAH WEST (evidence read into the188
24	So that's all we can do today.	record)
25	MR RAWAT: One final point in relation to tomorrow. We have	MAHBOUBEH JAMALVATAN (evidence read196 25 into the record)
	D 005	, ,
	Page 205	Page 207
1	two witnesses who will be heard tomorrow, but we were	1 SAJAD JAMALVATAN (evidence read into200
2	due to hear also the oral evidence from Mr Hamid Wahbi.	the record)
3	I hope those here have seen a letter which has gone out	2
4	from the inquiry, but just to confirm, Mr Wahbi will not	SAHAR JAMALVATAN (evidence read into203
5	be giving evidence tomorrow, but he will be heard later	3 the record)
6		4
7	on in the programme. SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Right. So we'll have another	5
	_	6
8	witness at 10 o'clock tomorrow.	7
9	Very good. Thank you all very much. 10 o'clock	8
10	tomorrow, then, please.	9
11	(4.20 pm)	10
12	(The hearing adjourned until Thursday, 18 October 2018	11
13	at 10.00 am)	12
14		13
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