

<p>1 Friday, 29 June 2018</p> <p>2 (9.30 am)</p> <p>3 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Good morning, everyone. Welcome to</p> <p>4 today's hearing. We are going to resume with Mr Brown</p> <p>5 in just a moment.</p> <p>6 MR MILLETT: Good morning, Mr Chairman.</p> <p>7 Yes, Mr Brown, please.</p> <p>8 DANIEL BROWN (continued)</p> <p>9 Questions by COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY (continued)</p> <p>10 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Good morning, Mr Brown.</p> <p>11 THE WITNESS: Good morning.</p> <p>12 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Are you ready to continue?</p> <p>13 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.</p> <p>14 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Mr Millett.</p> <p>15 MR MILLETT: Morning, Mr Brown.</p> <p>16 Now, on the night of the fire, we have you entering</p> <p>17 the tower at 01.01.26 or so. I'm not going to show you</p> <p>18 the CCTV cameras which picked that up; they will go into</p> <p>19 the record. I'll just read the various shots we have</p> <p>20 into the record, CCTV: INQ00000114 and INQ00000115 and</p> <p>21 INQ00000116. So if people want to see CCTV of you</p> <p>22 coming into the tower at that time, they can.</p> <p>23 I have a number of questions about arrival at the</p> <p>24 tower.</p> <p>25 Number 1: is it the case that you needed a key fob</p> <p>Page 1</p>	<p>1 I think the lift stopped off at another floor before</p> <p>2 descending which meant that the fire lift function</p> <p>3 wasn't working. CM SECRETT stated it wasn't working."</p> <p>4 You then go on to say towards the bottom of that</p> <p>5 paragraph:</p> <p>6 "I believe the reason the fire lift failed that</p> <p>7 night was due to poor maintenance."</p> <p>8 First of all, could you describe what happened when</p> <p>9 Crew Manager Secrett tried to summon the lift?</p> <p>10 A. So Crew Manager Secrett basically put the key in -- to</p> <p>11 operate a fire lift, you will have a panel which</p> <p>12 actually says -- it will say either "Firefighter's lift"</p> <p>13 or "Fireman's lift". Once you put the key in and turn</p> <p>14 it, it's essentially a complete override of the lift and</p> <p>15 it should give us complete overall control of that lift,</p> <p>16 and that lift should descend immediately down to the</p> <p>17 ground floor.</p> <p>18 Q. What happened?</p> <p>19 A. It stopped off at a floor above the ground floor.</p> <p>20 Q. Did it come to the ground floor?</p> <p>21 A. It did eventually.</p> <p>22 Q. Could you take it under control? You, the Fire Brigade.</p> <p>23 A. Not as a firefighter's lift, no.</p> <p>24 Q. Not as a firefighter's lift?</p> <p>25 A. Or a fireman's lift.</p> <p>Page 3</p>
<p>1 to access the building beyond the lobby, do you remember</p> <p>2 that?</p> <p>3 A. It's quite usual for a building, for security reasons,</p> <p>4 that they do have security doors that would require</p> <p>5 a certain key, but we have an override key which is very</p> <p>6 similar to the fire lift key. It's just a case of</p> <p>7 putting the key in and it will open the doors.</p> <p>8 Q. Do you remember a problem or delay in getting a key in</p> <p>9 order to get access into the tower on the night of the</p> <p>10 fire?</p> <p>11 A. On the evening, I didn't deal with the door. Once I had</p> <p>12 got the equipment off the appliance, fire engine, the</p> <p>13 door was open.</p> <p>14 Q. Right. So you don't remember a problem with getting</p> <p>15 access beyond the electronic security arrangements in</p> <p>16 the tower on the night?</p> <p>17 A. No.</p> <p>18 Q. Okay.</p> <p>19 A. No.</p> <p>20 Q. Now, in your witness statement, if you go to page 4,</p> <p>21 just to site you on it, and look at paragraph 2, you</p> <p>22 deal there with difficulties with the lift.</p> <p>23 You say:</p> <p>24 "Chris operated the fire lift but nothing happened,</p> <p>25 we waited about thirty (30) seconds but it didn't come,</p> <p>Page 2</p>	<p>1 Q. Does that mean that the lift was not under your control</p> <p>2 at any time but could be used freely by the occupants of</p> <p>3 the building?</p> <p>4 A. Sorry, could you repeat the question?</p> <p>5 Q. Did that mean that the lift could be used freely by the</p> <p>6 occupants of the building?</p> <p>7 A. Yes, it does, yes.</p> <p>8 Q. Is that, in your experience, an acceptable risk in</p> <p>9 a high-rise fire?</p> <p>10 A. It's a very high risk in a high-rise fire.</p> <p>11 Q. Could you explain why?</p> <p>12 A. We don't want members of the public using a lift in</p> <p>13 a fire situation because they can enter that lift and</p> <p>14 then something could happen to the power, and that will</p> <p>15 just stop the lift car on any floor it decides --</p> <p>16 wherever it was descending, it will just stop and they</p> <p>17 won't be able to get out, and they're essentially</p> <p>18 trapped in that lift and it could -- I won't go into</p> <p>19 details.</p> <p>20 Q. You say you believe the reason that the fire lift failed</p> <p>21 that night was due to poor maintenance.</p> <p>22 Is that opinion based on any evidence that you've</p> <p>23 seen about maintenance?</p> <p>24 A. Yes. I think I touched upon it yesterday. It's been</p> <p>25 noticeable over the last number of years,</p> <p>Page 4</p>

<p>1 a deterioration in the quality of the fire systems that</p> <p>2 are in place that we require when we turn up to</p> <p>3 an incident that could be a fire situation --</p> <p>4 Q. I am going to interrupt you, Mr Brown. I don't mean to</p> <p>5 be rude, I just want to be Grenfell Tower specific.</p> <p>6 Your opinion that the fire lift failed that night in</p> <p>7 Grenfell Tower was due to poor maintenance of that lift,</p> <p>8 is that based on any evidence?</p> <p>9 A. It's not based on any evidence; however, my opinion has</p> <p>10 come about because the actual condition of the tower is</p> <p>11 very well -- or looks very well looked after. So</p> <p>12 I can't imagine it to be down to any vandalism, which</p> <p>13 could also happen somewhere else. So I put it down to</p> <p>14 poor maintenance.</p> <p>15 Q. Now, I want to ask you some questions about flat 16. If</p> <p>16 you go to paragraph 4 on page 6 of your statement, you</p> <p>17 say there:</p> <p>18 "Close to the door, the uncharged branch together</p> <p>19 with the enforcer had been left on the floor ready for</p> <p>20 us to use. I had a look through the letterbox of the</p> <p>21 flat and I could see smoke in the hallway and could just</p> <p>22 make out a room at the end of the hallway so visibility</p> <p>23 appeared pretty good."</p> <p>24 Could you explain to me what you saw in terms of</p> <p>25 smoke? How dense was it, first of all?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 5</p>	<p>1 potentially their exit route at the time, should it be</p> <p>2 necessary.</p> <p>3 Q. Now, in the second-last paragraph, you describe how you</p> <p>4 put the door in. You say there in the last sentence:</p> <p>5 "It took two (2) hits for the door to open but as</p> <p>6 soon as it did, black smoke billowed out and I thought</p> <p>7 'Ok. We've got something now getting hold here.'"</p> <p>8 My first question is: so far as the smoke coming out</p> <p>9 is concerned, was that different from the smoke that</p> <p>10 you'd seen inside the flat when you looked through the</p> <p>11 letter box?</p> <p>12 A. It without doubt felt different, yes.</p> <p>13 Q. It felt different. What do you mean, felt different?</p> <p>14 A. When I looked through the letter box -- it's very hard</p> <p>15 to explain -- the fact that I could see through to the</p> <p>16 living -- or I think it was the living room or bedroom,</p> <p>17 the fact that I could see to me tells me that that area</p> <p>18 has not filled with smoke from combustion; it's in the</p> <p>19 process of. But once -- so I imagine that to be very</p> <p>20 similar to the point of opening the door. But once that</p> <p>21 door was open, it was significantly different just for</p> <p>22 the thick, dense smoke that literally pumped out. That</p> <p>23 immediately changed my opinion about what was now</p> <p>24 going -- it was significantly growing -- it was</p> <p>25 significantly getting worse quite quickly.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 7</p>
<p>1 A. The fact that I could see, once I'm looking through that</p> <p>2 letter box, through and make out something,</p> <p>3 a considerable distance with regards to where I'm</p> <p>4 standing within a flat, tells me that it hasn't -- to</p> <p>5 me, it feels like the fire's developing, but it's not</p> <p>6 fully developed.</p> <p>7 Q. What colour was the smoke?</p> <p>8 A. I couldn't tell the colour.</p> <p>9 Q. You explain in the next paragraph that Charlie pulsed</p> <p>10 the front door to see how hot it was and there was no</p> <p>11 sign of any heat or blistering from the door. What did</p> <p>12 that tell you?</p> <p>13 A. Yet again, the conditions within the flat at that point</p> <p>14 hadn't reached -- the thing with compartment fires is</p> <p>15 there's a real risk of back drafts and flashovers</p> <p>16 because essentially a compartment is a concrete box. So</p> <p>17 the heat will stay within that box a lot easier than it</p> <p>18 would if it wasn't a compartment.</p> <p>19 So you have to be extra careful at times with</p> <p>20 compartment fires, because when that door is open,</p> <p>21 potentially an awful lot of unburnt gases, toxins, are</p> <p>22 released through that front door, and because you're in</p> <p>23 an area that is a high-rise where other people are</p> <p>24 living on that landing, you really have to think</p> <p>25 about -- obviously the safety and the condition and</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 6</p>	<p>1 Q. What colour was the smoke?</p> <p>2 A. It was black.</p> <p>3 Q. Black smoke?</p> <p>4 A. Black smoke.</p> <p>5 Q. Could you feel any heat at that point, as soon as the</p> <p>6 front door was opened?</p> <p>7 A. Absolutely none.</p> <p>8 Q. None. What did that tell you about the fire?</p> <p>9 A. It told me that I was actually at that stage nowhere</p> <p>10 near it, but equally, a little bit confusing because</p> <p>11 there was an awful lot of smoke without that heat.</p> <p>12 So -- again, I'm going by my experience --</p> <p>13 generally, when you reach a point when you have that</p> <p>14 much smoke, you have a significantly developed fire</p> <p>15 somewhere, so that heat will be emitting towards you.</p> <p>16 There was none.</p> <p>17 Q. Okay.</p> <p>18 A. And already I'm at -- what is going on here?</p> <p>19 Q. Now, you go into the flat. We have it on the thermal</p> <p>20 imaging camera timed at 01.07. I'm not going to show</p> <p>21 you that at this stage. We'll move further forward into</p> <p>22 the thermal imaging camera.</p> <p>23 Can I just ask you before we do: are you all right</p> <p>24 to look at thermal imaging cameras?</p> <p>25 A. Absolutely, yes.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 8</p>

<p>1 Q. So we have it timed at 01.07 and, at that stage, is it</p> <p>2 right that you're holding the branch and Charlie is</p> <p>3 holding --</p> <p>4 A. Sorry, could you -- what stage again?</p> <p>5 Q. When you go into the flat at 01.07.</p> <p>6 A. No, I'm holding the thermal image camera.</p> <p>7 Q. You're holding --</p> <p>8 A. The thermal image camera and Charlie is holding the</p> <p>9 branch.</p> <p>10 Q. He's holding the branch?</p> <p>11 A. Yes.</p> <p>12 Q. Could you tell us what happens next after you enter the</p> <p>13 flat?</p> <p>14 A. So you're immediately assessing for heat, and there was</p> <p>15 none. I was actually following Charlie, so the</p> <p>16 visibility for the naked eye wasn't very good. It</p> <p>17 wasn't absolute zero, but it wasn't good. So you can</p> <p>18 make out things. With the aid of the thermal imaging</p> <p>19 camera, it was very easy to quickly make your way to the</p> <p>20 first room.</p> <p>21 Q. Just moving ahead -- I'm going to use your statement for</p> <p>22 the time being -- if you go to page 7, at the very</p> <p>23 bottom, you describe what you were doing inside the</p> <p>24 flat, and in the second-last paragraph, you say:</p> <p>25 "The last room on the left was a bathroom which we</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 9</p>	<p>1 A. That is correct.</p> <p>2 Q. Right. You explain why you swap, and then we get to the</p> <p>3 end there, and you then say in the next paragraph:</p> <p>4 "Once in our positions Charlie then cracked the door</p> <p>5 open and as I poked my head inside I could see a</p> <p>6 forceful curtain of flame on my left from about 2-3ft</p> <p>7 above the floor along with thick black smoke engulfing</p> <p>8 the room (I describe it as a curtain of flames as that</p> <p>9 is what the fire looked like; a curtain)."</p> <p>10 So I'm clear, is this the first entry into the</p> <p>11 kitchen?</p> <p>12 A. So this is the first entry into the kitchen. I have</p> <p>13 since seen a thermal imaging camera image on YouTube</p> <p>14 following this inquiry. There's a little bit before</p> <p>15 that.</p> <p>16 Q. Well, let's look at it. Can we please have the thermal</p> <p>17 imaging sequence starting at 01.14.16, which is as we've</p> <p>18 timed it, and I think Mr Batterbee has agreed, the first</p> <p>19 door opening of a number of door openings into the</p> <p>20 kitchen.</p> <p>21 So let's just run through that. If there's</p> <p>22 a sequence that's a little bit before that that is</p> <p>23 important, will you tell us, because I'm not sure we</p> <p>24 have it here.</p> <p>25 A. Okay.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 11</p>
<p>1 checked and this was also clear ... This left us with</p> <p>2 opposite door which was at the end of the corridor on</p> <p>3 the right opposite the bathroom door."</p> <p>4 Then this:</p> <p>5 "Visibility had now gone down to absolute zero in</p> <p>6 the hallway."</p> <p>7 You couldn't read the screen on the TIC as the smoke</p> <p>8 was so thick.</p> <p>9 Then you go on to say at the top of the next page:</p> <p>10 "... no real increase in temperature."</p> <p>11 Just to be clear, that's while you were still in the</p> <p>12 hall, was it?</p> <p>13 A. So we're still in the hallway. Yes, absolutely.</p> <p>14 Visibility had gone to absolute zero; you could not see</p> <p>15 your hand in front of your face. You could literally</p> <p>16 put it there on your mask and you still wouldn't be able</p> <p>17 to see, but there was no heat.</p> <p>18 Q. You then say:</p> <p>19 "I then swapped with Charlie and took hold of the</p> <p>20 branch and he now had the TIC."</p> <p>21 So that we are clear, at the moment you go into the</p> <p>22 flat at the front door, he's got the branch, you've got</p> <p>23 the thermal imaging camera; you go round the flat, you</p> <p>24 get to the end of the hall and you swap, and now you've</p> <p>25 got the branch and he's got the thermal imaging camera?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 10</p>	<p>1 Q. So, Mr Documents Director, if you could just run that.</p> <p>2 (Video played)</p> <p>3 Mr Brown, if you just tell us what we can see?</p> <p>4 A. You --</p> <p>5 Q. Just pausing there.</p> <p>6 A. You probably need to rewind it a bit.</p> <p>7 Q. Okay. If we go to the very beginning of this sequence.</p> <p>8 A. This is the very first opening of the door?</p> <p>9 Q. Well, yes.</p> <p>10 A. Okay.</p> <p>11 Q. That's what we think, but you are here to confirm that.</p> <p>12 (Video played)</p> <p>13 A. It needs to -- sorry -- it needs to be when the door is</p> <p>14 shut.</p> <p>15 Q. Right, can we go back a sequence before that,</p> <p>16 Mr Documents Director, so we can see the first opening</p> <p>17 of the door before that.</p> <p>18 I think if you start at 12, we'll see what it is</p> <p>19 that Mr Brown wants to show us. I hope.</p> <p>20 (Video played)</p> <p>21 Right, now, Mr Brown, at this stage, you have the</p> <p>22 thermal imaging camera?</p> <p>23 A. Correct.</p> <p>24 Q. And Charlie has the branch. It looks like you're ahead</p> <p>25 of him in the corridor.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 12</p>

<p>1 A. Yes. I did say, "Stop, pause, I want to look down the 2 hallway". 3 Q. Right. Let's do our best with what we have. 4 A. Okay. 5 Q. If there's anything you see you want to draw to our 6 attention, please say. 7 A. Well, at the time, what's noticeable is that there's no 8 heat, there's no sign of fire. 9 Q. Right. 10 A. I'm confused. I think at one point I almost thought, 11 "Am I in the right flat?" 12 Q. Okay. So what are we seeing here? What are we seeing 13 here now? 14 Could you just run back a bit, Mr Documents 15 Director. 16 I think, Mr Brown, you need to concentrate on this 17 sequence, perhaps, and tell us if there's anything 18 significant here. 19 A. If you pause it. So when that door initially opened, 20 what you see on the thermal imaging camera is not what 21 I can see with my eye. All I can see with my eye -- 22 because I'm not holding the thermal imaging camera at 23 this stage, I'm at the front with the branch -- is 24 something in the corner. At that first opening of the 25 door, something is in the corner.</p> <p>Page 13</p>	<p>1 Q. Can you help us through that, Mr Brown. 2 (Video played) 3 So there's the hot-spot on the left of the screen. 4 A. So -- 5 Q. Then it continues, and then Mr Batterbee said yesterday 6 that's you in front of him with the branch? 7 A. That's correct. 8 Q. Then what happens next? Just have a look. There's your 9 helmet, there's the hot-spot. What happens now? 10 A. So I've ... 11 Q. Just pausing there, just what we've seen, is that what 12 you remember seeing? 13 A. That is pretty much the image I had, localised in that 14 corner, yes. 15 Q. Now, let's just see what happens next. 16 A. Although -- sorry, can I just pause you -- when I say 17 "image", just with my own eyes, not with the thermal 18 image camera. 19 Q. The visual image which you're now remembering. 20 A. Yes. 21 Q. Yes, exactly. Now just see what happens next. Now, 22 what's that? 23 A. So that is me pulsing the -- I believe where the fire 24 is. That's me pulsing the fire, and that will cool the 25 gases and knock the fire down.</p> <p>Page 15</p>
<p>1 Q. What was it? 2 A. The fire. That's your guess. You can just -- it's just 3 a gut instinct. There was no heat pushing at me, 4 because normally the heat guides you which direction 5 that fire is in, but there was none. There was no heat. 6 Q. In your statement at page 8, paragraph 2, you mention 7 a curtain of flame, which I've just read to you. Could 8 you just describe where it was? 9 A. So I think I need to explain, when that door was first 10 opened, I first pulsed the ceiling to cool -- although 11 there was no hot gases that I could -- I assumed there 12 was no hot gases because I could not feel heat -- it's 13 very hard to explain, but it's still a good practice, 14 still good practice to cool the gases, but it sounds mad 15 when I'm saying there's no heat, but there still could 16 be gases escaping. 17 When that door first opened, there was something 18 going in the corner. My visibility is really almost 19 zero, but there's something. After pulsing the ceiling, 20 I then aimed the jet in that corner. Once the jet hit 21 that flame in the corner, the curtain revealed itself on 22 the window. 23 Q. If we run the thermal imaging camera just a little bit 24 more, perhaps we can see that. 25 A. Okay.</p> <p>Page 14</p>	<p>1 Q. Then you can just see, I think, Charlie's arm bringing 2 the door closed. 3 A. At that stage I told Charlie, "Shut the door". 4 Q. So you didn't have long to see the effect of the water 5 on the heat in the room. 6 A. To me, it had no effect, because what was happening is 7 after I initially did that first hit on that corner, 8 that's when this curtain of flame suddenly went "whoof", 9 it was suddenly there, I could suddenly see a curtain of 10 flame. No heat. 11 Q. When you say "curtain" -- why do you say "curtain"? 12 What's the -- 13 A. Normally when you have a fire inside a room -- this 14 curtain of flame was under force, it was raging, it was 15 "prrrr", but it wasn't licking around the ceiling; it 16 was going up and just neatly disappearing in a straight 17 line. 18 Q. Right. So under force from which direction? 19 A. From down, up. 20 Q. From down, up and then disappearing? 21 A. Disappearing. 22 Q. Did you think at the time that it was inside the room or 23 outside the room, do you know? 24 A. Straight away, safety, defence mode, shut the door. 25 Q. There's then a second door opening. Can we have a look</p> <p>Page 16</p>

<p>1 at the thermal imaging camera sequence at 01.14.31.</p> <p>2 This is the second opening, according to Mr Batterbee</p> <p>3 yesterday.</p> <p>4 (Video played)</p> <p>5 It starts there. What do you think we can see</p> <p>6 there?</p> <p>7 A. So the fire in the flat that I initially attacked in</p> <p>8 that corner to me is out; I've extinguished the fire</p> <p>9 within the flat. What you're seeing there is actually</p> <p>10 the window.</p> <p>11 Q. The window. The window itself or the space where the</p> <p>12 window is or was?</p> <p>13 A. I could not be specific as much as that, but that</p> <p>14 straight line is the window area.</p> <p>15 Q. Right. So to the best of your recollection, at this</p> <p>16 moment -- which has jumped on, actually. I'm sorry,</p> <p>17 we've jumped on. Could we just go back to 01.14.31,</p> <p>18 there.</p> <p>19 At this moment, to the best of your recollection,</p> <p>20 you say the fire in the flat was out?</p> <p>21 A. Yes, absolutely.</p> <p>22 Q. So the heat that we see on this thermal imaging camera,</p> <p>23 which of course Charlie was holding, you are remembering</p> <p>24 through your eyes --</p> <p>25 A. Yes.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 17</p>	<p>1 ceiling."</p> <p>2 Although you don't say it's the third opening, do</p> <p>3 you think that that might be the third opening of the</p> <p>4 door or a later opening?</p> <p>5 A. That was definitely the third opening, yes.</p> <p>6 Q. Definitely the third opening?</p> <p>7 A. Yes.</p> <p>8 Q. Okay. And then you say:</p> <p>9 "I remember thinking that it can't be gas as the</p> <p>10 flame, although forceful, was orange in colour and gas</p> <p>11 tends to burn with a blue flame. We then entered the</p> <p>12 room and Charlie opened the branch and said 'it's out!'"</p> <p>13 Are you sure that it was on the third opening or</p> <p>14 might it have been later?</p> <p>15 A. Definitely. There was three openings. The first two</p> <p>16 I was on the branch, then there was a delay because we</p> <p>17 tried to read pressure gauges, couldn't see a thing;</p> <p>18 trying to see the TIC, couldn't see a thing. I'm trying</p> <p>19 to explain to him exactly what is happening because this</p> <p>20 is not normal; there's no heat and there's a flame in</p> <p>21 front of me that's raging and just in a really weird,</p> <p>22 rectangular -- it was just -- everything that was wrong</p> <p>23 about it to be a fire within a room.</p> <p>24 Q. Now, the thermal imaging camera suggests that you</p> <p>25 actually withdrew at that point, didn't enter into the</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 19</p>
<p>1 Q. -- where was that?</p> <p>2 A. All I could see with my eyes was literally what I now</p> <p>3 know is the window. I didn't know it was the window at</p> <p>4 the time, because you can't see, but it's literally that</p> <p>5 area.</p> <p>6 Q. And then is this right, I'll put this to you: at this</p> <p>7 stage, he takes the branch and you take the thermal</p> <p>8 imaging camera; you swap?</p> <p>9 A. Correct.</p> <p>10 Q. So Charlie's got the branch.</p> <p>11 Then there's a door opening of a third time. Could</p> <p>12 we look at the thermal imaging camera sequence starting</p> <p>13 01.15.33.</p> <p>14 (Video played)</p> <p>15 Now, is that you opening the door?</p> <p>16 A. The third time is me opening the door, yes.</p> <p>17 Q. Because Charlie has got the branch. What, again, can we</p> <p>18 see here?</p> <p>19 A. I didn't see any of what was going on inside that room</p> <p>20 on the third opening.</p> <p>21 Q. All right.</p> <p>22 You say in your statement, page 9, paragraph 2:</p> <p>23 "I said something along the line of 'Let's just get</p> <p>24 in there and try and put this fucker out.' To Charlie.</p> <p>25 I now cracked the door open and Charlie pulsed the</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 18</p>	<p>1 compartment, into the kitchen, and then waited</p> <p>2 a few minutes and then went in a fourth time.</p> <p>3 Can we just run the sequence. I just want to see</p> <p>4 whether this prompts a clearer recollection, Mr Brown?</p> <p>5 A. Okay.</p> <p>6 Q. The sequence starts at 01.20.46.</p> <p>7 (Video played)</p> <p>8 A. So this to me is the third opening.</p> <p>9 Q. Right. Okay. But it's at 01.20.46. So you think</p> <p>10 that's the third opening?</p> <p>11 A. That's the third opening. There might have been</p> <p>12 a moment where the door might have slightly come ajar</p> <p>13 and we shut it again, but there was two specific attacks</p> <p>14 that I did and then a third that Charlie did.</p> <p>15 Q. Okay. Just pausing there, let me ask you a question.</p> <p>16 A. Okay.</p> <p>17 Q. Do you remember there being a 5-or-so-minute delay</p> <p>18 between openings of the door?</p> <p>19 A. There probably was, because there was a lot of</p> <p>20 information that I was trying to pass on to Charlie</p> <p>21 because we were going to swap roles at a critical stage.</p> <p>22 I've attempted to tackle this fire twice and nothing's</p> <p>23 happening. I wanted Charlie to focus on the -- when</p> <p>24 you're trying to extinguish a fire, you're very narrow,</p> <p>25 tunnel-visioned, and I wanted Charlie to try and tackle</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 20</p>

5 (Pages 17 to 20)

<p>1 that whilst trying to get my head in and have a look</p> <p>2 around at the rest of what is going on here, because</p> <p>3 this is just not normal.</p> <p>4 So there was the conversation trying to explain to</p> <p>5 Charlie what was happening, trying to do a gauge check.</p> <p>6 I'm aware that I'm a little bit older, so I'm going to</p> <p>7 be using my air up quicker, so by swapping over, that</p> <p>8 also enabled us to stay in that room longer. We needed</p> <p>9 to be there because this fire is not dealt with. So</p> <p>10 what felt like 30 seconds could well have been</p> <p>11 5 minutes, absolutely.</p> <p>12 Q. Just casting your mind back and the subject matter of</p> <p>13 your discussions with Charlie Batterbee, was what you</p> <p>14 were confronted with at that moment something that you</p> <p>15 recognise from your experience or not?</p> <p>16 A. I have never seen anything like it before.</p> <p>17 Q. Let's continue with the sequence.</p> <p>18 A. Okay.</p> <p>19 Q. I just want to see if we can identify anything in the</p> <p>20 kitchen. So Charlie's got the branch, you've got the</p> <p>21 thermal imaging camera; is that right?</p> <p>22 A. If this is the -- yes. Is this the entering into the</p> <p>23 flat stage?</p> <p>24 Q. Yes.</p> <p>25 A. Into the kitchen?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 21</p>	<p>1 asking for your help to interpret this.</p> <p>2 Then moving on, we go to something -- it comes</p> <p>3 round. Now, stop there.</p> <p>4 A. Yes.</p> <p>5 Q. Can you describe to me what we can see here?</p> <p>6 A. Now or then?</p> <p>7 Q. Well, on this thermal imaging camera.</p> <p>8 A. On this thermal imaging camera, I would say that</p> <p>9 something is breaking down above. Something is alight,</p> <p>10 something is combusting and it's --</p> <p>11 Q. What could you see then?</p> <p>12 A. What could I see then?</p> <p>13 Q. What could you see then?</p> <p>14 A. Nothing.</p> <p>15 Q. You couldn't even see out to the material falling</p> <p>16 outside?</p> <p>17 A. No, I could not. It was thick black smoke, you can't</p> <p>18 see your hand in front of your face still, and you could</p> <p>19 not see the thermal image screen on the thermal imaging</p> <p>20 camera, which is handheld.</p> <p>21 Q. Okay.</p> <p>22 Then continue with the TIC just a little bit</p> <p>23 further.</p> <p>24 (Video played)</p> <p>25 Do you remember seeing hot material at the top-left</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 23</p>
<p>1 Q. Yes, the kitchen.</p> <p>2 A. Yes, I've got the TIC, thermal imaging camera.</p> <p>3 (Video played)</p> <p>4 Q. It gets a bit more information-rich, I think, from this</p> <p>5 point onwards, so let's just look out. Around comes the</p> <p>6 thermal imaging camera halfway, so it's at an angle</p> <p>7 still.</p> <p>8 (Pause)</p> <p>9 Let's just move it on a second or two.</p> <p>10 (Pause)</p> <p>11 There. Now, can you tell me what you think you can</p> <p>12 see there?</p> <p>13 A. What, now or at the time?</p> <p>14 Q. Well, using this to refresh your recollection.</p> <p>15 A. Okay, at the time, I couldn't see a thing. All the</p> <p>16 image that you have at this stage, I could not see.</p> <p>17 I could not see the screen; it's thick black smoke.</p> <p>18 Q. If you continue to run it, perhaps at a slightly faster</p> <p>19 speed, Mr Documents Director, that would be good.</p> <p>20 (Video played)</p> <p>21 That looks like hot material on the floor.</p> <p>22 A. Yes.</p> <p>23 Q. Would that be right?</p> <p>24 A. Absolutely, yes. I would agree, yes.</p> <p>25 Q. Because you couldn't see anything, I'm really just</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 22</p>	<p>1 of the window?</p> <p>2 A. At this stage, no.</p> <p>3 Q. Right. What do we think we can see on the thermal</p> <p>4 imaging camera here?</p> <p>5 A. It looks like some form of combustion. It is very</p> <p>6 difficult in a thermal imaging camera because it just</p> <p>7 shows heat.</p> <p>8 Q. You don't remember any combustion at the time in that</p> <p>9 location?</p> <p>10 A. At that stage, absolutely not.</p> <p>11 Q. If you go to page 10 of your witness statement, please,</p> <p>12 paragraph 3, you say:</p> <p>13 "The room continued to clear really fast."</p> <p>14 Is that point in time after you'd made entry into</p> <p>15 the kitchen and put the fire out inside the kitchen?</p> <p>16 A. That's correct, yeah. At the time, I wasn't sure,</p> <p>17 because I really couldn't see, and I just remember</p> <p>18 panning across the kitchen, trying to see something,</p> <p>19 can't see anything. I do remember panning across to my</p> <p>20 left, because I think I just sensed that's where</p> <p>21 I was -- it's very disorientating in a fire situation,</p> <p>22 but I sensed that is where the fire was. You can see me</p> <p>23 looking at the window; I still can't see anything.</p> <p>24 I can't see with my eye, I can't see with the thermal</p> <p>25 imaging camera.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 24</p>

<p>1 From memory, I think I panned across the units,</p> <p>2 across the top, still can't see them, and I think I just</p> <p>3 give up and --</p> <p>4 Q. You then say in your statement:</p> <p>5 "As I was looking around and visibility increased I</p> <p>6 became confused as the location of the fridge was not</p> <p>7 where I saw the forceful curtain flame. It was more to</p> <p>8 the right."</p> <p>9 Just to be clear, what was more to the right?</p> <p>10 A. So that would be -- I'm trying to put myself back</p> <p>11 there -- so I think Charlie had at that point put the</p> <p>12 branch out the window and opened it up and -- we use the</p> <p>13 Venturi principle; it's where it draws out -- by opening</p> <p>14 it up, it will draw out the smoke quicker in a room.</p> <p>15 I didn't realise Charlie was doing that at first because</p> <p>16 I couldn't see, but quite quickly, visibility did</p> <p>17 increase and I can remember with my eyes starting to see</p> <p>18 what was on the sides. And I think the thing</p> <p>19 I specifically remember was the kettle. I started</p> <p>20 looking, and I was thinking: right, okay, nothing has</p> <p>21 begun pyrolysis here. There's no heat damage. What</p> <p>22 is going on? You know, I don't understand this.</p> <p>23 I think I'm still mindful that moments ago, there's</p> <p>24 a raging curtain of flame. What is happening here? You</p> <p>25 know, everything is ringing alarm bells; something is</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 25</p>	<p>1 one we've just been looking at?</p> <p>2 A. Yes, the one where I pan across to try and see what is</p> <p>3 happening in the room.</p> <p>4 Q. So if we can just go back, Mr Documents Director to</p> <p>5 21 -- go back a little bit, if you can reverse and go</p> <p>6 slowly.</p> <p>7 Mr Brown, would you pick up what you see and tell us</p> <p>8 when you come to the candle-like flame you described in</p> <p>9 your statement.</p> <p>10 A. Okay.</p> <p>11 (Video played)</p> <p>12 As far as I'm concerned, I can't see a thing in this</p> <p>13 room at this stage.</p> <p>14 (Pause)</p> <p>15 So if you pause there.</p> <p>16 Q. Pause there, right.</p> <p>17 A. So where you see on the top-left, it was a tiny -- what</p> <p>18 I could see with my eyes, once the room cleared, is</p> <p>19 a tiny candle-like flame. It is literally the size of</p> <p>20 what you'd get off a candle, just sitting in the corner,</p> <p>21 just dancing.</p> <p>22 Q. I'm sorry to press you, in the corner of what?</p> <p>23 A. So it's between the wall to the left and the window, and</p> <p>24 it was up in that corner.</p> <p>25 Q. I don't want to go and start physically pointing at the</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 27</p>
<p>1 not right.</p> <p>2 I think, from memory, as the smoke cleared more and</p> <p>3 more, I began to look more towards the fridge, and it</p> <p>4 looked blackened. It looked like, okay -- and it felt</p> <p>5 as if it was in the location where I initially hit it on</p> <p>6 the first attack.</p> <p>7 Q. Right. So the forceful curtain of flame was where in</p> <p>8 relation to the fridge that you say --</p> <p>9 A. I do apologise. So the fridge was to the right of where</p> <p>10 I thought I saw the forceful curtain of flame. It was</p> <p>11 definitely more over to the right.</p> <p>12 Q. So the "it", in the sentence "it was more to the right",</p> <p>13 is the fridge?</p> <p>14 A. Yes.</p> <p>15 Q. Got it. Then you say:</p> <p>16 "I noticed a single candle like flame just</p> <p>17 flickering and dancing in the corner of the room, at the</p> <p>18 top of the wall by the ceiling above the window opening.</p> <p>19 The flame was orange in colour."</p> <p>20 Whereabouts, doing the best you can, exactly at the</p> <p>21 top of the wall by the ceiling above the window opening</p> <p>22 was this flame you describe?</p> <p>23 A. I can tell you exactly where it was; you've got it on</p> <p>24 the thermal imaging camera.</p> <p>25 Q. All right. That's good to know. Which sequence? The</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 26</p>	<p>1 image, but if we can do this verbally, if you like.</p> <p>2 Let's try that.</p> <p>3 Whereabouts in relation to the angle of the top of</p> <p>4 the window and the left jamb of the window?</p> <p>5 A. If you look at where it says 111 --</p> <p>6 Q. Right.</p> <p>7 A. -- and C. There.</p> <p>8 Q. Yes. There. That was where this candle flame was?</p> <p>9 A. Yes.</p> <p>10 Q. Was it inside the flat, do you think?</p> <p>11 A. Inside the flat.</p> <p>12 Q. It was inside the flat?</p> <p>13 A. Inside the flat.</p> <p>14 Q. Then you say in your statement:</p> <p>15 "The flame was orange in colour. I thought that is</p> <p>16 really weird so I pulsed it with the branch and put it</p> <p>17 out. I then looked more closely at where this flame had</p> <p>18 been and could see no sign of charring, blistering and</p> <p>19 bubbling ..."</p> <p>20 What did that tell you?</p> <p>21 A. Again, all this is happening really quickly, you're</p> <p>22 trying to process all this information. It was telling</p> <p>23 me none of this is making sense, because why is there</p> <p>24 a little dancing bit of candle-like flame sitting there</p> <p>25 in the first place? How did it get there? I'm aware</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 28</p>

<p>1 that I'm in a compartment, I'm in a concrete box,</p> <p>2 effectively, but there's just no evidence of any fire</p> <p>3 travel or -- there's just no evidence of anything for</p> <p>4 why that would be there. There's no charring.</p> <p>5 Q. Let me just ask you -- I don't want to put a thought</p> <p>6 into your head -- did it look like a burning object had</p> <p>7 arrived from somewhere else?</p> <p>8 A. At the time, I had absolutely no idea what it was, but</p> <p>9 later on in my statement, I had a theory. But it's not</p> <p>10 an educated one.</p> <p>11 Q. Okay.</p> <p>12 Now, Mr Batterbee told us yesterday that you then</p> <p>13 swapped -- well, I think you had the branch at this</p> <p>14 stage, so you'd swapped back, so he had the thermal</p> <p>15 imaging camera now and you had the branch, because as</p> <p>16 you said, you put out the little flame.</p> <p>17 A. Sorry, could you repeat that?</p> <p>18 Q. It was you who put out the little candle-like flame at</p> <p>19 the top.</p> <p>20 A. Correct.</p> <p>21 Q. So you had swapped with Charlie Batterbee; you now had</p> <p>22 the branch, he had the thermal imaging camera.</p> <p>23 A. Yes. I don't know whether he had the thermal imaging</p> <p>24 camera, but I now had the branch.</p> <p>25 Q. In the images we've just seen, you can see material</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 29</p>	<p>1 and both those columns were alight.</p> <p>2 Q. Can I ask you to look at your contemporaneous notes,</p> <p>3 please --</p> <p>4 A. Yes.</p> <p>5 Q. -- which you'll find in the bundle in front of you at</p> <p>6 tab 3B as exhibit DRB/1 [MET00005251].</p> <p>7 Can I have page 3 of that document on the screen,</p> <p>8 please.</p> <p>9 Now, at the top of that page, you say:</p> <p>10 "I noticed a small flame to the top left corner of</p> <p>11 what I now know was the window wall at ceiling</p> <p>12 level ..."</p> <p>13 You describe what you just told us here today,</p> <p>14 Mr Brown.</p> <p>15 You then go on to say, after the reference in the</p> <p>16 middle of the paragraph to the window having completely</p> <p>17 given way, leaving a hole in the wall:</p> <p>18 "Below this window was a box sturdy enough to hold</p> <p>19 my weight and not involved in the fire. This box was</p> <p>20 about 2ft in height. I knelt upon it and looked</p> <p>21 outside. It was now alight outside."</p> <p>22 I just want to ask you about this box. Can you</p> <p>23 describe it for us?</p> <p>24 A. Visually, no, not at all. My attention was not what</p> <p>25 was -- my attention was more focused on what is going on</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 31</p>
<p>1 falling down outside the window space. Do you remember</p> <p>2 seeing that at that point?</p> <p>3 A. At that point, no, there was nothing falling out the</p> <p>4 window.</p> <p>5 Q. Now, he describes how you got onto a counter by the</p> <p>6 window, just below the window, and he held onto you by</p> <p>7 your BA straps and dug his hip in while you lent as far</p> <p>8 out of the window as you could with the branch. Do you</p> <p>9 remember that?</p> <p>10 A. I have my version of it.</p> <p>11 Q. Well, could you tell us what you remember about that?</p> <p>12 A. What I remember about the situation is because I've seen</p> <p>13 that orange candle-like flame, I'm not happy. Something</p> <p>14 is not dealt with; something is not finished in this</p> <p>15 room. What is going on? That's why I followed across</p> <p>16 the window line, looking for something, some reason,</p> <p>17 some explanation of: why is that there?</p> <p>18 There's no heat in the room, there's hardly no</p> <p>19 damage in the room. The fire was just -- I can tell</p> <p>20 it's just a little bit of a fridge or that area. And as</p> <p>21 I'm looking towards the fridge thinking, okay, maybe</p> <p>22 there's an explanation in this corner, at that point</p> <p>23 I noticed this orange ember fall outside the window.</p> <p>24 I went to investigate what that orange ember was and</p> <p>25 I realised the fire had jumped, or the fire was outside,</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 30</p>	<p>1 up there. I need an explanation for what that is.</p> <p>2 Q. How wide was the box?</p> <p>3 A. Again, I couldn't tell you. All I know is it was about</p> <p>4 probably the height of my knee now.</p> <p>5 Q. So about 18 inches above the floor?</p> <p>6 A. Yes.</p> <p>7 Q. Do you remember what it might have been made of?</p> <p>8 A. Again, I've no idea. I just gave it a donk with my</p> <p>9 knee, made sure it could take my weight, and then I just</p> <p>10 jumped on.</p> <p>11 Q. How far away from the window was it?</p> <p>12 A. It was right against the wall, below the window.</p> <p>13 Q. I wonder if I can ask to show you just a document to see</p> <p>14 if I can prompt a better recollection.</p> <p>15 If you could please be shown the documents in tab 38</p> <p>16 of the master document bundle, which are a couple of</p> <p>17 photographs. MET00007748, Mr Documents Director.</p> <p>18 Now, if you go to the second page of that, these are</p> <p>19 appendix photographs as part of the Bureau Veritas</p> <p>20 report, which is part of the fire scene investigation</p> <p>21 done at the end of last year at Grenfell Tower. I would</p> <p>22 just like to show you the second of the photographs,</p> <p>23 photograph 4 in number, on that second page.</p> <p>24 Now, this is a photograph of the kitchen at</p> <p>25 flat 16 --</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 32</p>

1 **A. Mm-hm.**
 2 Q. -- after the fire, and so you know, the theory is that
 3 there was a second fire that re-entered the flat later.
 4 But in terms of the objects in the kitchen, looking
 5 at those objects, do you think that there's anything
 6 there that would be the remains of something you say you
 7 knelt on?
 8 **A. Absolutely, yes. It would be that smaller fridge in the**
 9 **foreground in the middle.**
 10 Q. Smaller fridge in the foreground.
 11 **A. Or smaller box.**
 12 Q. To the best of your recollection, where was that located
 13 when you knelt upon it to put the fire out?
 14 **A. That was against the wall, right below the window.**
 15 Q. Was it on the ground or was it on something else?
 16 **A. It would've been on the ground, yes.**
 17 Q. And when you climbed upon it, according to
 18 Charlie Batterbee, you had the branch and he had to hold
 19 you and you lent out of the window. That's what he told
 20 us yesterday.
 21 **A. I initially lent out. I'm wearing a BA set, so it's**
 22 **quite a tricky thing to do.**
 23 Q. Yes.
 24 **A. I could see both columns were alight -- both of them**
 25 **were alight -- and I needed to attack them both. The**

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1 one on the left was approximately 5-foot away from me;
 2 the one on the right was a lot closer. I attacked them
 3 both. I'm having no effect; water is just bouncing off.
 4 It is just literally bouncing off and I'm thinking:
 5 okay, we've got a problem here, I can't put this out.
 6 You literally got water hitting metal -- I've
 7 described it in my statement; it's as if you wrap a load
 8 of paper up, put it in the back seat of the car, set it
 9 alight, make sure all the doors and windows are shut,
 10 lock it, and then say to me: now put that out. You're
 11 not allowed to break the door, you're not allowed to
 12 open the window, not allowed to use a key, all you've
 13 got is your jet, now put it out. All you're doing is
 14 essentially washing the car.
 15 That was the situation I faced right there and then:
 16 I cannot put this out. No matter what I tried --
 17 I tried knocking the panels off, tried getting
 18 between -- perhaps they were gaps, I don't know whether
 19 there were gaps or not, just black areas. Tried
 20 everything. Nothing was happening; it was just bouncing
 21 off.
 22 Q. Can you go back to your contemporaneous statement. Same
 23 paragraph that we were looking at before, top of page 3.
 24 It's on the screen there, Mr Brown. If you look
 25 there, you can see after the reference to the box, you

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1 say:
 2 "I knelt upon it the and looked outside. It was now
 3 alight outside. I shouted to CM Batterbee to inform WM
 4 Dowden via his comms that the building was alight
 5 directly outside at our location. As he was
 6 transmitting this I attempted to extinguish the external
 7 fire. I was having no effect at all."
 8 Do you remember whether Crew Manager Batterbee did
 9 inform Watch Manager Dowden that the building was alight
 10 directly outside?
 11 **A. I can't actually say whether he did or he didn't, but**
 12 **knowing Charlie, absolutely he would've. I was**
 13 **task-focused.**
 14 Q. Do you have a recollection of what he did?
 15 **A. I couldn't see what he did. I think at some point --**
 16 **I know he held onto me; I could feel him grab hold of my**
 17 **breathing apparatus waist belt. He could've been doing**
 18 **this (Indicates), trying to hold onto me, trying to do**
 19 **the comms, trying to look around, make sure everything's**
 20 **all right. You're really in that situation.**
 21 Q. He told us yesterday that he was holding onto you with
 22 his hips dug into I think the counter, with one hand on
 23 your webbing and another on his radio. Would it have
 24 been possible for him to make a radio call whilst doing
 25 that?

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1 **A. Yes, it would've been, yes, yes.**
 2 Q. Given your experience, what did what you could see tell
 3 you regarding whether compartmentation at Grenfell Tower
 4 had failed?
 5 **A. Sorry, could you repeat the question?**
 6 Q. Given what you could see happening on the exterior at
 7 that moment, what did that tell you?
 8 **A. Compartmentation had failed.**
 9 Q. What did that mean to you at the time in terms of fire
 10 spread?
 11 **A. That's a very difficult question with knowing the**
 12 **outcome.**
 13 Q. Put yourself firmly in the flat, on the night, at the
 14 time. What did you think then?
 15 **A. The thoughts were: this needs to be got now. We need to**
 16 **extinguish this.**
 17 **I couldn't foresee that it was going to travel all**
 18 **the way to the top of the building. I don't think**
 19 **anyone could foresee that. You'd like to think there**
 20 **was some sort of fire breaks or system where it would**
 21 **reach a point and stop.**
 22 Q. Was that your thought at the time?
 23 **A. Yes. Well, yes and no. It is, but it's not what I'm**
 24 **focusing on.**
 25 Q. No, I understand.

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9 (Pages 33 to 36)

<p>1 A. If that makes sense.</p> <p>2 Q. I understand.</p> <p>3 Just give me one moment.</p> <p>4 (Pause)</p> <p>5 Yes, in the next but one paragraph in your</p> <p>6 contemporaneous notes, you describe the firefighting</p> <p>7 that you did, I think, from your perch in the window</p> <p>8 space. You say in the second line:</p> <p>9 "The fire was travelling in an upwards direction</p> <p>10 behind the cladding."</p> <p>11 Can I just ask you what you mean by that, "behind</p> <p>12 the cladding"? Could you see behind the cladding?</p> <p>13 A. Although that's a hindsight wording -- I didn't know it</p> <p>14 was cladding at the time -- but basically I'm seeing</p> <p>15 what looks like sheets of metal and the fire is -- it's</p> <p>16 just really weird; you can see it's alight underneath,</p> <p>17 but you'd have these areas of -- I imagine the joints,</p> <p>18 and every now and again you'd see a flame and then it</p> <p>19 would disappear, and you'd see a flame and it would just</p> <p>20 disappear.</p> <p>21 Q. Really?</p> <p>22 A. That's at my height. I could not see what was going</p> <p>23 above because I'm quite restricted with my breathing</p> <p>24 apparatus set on.</p> <p>25 Q. Yes. And in the next sentence you say:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 37</p>	<p>1 A. On the column itself, yes.</p> <p>2 Q. And when you say something had punched out, what could</p> <p>3 you see behind the hole -- was there a hole?</p> <p>4 A. There was definitely a hole because there was a piece of</p> <p>5 the -- what I now know is cladding, that material. It</p> <p>6 was opening -- like it had been split open. But you</p> <p>7 couldn't see -- my angle, I'm set back, and this column</p> <p>8 is so far forward, and so I'm desperately trying to lean</p> <p>9 out and get the branch in there to try and have some</p> <p>10 effect, because I'm thinking: that's open, I can get</p> <p>11 some water in there because it's not working any other</p> <p>12 way (Indicates).</p> <p>13 Q. You then say it was easy to see the material behind it</p> <p>14 was alight. What material was that?</p> <p>15 A. What I mean by that is that there was noticeable, bigger</p> <p>16 flame behind that bit.</p> <p>17 Q. You say:</p> <p>18 "... and travelling in an upwards direction ..."</p> <p>19 A. Yes.</p> <p>20 Q. What was travelling?</p> <p>21 A. The flames. The flames were definitely travelling up.</p> <p>22 Q. Had you ever seen anything like that before in your</p> <p>23 experience?</p> <p>24 A. Never. Never.</p> <p>25 Q. Mr Brown, would you just give me one moment, please.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 39</p>
<p>1 "As some pieces of the cladding had either warped or</p> <p>2 fallen off, it was easy to see the material behind it</p> <p>3 was alight and travelling in an upwards direction ..."</p> <p>4 A. Yes, so on the right-hand side a bit further up --</p> <p>5 Q. Sorry, can I just ask the question. You say some pieces</p> <p>6 of the cladding had either warped or fallen off.</p> <p>7 When you use the word "cladding" there, what do you</p> <p>8 mean?</p> <p>9 A. Again, I didn't know it was cladding at the time, so I'm</p> <p>10 using that post-Grenfell, for an explanation.</p> <p>11 Q. So what had you seen that had either warped or fallen</p> <p>12 off?</p> <p>13 A. Parts of these -- at that stage, on the top right-hand</p> <p>14 side there was an area, and it was like it was split</p> <p>15 open. It was very odd. It was like something had</p> <p>16 punched through it. It was -- I suppose if you held</p> <p>17 a bit of foil paper up tight and you pushed your hand</p> <p>18 through it, you'd have an opening, and that's what it</p> <p>19 looked like. About 2 or 3-foot up above from where</p> <p>20 I was leaning out.</p> <p>21 Q. Right. Was that flat on the building to where you were</p> <p>22 leaning out, so you had to look behind or up? In what</p> <p>23 orientation?</p> <p>24 A. So that was on the column.</p> <p>25 Q. On the column?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 38</p>	<p>1 Thank you.</p> <p>2 (Pause)</p> <p>3 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Mr Brown, are you still comfortable</p> <p>4 giving evidence?</p> <p>5 THE WITNESS: Absolutely.</p> <p>6 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: If you do need a break at any stage,</p> <p>7 would you just signal?</p> <p>8 THE WITNESS: Okay, thank you.</p> <p>9 MR MILLETT: Could you look at your witness statement at</p> <p>10 page 20, please.</p> <p>11 I'd ask you to look at paragraph 4, or the fourth</p> <p>12 paragraph on that page, and you're talking here -- this</p> <p>13 much later I think in the night -- about you and</p> <p>14 Firefighter Badillo doing runs between the walkways, the</p> <p>15 tower exit, and back, protecting crews, and then also,</p> <p>16 you go on to say in the third line, tasked with taking</p> <p>17 messages between the two different watch managers.</p> <p>18 And then you say this:</p> <p>19 "These were all verbal messages ..."</p> <p>20 Do you see?</p> <p>21 "... and I was tasked with these because the radios</p> <p>22 were not working and some communication was not taking</p> <p>23 place between crews inside and outside of the tower."</p> <p>24 I just want to break that down just a little bit.</p> <p>25 You say the radios were not working; which radios are</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 40</p>

<p>1 you referring to there in your statement?</p> <p>2 A. The handhelds.</p> <p>3 Q. The handhelds?</p> <p>4 A. Yes.</p> <p>5 Q. What about them wasn't working?</p> <p>6 A. They just weren't being able to communicate, so whoever</p> <p>7 was inside the tower could not communicate with who was</p> <p>8 outside the tower, and whoever was outside the tower</p> <p>9 could not communicate with who is inside the tower using</p> <p>10 the radios.</p> <p>11 Q. Was that at a specific point in the night, or was that</p> <p>12 your general experience of the night?</p> <p>13 A. I can only comment on my experiences, and it wasn't the</p> <p>14 first. I had an earlier one having just come out of the</p> <p>15 tower, following flat 16, so probably an issue</p> <p>16 throughout the night.</p> <p>17 Q. You had a fire ground radio, did you?</p> <p>18 A. I did, yes.</p> <p>19 Q. That was on channel 1, was it?</p> <p>20 A. Channel 1.</p> <p>21 Q. Did you know at the time why your radio wasn't working?</p> <p>22 A. I had no idea why, to be honest. I have a suspicion.</p> <p>23 But it's not a fact.</p> <p>24 Q. No. Well, let's not ask about that.</p> <p>25 You say:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 41</p>	<p>1 a situation fighting the fire externally, and after some</p> <p>2 time I moved further north, and I realised how the state</p> <p>3 of the north side of the tower was, and I did try again</p> <p>4 to communicate with my watch manager at the time twice</p> <p>5 to alert --</p> <p>6 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: So you were both outside the tower</p> <p>7 at that point, were you?</p> <p>8 A. I was; I do not know the location of Watch Manager</p> <p>9 Dowden at that stage. And I tried twice to inform him</p> <p>10 it's going on the north tower -- or the north side of</p> <p>11 the tower, and I did not get a response.</p> <p>12 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: What I am interested to know is</p> <p>13 whether the communication problems with the radios were</p> <p>14 essentially between those inside and those outside or</p> <p>15 whether they were more general. You may not know,</p> <p>16 I don't know.</p> <p>17 A. I don't know the absolute answer. I don't know. You</p> <p>18 generally don't have problems communicating if you're</p> <p>19 outside. They work fine.</p> <p>20 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: All right. Thank you.</p> <p>21 Yes, Mr Millett.</p> <p>22 MR MILLETT: Just one or two more questions, Mr Brown.</p> <p>23 Did you have any occasion to use your fire ground</p> <p>24 radio to communicate with the bridgehead?</p> <p>25 A. No.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 43</p>
<p>1 "... some communication was not taking place between</p> <p>2 crews inside and outside of the tower."</p> <p>3 You say "some communication"; does that mean that</p> <p>4 there was communication but it was patchy, or that at</p> <p>5 times there was good communication? Could you just</p> <p>6 explain what you mean there?</p> <p>7 A. Sorry, could you repeat the question?</p> <p>8 Q. You say in the sentence which starts:</p> <p>9 "These were all verbal messages and I was tasked</p> <p>10 with these because the radios were not working and some</p> <p>11 communication was not taking place between crews inside</p> <p>12 and outside of the tower."</p> <p>13 When you say "some communication was not taking</p> <p>14 place", I want you to clarify, please, do you mean that</p> <p>15 some communication was taking place or --</p> <p>16 A. Again, I can only comment on my experience of what I was</p> <p>17 witnessing and what I was tasked to do, and the reasons</p> <p>18 for doing those tasks was because communications</p> <p>19 between -- those on the ground floor and those outside</p> <p>20 were unable to communicate with each other.</p> <p>21 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Can I just ask: did you have</p> <p>22 occasion to use your fire ground radio to communicate</p> <p>23 with anyone else outside the tower when you were also</p> <p>24 outside the tower?</p> <p>25 A. I tried -- having just left flat 16 initially, I was in</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 42</p>	<p>1 Q. Did you try to?</p> <p>2 A. No.</p> <p>3 Q. What about with the command unit or units?</p> <p>4 A. No.</p> <p>5 Q. Or the original incident command pump?</p> <p>6 A. No.</p> <p>7 MR MILLETT: Mr Brown, I have nothing further for you. Can</p> <p>8 I say I'm very grateful to you for coming to the inquiry</p> <p>9 and helping us understand your evidence. Thank you.</p> <p>10 THE WITNESS: Thank you.</p> <p>11 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Mr Brown, again, I would like also</p> <p>12 to thank you. Your evidence has been very helpful.</p> <p>13 I hope it hasn't been too difficult for you. You seem</p> <p>14 to have coped very well, and we're very grateful to you.</p> <p>15 THE WITNESS: Thank you very much.</p> <p>16 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Thank you very much. Would you like</p> <p>17 to go with the usher?</p> <p>18 MR MANSFIELD: I wonder if, before he leaves, it's possible</p> <p>19 to make an application for an additional question of</p> <p>20 clarification.</p> <p>21 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Mr Mansfield, I think we have</p> <p>22 a system for this, don't we?</p> <p>23 MR MANSFIELD: I thought he wasn't going to wait --</p> <p>24 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: He can certainly wait for a moment,</p> <p>25 but if you have a question, could you put it in writing</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 44</p>

1 and give it to Mr Millett? We'll wait for you to do it.
 2 MR MANSFIELD: I'm so sorry?
 3 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: We'll wait for you to do it.
 4 All right.
 5 Sorry, Mr Brown, you are going to have to wait a bit
 6 longer.
 7 MR MANSFIELD: If I may just approach the bench.
 8 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Well, Mr Millett would want to know
 9 what you want him to ask. (Pause)
 10 MR MANSFIELD: Much obliged.
 11 MR MILLETT: Mr Chairman and Mr Brown, would you excuse me
 12 for a moment.
 13 (Pause)
 14 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Are you happy standing up?
 15 THE WITNESS: Absolutely. Thank you.
 16 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: All right.
 17 MR MILLETT: Mr Brown, I have a question which I hope I can
 18 make comprehensible to you.
 19 You said in your evidence that it was noticeable
 20 over a number of years, the deterioration in the fire
 21 systems that are in place that you require when you turn
 22 up to an incident that could be a fire situation, and
 23 I stopped you and I wanted you to be Grenfell-specific.
 24 My question is whether or not, in your visits to
 25 Grenfell Tower that you did before the fire -- in other

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1 words, your 7(2)(d) visits that you did from North
 2 Kensington before the Grenfell Tower in June 2017 -- you
 3 personally ever noticed a deterioration in the building
 4 in terms of the fire protection system specific to
 5 Grenfell Tower?
 6 **A. So specific to Grenfell Tower -- how far back are you**
 7 **going?**
 8 Q. Let's take the period from 2012.
 9 **A. The noticeable difference would probably go back beyond**
 10 **that. So from the years up until around the year 2000,**
 11 **early 2000s, it's basically when we were fire safety**
 12 **enforcers. And since that's been removed from us,**
 13 **there's been a notable change over time of things that**
 14 **we want in place and things that we want working, like**
 15 **fire lifts, like emergency lighting, like fire doors,**
 16 **making sure that they shut properly -- that's not always**
 17 **the case now, where it always used to be because we used**
 18 **to make sure that is the case.**
 19 Q. In the period between 2012 and 2017, Mr Brown, was there
 20 ever an occasion that you had to raise with anybody any
 21 specific aspect of fire safety at Grenfell Tower which
 22 was, in your view, unsafe?
 23 **A. I have not seen anything, no.**
 24 MR MILLETT: Thank you very much. No further questions.
 25 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: All right.

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1 Well, Mr Brown, you have now finished. Thank you
 2 very much for coming to give your evidence. If you go
 3 with the usher, she'll look after you.
 4 THE WITNESS: Thank you very much.
 5 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Thank you very much.
 6 MR MILLETT: Mr Chairman, I wonder whether we should have
 7 a 5 or 10-minute break for the shorthand writers.
 8 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: I was going to suggest that.
 9 Shall we have a 10-minute break and resume at 10.45,
 10 please. Thank you.
 11 (10.35 am)
 12 (A short break)
 13 (10.45 am)
 14 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes, Mr Millett.
 15 MR MILLETT: Mr Chairman, I now I call Mr Dave Badillo as
 16 the next witness.
 17 DAVID BADILLO (affirmed)
 18 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Thank you very much.
 19 Good morning, Mr Badillo.
 20 THE WITNESS: Morning.
 21 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Mr Millett is going to ask you a few
 22 questions in a minute, but I want to make it clear, if
 23 at any stage you feel you need a break, just tell me and
 24 we'll have a break to suit you. All right?
 25 THE WITNESS: (Nodded assent).

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1 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Thank you very much.
 2 Questions by COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY
 3 MR MILLETT: Good morning, Mr Badillo.
 4 **A. Morning.**
 5 Q. Could you please give the chairman your full name?
 6 **A. Yes, it's David Kent Badillo.**
 7 Q. And can I just ask you a personal question: how do you
 8 pronounce your surname?
 9 **A. "Badillo".**
 10 Q. "Badillo", right. That's solved that, thank you.
 11 First, can I thank you very much for coming to the
 12 inquiry to give your evidence today. It is very much
 13 appreciated and you will be assisting us very greatly in
 14 our investigations just by coming.
 15 My questions are intended to be short and simple,
 16 but if you have any difficulty understanding my
 17 questions or you want me to repeat them, then please do
 18 say. Equally, if you want me to put it in a different
 19 way, please just say and I will.
 20 As the chairman has said, if you want a break at any
 21 time, just ask and we can do that. We are going to aim
 22 to have a break every 30 minutes or so just to give you
 23 a breather.
 24 **A. Okay.**
 25 Q. There should be a file in front of you which contains

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12 (Pages 45 to 48)

<p>1 your witness statement, if you just take that blue file,</p> <p>2 and if you turn to tab 4, there should be your witness</p> <p>3 statement there, which is MET00010867. Those are the</p> <p>4 Relativity references. It should be dated</p> <p>5 29 January 2018.</p> <p>6 Have you read your statement recently?</p> <p>7 A. Yes.</p> <p>8 Q. Can you confirm that its contents are true?</p> <p>9 A. Yes.</p> <p>10 Q. Have you discussed your statement or your evidence with</p> <p>11 anybody before coming here today?</p> <p>12 A. By that, do you mean my witness statement or what I did</p> <p>13 on the night?</p> <p>14 Q. Well, first of all, your witness statement. Have you</p> <p>15 discussed the contents of your witness statement with</p> <p>16 anybody before coming here today to give evidence?</p> <p>17 A. No.</p> <p>18 Q. Okay.</p> <p>19 Have you discussed the evidence that you're going to</p> <p>20 give to the inquiry today with anybody before coming</p> <p>21 here?</p> <p>22 A. I've discussed what I did on the night with people, yes,</p> <p>23 my family, family of the girl we're going to talk about.</p> <p>24 Q. Apart from your family, with who else have you discussed</p> <p>25 the evidence that you're going to give to the inquiry?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 49</p>	<p>1 13/14 June 2017?</p> <p>2 A. Firefighter.</p> <p>3 Q. If you go to your statement and look at page 1, please,</p> <p>4 Mr Badillo, you'll see at the bottom that you talk about</p> <p>5 your training, and you say that your ongoing training</p> <p>6 involves drills in the yard and PowerPoint</p> <p>7 presentations. Do you see that?</p> <p>8 A. Yes.</p> <p>9 Q. Four lines down.</p> <p>10 When I go to your statement Mr Badillo, what I'm</p> <p>11 going to do is put it up on a screen here at the back of</p> <p>12 the room and also on the screen in front of you. It may</p> <p>13 be more convenient for you to look at it on the screen</p> <p>14 or in your written statement. It doesn't matter.</p> <p>15 A. Okay.</p> <p>16 Q. If you look at the third line of that paragraph, it</p> <p>17 says:</p> <p>18 "Our ongoing training includes drills in the yard</p> <p>19 and power point presentations."</p> <p>20 I just want to ask you a little bit about that.</p> <p>21 Do drills in the yard and PowerPoint presentations</p> <p>22 specifically include high-rise training?</p> <p>23 A. PowerPoint training -- PowerPoint presentations do, yes.</p> <p>24 Q. Right, but not physical drills?</p> <p>25 A. The stuff in the yard is more to do with ladder drills</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 51</p>
<p>1 A. Another family. Jessica's family.</p> <p>2 Q. I see. Anybody else?</p> <p>3 A. No.</p> <p>4 Q. Thank you very much.</p> <p>5 Now, I want to start, if I can, with your position</p> <p>6 and your training.</p> <p>7 You say in your statement that you served in the</p> <p>8 London Fire Brigade for over 19 years. Is that right?</p> <p>9 A. Yes.</p> <p>10 Q. So you joined in 1998/1999; is that right?</p> <p>11 A. June 1998.</p> <p>12 Q. June 1998?</p> <p>13 A. It's now 20 years.</p> <p>14 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Can I just say, you can pull the</p> <p>15 microphone closer to you if you would find that more</p> <p>16 convenient. Is that better?</p> <p>17 A. Yes.</p> <p>18 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Thank you.</p> <p>19 MR MILLETT: Have you been an active firefighter since then?</p> <p>20 A. Yes.</p> <p>21 Q. How long have you been at North Kensington fire station?</p> <p>22 A. 18 years.</p> <p>23 Q. Were you always during that time at Red Watch?</p> <p>24 A. Yes.</p> <p>25 Q. What was your position, in terms of your rank, on</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 50</p>	<p>1 and pumping from the machine.</p> <p>2 Q. Okay. What does high-rise physical drill involve? You</p> <p>3 say pumping and ladder drills. Anything else?</p> <p>4 A. We do lots of different drills in the yard. We do stuff</p> <p>5 for RTAs, we do lots of different training for all sorts</p> <p>6 of incidents.</p> <p>7 Q. How often did you practise high-rise drills before</p> <p>8 June 2017?</p> <p>9 A. I couldn't put a number on it, but I wouldn't say more</p> <p>10 than once a year.</p> <p>11 Q. Not more than once a year?</p> <p>12 A. Not drills, no.</p> <p>13 Q. Okay. Where did you do those high-rise drills?</p> <p>14 A. We're talking about -- we did a back to basics in</p> <p>15 Hammersmith. We also -- the PowerPoint training is</p> <p>16 where we discuss our on-arrival tactics and so forth.</p> <p>17 Q. Right.</p> <p>18 The back to basics course you did, do you remember</p> <p>19 when you did that?</p> <p>20 A. I believe it was 2016.</p> <p>21 Q. Do you remember whether on the back to basics course you</p> <p>22 did anything about fire spread on the exterior of</p> <p>23 high-rise buildings?</p> <p>24 A. No, we did not.</p> <p>25 Q. You didn't.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 52</p>

<p>1 Did you learn anything on the back to basics course</p> <p>2 about breach of compartmentation in a high-rise</p> <p>3 residential block?</p> <p>4 A. No.</p> <p>5 Q. Did you do anything on the back to basics about how to</p> <p>6 conduct a phased or total evacuation of a high-rise</p> <p>7 block on the back to basics course?</p> <p>8 A. No.</p> <p>9 Q. Okay. Going back to high-rise training, does your</p> <p>10 training on high-rise cover the stay-put policy, if</p> <p>11 I can put it generally?</p> <p>12 A. We know of the stay-put policy. Not training on it,</p> <p>13 I wouldn't say. We're familiar with it.</p> <p>14 Q. Right. Can you explain to us what your understanding of</p> <p>15 the stay-put policy is, or at least was before</p> <p>16 Grenfell Tower?</p> <p>17 A. It's when a family or someone in a dwelling cannot leave</p> <p>18 their flat due to smoke or fire, and they are advised to</p> <p>19 stay in their flat until they're rescued by the</p> <p>20 firefighters.</p> <p>21 Q. Do firefighters such as yourself get training on what</p> <p>22 that policy means and how it's carried out?</p> <p>23 A. No.</p> <p>24 Q. Before June 2017, did you ever receive any training</p> <p>25 about the risks associated with cladding on the exterior</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 53</p>	<p>1 rather than to assess the risk?</p> <p>2 A. Yes.</p> <p>3 Q. Yes, thank you very much.</p> <p>4 Now, if you go back to the bottom of page 1 of your</p> <p>5 statement, you say in the fourth line:</p> <p>6 "In April 2017 I attended a serious fire at</p> <p>7 Trellick Tower. This was a 10 to 15 pump fire."</p> <p>8 You then go on to say:</p> <p>9 "In the following month we covered various aspects</p> <p>10 of high rise training and procedures."</p> <p>11 Can you explain, please, what that training</p> <p>12 involved?</p> <p>13 A. That involved going over what we did on the incident and</p> <p>14 seeing what we could do to make that incident -- or make</p> <p>15 what we did at that incident -- improve on what we did.</p> <p>16 Q. Who provided that training, that post-Trellick Tower</p> <p>17 fire training, do you remember?</p> <p>18 A. Our watch manager.</p> <p>19 Q. Who was Mike Dowden, was it?</p> <p>20 A. Mike Dowden.</p> <p>21 Q. So that would have been in, what, May 2017, would it?</p> <p>22 A. Around there, yes.</p> <p>23 Q. And what did you learn about how to make that incident</p> <p>24 improve? That incident was Trellick Tower, but what did</p> <p>25 you learn from that that could make your practice after</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 55</p>
<p>1 of high-rise residential blocks?</p> <p>2 A. No.</p> <p>3 Q. Can I go back to a question about the stay-put policy</p> <p>4 just for one moment. If you look at page 2 of your</p> <p>5 statement, you say in I suppose it would be the second</p> <p>6 paragraph, it's about two-thirds of the way down:</p> <p>7 "I am aware of the stay put policy for high</p> <p>8 rises ..."</p> <p>9 You then say in the next sentence:</p> <p>10 "The advice given is to stay in your flat, unless it</p> <p>11 is directly involved in or affected by the fire or if</p> <p>12 you feel at risk."</p> <p>13 Can I just ask you what you mean by "or if you feel</p> <p>14 at risk"? Do you mean there that the person giving the</p> <p>15 advice is advising the resident or occupant to assess</p> <p>16 the risk for themselves?</p> <p>17 A. That's probably worded wrong. What I mean by that is</p> <p>18 for them to assess the situation. If they open their</p> <p>19 door, they see smoke, they see fire, they stay in their</p> <p>20 flat.</p> <p>21 Q. Okay. So in your experience -- I'm sorry, we're getting</p> <p>22 to something we'll probably cover later on, but I'm just</p> <p>23 interested in your statement there -- just to be clear,</p> <p>24 you're saying that when the stay-put advice is given,</p> <p>25 the caller is just asked to describe what they see,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 54</p>	<p>1 that better?</p> <p>2 A. We had a lot of problems with the water. It took us</p> <p>3 half an hour to get into the property. We got the</p> <p>4 council down to sort out the wet rising main. We</p> <p>5 visited the tower. We looked at the lengths of hose</p> <p>6 needed to get to the different flats that we would need</p> <p>7 to get to. We just went through the on-arrival tactics,</p> <p>8 what we did, what equipment was taken up to the</p> <p>9 bridgehead and everything else about the incident.</p> <p>10 Q. You say you got the council down to sort something out.</p> <p>11 Could you just expand on that a little bit?</p> <p>12 A. When I say "we", I mean the Fire Brigade got the council</p> <p>13 down.</p> <p>14 Q. Right. Was the fire during the day or at night, do you</p> <p>15 remember?</p> <p>16 A. It was in the evening. I remember it was dark after the</p> <p>17 fire was put out.</p> <p>18 Q. Do you remember how easy or difficult it was to contact</p> <p>19 the council and get them to attend?</p> <p>20 A. It wasn't me who contacted them.</p> <p>21 Q. You say it was the Fire Brigade. Do you know who it</p> <p>22 was?</p> <p>23 A. No.</p> <p>24 Q. Do you remember a fire at Adair Tower?</p> <p>25 A. Yes.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 56</p>

<p>1 Q. Could you tell us when that was, do you remember?</p> <p>2 A. That was approximately two years before, or maybe a year</p> <p>3 and a half before, 14 June.</p> <p>4 Q. Did you attend it?</p> <p>5 A. Yes.</p> <p>6 Q. Was there fire spread there which went outside the</p> <p>7 compartment of origin?</p> <p>8 A. Yes.</p> <p>9 Q. Could you tell us briefly what happened?</p> <p>10 A. The fire got out of the front door, got into the</p> <p>11 lobby -- was in the lobby area, and spread to the flat</p> <p>12 next door. The door was burnt.</p> <p>13 Q. This was a high-rise block?</p> <p>14 A. Yes.</p> <p>15 Q. So it got into the lobby area and then broke into</p> <p>16 another flat through the front door, did it?</p> <p>17 A. It burnt the door but didn't actually -- the fire didn't</p> <p>18 actually get through into the next flat. By the time we</p> <p>19 got to it, we managed to put it all out.</p> <p>20 Q. Right.</p> <p>21 Was there any exterior fire spread at Adair Tower?</p> <p>22 A. No. I was inside but I'm pretty sure there wasn't.</p> <p>23 Q. Before June 2017, had you heard of a fire at Shepherds</p> <p>24 Court?</p> <p>25 A. Yes.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 57</p>	<p>1 A. Yeah, I'm fine.</p> <p>2 Q. Break? Continue?</p> <p>3 A. Yes.</p> <p>4 Q. Very good.</p> <p>5 I want to turn to your prior visits to</p> <p>6 Grenfell Tower.</p> <p>7 You say on page 1, seven lines down from the very</p> <p>8 start of your statement:</p> <p>9 "I have been to Grenfell Tower on several occasions,</p> <p>10 in a professional capacity and I used to live within the</p> <p>11 area. I know that it was redeveloped about 3 years ago</p> <p>12 and my crew visited during the refurbishment, when it</p> <p>13 was a working site."</p> <p>14 You also say at the top of page 2, about six lines</p> <p>15 down from the top, so I put it all to you:</p> <p>16 "I have completed 7(2)D visits to various buildings</p> <p>17 during my time in the London Fire Brigade, however</p> <p>18 I don't believe that I have ever had to complete one</p> <p>19 specifically for Grenfell Tower."</p> <p>20 So am I right in thinking that although your</p> <p>21 watchmates may have done, you never had cause in your</p> <p>22 time at North Kensington to visit Grenfell Tower to do</p> <p>23 a 7(2)(d) visit?</p> <p>24 A. Not that I remember, no.</p> <p>25 Q. When you say on page 1 of your statement that you'd been</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 59</p>
<p>1 Q. Did you attend the fire at Shepherds Court?</p> <p>2 A. No.</p> <p>3 Q. How did you come to hear of the fire at Shepherds Court?</p> <p>4 A. My watch were in attendance.</p> <p>5 Q. Where were you?</p> <p>6 A. Not there.</p> <p>7 Q. Not there.</p> <p>8 What did you learn from your watchmates who were in</p> <p>9 attendance at Shepherds Court?</p> <p>10 A. That they had a fire, not much more than that. It's</p> <p>11 pretty common for a watch, once they've had a fire, to</p> <p>12 discuss it around the mess table.</p> <p>13 Q. Was there any discussion around the Red Watch mess table</p> <p>14 of exterior fire spread at Shepherds Court?</p> <p>15 A. No.</p> <p>16 Q. Discussion about cladding?</p> <p>17 A. No.</p> <p>18 Q. Did you have any training or education or anything like</p> <p>19 that, information or intelligence, about exterior fire</p> <p>20 spread on clad high-rise buildings in the period</p> <p>21 after August 2016, when Shepherds Court happened,</p> <p>22 and June 2017?</p> <p>23 A. Absolutely none.</p> <p>24 Q. I am going to turn to a different topic, Mr Badillo.</p> <p>25 Are you happy to continue or would you like a break?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 58</p>	<p>1 to Grenfell Tower in a professional capacity, could you</p> <p>2 just explain what you were doing when you visited it in</p> <p>3 that capacity?</p> <p>4 A. The last time I went to Grenfell Tower was probably two</p> <p>5 months before the fire. We were called to a lady who</p> <p>6 was locked out of her flat. When we was there, we got</p> <p>7 the lady in, and her little boy came up in the lift and</p> <p>8 told us that his friends had pushed him off his bike, so</p> <p>9 we helped to fix his bike for him. So we spent about</p> <p>10 20 minutes there trying to fix his bike.</p> <p>11 Q. Okay.</p> <p>12 Could you look at your contemporaneous notes that</p> <p>13 you did just after the fire -- I think immediately after</p> <p>14 the fire -- on 14 June, and you should find those in</p> <p>15 tab 4B of the bundle in front of you. I can have it put</p> <p>16 on the screen, and it's DKB/3, which is MET00005347</p> <p>17 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: I think for those on small monitors</p> <p>18 it might be necessary to --</p> <p>19 MR MILLETT: We will magnify it, absolutely.</p> <p>20 Mr Badillo, do you recognise this document?</p> <p>21 A. Yes.</p> <p>22 Q. What is this document?</p> <p>23 A. Contemporaneous notes.</p> <p>24 Q. There's a date at the top, 14 June 2017. Is that when</p> <p>25 you prepared this note?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 60</p>

<p>1 A. Yes.</p> <p>2 Q. How soon after leaving the fire ground at Grenfell Tower</p> <p>3 did you prepare this note? I'm assuming you didn't</p> <p>4 prepare it on the fire ground, so --</p> <p>5 A. When we got back to the station.</p> <p>6 Q. So the events were fresh in your mind?</p> <p>7 A. Yes.</p> <p>8 Q. If you look at point 2, do you see there, we'll read</p> <p>9 together:</p> <p>10 "Previous knowledge was plentiful."</p> <p>11 Now, the way it's been magnified I think has deleted</p> <p>12 or obscured the very words I wanted to ask you about.</p> <p>13 Let's see if we can manage:</p> <p>14 "Previous knowledge was plentiful."</p> <p>15 Then you say:</p> <p>16 "72ds (familiarisation visits), 11ds, AFAs and</p> <p>17 recent lock out (fixing or trying to boy's bike)."</p> <p>18 Now, you've told us about the bike.</p> <p>19 Can I just ask you, you say there 7(2)(d)s,</p> <p>20 familiarisation visits. Why did you write that?</p> <p>21 A. That was after 9 hours of the worst day of my life and</p> <p>22 it's just something I wrote. I don't even remember</p> <p>23 writing that, but I'm not sure.</p> <p>24 Q. So --</p> <p>25 A. I probably wrote that because we do 7(2)(d)s and</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 61</p>	<p>1 detector to actuate and we sort it out.</p> <p>2 Q. Thank you.</p> <p>3 Now, you say in your statement -- I'm sorry, we're</p> <p>4 still on page 1, the first paragraph. Would you just go</p> <p>5 back to that. You say, seven lines down:</p> <p>6 "I know that it was redeveloped about 3 years ago</p> <p>7 and my crew visited during the refurbishment, when it</p> <p>8 was a working site."</p> <p>9 Did you go on that visit?</p> <p>10 A. I don't remember, no. I don't believe I did.</p> <p>11 Q. Do you remember having any discussion or conversation</p> <p>12 with your watchmates about the visit that they did?</p> <p>13 A. Somewhere in my memory I remember them talking about</p> <p>14 a repositioning of the dry riser.</p> <p>15 Q. Okay. Anything else?</p> <p>16 A. No. At the time, that was what we thought the most</p> <p>17 important thing was, because it would change our attack</p> <p>18 if there was a fire there.</p> <p>19 Q. That's all you remember about what your crewmates</p> <p>20 discussed from their visit to the site?</p> <p>21 A. Yes.</p> <p>22 MR MILLETT: Okay.</p> <p>23 Mr Chairman, I'm going to turn to a different topic.</p> <p>24 I wonder whether now might be a convenient moment?</p> <p>25 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: It would probably be convenient to</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 63</p>
<p>1 I(1)(d)s in tower blocks in North Kensington, but given</p> <p>2 time to think about it, I can't remember actually doing</p> <p>3 one.</p> <p>4 Q. Okay. Your statement, as I have shown you, says that</p> <p>5 you didn't complete 7(2)(d)s and this contemporaneous</p> <p>6 note says that you did.</p> <p>7 A. Yes.</p> <p>8 Q. So to summarise your evidence, I think you're telling us</p> <p>9 that the statement is right and the contemporaneous note</p> <p>10 is not on that point?</p> <p>11 A. I can't say for certain. What I'm saying is that once</p> <p>12 I thought about it, in my memory, I can't remember doing</p> <p>13 one.</p> <p>14 Q. You can't remember one doing?</p> <p>15 A. Yeah.</p> <p>16 Q. What about 1(1)(d)s, which is the old --</p> <p>17 A. That would be an even further back in time, so</p> <p>18 I definitely can't remember.</p> <p>19 Q. AFAs, I think I know what that stands for, but could you</p> <p>20 just tell me?</p> <p>21 A. Automated fire alarms.</p> <p>22 Q. What would happen? Why would you go to Grenfell Tower?</p> <p>23 A. It's where a smoke alarm or a smoke detector has been</p> <p>24 actuated and they would have an alarm panel and we get</p> <p>25 called. We go to check out what has caused the smoke</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 62</p>	<p>1 us all, wouldn't it?</p> <p>2 We are going to take a break now, Mr Badillo. We</p> <p>3 normally have a break of about 15 minutes during the</p> <p>4 morning and we'll take that now.</p> <p>5 So could you leave us and be ready to resume your</p> <p>6 evidence at, let's say, 11.35. All right?</p> <p>7 Thank you very much.</p> <p>8 (Pause)</p> <p>9 All right, 11.35, please.</p> <p>10 (11.20 am)</p> <p>11 (A short break)</p> <p>12 (11.35 am)</p> <p>13 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Well, Mr Millett, we'll just wait</p> <p>14 a moment for Mr Badillo to be ready and then we'll carry</p> <p>15 on.</p> <p>16 (Pause)</p> <p>17 All right, Mr Badillo?</p> <p>18 THE WITNESS: Yes.</p> <p>19 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes, Mr Millett.</p> <p>20 MR MILLETT: Thank you, Mr Chairman.</p> <p>21 Mr Badillo, I just want to ask you one very brief</p> <p>22 question about training, and that's about radio</p> <p>23 communications.</p> <p>24 Do you get any training, or did you get any training</p> <p>25 before June 2017, on how to manage difficulties in</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 64</p>

<p>1 communications on the fire ground between firefighters 2 and firefighters or firefighters and bridgehead, 3 firefighters and Brigade control, that kind of thing? 4 Did you get any training on that? 5 A. Do you mean if radios fail? 6 Q. Yes. 7 A. No. 8 Q. What about where they don't fail but communications are 9 just very difficult because you just can't use the 10 channel for whatever reason? 11 A. No. 12 Q. I want to ask you now about arrival at Grenfell Tower on 13 the night of the fire. 14 If you turn to your witness statement at page 3 -- 15 there's no paragraph in there, it's all one -- you say 16 at the very top of the page: 17 "As we pulled up to Grenfell Tower, the engine was 18 parked by the overhang and this was where it remained 19 for the whole night." 20 By "the overhang", what do you mean? 21 A. Underneath Grenfell Walk. 22 Q. Now, the mobilisation and the short incident log has you 23 arriving at 00.59 or so. 24 In your statement you say in the second line: 25 "I couldn't any flames or smoke upon our arrival,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 65</p>	<p>1 A. Okay, we were called to a flat fire. 2 Q. A flat fire? 3 A. Yes, in the kitchen. 4 Q. In the kitchen. And did anybody say or did you have any 5 understanding as to what it was on fire in the kitchen? 6 A. Not en route. 7 Q. You say that the rest of the crew remained outside to 8 locate the hydrants, and this is the top of page 3: 9 "The rest of the crew remained outside to locate the 10 hydrants, set up water supplies, plugging into the dry 11 riser and getting the pump going." 12 Do you see that? 13 A. Yes. 14 Q. By "the rest of the crew", who do you mean? 15 A. Firefighter Bills, Firefighter Abell and the governor, 16 Watch Manager Dowden. 17 Q. Okay. 18 Where was Watch Manager Dowden at that time, do you 19 remember? 20 A. Sorry, at what time? 21 Q. At the time that you were locating hydrants, setting up 22 water supplies and plugging into the dry riser? 23 A. That wasn't me who was doing that; I was straight into 24 the building. 25 Q. Let's go straight to that.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 67</p>
<p>1 however Danny said that he could see some smoke." 2 Where did you look, do you remember? 3 A. I was in the middle of the fire engine, so I didn't get 4 the view that Danny got. 5 Q. Did you see the other North Kensington pump arrive? 6 A. It arrived behind us. 7 Q. You say in the third line you took two lengths of hose 8 and a branch and went into the lobby with Crew Managers 9 Secrett and Batterbee and Firefighters O'Beirne, Dorgu, 10 Brown and De St Aubin. Those last three, I think -- is 11 this right? -- were from G272? 12 A. Yes. 13 Q. Did anybody give you instructions as to what to take? 14 A. Not instructions; we had a conversation on the back of 15 the fire engines. 16 Q. Before you arrived or on arrival? 17 A. Yes. 18 Q. Did you have a discussion en route with the rest of the 19 crew as to what you were going to? 20 A. Yes. 21 Q. What was your understanding of what you were going to? 22 A. Can you repeat the question? 23 Q. What did you think you were going to? What kind of 24 incident did you think you were going to when you were 25 en route?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 66</p>	<p>1 You entered the lobby with a group of firefighters, 2 I think; is that right? 3 A. Yes. 4 Q. And if we can just see a photograph -- are you all right 5 to look at a camera photograph? 6 A. Yes. 7 Q. It's a still. 8 A. Yes. 9 Q. Could we please have on the screen camera 4 CCTV, 10 INQ00000095. 11 If this could just be enlarged -- thank you -- we 12 have the time, subject to adjustment, for this as 13 01.01.12, and please identify, if you can, who we see in 14 that picture. 15 A. That looks like me and Watch Manager Dowden behind me. 16 Q. Yes. He's wearing the white -- 17 A. Yes. 18 Q. -- IC tabard and you're there in the front. What are 19 you carrying? 20 A. I'm carrying a length of hose, a branch, a BA entry 21 control board and the forward information board. 22 Q. Right. So in your left hand you have the forward 23 information board. Is that the white one or the yellow 24 one? 25 A. The white one.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 68</p>

<p>1 Q. And the yellow one is what, the entry control board, is 2 it? 3 A. Yes. 4 Q. Looking at the hose, what kind of hose is that? What 5 width of hose is that? Can you tell by looking at it 6 or -- 7 A. Not really. 8 Q. Okay. 9 A. I'm guessing it's a 45-millimetre. 10 Q. Right. 11 Now, in your statement you say that you were met by 12 a group of people. Was this inside the lobby or outside 13 the lobby? 14 A. Inside. 15 Q. Inside. 16 You say -- this is, I think, 10 or so lines down -- 17 it's quite difficult to navigate through this block of 18 text, but if you bear with me -- about a third of the 19 way down the page you say -- or it may be a quarter of 20 the way down: 21 "We were met by a group of, I think 4 people and 22 I recall one Asian man, aged roughly 40-50, doing most 23 of the talking. He stated that it was their flat that 24 was on fire, the fire was in the kitchen, they'd closed 25 the door but had left the keys inside the flat. He</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 69</p>	<p>1 A. That's all I remember him saying. 2 Q. Okay. 3 Do you remember how you got from the main lobby 4 through the internal door to the lifts? 5 A. I believe someone had a fob, someone let us through. 6 Q. Do you remember how easy it was to get hold of the fob? 7 A. I believe it was one of the group that was coming down 8 the stairs let us in. 9 Q. Right. 10 A. So it was easy, yes. 11 Q. I see. 12 Do you remember arriving and discovering that you 13 needed a fob to get into the inner part of the building? 14 A. Sorry, I don't -- can you repeat the question? 15 Q. When you arrived -- 16 A. Yes. 17 Q. -- did you or other members of your crew have any 18 difficulty accessing the inner part of the building, 19 beyond the lobby into the inner part of the building? 20 A. What, during the night? 21 Q. On arrival, at the very beginning. 22 A. Not that I remembered, no. 23 Q. Okay. 24 Let's have a look at another CCTV camera image and 25 this is INQ00000096.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 71</p>
<p>1 looked worried but I cannot remember anything else about 2 him." 3 Can I just ask you to look at another CCTV image. 4 It's bundle-tab 19 and tab 20, and I'll give you the INQ 5 references: it's INQ00000026 and INQ00000027. I just 6 want to see if we can identify the man you talked to. 7 I think that's 26. If we can go to the next one. 8 That is the back of his head. I think if we go to the 9 next one, it should be clearer, Mr Badillo. That's not 10 the next one, I don't think. 11 Doing the best we can with what we have in the time 12 we have, do you think that looks anything like the man 13 that you met and talked to? It's a bit difficult to 14 tell. 15 A. From that image? 16 Q. Let's try number 27. I'll give the number again and see 17 if we can get the right image this time: INQ00000027. 18 (Pause) 19 We'll come back to that later. We can move on. 20 You say he said that there was a fire in his kitchen 21 and that they'd closed the door and left the keys 22 inside. Did you hear the whole conversation, do you 23 think? 24 A. Yes. 25 Q. What else did he say, can you remember?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 70</p>	<p>1 If you just have that expanded, you can see there 2 a group of seven firefighters, with Mike Dowden in the 3 foreground and two BA wearers, and then I think that's 4 you with the entry control board there standing next 5 took a lady who is wearing, it looks like, a red shirt. 6 Do you see that? 7 Do you remember being in that position? Do you 8 remember that happening? 9 A. That was sort of how I explained it earlier, yes. It 10 seems like she would have been the one who let us 11 through the door. 12 Q. Very good. Okay, thank you. 13 Then after that, where did you go next, do you 14 remember? 15 A. Through that door. 16 Q. And that took you into a lift lobby, I think? 17 A. Yes. 18 Q. In your statement, if you go back to page 3, you go on 19 to say: 20 "I didn't talk to the group directly and cannot 21 remember who spoke to them. CM SECRETT tried to use the 22 firefighter key for the lift, however this didn't work, 23 which was a little surprising but didn't concern us much 24 as we were only going to the 4th floor." 25 I'll come back to the next sentence in a moment, but</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 72</p>

<p>1 I just want to look at the facts for the moment.</p> <p>2 You describe Crew Manager Secrett trying to use the</p> <p>3 firefighter key for the lift but it didn't work. Let me</p> <p>4 just show you a picture.</p> <p>5 If you look at the CCTV picture INQ00000098. If we</p> <p>6 can have that enlarged.</p> <p>7 Could you describe for us what you see here? This</p> <p>8 is a time stamp of 01.03.35, subject to adjustment.</p> <p>9 Could you just describe for us what you see?</p> <p>10 A. That's Crew Manager Secrett attempting to get the</p> <p>11 firefighter lift to work.</p> <p>12 Q. Okay. And who is immediately behind him?</p> <p>13 A. That's Firefighter Brown.</p> <p>14 Q. And then I think you're just coming through the door --</p> <p>15 is this right? -- with the entry control board --</p> <p>16 A. Yes.</p> <p>17 Q. -- and other things. Okay.</p> <p>18 Just so I'm clear, immediately behind him, can you</p> <p>19 identify who the firefighter is coming through, who is</p> <p>20 also holding some hose?</p> <p>21 A. It looks like Crew Manager Batterbee.</p> <p>22 Q. It does.</p> <p>23 Can you describe for us what a firefighter key is</p> <p>24 that Crew Manager Secrett was using?</p> <p>25 A. Yes, it's called an express lift key, and it's a drop</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 73</p>	<p>1 Q. In your experience, would the lift continuing as</p> <p>2 a normal lift have consequences for the occupants of the</p> <p>3 building?</p> <p>4 A. There would be signs on every floor to say not to use</p> <p>5 the lift in the event of fire, because even if we took</p> <p>6 control of that firefighting lift, there's still another</p> <p>7 lift next to it which they could use.</p> <p>8 Q. True. And if the lift was uncontrolled by the Fire</p> <p>9 Brigade and left available to occupants of the building</p> <p>10 to use, what consequences might that have for their</p> <p>11 safety?</p> <p>12 A. It means that the lift could open on any door, could</p> <p>13 open up to the fire floor or a floor that is filled with</p> <p>14 smoke.</p> <p>15 Q. Yes.</p> <p>16 A. Yes, so could cause them danger.</p> <p>17 Q. I am just going to show you one or two more pictures on</p> <p>18 this subject.</p> <p>19 If you could look at the next picture, which is CCTV</p> <p>20 camera 5, INQ00000099. This is taken only a few seconds</p> <p>21 later at 01.01.49, subject to adjustment. We have Crew</p> <p>22 Manager Secrett there doing something with his right</p> <p>23 hand with what looks like the key and something with his</p> <p>24 left hand.</p> <p>25 Do you remember what he was doing? Could you</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 75</p>
<p>1 key that you put into a hole, turn it and it enables the</p> <p>2 firefighter lift. We also use it when there's people</p> <p>3 stuck in lifts. It enables us to open the lift doors.</p> <p>4 Q. Do you remember where Crew Manager Secrett got it from</p> <p>5 on the night?</p> <p>6 A. No, but I do know that Crew Manager Secrett has his own</p> <p>7 express lift key.</p> <p>8 Q. Okay.</p> <p>9 You say it was a little surprising that it didn't</p> <p>10 work. Why do you say it was surprising, or a little</p> <p>11 surprising?</p> <p>12 A. Because they should work.</p> <p>13 Q. Because it should work?</p> <p>14 A. Yes.</p> <p>15 Q. Is it common in your experience, or was it common in</p> <p>16 your experience at the time, that a firefighter key</p> <p>17 wouldn't work when you arrived at an incident?</p> <p>18 A. I wouldn't say common, but I have known it before not to</p> <p>19 work.</p> <p>20 Q. Did you have any specific knowledge or experience about</p> <p>21 these lifts at Grenfell Tower?</p> <p>22 A. No.</p> <p>23 Q. What happened when he tried to take control of the lift?</p> <p>24 A. Like I said, it didn't work, so it just continued as</p> <p>25 a normal lift.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 74</p>	<p>1 describe that for us?</p> <p>2 A. I don't remember, but it looks to me as if he is trying</p> <p>3 to operate the firefighter lift and press a button for</p> <p>4 the lift at the same time.</p> <p>5 Q. Why would one normally do that?</p> <p>6 A. To call the lift down and to operate the firefighter</p> <p>7 lift.</p> <p>8 Q. You do it at the same time, do you, with the key and the</p> <p>9 button?</p> <p>10 A. No, not -- I believe what he's doing there is attempting</p> <p>11 to call the firefighter lift and realising it's not</p> <p>12 working, so calling the lift down anyway.</p> <p>13 Q. Oh, I see, okay.</p> <p>14 On your best guess, how much time do you think you</p> <p>15 lost by reason of not having the firefighter lift or</p> <p>16 fire lift working?</p> <p>17 A. You want me to guess?</p> <p>18 Q. Well, an estimate rather than a guess. That's a better</p> <p>19 word.</p> <p>20 A. Okay. Two minutes.</p> <p>21 Q. Two minutes.</p> <p>22 So you then get into the lift, and I'll just show</p> <p>23 you a picture of that, if that's all right. If you go</p> <p>24 to or be taken to INQ00000100, this is CCTV camera 5</p> <p>25 taken at 01.01.58, subject to adjustment.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 76</p>

<p>1 Would that be right, this is you getting into the</p> <p>2 lift, the crew getting into the lift?</p> <p>3 A. Yes.</p> <p>4 Q. Then we have a lift camera at C18, camera C18, at</p> <p>5 01.02.15, which is the next image on, 101.</p> <p>6 What do we see there?</p> <p>7 A. That's us in the lift.</p> <p>8 Q. Looks like you had a tight squeeze.</p> <p>9 A. A very tight squeeze.</p> <p>10 Q. Would it be normal to use the lift to pile in two BA</p> <p>11 wearers and all the equipment?</p> <p>12 A. We do what we can to get there as fast as we can.</p> <p>13 Q. Very good.</p> <p>14 Now, you go up to -- you say this on page 3 of your</p> <p>15 statement, about halfway down. You say:</p> <p>16 "I can't remember if we took the lift the usual way</p> <p>17 or if we walked up the stairs to the 2nd floor, and the</p> <p>18 bridgehead and BA entry control was set up here."</p> <p>19 Could you just explain what entry control is?</p> <p>20 A. That's a BA entry control, so that is where any BA</p> <p>21 wearers will log in and log out before going up to</p> <p>22 a fire or going to complete a rescue.</p> <p>23 Q. And what does the entry control board do?</p> <p>24 A. So you have a key on your BA set and you would place</p> <p>25 that inside the BA board, and it will show lots of</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 77</p>	<p>1 and that's probably the first time I've thought about it</p> <p>2 because I don't remember, so --</p> <p>3 Q. Okay. Having heard him, I mean --</p> <p>4 A. I would say that was correct, yes.</p> <p>5 Q. But do you have any independent recollection of your</p> <p>6 own?</p> <p>7 A. No.</p> <p>8 Q. All right.</p> <p>9 A. I didn't spend much time there. We went straight up to</p> <p>10 setting to the dry riser.</p> <p>11 Q. That's my next question. Do you stay at entry control</p> <p>12 or do you go straight on up?</p> <p>13 A. Straight up.</p> <p>14 Q. So you weren't under air?</p> <p>15 A. No.</p> <p>16 Q. So there was no reason for you to stay at the</p> <p>17 bridgehead?</p> <p>18 A. No.</p> <p>19 Q. What were the conditions like in the stair at the second</p> <p>20 floor where the bridgehead was set up when you first got</p> <p>21 there?</p> <p>22 A. Completely clear.</p> <p>23 Q. What about in the stairs on the way up to the fourth</p> <p>24 floor?</p> <p>25 A. Completely clear.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 79</p>
<p>1 stuff: how much air is in your set, how close you are to</p> <p>2 the time of whistle, how close you are to your air</p> <p>3 running out.</p> <p>4 Also on the board the BA entry control officer will</p> <p>5 write down certain things. Might write down your call</p> <p>6 sign, if you have got comms, where you're going, what</p> <p>7 you're going to do, what you're carrying with you.</p> <p>8 Q. And can the entry control board communicate with the</p> <p>9 firefighter and vice versa?</p> <p>10 A. Yes.</p> <p>11 Q. And how does it do that?</p> <p>12 A. You can press a button on the board which will either --</p> <p>13 a little running man which will show you that you need</p> <p>14 to evacuate, or there's a big running man which you</p> <p>15 press and hold which will cause everybody to evacuate.</p> <p>16 Q. I see.</p> <p>17 Now, in your statement you say, in the middle of the</p> <p>18 page:</p> <p>19 "... walked up the stairs to the 2nd floor, and the</p> <p>20 bridgehead and BA entry control was set up here."</p> <p>21 Mr Batterbee gave us some evidence about that</p> <p>22 yesterday, but I want your recollection too, if I can.</p> <p>23 Whereabouts exactly was the BA entry control</p> <p>24 established?</p> <p>25 A. I watched Crew Manager Batterbee's evidence yesterday,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 78</p>	<p>1 Q. You got up to the fourth floor --</p> <p>2 A. Correct.</p> <p>3 Q. -- by stairs, did you?</p> <p>4 A. Yes.</p> <p>5 Q. When you got to the fourth floor, who did you go with?</p> <p>6 A. Firefighter Dorgu and Firefighter O'Beirne.</p> <p>7 Q. And what did you carry with you?</p> <p>8 A. I believe a hose and the branch.</p> <p>9 Q. Can you remember what Firefighters Dorgu and O'Beirne</p> <p>10 were carrying, do you remember?</p> <p>11 A. No.</p> <p>12 Q. All right.</p> <p>13 In your statement you say:</p> <p>14 "When we got to the 4th floor, we found the dry</p> <p>15 riser, set it in and flaked out the hose."</p> <p>16 Who is the "we"? Obviously that's you. Who else</p> <p>17 did you do that with?</p> <p>18 A. Firefighter O'Beirne and Firefighter Dorgu.</p> <p>19 Q. And Firefighters Batterbee and Brown, you say they were</p> <p>20 setting up their BA sets. Where were they doing that?</p> <p>21 A. At the bridgehead.</p> <p>22 Q. So they were still downstairs?</p> <p>23 A. Correct.</p> <p>24 Q. When you were doing that exercise -- finding the dry</p> <p>25 riser, setting it in and flaking out the hose -- what</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 80</p>

<p>1 were the conditions like in the lobby, the air</p> <p>2 conditions?</p> <p>3 A. They were clear. There was a slight smell of a fire.</p> <p>4 Q. Yes. If we look a little bit lower down on page 3 of</p> <p>5 your statement, you say:</p> <p>6 "We then radioed down to the bridgehead informing</p> <p>7 them that we were ready and to turn the water supply on.</p> <p>8 I couldn't see any fire and there was only a small</p> <p>9 amount of very light, wispy smoke."</p> <p>10 So where was that wispy smoke that you could see?</p> <p>11 A. I believe it was coming out of the door.</p> <p>12 Q. Which door?</p> <p>13 A. Sorry, the front door to flat 16.</p> <p>14 Q. Was the door open or closed?</p> <p>15 A. It was closed.</p> <p>16 Q. So where in the door was the light, wispy smoke coming</p> <p>17 out from?</p> <p>18 A. To tell the truth, when I say it was coming out the</p> <p>19 door, I'm guessing that it was coming out the door</p> <p>20 because that's where the fire was.</p> <p>21 Q. I see.</p> <p>22 A. But I couldn't see, like, smoke coming out of the door.</p> <p>23 Q. I follow.</p> <p>24 A. It was just in that area, so I guessed it had to be</p> <p>25 coming from that area.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 81</p>	<p>1 You say you set it in and flaked out the hose. Do</p> <p>2 you see that in your statement there?</p> <p>3 Could you just explain what that process involves,</p> <p>4 step by step?</p> <p>5 A. Yes. So you have the coupling, you plug it into the dry</p> <p>6 riser, you take the hose and you flake it so it doesn't</p> <p>7 get tangled when the water's turned on. You flake it</p> <p>8 and leave it at the front door.</p> <p>9 Q. When you say "flake it", I'm not sure I understand.</p> <p>10 A. Yes, sort of you snake it so in a -- that sort of</p> <p>11 fashion (Indicates).</p> <p>12 Q. So when you're laying it out on the floor, you give it</p> <p>13 bends, do you?</p> <p>14 A. Yes.</p> <p>15 Q. I see.</p> <p>16 A. If you left it rolled up, any of it, it tends to get</p> <p>17 tangled when you put pressure -- put water in it.</p> <p>18 Q. Yes.</p> <p>19 A. It's a technique that we're trained in.</p> <p>20 Q. Yes, I understand. Thank you.</p> <p>21 You say later on in your statement -- I'm not going</p> <p>22 to take you to it -- that the outlet is protected by</p> <p>23 glass. Do you remember whether the dry riser outlet on</p> <p>24 the fourth floor was protected by glass?</p> <p>25 A. I believe so, yes.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 83</p>
<p>1 Q. Was the light, wispy smoke all across the lobby or any</p> <p>2 part of the lobby?</p> <p>3 A. No, it's sort of where the door was.</p> <p>4 Q. And can you describe the colour of the smoke?</p> <p>5 A. A light colour, so grey, light grey.</p> <p>6 Q. Did it have any particular smell?</p> <p>7 A. Just the smell of fire.</p> <p>8 Q. Right. Was there anything at that stage to give you</p> <p>9 cause for concern that you saw?</p> <p>10 A. I don't understand the question. Do you mean -- because</p> <p>11 we've been called to a fire, so there's obviously</p> <p>12 concern because we're going to put this fire out. There</p> <p>13 was nothing out of the ordinary, if that's what the</p> <p>14 question is.</p> <p>15 Q. Thank you.</p> <p>16 You say a little earlier on that you found the dry</p> <p>17 riser. That's on the fourth floor, is it? That's where</p> <p>18 you found it?</p> <p>19 A. Yes.</p> <p>20 Q. Did you know where to look for it or did you have to</p> <p>21 look around and find it?</p> <p>22 A. Yes, I knew where it was.</p> <p>23 Q. Who told you where it was, do you remember?</p> <p>24 A. From previous visits there, I knew where it was.</p> <p>25 Q. Okay.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 82</p>	<p>1 Q. It was. Did it need to be unlocked?</p> <p>2 A. Yes.</p> <p>3 Q. Do you remember who unlocked it?</p> <p>4 A. No.</p> <p>5 Q. What would you unlock it with normally?</p> <p>6 A. A key.</p> <p>7 Q. Which key is that? Is it the same as the express key?</p> <p>8 A. No.</p> <p>9 Q. Where would you get the key from for the dry riser glass</p> <p>10 door?</p> <p>11 A. I believe it was probably one of the FB keys that we</p> <p>12 carry on the fire engine.</p> <p>13 Q. Who was it who actually plugged the dry riser hose into</p> <p>14 the fourth floor dry riser outlet?</p> <p>15 A. It would have been either Firefighter O'Beirne or</p> <p>16 Firefighter Dorgu.</p> <p>17 Q. You can't remember?</p> <p>18 A. No.</p> <p>19 Q. Is it standard procedure to plug in on the fire floor?</p> <p>20 A. No.</p> <p>21 Q. Why did you plug in on the fourth floor in this case?</p> <p>22 A. It was the quickest way to get into that flat.</p> <p>23 Q. What would the normal procedure be?</p> <p>24 A. One floor below.</p> <p>25 Q. Did anybody give you instructions not to follow the</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 84</p>

<p>1 standard procedure on this occasion but to plug in on 2 the fire floor? 3 A. It was a discussion we had between us. 4 Q. Who was party to that discussion? 5 A. Firefighter O'Beirne and Firefighter Dorgu. 6 Q. Where -- 7 A. Between us, we've had 60 years of experience. 8 Q. I understand. Where did that discussion take place? 9 A. In the lobby. 10 Q. In the lobby to the ... 11 A. The fourth floor. 12 Q. The fourth floor lobby? 13 A. Yes. 14 Q. So when you got up there? 15 A. Yes. We saw that the conditions were safe to do so, and 16 it was the quickest way, so we did it. 17 Q. Did you inform Watch Manager Dowden that that's what you 18 were doing, plugging into the dry riser on the fourth 19 floor? 20 A. I don't believe so. I didn't personally. 21 Q. Okay. 22 Was there later on a further hose plugged into the 23 dry rising main on the third floor? 24 A. Yes. 25 Q. When was that?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 85</p>	<p>1 propped open both doors, yeah. So doing what we did 2 with our first attack stopped any doors from being 3 opened. 4 Q. Yes. But then the second hose propped two doors open? 5 A. Unfortunately that's the only way we can do it in 6 Grenfell Tower. 7 Q. I see what you mean. 8 That propping of doors open on multiple floors, did 9 that create a risk of smoke spread from the lobbies into 10 the stairs? 11 A. Yes, definitely. 12 Q. So can you just help me understand why that would be 13 normal procedure if it did have that risk? 14 A. I can't explain that, that's -- you'd have to ask 15 someone who writes the procedures. 16 Q. Fair enough. We will. Thank you. 17 At the bottom of page 3, you say -- 18 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Mr Millett, are we going to another 19 topic? 20 MR MILLETT: No. 21 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Oh, I'm sorry to interrupt you in 22 that case. 23 MR MILLETT: We're quite close to another topic. 24 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Since I have interrupted you, can 25 I just ask: do you need a break at this stage or --</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 87</p>
<p>1 A. After Firefighter Brown and Crew Manager Batterbee came 2 up, took control of the hose that was going into the 3 flat, we went down and set up the second hose. 4 Q. What did you do with the second hose? 5 A. We plugged it into the third floor, took the hose out of 6 the third floor lobby, up the stairwell, and waited at 7 the fourth floor -- the door of the lobby in the 8 stairwell of the fourth floor, ready for the next crew 9 to back up the first crew. 10 Q. Did that mean that the door from the third floor lobby 11 into the stairwell had to be propped open by the hose 12 that came out from the third floor lobby into the stair? 13 A. Yes. 14 Q. And then the door from the stair into the fourth floor 15 lobby on the fourth floor also had to be propped open to 16 allow the hose to come back into the fourth floor lobby. 17 A. Yes. 18 Q. So you had two stairs on two different floors open into 19 the stairwell; is that right? 20 A. Yes. 21 Q. Two stair doors. 22 A. (Nodded assent). 23 Q. Would that be normal? 24 A. That's normal procedure, yes. If we had followed 25 procedure in the first place, that first hose would've</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 86</p>	<p>1 THE WITNESS: I'm fine. 2 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Very good. All right, thank you 3 very much. 4 Sorry, Mr Millett. On we go. 5 MR MILLETT: I'm now worried whether I should be asking in 6 5 minutes' time, but we'll get there. 7 Mr Badillo, looking at the bottom of page 3 of your 8 statement, you say: 9 "I saw the door to flat 16, which I believe had the 10 number in the middle and the letterbox was at waist 11 height approximately. Nothing else stood out about the 12 door. Danny and Charlie soon arrived in their BA sets 13 and approached the flat. I remember them having a look 14 through the letterbox and then they shouted a warning 15 that they were breaking the door down, so the rest of us 16 retreated back out on to the stairwell." 17 Do you see that? 18 Did you actually see them break the door down? 19 A. No. 20 Q. So you'd gone out into the stairwell by that stage? 21 A. As soon as we get the call that they're going to break 22 the door down, we're not in BA so we retreat to a safe 23 area. 24 Q. Did you all go out into the stairwell and not see the 25 door broken down or was that just you?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 88</p>

<p>1 A. All of us except the two BA crew.</p> <p>2 Q. Let me try and take this in stages.</p> <p>3 Who was it who went out into the stairwell at the</p> <p>4 moment when Danny and Charlie said they were going to</p> <p>5 break the door down?</p> <p>6 A. Me, Firefighter O'Beirne and Firefighter Dorgu.</p> <p>7 Q. You all went out into the stairwell at that point?</p> <p>8 A. Yes. As soon as that instruction comes, we leave that</p> <p>9 lobby area.</p> <p>10 Q. The reason I ask you, Mr Badillo, is because Mr O'Beirne</p> <p>11 has given us a statement -- which we'll obviously</p> <p>12 explore with him, I'm not suggesting to you that it's</p> <p>13 absolutely correct, but I have to ask you about his</p> <p>14 recollection -- and he says that he saw smoke coming out</p> <p>15 when Batterbee and Brown broke the door down, and</p> <p>16 because he saw the smoke, that's why you and he and</p> <p>17 Firefighter Dorgu went into the stairs.</p> <p>18 What's your recollection?</p> <p>19 A. What I said, but --</p> <p>20 Q. You think he's wrong?</p> <p>21 A. No.</p> <p>22 Q. It doesn't matter.</p> <p>23 A. No, it doesn't --</p> <p>24 Q. I just want to get your recollection.</p> <p>25 A. My recollection is what I've said, but --</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 89</p>	<p>1 3rd floor in order to set in the dry riser, as more hose</p> <p>2 was required for the fire and the next BA crew."</p> <p>3 Then you say:</p> <p>4 "Someone else had the keys, so I smashed the glass</p> <p>5 with the front of the hose, so that I could connect it</p> <p>6 up and then flaked it out and went back to the 4th floor</p> <p>7 and waited on the stairwell."</p> <p>8 Why did you have to smash the glass with the front</p> <p>9 of the hose?</p> <p>10 A. To plug in as quickly as I could, and I didn't have time</p> <p>11 to find whoever had the key. So whoever opened the key</p> <p>12 on the fourth floor was not there at the time, so --</p> <p>13 Q. Right.</p> <p>14 A. -- I did what I had to do.</p> <p>15 Q. And you don't remember, I think, who had the key --</p> <p>16 A. No, I don't.</p> <p>17 Q. -- to the fourth floor. Right.</p> <p>18 Then once you accessed the outlet, do you remember</p> <p>19 who plugged the hose into the outlet?</p> <p>20 A. That was me.</p> <p>21 Q. Again, Firefighter O'Beirne says that it was Firefighter</p> <p>22 Dorgu trying to do it but getting it wrong, so he helped</p> <p>23 him. That's what he said. Do you remember that?</p> <p>24 A. No. Was that on the third floor?</p> <p>25 Q. Yes.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 91</p>
<p>1 Q. Okay.</p> <p>2 Did you radio down to the bridgehead at any point</p> <p>3 tell them what you were doing?</p> <p>4 A. I don't remember. We're on channel 1. The bridgehead,</p> <p>5 who were talking to the BA crews, are on channel 6, so</p> <p>6 it would be the procedure that once the BA crew enters</p> <p>7 the flat then they would radio down to the bridgehead to</p> <p>8 let them know that they're now in the flat.</p> <p>9 Q. Did you or Firefighters Dorgu or O'Beirne, as far as you</p> <p>10 remember, use your radios to communicate with</p> <p>11 Mike Dowden at that point?</p> <p>12 A. At that stage, no.</p> <p>13 Q. Do you remember whether you or Firefighter Dorgu or</p> <p>14 Firefighter O'Beirne received any updates from</p> <p>15 Mike Dowden as to what was happening outside the</p> <p>16 building?</p> <p>17 A. At that stage, no.</p> <p>18 Q. I'm now going to turn to a slightly different topic,</p> <p>19 which is when you go down to the third floor to set in</p> <p>20 the backup hose.</p> <p>21 Are you happy to continue?</p> <p>22 A. Yes.</p> <p>23 Q. You say on page 4 of your statement, first paragraph,</p> <p>24 six lines down:</p> <p>25 "As the BA crews were going in, I went down to the</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 90</p>	<p>1 A. Okay.</p> <p>2 Q. Okay what? Okay you remember that's what happened?</p> <p>3 A. On the initial stages of setting up, you're doing so</p> <p>4 much at one time, it -- that's my recollection, but it</p> <p>5 can be a bit confusing who sets into -- if I've smashed</p> <p>6 the glass to the cabinet, I'm literally there. I can't</p> <p>7 see why I would then pass it to someone else to plug in.</p> <p>8 Q. Okay. All right.</p> <p>9 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Fair point.</p> <p>10 MR MILLETT: Then you say you flaked out the hose and went</p> <p>11 back to the fourth floor and waited on the stairwell.</p> <p>12 Do you remember where you left the hose?</p> <p>13 A. I didn't leave the hose; I stayed with the hose until</p> <p>14 the next crew came up.</p> <p>15 Q. Why did you go back up to the fourth floor?</p> <p>16 A. To wait for the next crew to come on to back up the BA</p> <p>17 crew that was already in flat 16.</p> <p>18 Q. Do you remember what firefighters O'Beirne and Dorgu</p> <p>19 were doing? Did they come with you back up to the</p> <p>20 fourth floor?</p> <p>21 A. At that stage, I believe I was on my own.</p> <p>22 Q. Right. Where did they go, do you know?</p> <p>23 A. I don't know.</p> <p>24 Actually, I think Justin was -- Firefighter O'Beirne</p> <p>25 was with me; he was a little bit further up.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 92</p>

<p>1 Q. You say you waited in the stairwell there. Why did you 2 wait there?</p> <p>3 A. In safe air.</p> <p>4 Q. So was the stair door shut or open?</p> <p>5 A. To the fourth floor lobby?</p> <p>6 Q. Quite right.</p> <p>7 A. Closed. We keep it closed as long as we can.</p> <p>8 Q. While you were waiting outside the fourth floor lobby on 9 the stairwell, what did the second BA crew do, do you 10 know?</p> <p>11 A. What did they do?</p> <p>12 Q. Did they come up?</p> <p>13 A. Yes.</p> <p>14 Q. Do you remember who they were?</p> <p>15 A. I know one of them was Firefighter Barton.</p> <p>16 Q. And the other one was Firefighter O'Hanlon; do you 17 remember that? It's a matter of record.</p> <p>18 A. I don't remember at the time, but I now know that, yes.</p> <p>19 Q. Had they taken the hose that you had set in for them?</p> <p>20 A. Yes.</p> <p>21 Q. Did you brief them on the details of what you knew about 22 the fire?</p> <p>23 A. Yes.</p> <p>24 Q. What did you tell them?</p> <p>25 A. My brief was literally that fire was in the kitchen.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 93</p>	<p>1 Q. Was that after Firefighters Barton and O'Hanlon had gone 2 in to the fourth floor lobby?</p> <p>3 A. The way I remember it, yes.</p> <p>4 Q. You go on in your statement to say that:</p> <p>5 "They said that they were from floors 5 and 6 and 6 that their flats were on fire. They appeared to be 7 overcome with smoke -- their eyes were streaming, they 8 were coughing and spluttering and looked panicked." 9 Did you speak to them?</p> <p>10 A. Yes.</p> <p>11 Q. Would you like to have a break?</p> <p>12 A. Pardon?</p> <p>13 Q. Would you like to have a break?</p> <p>14 A. No, I'm fine.</p> <p>15 Q. Do you remember how many people there were in the first 16 group that you saw?</p> <p>17 A. It says on my statement maybe 10 to 12, but I can't be 18 sure. It wasn't all at once; it was sort of some coming 19 down and then some more coming down.</p> <p>20 Q. You say in your statement:</p> <p>21 "I recognised someone I know, but didn't talk to 22 him. His name is Romero ...[redacted]... Maybe 10-12 23 people came down, all in the same physical state. Those 24 that did speak to us were in a state of panic and used 25 broken English; combined with my previous experiences of</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 95</p>
<p>1 I explained to them where the flat was when they went 2 into the lobby and who was already in there: 3 Firefighter Brown and Crew Manager Batterbee.</p> <p>4 Q. What did Firefighters Barton and O'Hanlon do next, do 5 you remember?</p> <p>6 A. They entered the lobby.</p> <p>7 Q. What did you do? Did you follow them in or stay out in 8 the stairwell?</p> <p>9 A. No, I stayed out.</p> <p>10 Q. Did you radio down to anybody to tell anybody that the 11 second BA crew had entered the fourth floor lobby?</p> <p>12 A. No.</p> <p>13 Q. I want to turn to the next topic, which is reports of 14 fires on the fifth and sixth floors.</p> <p>15 In your statement at page 4, second paragraph, you 16 say:</p> <p>17 "I waited on the stairwell and not long later, some 18 people started to come down the stairs, from the floors 19 above."</p> <p>20 We'll look at this in some detail, but can I start 21 by asking: you say not long later; how long do you think 22 you'd been waiting on the stairwell before the people 23 you saw came down?</p> <p>24 A. It was -- you're talking minutes, maybe one, 25 two minutes.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 94</p>	<p>1 high rise fires I thought that they meant their flats 2 were just filled with smoke rather than actually being 3 on fire."</p> <p>4 I want to stop there and ask you a number of 5 questions about that.</p> <p>6 You say earlier on in that passage, in the second 7 line of the paragraph, that they said they were from 8 floors 5 and 6.</p> <p>9 Did they actually say that to you?</p> <p>10 A. Yes.</p> <p>11 Q. You say that their eyes were streaming and they were 12 coughing and spluttering.</p> <p>13 A. Yes.</p> <p>14 Q. You could see that, could you, yourself?</p> <p>15 A. Yes.</p> <p>16 Q. Were you concerned about that at the time?</p> <p>17 A. Yes.</p> <p>18 Q. What were your thoughts at that moment?</p> <p>19 A. To find out if there was fire in their flats and to get 20 the people out.</p> <p>21 Q. You say in your statement that you thought their flats 22 were just filled with smoke rather than actually being 23 on fire, as you can see, in the highlighted yellow bit 24 on the screen.</p> <p>25 But can I ask you: if their flats on two levels</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 96</p>

1 above the fire floor -- so up to floor 6 -- were full of
 2 smoke -- 5 and 6, each full of smoke -- what did that
 3 tell you about whether compartmentation between any of
 4 these floors -- 4, 5 and 6 -- was still holding?
 5 **A. At the time, through previous experience, I've only ever**
 6 **been to one block of flats where a fire has jumped up**
 7 **into the next -- onto the next level. So I thought it**
 8 **needed further investigation but, at that stage, I was**
 9 **thinking that some smoke had travelled up.**
 10 Q. Some smoke had travelled up.
 11 **A. That was my first thought. But at the same time Justin**
 12 **said he would go up -- Firefighter O'Beirne said he**
 13 **would go up and have a look.**
 14 Q. I'll come back to that in just a moment.
 15 Can I just ask you a follow-up question on your
 16 experience.
 17 You say you'd been to one block of flats where
 18 a fire had jumped up onto the next level. When was
 19 that, do you remember?
 20 **A. That was about ten years ago.**
 21 Q. Where was that block of flats?
 22 **A. That was, I believe Camelford Walk.**
 23 Q. Camelford Walk?
 24 **A. Yes, which is not far from Grenfell Tower.**
 25 Q. And do you remember anything about the exterior of that

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1 building?
 2 **A. It was brick. The flames came out the window, the next**
 3 **window was open, it caught fire to the curtains and**
 4 **that's how it got into the next flat.**
 5 Q. So it penetrated from the outside into the inside of the
 6 floor above?
 7 **A. Yes.**
 8 Q. I see.
 9 You say you needed to find out more; did you ask any
 10 of the people you saw about what was happening in their
 11 flats, about the extent of the fire and smoke in their
 12 flats?
 13 **A. The thought at that time -- they looked panicked and**
 14 **eyes were streaming. I'm not going to stop them and**
 15 **have a conversation with them on a stairwell; I'm going**
 16 **to get them out of the building.**
 17 Q. Yes, you say get them out the building; did you have any
 18 thoughts about what the right fire safety advice to give
 19 to those people was?
 20 **A. To get out the building.**
 21 Q. What about other people on the same floors, 4, 5 and 6?
 22 **A. I needed to investigate further first of all.**
 23 Q. And did you?
 24 **A. Justin O'Beirne went up and I tried to radio down to the**
 25 **incident commander.**

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1 Q. Okay. So let's take the second of those parts of the
 2 answer first, radioing down to the incident commander.
 3 Do you remember radioing down to Mike Dowden to tell
 4 him about what you had learnt about what was happening
 5 on floors 5 and 6?
 6 **A. My radio battery had failed. I remember at some stage**
 7 **Justin throwing me his spare battery from his tunic.**
 8 **I put it on, tried to radio down, there was so much**
 9 **traffic going on at that stage and I couldn't get**
 10 **through.**
 11 Q. Really? Did it surprise you that there was a lot of
 12 traffic going on at that stage and you couldn't get
 13 through?
 14 **A. You go to incidents and there is usually a lot of**
 15 **traffic at a fire, so not entirely.**
 16 Q. Right. So is it quite common, in your experience, that
 17 you're in a high-rise block at a fire and you can't get
 18 hold of the incident commander on the ground?
 19 **A. Yes, that is common.**
 20 Q. Is that a matter of concern or has that been a matter of
 21 concern to you as a firefighter?
 22 **A. Definitely, yes.**
 23 Q. Have you raised it with anybody? Have you gone to your
 24 senior officers and said --
 25 **A. Plenty of times there's lots of problems with the radios**

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1 **and --**
 2 Q. Right, so is this a common problem in the London Fire
 3 Brigade?
 4 **A. With radios? Most definitely, yes.**
 5 Q. Right.
 6 Do you have any idea of what the common problem
 7 actually is? What's the root of the problem, do you
 8 know?
 9 **A. Technically, you mean?**
 10 Q. Yes.
 11 **A. No.**
 12 Q. Is there any other kind of problem?
 13 **A. With the radios?**
 14 Q. Yes.
 15 **A. Yes, lots.**
 16 Q. Such as what?
 17 **A. BARIE sets, useless.**
 18 Q. Useless how?
 19 **A. You have a thing that goes on the top of your head.**
 20 Q. Yes.
 21 **A. A thing that goes in your ear. You put your helmet on,**
 22 **it pushes your mask out, you lose air. You have a lead**
 23 **that comes down that you somehow have to tuck in between**
 24 **your tunic and around. It feels like it's something**
 25 **from the dark ages.**

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25 (Pages 97 to 100)

<p>1 Q. From the dark ages?</p> <p>2 A. It's -- well, I say the dark ages but --</p> <p>3 Q. I know what you mean.</p> <p>4 A. It's not modern.</p> <p>5 Q. No. That's --</p> <p>6 A. I'm not going to lie --</p> <p>7 Q. No.</p> <p>8 A. -- sometimes there's a choice of having a full tank of</p> <p>9 air or getting your comms set, and a lot of people shy</p> <p>10 away from getting the comms set, the BARIE, because of</p> <p>11 how useless they are.</p> <p>12 Q. Is that your own personal experience?</p> <p>13 A. Yes.</p> <p>14 Q. Have you personally raised this concern about the BARIE</p> <p>15 set with any senior officer or anybody responsible for</p> <p>16 equipment?</p> <p>17 A. We've talked about it around the mess table, yes.</p> <p>18 Q. Do you know --</p> <p>19 A. It's a commonly known thing so -- yeah.</p> <p>20 Q. Okay.</p> <p>21 A. Throughout the Brigade, I believe.</p> <p>22 Q. All right. That's the BARIE set.</p> <p>23 Any other communications equipment that you have</p> <p>24 personally experienced problems with?</p> <p>25 A. The handheld radios as well.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 101</p>	<p>1 different tower blocks. I've been to the top of a lot</p> <p>2 of tower blocks because we go to the lift motor rooms at</p> <p>3 the top of tower blocks and we usually radio down to</p> <p>4 wherever the lift is to assist with getting people out</p> <p>5 of lifts, and I can't remember it being a problem</p> <p>6 before.</p> <p>7 Q. So what was it about Grenfell Tower that you found was</p> <p>8 a new experience, as you've just said?</p> <p>9 A. That we couldn't use the radios the higher we were up in</p> <p>10 the tower.</p> <p>11 Q. Above which floors do you think you couldn't use the</p> <p>12 radios? Do you know?</p> <p>13 A. Definitely on the 15th and the 20th floor.</p> <p>14 Q. Was that your personal experience?</p> <p>15 A. Yes.</p> <p>16 Q. Do you know from your own knowledge that that was the</p> <p>17 experience of other firefighters attending</p> <p>18 Grenfell Tower on that night?</p> <p>19 A. On the 20th floor, yes.</p> <p>20 Q. Which individual firefighters had that same experience</p> <p>21 to your knowledge?</p> <p>22 A. Firefighter Dorgu and Crew Manager Secrett.</p> <p>23 Q. We can ask them about that as well.</p> <p>24 Mr Badillo, would you like a break?</p> <p>25 A. I'm fine.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 103</p>
<p>1 Q. And you mentioned the problem with traffic; what other</p> <p>2 kinds of problems have you encountered?</p> <p>3 A. Specifically in high-rise buildings --</p> <p>4 Q. Yes.</p> <p>5 A. -- there seem to be a lot of blind spots. The higher</p> <p>6 you go up the building, the less reliable it is, to the</p> <p>7 point of nothing at all.</p> <p>8 Q. That's your personal experience of attending high-rise</p> <p>9 incidents, is it?</p> <p>10 A. Yes.</p> <p>11 Q. And from your knowledge, is that the experience of your</p> <p>12 colleague firefighters --</p> <p>13 A. I can't speak for other people, only the firefighters on</p> <p>14 my watch, and they all seem to have had the same</p> <p>15 experience, yes.</p> <p>16 Q. To your knowledge, as at June 2017, was this blind spot</p> <p>17 problem with radios in high-rise residential buildings</p> <p>18 well known in the Fire Brigade?</p> <p>19 A. The BARIE definitely, yes. I'm not sure about the blind</p> <p>20 spots.</p> <p>21 Q. Was blind spots something that you ever took up or knew</p> <p>22 had been taken up with senior officers responsible for</p> <p>23 equipment?</p> <p>24 A. The blind spots in Grenfell Tower was sort of a bit of</p> <p>25 a new experience for me. We attend a lot of things in</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 102</p>	<p>1 MR MILLETT: Mr Chairman, I'm keen to carry on if we can.</p> <p>2 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes.</p> <p>3 MR MILLETT: Is that all right with you?</p> <p>4 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Well, if the witness -- Mr Badillo,</p> <p>5 you're happy to keep answering questions for a bit</p> <p>6 longer, are you?</p> <p>7 THE WITNESS: Yes.</p> <p>8 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Then I think we should carry on.</p> <p>9 MR MILLETT: Very good, thank you very much.</p> <p>10 Just one more question on communications, just going</p> <p>11 back to an answer you gave a little bit earlier about</p> <p>12 your battery failing and Justin O'Beirne having to give</p> <p>13 you a spare.</p> <p>14 When you leave a station on a shout -- if that's the</p> <p>15 right expression -- on a call --</p> <p>16 A. Yes.</p> <p>17 Q. -- do you normally ensure that your fire ground radio</p> <p>18 has a charged battery, a fully fresh battery?</p> <p>19 A. At the start of the watch you should, yes.</p> <p>20 Q. Do you remember doing that on that night?</p> <p>21 A. At the start of the watch, I believe I did, yes.</p> <p>22 Q. So was it a surprise to you that your battery had packed</p> <p>23 up?</p> <p>24 A. Yes.</p> <p>25 Q. Is that a common experience that these fire ground</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 104</p>

<p>1 radios have batteries that pack up on the fire ground, 2 if that's a fair question? 3 A. It happens, yeah. 4 Q. It does. It does happen. What backup plans do you have 5 if your fire ground radio packs up? 6 A. We usually carry a spare one in our arm pocket of our 7 tunic. 8 Q. Did you have one on that night? 9 A. I didn't have one at that stage. 10 Q. Do you know why that was? 11 A. I believe it was on charge in the station. 12 Q. Oh, I see, okay. 13 Now, you also, I think, said a minute ago that you 14 radioed down to Mike Dowden but couldn't get through. 15 Did you communicate with anybody outside the 16 building about what the people coming down from the 17 fifth and sixth floors had told you about the conditions 18 that they were experiencing? 19 A. My next action was to, when I couldn't get hold of 20 Mike Dowden, go down and find him myself. The 21 old-fashioned way, by talking to him. 22 Q. You went down to find him yourself. Okay. There may be 23 some things between that, but let me just go straight to 24 that. 25 So you went down to find him yourself. Did you exit</p> <p>Page 105</p>	<p>1 consider that you would need to rethink the plan for 2 what was going to happen at the incident? 3 A. Yes. 4 Q. What did you think? 5 A. That we were going to have to get BA crews up to the 6 next two floors to extinguish the fires. 7 Q. I am just going to come back to that, if I may. 8 Can I just go back a little bit in your statement 9 and perhaps a little bit in time. 10 Page 4 of your statement, second paragraph, you say 11 in the middle of that paragraph: 12 "I thought [this is after the conversation you'd 13 had] that because of the compartmentalisation of the 14 flats, it would be very unlikely that the fire would 15 have licked up two floors." 16 Then you go on about your experience, which you told 17 us about there. Then you say: 18 "... but I just thought that they meant their flats 19 were filled with smoke." 20 Then you say: 21 "Justin went up the stairs, with a FF from 22 Kensington called Jamal, to check it out and came back 23 and said there was fire on those floors." 24 Now, just unpacking that a little bit, Jamal, is 25 that Jamal Stern?</p> <p>Page 107</p>
<p>1 the building? 2 A. I didn't. I got to the bridgehead, spoke to Crew 3 Manager Secrett, who informed me that they already knew 4 outside that the fire had spread. 5 Q. Very good. Okay. I think we might be able to pick this 6 up in your statement, actually, at the bottom of page 4. 7 You say there: 8 "I was unable to send a radio message, with the 9 update, so thought it would be best if I went and told 10 the governor (WM DOWDEN) myself. 11 "As I made my way down to the bridgehead, to go and 12 speak to the governor, Chris SECRETT and Alex were there 13 at BA control and I updated Chris. I can't remember 14 exactly what was said but from this conversation, 15 I believe that the governor was already aware that the 16 fire had spread." 17 First of all, Alex is Alex De St Aubin, is it? 18 A. Yes. 19 Q. And the question is: what did Secrett Crew Manager 20 Secrett and Firefighter De St Aubin tell you, 21 Mr Badillo, about what was going on? Did they tell you 22 anything? 23 A. As you can see in my statement, I don't remember what 24 exactly was said. 25 Q. So you knew that the fire had spread; did you yourself</p> <p>Page 106</p>	<p>1 A. Yes. 2 Q. When, roughly, did Justin and Jamal arrive at the fourth 3 floor? How long after your conversation with the 4 individuals that you'd seen coming from floors 5 and 6 5 did your conversation with Jamal and Justin take place, 6 do you remember? 7 A. You're talking somewhere between two and five minutes. 8 Q. Okay. Did you have a discussion with them? 9 A. They just told me there was fire in the flats. 10 Q. Fire. So you had thought that there was smoke but they 11 were now saying, no, there's fire there? 12 A. They confirmed what the residents that were coming down 13 the stairs had said. 14 Q. What were your thoughts about that? 15 A. That I need to get the message out to -- 16 Q. Okay. So it's -- 17 A. -- the people in charge. 18 Q. Yes. Did you have any thoughts about more general 19 evacuation of the block at that point? 20 A. Not at that stage. 21 Q. You say you went down and you spoke to Crew Manager 22 Secrett and Firefighter De St Aubin. Did you tell them 23 that there are flats on floors 5 and 6 which are 24 actually on fire? 25 A. Yes.</p> <p>Page 108</p>

<p>1 Q. Do you know what they did next? What did they do next</p> <p>2 that you saw?</p> <p>3 A. I didn't stay; I told them and then went downstairs.</p> <p>4 Q. In your statement, at the bottom of page 4 and at the</p> <p>5 top of page 5, you say:</p> <p>6 "There were lots of firefighters around, all with BA</p> <p>7 sets on and waiting to go in and I decided that I needed</p> <p>8 to go and get mine as more people were needed."</p> <p>9 When you say "lots of BA wearers", were there more</p> <p>10 BA wearers there at that time when you arrived at the</p> <p>11 bridgehead than you would've expected?</p> <p>12 A. More than I would expect ... it wasn't something that</p> <p>13 entered my head, no.</p> <p>14 Q. You go on to say:</p> <p>15 "There must have been at least 8 crews by this</p> <p>16 point, however I am unsure as to when this was</p> <p>17 increased."</p> <p>18 When you saw that there were at least eight crews at</p> <p>19 this point, did you have any thoughts about whether that</p> <p>20 was a lot or a little or --</p> <p>21 A. A lot, yes. I thought it was a lot.</p> <p>22 Q. Did that surprise you?</p> <p>23 A. From where I'd come, yeah, and it was just North Ken's</p> <p>24 crew and two other machines that were sent onto the</p> <p>25 incident to start with, yeah.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 109</p>	<p>1 A. No.</p> <p>2 Q. Now, on page 5, four lines down, you say:</p> <p>3 "I passed other firefighters on the walkway down to</p> <p>4 the lobby, and as I got to the ground floor to make my</p> <p>5 way back to the engine, I was stopped by a lady who told</p> <p>6 me that her little sister was up on the 20th floor, in</p> <p>7 flat 176."</p> <p>8 Now, I'm going to read the whole of this paragraph</p> <p>9 out aloud, if I may, Mr Badillo. Looking at it, are you</p> <p>10 all right that I do that?</p> <p>11 A. (Nodded assent).</p> <p>12 Q. Okay:</p> <p>13 "She said that her sister was 12 years old and</p> <p>14 called Jessica and that she was in the flat alone. The</p> <p>15 lady asked me if she could go up with me to get her.</p> <p>16 She was in her late teens, Hispanic looking, had black</p> <p>17 hair, she was slim and about 5'4" tall."</p> <p>18 Mr Badillo, I'm happy to stop with this if you want</p> <p>19 me to.</p> <p>20 A. No, I'm fine.</p> <p>21 MR MILLETT: We can take a break. We can take a break and</p> <p>22 we can take it from the page, if you like.</p> <p>23 Mr Chairman, I think perhaps we ought to have</p> <p>24 a break. He has had a long morning.</p> <p>25 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: He has. He has done extremely well</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 111</p>
<p>1 Q. You went to go and get your own breathing apparatus from</p> <p>2 your appliance. I think that was the next thing you</p> <p>3 did.</p> <p>4 You say in the passage I just read to you at the top</p> <p>5 of page 5:</p> <p>6 "... I decided I needed to go and get mine [BA set]</p> <p>7 as more people were needed."</p> <p>8 My question is: did you make that decision on your</p> <p>9 own initiative or did you do that under instructions?</p> <p>10 A. I made that decision on my own.</p> <p>11 Q. You say two lines down from that in the third line:</p> <p>12 "It was organised chaos ..."</p> <p>13 What do you mean by that?</p> <p>14 A. There was a lot of people buzzing around, and it was</p> <p>15 people wanting to get in and fight the fire.</p> <p>16 Q. Chaos I understand; what was organised about it?</p> <p>17 A. People were running up but they was also in a queue to</p> <p>18 get in.</p> <p>19 Q. Who was giving instructions to the BA crews as to where</p> <p>20 to go and what to do?</p> <p>21 A. I literally went past them to get my set. I didn't stay</p> <p>22 there to see who was giving instructions to who.</p> <p>23 Q. So is this right: you wouldn't know, then, what plan</p> <p>24 might have been being followed at the bridgehead about</p> <p>25 where and who to deploy?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 110</p>	<p>1 in terms of time for answering questions.</p> <p>2 I'm just wondering, before we decide what to do,</p> <p>3 Mr Millett, you obviously have more questions to ask,</p> <p>4 would it upset your programme if we had a slightly</p> <p>5 longer than usual lunch break? I'm thinking that it</p> <p>6 might help Mr Badillo to have an hour and a quarter,</p> <p>7 say.</p> <p>8 MR MILLETT: If we came back at 2 o'clock, Mr Chairman, that</p> <p>9 would be --</p> <p>10 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: That would be all right?</p> <p>11 MR MILLETT: I think so.</p> <p>12 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: All right.</p> <p>13 I think we'll do that, Mr Badillo. You have been</p> <p>14 giving evidence for a long time. We'll break now for</p> <p>15 lunch. We'll come back at 2 o'clock. That will give</p> <p>16 you an hour and a quarter to get something to eat and no</p> <p>17 doubt compose yourself and be ready to carry on. All</p> <p>18 right?</p> <p>19 I think it's right to tell you, as I'm sure you</p> <p>20 understand, that Mr Millett is going to have to ask you</p> <p>21 questions about what comes next.</p> <p>22 MR MILLETT: I am going to make a suggestion, Mr Chairman,</p> <p>23 and that is that before Mr Badillo comes back, you come</p> <p>24 in and I will then read aloud into the record the short</p> <p>25 passage from Mr Badillo's statement. I think it is</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 112</p>

<p>1 important that it gets read aloud so that the questions</p> <p>2 that I then ask him after that are more easily</p> <p>3 understood publicly.</p> <p>4 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes.</p> <p>5 MR MILLETT: Then Mr Badillo can come back in and we can</p> <p>6 carry on the questions.</p> <p>7 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: He of course knows what's in his</p> <p>8 statement.</p> <p>9 MR MILLETT: He does.</p> <p>10 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: So we'll all be in the same position</p> <p>11 when you start asking questions.</p> <p>12 MR MILLETT: Yes. If that's acceptable to you and to the</p> <p>13 witness --</p> <p>14 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: I think that is a sensible course,</p> <p>15 yes. Thank you.</p> <p>16 Mr Badillo, there's one other thing to say to you</p> <p>17 before we break. This is the first time we are going to</p> <p>18 have a long break in your evidence. Can I ask you,</p> <p>19 please, not to talk about your evidence or any of these</p> <p>20 aspects of the fire until you've finished giving your</p> <p>21 evidence, which will, I hope, be later on this</p> <p>22 afternoon. All right?</p> <p>23 THE WITNESS: (Nodded assent).</p> <p>24 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Would you like to leave us now and</p> <p>25 go with the usher, please.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 113</p>	<p>1 to the flat. I decided that the quickest way to go and</p> <p>2 get Jessica would be to get in the lift and that I would</p> <p>3 be able to get to the 20th floor, bring her down and</p> <p>4 then continue with what I was doing. I had no idea what</p> <p>5 was going on outside and didn't think that Jessica or</p> <p>6 myself would be in any immediate danger. I just thought</p> <p>7 that the fire was on a couple of the lower floors and</p> <p>8 not a raging inferno. I just wanted to go and get the</p> <p>9 little girl out of the flat, as she was alone. Normal</p> <p>10 procedure would be to go with someone and not go above</p> <p>11 the fire floor, unless it was a smoke filled building</p> <p>12 and necessary to evacuate people, however I risk</p> <p>13 assessed the situation and did not think that I was in</p> <p>14 danger. I didn't tell anyone what I was doing as there</p> <p>15 was so much going on -- the radio was busy and by the</p> <p>16 time I had found someone to tell, I could have gotten</p> <p>17 the girl out. I also thought that I would be told no,</p> <p>18 but I was worried for the girl's safety."</p> <p>19 I have read that into the record. It's now</p> <p>20 available on the transcript if anyone wants to read it.</p> <p>21 It is also available in the witness statement that will</p> <p>22 be on the website if anybody wants to go back to that</p> <p>23 evidence. It's now in and I am now going to proceed</p> <p>24 with questions for Firefighter Badillo.</p> <p>25 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Before you do, I am just wondering</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 115</p>
<p>1 (Pause)</p> <p>2 Thank you. 2 o'clock, please.</p> <p>3 (12.45 pm)</p> <p>4 (The short adjournment)</p> <p>5 (2.00 pm)</p> <p>6 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes, Mr Millett.</p> <p>7 MR MILLETT: Mr Chairman, before we rose I said that I was</p> <p>8 going to be reading a short part of Firefighter</p> <p>9 Badillo's statement into the record so that everybody</p> <p>10 understands the questions that then follow, and I didn't</p> <p>11 want to read it to him in his presence for reasons that</p> <p>12 were obvious.</p> <p>13 Can I just do that now then?</p> <p>14 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes, please do.</p> <p>15 MR MILLETT: He says, on page 5 of 13:</p> <p>16 "... I was stopped by a lady who told me that her</p> <p>17 little sister was up on the 20th floor, in flat 176.</p> <p>18 She said that her sister was 12 years old and called</p> <p>19 Jessica and that she was in the flat alone. The lady</p> <p>20 asked me if she could go up with me to get her. She was</p> <p>21 in her late teens, Hispanic looking, had black hair, she</p> <p>22 was slim and about 5'4" tall. She looked very</p> <p>23 distressed -- panicked and anxious. I told her not to</p> <p>24 worry and that I would go and get Jessica on my own as I</p> <p>25 didn't want to endanger her. She then gave me the keys</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 114</p>	<p>1 whether any part of the next paragraph might be read.</p> <p>2 MR MILLETT: I think I will ask him about that.</p> <p>3 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: All right.</p> <p>4 MR MILLETT: That's going to be much less distressing for</p> <p>5 him.</p> <p>6 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: All right. Yes, well, then shall we</p> <p>7 ask him in, please.</p> <p>8 (Pause)</p> <p>9 All right, Mr Badillo?</p> <p>10 THE WITNESS: Yes.</p> <p>11 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Are you all right to carry on?</p> <p>12 THE WITNESS: Yes.</p> <p>13 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Thank you.</p> <p>14 Yes, Mr Millett.</p> <p>15 MR MILLETT: Firefighter Badillo, before we rose I had asked</p> <p>16 you to look at a part of your statement about</p> <p>17 a conversation you had with a lady about a little girl</p> <p>18 on the 20th floor. We've looked at what you said in</p> <p>19 your statement. We're not going to go back to it now</p> <p>20 here, but I just have some questions I want to ask you</p> <p>21 about it.</p> <p>22 At the time you had a conversation with the lady in</p> <p>23 the main entrance, did you know what the dangers were</p> <p>24 higher up in the building?</p> <p>25 A. No.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 116</p>

<p>1 Q. Did you know which floor the lady you spoke to had come 2 from? 3 A. She came from outside. 4 Q. Did she say to you which floor she'd come from? 5 A. She came from outside. She didn't come from inside the 6 tower. 7 Q. I see. 8 Did she tell you what the conditions were like 9 higher up in the tower? 10 A. No. 11 Q. Did you know the lady personally? 12 A. I've got to know her personally. 13 Q. Since the fire? 14 A. Yes. 15 Q. Yes. And did the lady give you anything? 16 A. Yes, some keys to the flat, to 176. 17 Q. Did she say 176? 18 A. Yes. 19 Q. Did she say which floor it was? 20 A. Yes. 21 Q. What did you do next? 22 A. I decided to go up and try and get to the 20th floor to 23 get her little sister. 24 Q. What means of transport did you take? 25 A. The quickest route I thought was possible, which was</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 117</p>	<p>1 on the fourth, fifth and sixth floors. Did you have any 2 thoughts about why it would be necessary to evacuate 3 somebody so many floors higher up in the building, the 4 20th floor? 5 A. Only from what her older sister told me. 6 Q. What did the girl's older sister tell you about why it 7 was necessary to fetch the little girl from the 20th 8 floor? 9 A. Because she was on her own and there was obviously 10 a fire in the tower. 11 Q. I see. 12 Did you have any thoughts about how, for that little 13 girl, stay put might have been the best advice or not 14 the best advice? Did you have any thoughts one way or 15 other about that? 16 A. No, I just -- I didn't think about that, no. I just 17 wanted to go up and get her. It's a little 12-year-old 18 girl on her own and, you know, I just wanted to go and 19 get her out. 20 Q. Now, we know you got into the lift. We do have 21 a picture of you getting into the lift, I think, at 22 1.27.39, allowing for the adjustment. Take it from me 23 that that is the photograph. Unless -- are you happy to 24 see a photograph? 25 A. That's fine, yes.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 119</p>
<p>1 jumping in the lift. 2 Q. I think we know from your statement that you didn't tell 3 anybody you were going up there; is that right? 4 A. Yes. 5 Q. I think you weren't wearing breathing apparatus either, 6 were you? 7 A. No. 8 Q. Did you take any equipment with you? 9 A. No. 10 Q. So no water? 11 A. No. 12 Q. No breathing apparatus, no water. What did you imagine 13 that the conditions would be like on the 20th floor? 14 A. I still believed the fire was just on the fourth, fifth 15 and sixth floor. 16 Q. Okay. So no one had told you by that stage that it was 17 at higher floors? 18 A. No. 19 Q. Did you think about whether it might be sensible to go 20 up with a buddy? 21 A. At the time, no. I saw the distress on the lady's face 22 and I just thought I'd get up there as quick as I can, 23 get the little girl down, and then carry on with what 24 I'd been doing. 25 Q. I think you've just said that you thought the fire was</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 118</p>	<p>1 Q. Okay. Can he please be shown CCTV -- which is tab 9 in 2 the CCTV bundle and it's INQ00000103. That is 3 a photograph of what we believe to be you, Firefighter 4 Badillo, going into the lift at about that time. 5 Can you confirm that that's you, do you think? 6 A. Yes. Yes. 7 Q. Yes. 8 You say in your statement that the lift, you having 9 got into it, stopped at the 15th floor. Is that right? 10 A. That's correct. 11 Q. What happened next, after it stopped? 12 A. The doors opened and a big rush of black smoke filled 13 the lift. 14 Q. A rush of black smoke filled the lift. What did you 15 make of that? What did you think of that? 16 A. That I'm in trouble here. 17 Q. Your first thought was, "I'm in trouble here"? 18 A. Yes. 19 Q. What did you do immediately after having had that 20 thought? 21 A. Tried to find my way out. 22 Q. So what did you do? 23 A. Felt around, held my breath, and walked forwards to 24 where I thought the door was to the lobby -- to the 25 stairwell.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 120</p>

30 (Pages 117 to 120)

<p>1 Q. So you got out of the lift?</p> <p>2 A. Yes.</p> <p>3 Q. Could you not -- I was going to say, exploring that, was</p> <p>4 there an option to shut the lift and go back down again</p> <p>5 in the lift?</p> <p>6 A. No, because the lift filled with black smoke, so</p> <p>7 I wouldn't have been able to breathe in the lift.</p> <p>8 Q. No, I see.</p> <p>9 Apart from thoughts about getting out of there, did</p> <p>10 you have any thoughts at all about the extent of fire</p> <p>11 and smoke spread in the building at that point?</p> <p>12 A. At that moment when --</p> <p>13 Q. When you were confronted with this wall of black smoke</p> <p>14 coming into the lift and you got out of the lift, did</p> <p>15 you have any thoughts about the extent of the smoke and</p> <p>16 fire spread in the building?</p> <p>17 A. At that exact moment, when I can't breathe and I can't</p> <p>18 see and I'm -- no, not until I escaped out of that</p> <p>19 lobby.</p> <p>20 Q. No.</p> <p>21 I know this is a slightly unrealistic question to</p> <p>22 ask, being confronted with that amount of smoke, but did</p> <p>23 you have any thoughts about what the smoke and fire</p> <p>24 spread might be like on the 20th floor, which is where</p> <p>25 you were going?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 121</p>	<p>1 the bridgehead?</p> <p>2 A. I don't know.</p> <p>3 Q. Did you encounter any other occupants of the building on</p> <p>4 your way down?</p> <p>5 A. I didn't, no.</p> <p>6 Q. You didn't?</p> <p>7 A. I don't believe so, no.</p> <p>8 Q. When you got to the bridgehead, did you speak to</p> <p>9 anybody?</p> <p>10 A. I can't remember.</p> <p>11 Q. I think we can go back into your statement. Go to</p> <p>12 page 6 at the top of the page. In the third line you</p> <p>13 say:</p> <p>14 "When I got to the bridgehead, I saw Alex and said</p> <p>15 that the 15th was alight. I continued walking and out</p> <p>16 on the walkway ..."</p> <p>17 Doing the best you can with your memory, did you say</p> <p>18 anything else to Alex?</p> <p>19 A. I don't even remember saying that. I can't actually</p> <p>20 even remember writing that or --</p> <p>21 Q. Right, okay.</p> <p>22 A. But it's all a -- there's a few blanks from that period.</p> <p>23 It's -- yeah.</p> <p>24 Q. Okay. So seeing this in your witness statement --</p> <p>25 A. Yes, it does bring back --</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 123</p>
<p>1 A. That didn't enter my thoughts at the time, no.</p> <p>2 Q. No.</p> <p>3 I think in your statement, to summarise it, you say</p> <p>4 that you found your way back into the stairwell and you</p> <p>5 ran back downstairs. Is that right?</p> <p>6 A. Yes.</p> <p>7 Q. Did you see any firefighters on your way down?</p> <p>8 A. I don't believe I did until I got down quite low to the</p> <p>9 bridgehead.</p> <p>10 Q. What were the conditions like in the stairwell when you</p> <p>11 got into the stairwell at the 15th floor level?</p> <p>12 A. I believe it was just some light, wispy smoke. It was</p> <p>13 smokey, but not like it was in the lobby.</p> <p>14 Q. Was it breathable air?</p> <p>15 A. Yes.</p> <p>16 Q. On your passage or way or route down the stairs from the</p> <p>17 15th floor, did the air get better or worse or did it</p> <p>18 stay the same?</p> <p>19 A. I don't really remember, I just remember getting into</p> <p>20 the stairwell, the relief, and then thinking I need to</p> <p>21 go and get my breathing apparatus so I can get back up</p> <p>22 and get Jessica.</p> <p>23 Q. How long do you think -- just guess -- estimate,</p> <p>24 I prefer to use the word "estimate" -- do you think it</p> <p>25 took you to run down the stairs from the 15th floor to</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 122</p>	<p>1 Q. -- would you like to correct it?</p> <p>2 A. No, no, it does sort of bring back a memory that I did</p> <p>3 speak to Alex.</p> <p>4 Q. And can you remember, having brought back this memory,</p> <p>5 what you said to him?</p> <p>6 A. I think it was that, and then I -- it was literally on</p> <p>7 passing.</p> <p>8 Q. I'm sorry to try to pick this apart, but when you say</p> <p>9 the 15th was alight, were your thoughts at the time that</p> <p>10 there wasn't just smoke on the 15th floor but there was</p> <p>11 actually fire on the 15th floor?</p> <p>12 A. I can't be certain of -- if I said it was alight or if</p> <p>13 it's full of smoke.</p> <p>14 Q. Okay.</p> <p>15 A. I might have even said it was -- the 15th is</p> <p>16 compromised. I don't really know.</p> <p>17 Q. But do you remember telling him 15th?</p> <p>18 A. Yes.</p> <p>19 Q. Okay.</p> <p>20 During that conversation with Alex De St Aubin, did</p> <p>21 you see or hear him pass the information you had given</p> <p>22 him onto anybody else?</p> <p>23 A. I didn't. I literally sort of shouted to him in passing</p> <p>24 and then carried on running to outside.</p> <p>25 Q. Do you remember who else was at the bridgehead with him</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 124</p>

1 when you were having that conversation with him, or when
 2 you shouted at him?
 3 **A. I don't, no.**
 4 Q. I know it's difficult to reconstruct these things
 5 looking back on it --
 6 **A. Yes.**
 7 Q. -- doing the best you can with your memory, but doing
 8 the best you can, did you have any thoughts at the time
 9 about whether the compartmentation of the tower was
 10 holding up or whether it had failed?
 11 **A. At the time, I thought: something's not right here.**
 12 **I didn't think about compartmentation; I was thinking**
 13 **about going to rescue a little girl. That wasn't in my**
 14 **thoughts, no.**
 15 Q. I think you've given us a pretty clear picture of the
 16 exchange between you and Alex De St Aubin, but did Alex
 17 De St Aubin say anything to you?
 18 **A. I don't remember, sorry.**
 19 Q. Did he say to you, "What were you doing on the 15th
 20 floor?" Did he say that?
 21 **A. No.**
 22 Q. Do you recall Watch Manager O'Keefe talking to you at
 23 that time?
 24 **A. Yes.**
 25 Q. What did he say?

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1 **A. Not much. He literally saw me and sort of called me,**
 2 **just shouted "Dave" to beckon me over, and I told him**
 3 **I was in the middle of doing something else.**
 4 Q. Was he, Watch Manager O'Keefe, at the bridgehead at that
 5 point?
 6 **A. I believe he was on the walkway just above the lobby**
 7 **area.**
 8 Q. Was he moving in a direction or was he standing there?
 9 **A. I don't remember, I just remember him being on the glass**
 10 **walkway just above the lobby area.**
 11 Q. And you said you were doing something else; did you tell
 12 him what you were doing?
 13 **A. No.**
 14 Q. Did he ask you?
 15 **A. No.**
 16 Q. Did you tell him about what you'd seen on the 15th
 17 floor?
 18 **A. I don't think so.**
 19 Q. I think you got back down to the lobby next; is that
 20 right?
 21 **A. Yes.**
 22 Q. What were the conditions like in the lobby when you got
 23 down to the lobby?
 24 **A. As I can remember, it was clear, I believe.**
 25 Q. Did you see the lady who had told you about flat 176 and

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1 given you the keys?
 2 **A. No.**
 3 Q. In your statement I think you say in the last part of
 4 the first paragraph on page 6:
 5 "I was thinking that I needed to get back up to look
 6 for Jessica as the fire was looking more dangerous."
 7 Would it be right to say that you were on a personal
 8 rescue mission?
 9 **A. Yeah.**
 10 Q. Did you think that Jessica was unsafe?
 11 **A. After I'd been in the 15th floor lobby, yes, and even**
 12 **more so when I went outside.**
 13 Q. Did you share your thoughts about her safety with
 14 anybody else?
 15 **A. At that stage?**
 16 Q. Yes.
 17 **A. No.**
 18 Q. Can I ask a delicate question: do you know why you
 19 didn't share your thoughts with anybody else about
 20 Jessica's safety at that point?
 21 **A. At that stage I was going to get my BA set to perform**
 22 **the rescue myself with another -- any other firefighter**
 23 **that I could find, and that was my thoughts at the time.**
 24 Q. Did you have any thoughts about the safety of any other
 25 residents in the building based on what you'd seen about

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1 the smoke on the 15th floor?
 2 **A. Yes.**
 3 Q. Did you share those thoughts with anybody?
 4 **A. Not at the time, no. Once I got outside I did.**
 5 Q. You did once you got outside?
 6 **A. (Nodded assent).**
 7 Q. Who did you speak to once you got outside about that?
 8 **A. I saw my watch manager, Watch Manager Dowden, on the**
 9 **corner of the tower. As I approached him, I looked up**
 10 **to the tower and one whole side of the building was**
 11 **alight. And I approached him. I believe I told him**
 12 **where I'd been. And looking at the side of the**
 13 **building, I asked him -- because I'd been in the tower**
 14 **the whole time, I didn't even know -- I didn't know how**
 15 **many machines were there. So I asked him if he had made**
 16 **them up, meaning had he got more firefighters and more**
 17 **fire engines here to the job.**
 18 Q. What did he say?
 19 **A. He said he had just made pumps 20.**
 20 Q. Did you respond?
 21 **A. Yeah, I told him that we were going to need more people.**
 22 Q. Did he respond to that?
 23 **A. At the time, he was doing a lot of different things.**
 24 **I could see the look in his face, and he sort of -- he**
 25 **was half running off at the time, and he pointed to the**

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32 (Pages 125 to 128)

<p>1 machine and said, "Go on then".</p> <p>2 Q. What did you do?</p> <p>3 A. I ran to the machine and I made pumps 25.</p> <p>4 Q. Which machine, do you remember?</p> <p>5 A. Golf 271, North Kensington's pump ladder.</p> <p>6 Q. During that conversation, you say you believed you told</p> <p>7 him about the conditions on the 15th floor. Did you</p> <p>8 think at the time that Mike Dowden had heard your</p> <p>9 message and understood it?</p> <p>10 A. Yes.</p> <p>11 Q. What made you think that?</p> <p>12 A. The fact that he allowed me to -- or the fact that he</p> <p>13 pointed to the machine and said "Go on then" after I'd</p> <p>14 explained where I'd been.</p> <p>15 Q. I see. So did you assume that, having given him the</p> <p>16 message about the 15th floor conditions, he would do</p> <p>17 something about it?</p> <p>18 A. I don't understand the question.</p> <p>19 Q. Let me try and get at this a different way.</p> <p>20 You went off to make pumps 25 from the incident</p> <p>21 command pump, G271, having given him the information</p> <p>22 about the conditions on the 15th floor; is that right?</p> <p>23 A. Yes.</p> <p>24 Q. And what did you think at that time he, if anything, was</p> <p>25 going to do about the conditions on the 15th floor that</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 129</p>	<p>1 Q. You say it was moving -- you say it was three-quarters</p> <p>2 of the way up the building. Was it moving? Was it</p> <p>3 progressing?</p> <p>4 A. As I remember, yes.</p> <p>5 Q. At what sort of speed was it progressing, do you</p> <p>6 remember?</p> <p>7 A. No.</p> <p>8 Q. What was your reaction?</p> <p>9 A. Shock. Yeah, just shock and horror and it was just --</p> <p>10 it was nothing I'd ever seen before.</p> <p>11 Q. You then, halfway down page 6, say:</p> <p>12 "I wondered how we were going to stop the fire and</p> <p>13 that we would have to work hard to do so as it was</p> <p>14 getting out of control."</p> <p>15 Did you have a conversation with anybody about those</p> <p>16 thoughts, how you were going to stop the fire and your</p> <p>17 view that it was getting out of control? Did you share</p> <p>18 that with anybody?</p> <p>19 A. My thoughts at that time was to go back up and get</p> <p>20 Jessica.</p> <p>21 Q. Let me just get this clear. You were the one who</p> <p>22 I think sent the message "make pumps 25" from G271.</p> <p>23 A. Correct.</p> <p>24 Q. What did you think the plan was to do with all those</p> <p>25 pumps when they arrived?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 131</p>
<p>1 you had told him about?</p> <p>2 A. At the time I had quite a lot on my -- quite a lot of</p> <p>3 thoughts in my head. I'd just come out of</p> <p>4 a smoke-filled room, I'd run down the stairs and this</p> <p>5 was the first time I'd seen the outside of the tower,</p> <p>6 and it was a quick conversation just telling him --</p> <p>7 whatever he had told me, however many fire engines were</p> <p>8 there, I would've said we needed more. That was my</p> <p>9 thoughts. And then the rest of my thoughts were to go</p> <p>10 and get Jessica.</p> <p>11 Q. In your statement at page 6 you describe what you saw,</p> <p>12 and you say in the second line:</p> <p>13 "I... then looked up at the tower and saw that the</p> <p>14 fire was now 3/4 of the way up the building."</p> <p>15 Do you feel able to tell us about what you saw,</p> <p>16 casting your mind back?</p> <p>17 A. Yeah. The fire seemed to be following paths. It was</p> <p>18 going up, it was going sideways. It was like it was</p> <p>19 following like -- like I said in my statement, it was</p> <p>20 like someone had poured petrol down the side of the</p> <p>21 building and it was following the paths of the petrol.</p> <p>22 And it was fizzing. It had this fizzing, like</p> <p>23 I said at the time, it was like a sparkler sound. It</p> <p>24 was really a fizzing -- something I've not really seen</p> <p>25 before, or I've definitely not seen before.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 130</p>	<p>1 A. At the time, get as many people there to get as many</p> <p>2 people out as we could.</p> <p>3 Q. So your thoughts were on evacuation; is that right?</p> <p>4 A. Yes.</p> <p>5 Q. And just following that up, how did you think you were</p> <p>6 going to get everybody out of that building?</p> <p>7 A. At the time, like I said, I was thinking about getting</p> <p>8 Jessica out, and making pumps 25 was getting as many</p> <p>9 people as we can there to get everybody out.</p> <p>10 Q. To get everybody out, okay.</p> <p>11 Mr Badillo, would you like a break?</p> <p>12 A. No, I'm fine.</p> <p>13 Q. Are you sure?</p> <p>14 A. Yes.</p> <p>15 Q. Okay. We can carry on. As soon as you want a break, we</p> <p>16 can do that.</p> <p>17 A. Thank you.</p> <p>18 Q. So your thoughts were to get everybody out.</p> <p>19 Did you share those thoughts with Mike Dowden?</p> <p>20 A. No.</p> <p>21 Q. Did you share them with anybody?</p> <p>22 A. No. Not at the time, no.</p> <p>23 Q. And your conversation about the 15th floor with</p> <p>24 Mike Dowden, did you tell him about Jessica in</p> <p>25 particular?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 132</p>

<p>1 A. I don't think I did.</p> <p>2 Q. And then you say -- we can summarise, I think, what you</p> <p>3 say in your statement -- you collected your BA, and then</p> <p>4 made your way back to the tower.</p> <p>5 So you collected your BA from G271, was it?</p> <p>6 A. Yes.</p> <p>7 Q. Did you take any other equipment?</p> <p>8 A. No.</p> <p>9 Q. Then you say, towards the bottom of page 6 of your</p> <p>10 statement:</p> <p>11 "I then put on my BA kit and made my way back into</p> <p>12 the tower and as I got into the lobby, I met</p> <p>13 a firefighter from Paddington. I explained what I knew</p> <p>14 about Jessica and said that I needed someone to go up</p> <p>15 with me and he said he would assist."</p> <p>16 Do you remember who that firefighter from Paddington</p> <p>17 was?</p> <p>18 A. His name is Jim, but --</p> <p>19 Q. Jim?</p> <p>20 A. Yes, it's Wolfen-something.</p> <p>21 Q. Wolfenden?</p> <p>22 A. It could be, yes.</p> <p>23 Q. James Wolfenden is a name we know.</p> <p>24 A. Okay.</p> <p>25 Q. All right.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 133</p>	<p>1 A. No.</p> <p>2 Q. Could you describe what it was like at the bridgehead at</p> <p>3 that point in terms of people, crowds?</p> <p>4 A. At that time I just remember a queue of BA wearers</p> <p>5 waiting to get their instructions to go up into the</p> <p>6 tower.</p> <p>7 Q. Can you, doing the best you can with your memory, just</p> <p>8 give us a picture of that. You've got the BA entry</p> <p>9 boards.</p> <p>10 A. Yes.</p> <p>11 Q. Then on the landing in the stairway, I think, at</p> <p>12 level 2 -- is that right? Not in the lobby?</p> <p>13 A. I believe the BA people were actually on like the raised</p> <p>14 level of the lobby, and that was sort of a holding</p> <p>15 place, what I remember, because I remember passing a lot</p> <p>16 of them as I went up the first set of steps.</p> <p>17 Q. I was going to ask you, so presumably the BA wearers</p> <p>18 formed an orderly queue, did they?</p> <p>19 A. As orderly as you can in a towering inferno, yes.</p> <p>20 Q. Yes. And how did the queue go? Did it extend down the</p> <p>21 stairs up to the second floor landing on the stairs?</p> <p>22 Or --</p> <p>23 A. I believe so.</p> <p>24 Q. So to join the back of the queue, you'd have to come up</p> <p>25 the stairs, would you, and stand at the back of the</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 135</p>
<p>1 You say in that sentence:</p> <p>2 "I explained what I knew about Jessica ..."</p> <p>3 What did you tell him, do you remember?</p> <p>4 A. Just that she was on the 20th floor and I was going up</p> <p>5 to get her and could he come with me.</p> <p>6 Q. Did you tell him about the conditions that you had</p> <p>7 encountered on the 15th floor?</p> <p>8 A. I might have told him that I'd already been to the 15th.</p> <p>9 Q. Was he in BA?</p> <p>10 A. He had a BA set on his back.</p> <p>11 Q. And then you say, just looking at the last paragraph on</p> <p>12 that page in your statement:</p> <p>13 "When we got to the bridgehead, we bypassed the</p> <p>14 queue to BA Control and saw Chris SECRETT and Chris</p> <p>15 DORGU."</p> <p>16 Just pausing there. Do you remember what they were</p> <p>17 doing?</p> <p>18 A. They were at BA entry control, waiting to be committed.</p> <p>19 Q. And were they near the front of the queue or --</p> <p>20 A. Yes.</p> <p>21 Q. Right. And at that point, do you remember who was</p> <p>22 running the BA entry control?</p> <p>23 A. I believe Alex was. I can't remember who was with him.</p> <p>24 Q. By that point, who was in charge of the bridgehead, do</p> <p>25 you remember?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 134</p>	<p>1 queue, and as the queue progressed, you'd move up the</p> <p>2 stairs and then go through BA control?</p> <p>3 A. That's how I believe it was working, yes.</p> <p>4 Q. Then go up the stairs above the level 2 landing?</p> <p>5 A. Up to the bridgehead on level 2, yes.</p> <p>6 Q. And then once you were committed from the bridgehead on</p> <p>7 level 2, you'd then go, what, up the stairs above</p> <p>8 level 2 and into the building?</p> <p>9 A. You'd go where you're tasked to go.</p> <p>10 Q. Sure.</p> <p>11 At that time, what were the conditions like in terms</p> <p>12 of the air quality at the bridgehead, at that point?</p> <p>13 A. From what I can remember, it was still clear.</p> <p>14 Q. In terms of the lighting in the stairwell, what was that</p> <p>15 like?</p> <p>16 A. In the bridgehead?</p> <p>17 Q. Yes.</p> <p>18 A. I remember it being clear. You could see.</p> <p>19 Q. And the light -- there was electric light, was there?</p> <p>20 A. I can't remember.</p> <p>21 Q. Were the stairwell electric lights on?</p> <p>22 A. There was -- in the stairwell there were these oval</p> <p>23 lights which were -- I remember them being above the</p> <p>24 number for the floor.</p> <p>25 Q. Yes. Now, that's interesting. They were above the</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 136</p>

<p>1 number of the floor. Did they --</p> <p>2 A. I believe so.</p> <p>3 Q. -- allow the number of the floor to be shown clearly?</p> <p>4 A. To start with.</p> <p>5 Q. To start with?</p> <p>6 A. Until the stairwell filled with smoke.</p> <p>7 Q. Okay.</p> <p>8 A. They were on the way up.</p> <p>9 Q. And you met, as you say, Crew Manager Secrett and</p> <p>10 Firefighter Dorgu at the bridgehead and you bypassed the</p> <p>11 queue. Then you say at the very bottom of page 6 in</p> <p>12 your statement, a line up from the bottom:</p> <p>13 "I briefed them and they said they would go up with</p> <p>14 me, instead of the firefighter from Paddington."</p> <p>15 When you say "I briefed them", do you remember what</p> <p>16 you told them?</p> <p>17 A. What I mean by that is they've probably seen me coming</p> <p>18 up the stairs getting ready to go and do something and</p> <p>19 they've asked me, because they're my crew, "What are you</p> <p>20 doing, Dave? Where are you going?" and I've told them</p> <p>21 and they said, "We're going with you".</p> <p>22 Q. Let's break this down a little bit.</p> <p>23 First of all, did you have a discussion with him</p> <p>24 about what you'd seen on the 15th floor on your trip</p> <p>25 into the tower before this time?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 137</p>	<p>1 the BA telemetry spreadsheet and it's LFB00003115.</p> <p>2 Let's just have that up on the screen.</p> <p>3 Now, Mr Badillo, I should just tell you what this</p> <p>4 rather frightening-looking document is. It was produced</p> <p>5 recently by the London Fire Brigade --</p> <p>6 A. I've seen it.</p> <p>7 Q. You have? Right. I should have asked you that. Okay,</p> <p>8 good.</p> <p>9 So can I then just look at it with you and draw your</p> <p>10 attention, through the documents manager, to the first</p> <p>11 two or three entries in the second chunks under "BA Time</p> <p>12 Line (2)", and you'll see in the light blue your name,</p> <p>13 Badillo, David; Secrett, Christopher; Dorgu,</p> <p>14 Christopher. Do you see that?</p> <p>15 A. Yes.</p> <p>16 Q. You've been banded together in the light blue because</p> <p>17 you were a trio, if I can put it that way.</p> <p>18 If you go across the page to tally out, the computer</p> <p>19 data has you tallying out at 1.33.33, and Secrett at</p> <p>20 1.35.57 and Dorgu at 1.35.01.</p> <p>21 Now, do those times there roughly correspond with</p> <p>22 your memory of the events on the night?</p> <p>23 A. I didn't have a clue about any kind of time on that</p> <p>24 night.</p> <p>25 Q. Just so we don't have to come back to this document</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 139</p>
<p>1 A. I can't remember if I did.</p> <p>2 Q. Did you tell them about where you were going?</p> <p>3 A. Yes.</p> <p>4 Q. Can you remember what you told them?</p> <p>5 A. That there's a girl trapped on the 20th floor, I've got</p> <p>6 the keys to her flat and I need to go and get her.</p> <p>7 Flat 176.</p> <p>8 Q. Okay. Did you have a discussion with either of them or</p> <p>9 both of them about what you thought the conditions up</p> <p>10 there might be like?</p> <p>11 A. I don't remember.</p> <p>12 Q. Now, I'm going to show you your tally out time in</p> <p>13 a moment, just to put a time fix on this for you and for</p> <p>14 Crew Manager Secrett and for Firefighter Dorgu.</p> <p>15 Before I do, can I ask you this: could you see at</p> <p>16 the bridgehead anybody writing things on the wall?</p> <p>17 A. I didn't see anyone at that stage, no.</p> <p>18 Q. Did you see or hear of anybody at the bridgehead</p> <p>19 receiving fire survival guidance call information?</p> <p>20 A. Not at that -- no, I didn't, no.</p> <p>21 Q. Did you see or hear anybody at the bridgehead talking</p> <p>22 about fire survival guidance information that they were</p> <p>23 getting?</p> <p>24 A. No.</p> <p>25 Q. Can I ask you please to go to tab 1 of the bundle. It's</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 138</p>	<p>1 again, but just to give you a fix on where we are in</p> <p>2 terms of what this data shows in timing terms, if you go</p> <p>3 across the page, you'll see that tally in to bodyguard</p> <p>4 for you is recorded at 01.58.15, so you've been up in</p> <p>5 the tower some 25 minutes or so under BA. Would that be</p> <p>6 about right?</p> <p>7 A. The LFB operational response report that they brought</p> <p>8 out also shows me on the seventh floor at 2 o'clock.</p> <p>9 Q. I know it does, and that's I think something I --</p> <p>10 A. Which I believe I was.</p> <p>11 Q. You were?</p> <p>12 A. Yes.</p> <p>13 Q. So you have --</p> <p>14 A. So I don't believe that's correct.</p> <p>15 Q. I was going to come back to that later on, but perhaps</p> <p>16 we can deal with that now.</p> <p>17 If you go to the operational response report --</p> <p>18 let's just have it there, 2 o'clock. It's page 89.</p> <p>19 I just want to get a fix on this. It says there</p> <p>20 2 o'clock, or roughly 2 o'clock, which is why it's in</p> <p>21 italics:</p> <p>22 "At around this time Firefighter Murphy from BA Team</p> <p>23 10 meets Firefighter Badillo from BA Team Five on the</p> <p>24 seventh floor. Firefighter Murphy says it is difficult</p> <p>25 to identify floor numbers so Firefighter Badillo shows</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 140</p>

35 (Pages 137 to 140)

<p>1 him where they are located but acknowledges the 2 difficulty."</p> <p>3 Then there's something about reduced breathing rate 4 for both wearers consistent with these actions. 5 You think that's correct, do you?</p> <p>6 A. I do.</p> <p>7 Q. Why do you think that's correct?</p> <p>8 A. Because that happened.</p> <p>9 Q. Because that happened. Did it happen around that time?</p> <p>10 A. Sorry, I know that happened, but I don't -- like I said 11 before, I don't know what time it was.</p> <p>12 Q. Got it. Right, okay, well, I'll come back to the 13 happenings in a minute. 14 If you go to the top of page 7 of your statement, 15 you say: 16 "I don't know where the guy from Paddington went but 17 the 3 of us went and spoke to BA control and informed 18 them what we were doing. The information was logged on 19 to the BA board -- what floor we were going to, the fact 20 we were completing a rescue and that Chris DORGU was on 21 comms." 22 I think I've asked you this question, but I think 23 you don't know the answer: who was manning the entry 24 control at that time?</p> <p>25 A. I know the Firefighter De St Aubin was on the board.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 141</p>	<p>1 A. That means a BARIE.</p> <p>2 Q. It means a BARIE?</p> <p>3 A. I believed that, but I've since found out that he didn't 4 have comms.</p> <p>5 Q. Okay. When you did your statement, why did you think 6 that he had comms?</p> <p>7 A. Because when we was up on the 20th floor, I remember 8 Chris was trying to send messages back to the 9 bridgehead.</p> <p>10 Q. Did --</p> <p>11 A. And I thought he was doing that via his BARIE set, but 12 I've since found out that he was doing it via his 13 handheld radio.</p> <p>14 Q. Did you have comms? Did you have a handheld radio?</p> <p>15 A. I had a handheld radio.</p> <p>16 Q. Did you have a BARIE?</p> <p>17 A. No.</p> <p>18 Q. What about Crew Manager Secrett?</p> <p>19 A. No.</p> <p>20 Q. What about handheld radio?</p> <p>21 A. Yes.</p> <p>22 Q. Right, so you then say: 23 "We handed in our tallies and made our way to the 24 2nd lift, they were carrying a length of hose each and a 25 branch between them."</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 143</p>
<p>1 I don't know who was in charge of --</p> <p>2 Q. When you say you spoke to BA control, was it Alex 3 De St Aubin that you think you spoke to?</p> <p>4 A. I believe that was the case, yes.</p> <p>5 Q. What did you tell them?</p> <p>6 A. That we were going up to the 20th floor to perform a -- 7 to get a girl and we had the keys and that was the task 8 we was doing.</p> <p>9 Q. Who did the talking? Did you do the talking?</p> <p>10 A. Yes.</p> <p>11 Q. So you told Alex De St Aubin that you were going to the 12 20th floor and that you had the keys. Did you tell him 13 the flat number that you were going to?</p> <p>14 A. Yes.</p> <p>15 Q. Did he record that anywhere?</p> <p>16 A. I believe so, yes.</p> <p>17 Q. Where did he record that?</p> <p>18 A. On the BA board.</p> <p>19 Q. Do you remember whether he communicated what you told 20 him about where you were going to anybody outside the 21 bridgehead or outside the building or anywhere else?</p> <p>22 A. I don't know.</p> <p>23 Q. You don't know, okay. 24 You say that Chris Dorgu was on comms. I assume 25 that means he had a radio. What else --</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 142</p>	<p>1 Were you carrying anything?</p> <p>2 A. No.</p> <p>3 Q. Were you aware at the point you left the bridgehead to 4 go up into the building to the 20th floor of a fire 5 survival guidance call coming in for a 12-year-old girl?</p> <p>6 A. No.</p> <p>7 Q. Now, Mr Secrett says in his statement -- I am going to 8 ask you, we've been going for 45 minutes, so before 9 I move on to these questions, would you like a break?</p> <p>10 A. I'm fine.</p> <p>11 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Can I suggest we have a break in any 12 event at about 3 o'clock if we're still going?</p> <p>13 MR MILLETT: Yes, Mr Chairman, no problem at all. 14 Now, Crew Manager Secrett says in his statement -- 15 and I always say to any witness that anything anybody 16 else says in their statements we will be exploring with 17 them in their evidence when they come, if we can -- that 18 he knew that a fire survival guidance call had come or 19 was in progress for a 12-year-old girl stuck on the 20th 20 floor. Did he discuss that with you?</p> <p>21 A. No, that's the first time I've heard that.</p> <p>22 Q. He says that he and Firefighter Dorgu took that call and 23 that you were there and said that someone had given you 24 the keys to the flat with the 12-year-old girl in on the 25 20th floor. So do you remember anything about</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 144</p>

<p>1 Firefighter Dorgu and Crew Manager Secrett taking a fire 2 survival guidance call? 3 A. If they did, it would've been before I got to them. 4 Q. Are you saying you didn't know about that? 5 A. No. 6 Q. He says that he told Watch Manager O'Keefe that all 7 three of you were going to the 20th floor. That's what 8 he says about who was I think in charge at the 9 bridgehead. Does that trigger a recollection for you? 10 A. No. 11 Q. So is it right, your clear understanding is that the 12 floor you were going to was the 20th floor? 13 A. 20th floor, flat 176. 14 Q. Did anybody tell you at that stage that the floor she 15 was on was the 23rd floor? 16 A. No. 17 Q. Were you told that Jessica was connected to the 999 18 operator at that point? 19 A. No. 20 Q. If you had been told not to go to the 20th floor but to 21 go to the 23rd floor, what would you have done? 22 A. Can you repeat the question? 23 Q. Yes. If you had been told that Jessica was in flat 201 24 on the 23rd floor, what would you have done? 25 A. I would have gone up to 201.</p> <p>Page 145</p>	<p>1 I referred Firefighter Badillo to flat 205. What 2 I meant to do was to refer him to flat 201. So with 3 your permission, Mr Chairman, if I can ask the 4 transcribers to correct the transcript and read the 5 question in that light. I don't want to have to put the 6 question again to the witness. I would ordinarily do so 7 but, given his situation, I don't think it's fair. 8 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: I think the transcript can be 9 corrected on that basis. Thank you. 10 MR MILLETT: I'm very grateful. 11 If we can then have the witness back, please. 12 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes. 13 (Pause) 14 All right, Mr Badillo, are you content to carry on? 15 THE WITNESS: Yes. 16 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Good, thank you very much. 17 Yes, Mr Millett. 18 MR MILLETT: Mr Badillo, thank you for coming back. 19 I'm going to ask you some questions about your trip 20 to the 20th floor and back again. Are you okay with 21 that? 22 A. Yes. 23 Q. Okay. 24 On your way up from the bridgehead to the 20th 25 floor, you describe how the lift opened at the eighth</p> <p>Page 147</p>
<p>1 MR MILLETT: Mr Chairman, I do think we may take a slightly 2 earlier break than 3 o'clock. 3 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes, let's do that. We probably 4 ought to have a slightly longer break in any event about 5 now. If we took 15 minutes, would that be all right? 6 MR MILLETT: Yes. 7 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Okay. 8 It's all right, Mr Badillo. It's really difficult 9 for you, I quite understand that. 10 When you feel ready, you go with the usher and 11 she'll take you out to the retiring room. There's no 12 rush. 13 (Pause) 14 All right, well done. 15 (Pause) 16 Right, we'll break and resume at 3.05, please. 17 (2.50 pm) 18 (A short break) 19 (3.05 pm) 20 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes, Mr Millett. 21 MR MILLETT: Mr Chairman, before the witness rejoins us, can 22 I just make a correction to the transcript which needs 23 to be made as a result of an error I made in the last 24 series of questions at currently lines 15 to 25 of what 25 is currently being shown as page 147 of the transcript.</p> <p>Page 146</p>	<p>1 floor. Do you remember that? 2 A. Yes. 3 Q. Can you describe for us what happened? 4 A. Sort of the same thing that happened on the 15th. The 5 lift filled with smoke. I don't know whether it was 6 because we were wearing -- I was wearing breathing 7 apparatus or I -- it didn't feel like as much of a shock 8 to me, you know, I wasn't as -- 9 Q. Yes. 10 A. But that could've been because I could breathe with my 11 breathing apparatus on. 12 Q. Do you know why the lift opened at the eighth floor? 13 A. No. 14 Q. Now, Firefighter Dorgu says it was the eighth floor like 15 you do; Firefighter Secrett says it was the sixth floor. 16 Can you current on the difference between you? 17 A. No. 18 Q. Do you know how quickly the lift doors shut again after 19 you saw the smoke? 20 A. We got out of the lift. 21 Q. You got out of the lift? 22 A. Yes. 23 Q. And you got into the eighth floor lobby, did you? 24 A. Yes. 25 Q. Can you describe the smoke in the eighth floor lobby for</p> <p>Page 148</p>

<p>1 us? You say in your statement it was full of smoke, in 2 the seventh line on page 7. Perhaps we can just see it. 3 You say the lobby was compromised and full of smoke. 4 Could you describe the smoke for us? 5 A. From what I remember, it was full of smoke but there was 6 still some visibility. I didn't have to search around 7 to get out of that lobby. 8 Q. What colour was the smoke, do you remember? No? Did 9 you -- sorry. 10 A. I'm not sure, I can't remember. But it wasn't as dark 11 as when I went up on the 15th. 12 Q. And did any of you -- that's you, Firefighter Dorgu or 13 Crew Manager Secrett -- radio down about what the 14 conditions were that you'd seen on the eighth floor 15 lobby? 16 A. I know I didn't. I can't remember if the other two did. 17 Q. What about heat? Did you experience any particular heat 18 in the lobby on the eighth floor? 19 A. Not really, no. 20 Q. Not really. Did you see any fire there? 21 A. No. 22 Q. Did you yourself have any thoughts about whether you 23 should knock on any of the doors of the flats of the 24 eighth floor and alert the occupants? 25 A. Not at that time, no. When you're given a task as</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 149</p>	<p>1 breathing apparatus pack weighs? 2 A. I'm not sure. It's -- I'm not sure. 20 kilograms. 3 Q. It's about 15 kilograms, I'm told. Would that be about 4 right? 5 A. Yeah. 6 Q. On your journey up the building from the eighth to the 7 20th floor in the stairwell, can you describe the 8 conditions of the air in the stairwell as you went up? 9 A. From what I remember, it was getting thicker the further 10 we went up the tower. 11 Q. What, the smoke was? 12 A. Yes. 13 Q. What about the visibility, was that getting more 14 difficult? 15 A. On the stairwell I can remember visibility was okay up 16 to the 20th, because when I got up to the 20th, I looked 17 into the lobby, which was no visibility at all. So it 18 was -- it was different. 19 Q. Could you tell me how easy it was to keep count of the 20 floor numbers as you went on up? 21 A. I wasn't -- I don't think I was counting. 22 Q. If you weren't counting, how would you know when you got 23 to the 20th floor? 24 A. Some of the floors were written in stencils, and I also 25 remember thinking it's really strange, some were just</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 151</p>
<p>1 a firefighter, that's what you do. I know I gave myself 2 the task, but that's what I was doing. 3 Q. Now, you say you made your way to the stairwell. You 4 say eight, maybe nine lines from the top: 5 "There wasn't any noise but as we were talking, it 6 wasn't so eerily quiet. CM SECRETT decided that we 7 would take the stairs and we made our way to the 8 stairwell, which was full of wispy smoke, but it wasn't 9 too hot." 10 Then you say: 11 "I had a bit of an adrenaline rush and got to the 12 20th floor before the others, who were a couple of 13 floors behind." 14 Can you describe -- I know it may be difficult 15 because you were going up perhaps more quickly than they 16 were. First of all, were you running up the stairs? 17 A. Probably a jog, yeah. 18 Q. A jog. Can you explain or describe to the chairman and 19 everybody here what it must be like jogging up stairs in 20 BA kit? 21 A. Quite difficult, but like I said, at the time I was 22 focused on getting to Jessica, especially after I'd seen 23 the outside of the building, and I just wanted to get up 24 there as quick as I could. 25 Q. Could you give us an idea of what a standard duration</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 150</p>	<p>1 scribbled in felt-tip pen, like they'd been scribbled by 2 the residents. 3 Q. Really? Scribbled by -- 4 A. Yeah. That's a vivid memory I had. A newly refurbished 5 building and they haven't even got floor numbers written 6 on the floors, some of them. 7 Q. Were there floors where there was no number, do you 8 remember? 9 A. I don't remember, but I vividly remember some scribbled 10 floor numbers. 11 Q. If you look at your statement -- I can do this by 12 reference to your statement -- you say, about a third of 13 the way down the page, page 7: 14 "I was able to identify the 20th floor, but cannot 15 remember if the floor number was stencilled on or 16 written on the wall in felt tip, as this varied between 17 the floors." 18 You have given evidence about that. 19 Then you say: 20 "Whilst waiting, I had a quick look inside the 20th 21 floor lobby, by opening the door, but it was filled with 22 smoke, so closed it again so as to not compromise the 23 stairwell. The stairwell wasn't brightly lit, but we 24 were able to see each other. We did not pass anyone 25 between the 8th and 20th floor."</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 152</p>

<p>1 When you say you didn't pass anyone on the way up</p> <p>2 from the 8th to the 20th floor, did that include</p> <p>3 firefighters?</p> <p>4 A. Yes.</p> <p>5 Q. So is it right, then, that your recollection is that the</p> <p>6 stairwell was completely empty of people --</p> <p>7 A. Yes.</p> <p>8 Q. -- on your journey?</p> <p>9 Did you have any thoughts about what might be</p> <p>10 happening to the occupants on those higher floors?</p> <p>11 A. At that moment in time, like I said, I was focused on</p> <p>12 getting to flat 176 to get the little girl out.</p> <p>13 Q. It may be that you've already answered this, but did you</p> <p>14 check in any of the lobbies on the way up to see if --</p> <p>15 A. No, my focus was to get up to flat 76[sic] as fast as</p> <p>16 I could.</p> <p>17 Q. Did you form an impression of how well the stair doors</p> <p>18 were doing to keep smoke out of the stairwell at that</p> <p>19 point?</p> <p>20 A. I didn't think about that at the time, no.</p> <p>21 Q. Okay. When you got to the 20th floor, did you have any</p> <p>22 impression about what the heat was like?</p> <p>23 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Mr Badillo, are you comfortable</p> <p>24 answering questions at the moment?</p> <p>25 A. Yes.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 153</p>	<p>1 Q. What was that like? Did it help?</p> <p>2 A. Just could see a light in the smoke.</p> <p>3 Q. How far did the light --</p> <p>4 A. So sort of making the black smoke in front -- what you</p> <p>5 was looking at, making it a bit lighter, but ...</p> <p>6 Q. Okay. What about heat in the lobby? What was that</p> <p>7 like?</p> <p>8 A. At that time I -- it wasn't too hot, as I remember.</p> <p>9 Q. Then you describe in the rest of that paragraph on</p> <p>10 page 7 your entry into flat 176.</p> <p>11 Who went in first, do you remember?</p> <p>12 A. I think I did.</p> <p>13 Q. You think you did?</p> <p>14 A. It would've been me or Crew Manager Secrett.</p> <p>15 Q. You say just before the paragraph break near the foot of</p> <p>16 the page, page 7:</p> <p>17 "inside the flat, visibility was low to hardly</p> <p>18 anything. It was smoke logged completely and I'm unsure</p> <p>19 if any lights were on. It was hot inside the flat but</p> <p>20 it didn't feel like there was a fire inside."</p> <p>21 Can you describe how you went about searching each</p> <p>22 room?</p> <p>23 A. Yeah, we -- I took the right-hand wall. It's</p> <p>24 a procedure we use: if you can't see anything, you stick</p> <p>25 to a wall, so if anything happens, you follow that wall</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 155</p>
<p>1 MR MILLETT: Can I just repeat the question: when you got to</p> <p>2 the 20th floor, do you remember having any thoughts</p> <p>3 about what the heat was like there?</p> <p>4 A. It didn't feel that hot at the time. It felt warm. The</p> <p>5 fact that I had just ran up quite a few flights of</p> <p>6 stairs with my fire gear and breathing apparatus on --</p> <p>7 I was hot.</p> <p>8 Q. It was a warm night.</p> <p>9 A. It wasn't radiated heat, so it didn't feel ...</p> <p>10 Q. Okay.</p> <p>11 I think you say, in summarising it, the others came</p> <p>12 up behind you, Dorgu and Secrett, and then you went into</p> <p>13 the lobby.</p> <p>14 A. Yes.</p> <p>15 Q. And you described the lobby halfway down the page, you</p> <p>16 say:</p> <p>17 "... we entered the 20th floor and the smoke was so</p> <p>18 thick I couldn't see my hand in front of my face."</p> <p>19 How could you move around the lobby if you couldn't</p> <p>20 see?</p> <p>21 A. By feel.</p> <p>22 Q. By feel. Did you have a torch?</p> <p>23 A. Yes.</p> <p>24 Q. Did you use it?</p> <p>25 A. Yes.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 154</p>	<p>1 back out. And once you get to a door, you search that</p> <p>2 compartment, and then you come out, sticking to the</p> <p>3 right-hand wall, and you go to the next compartment</p> <p>4 until you've searched everywhere.</p> <p>5 Q. In the last paragraph you say:</p> <p>6 "In the 2nd room I reached, I could see an orange</p> <p>7 curtain of flames at the window, but they appeared to</p> <p>8 still be on the outside."</p> <p>9 Now, I just want to understand what the second room</p> <p>10 is. Just see if we can walk this together: you go</p> <p>11 through the front door of the flat, and this is 176, so</p> <p>12 its immediately some floors above flat 16.</p> <p>13 A. Yes.</p> <p>14 Q. And is this right: a room immediately in front of you,</p> <p>15 and then as you go down round the corridor to the right?</p> <p>16 A. I --</p> <p>17 Q. What do you remember?</p> <p>18 A. I really -- you get so disorientated when you're -- you</p> <p>19 imagine you've got your eyes shut and you're searching</p> <p>20 a flat.</p> <p>21 Q. Okay.</p> <p>22 A. I'm not even 100 per cent certain it was the second room</p> <p>23 I entered into, but I know I entered into a room -- it</p> <p>24 was a bigger room with a big window and the whole window</p> <p>25 was an orange flame on the outside.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 156</p>

<p>1 Q. Right. Do you remember from having gone into that room</p> <p>2 that the windows were on two sides of the room or on one</p> <p>3 side of the room only?</p> <p>4 A. I don't remember.</p> <p>5 Q. Okay. And what were the conditions like inside the</p> <p>6 room?</p> <p>7 A. It was starting to warm up. It was starting to get hot.</p> <p>8 Q. Was there any fire inside that room?</p> <p>9 A. No, not at that time, no.</p> <p>10 Q. What about the smoke inside that room?</p> <p>11 A. There was smoke, yes.</p> <p>12 Q. Was there much smoke?</p> <p>13 A. Yes, a lot of smoke.</p> <p>14 Q. Right.</p> <p>15 Do you think that at that point the fire on the</p> <p>16 outside had broken into that flat when you were in</p> <p>17 there?</p> <p>18 A. I don't believe so.</p> <p>19 Q. You then say in the next sentence:</p> <p>20 "It was very strange seeing it as I'd never seen</p> <p>21 anything like that before, on the outside."</p> <p>22 When you say "seeing it", what are you describing?</p> <p>23 A. Being on the 20th floor of a tower block and seeing</p> <p>24 an orange flame on the outside of the window.</p> <p>25 Q. Yes. And then you say:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 157</p>	<p>1 Q. You heard him trying to send a message?</p> <p>2 A. Yes, couldn't see each other, couldn't see anything.</p> <p>3 Q. When you say "there were no comms", what do --</p> <p>4 A. As in the radios weren't transmitting.</p> <p>5 Q. So --</p> <p>6 A. So there was no response from any radios, there was no</p> <p>7 noise on the radios, so ...</p> <p>8 Q. Okay. You say no noise --</p> <p>9 A. As in there was no messages being sent, so -- you would</p> <p>10 expect heavy radio traffic.</p> <p>11 Q. Right. Could you hear anything from the radios?</p> <p>12 A. Nothing at all.</p> <p>13 Q. Did you or anybody else in your group -- Secrett or</p> <p>14 Dorgu -- search anywhere else on the 20th floor?</p> <p>15 A. After we came out of the flat, Chris Secrett's warning</p> <p>16 whistle went off, which goes off at about 70 bar.</p> <p>17 You're meant to be out of the dangerous situation by</p> <p>18 that stage, and we was on the 20th floor with fire all</p> <p>19 around us, so we needed to get him out.</p> <p>20 Q. How soon after leaving flat 176 did the warning whistle</p> <p>21 go off?</p> <p>22 A. I can't be certain, but it might have even gone off when</p> <p>23 we was inside the flat. I'm not sure.</p> <p>24 Q. In your statement -- again, it's page 8, about three or</p> <p>25 four lines up from the paragraph break -- you say:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 159</p>
<p>1 "Two bedrooms were found next and I searched one</p> <p>2 room whilst Chris searched the other concurrently ..."</p> <p>3 Now, this may be a silly question, but what made you</p> <p>4 think it was a bedroom?</p> <p>5 A. There was a bed in there.</p> <p>6 Q. I thought it was a silly question, but it's a clear</p> <p>7 answer, thank you.</p> <p>8 You then say you swapped over on the next page, two</p> <p>9 lines down:</p> <p>10 "Chris suggested that we swap over, just to be</p> <p>11 completely sure and we were shouting out the whole</p> <p>12 time."</p> <p>13 Did you see any fire at the windows of the other</p> <p>14 rooms you searched?</p> <p>15 A. No.</p> <p>16 Q. Then you describe how you came out of the flat and you</p> <p>17 returned to the lobby area, seven lines down from the</p> <p>18 top of page 8, and you say:</p> <p>19 "We returned to the lobby area, where Chris DORGU</p> <p>20 was and he tried to send a message with an update but</p> <p>21 there were no comms."</p> <p>22 Did you see him try and send that message?</p> <p>23 A. No.</p> <p>24 Q. You didn't see him?</p> <p>25 A. Heard him.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 158</p>	<p>1 "Chris SECRETT'S warning whistle then went off and</p> <p>2 we knew we had to get out, as he only had 60-70 bar</p> <p>3 left. I did a gauge check and think that I had about</p> <p>4 100 bar remaining."</p> <p>5 Then you talk about policy, and then at the end you</p> <p>6 say:</p> <p>7 "... it felt like we were trapped."</p> <p>8 At that moment when you say you felt like you were</p> <p>9 trapped, where were you? Were you still in flat 176 or</p> <p>10 had you come out --</p> <p>11 A. No, we was in the lobby.</p> <p>12 Q. How long had you been in the lobby for when you realised</p> <p>13 you had about 100 bar remaining?</p> <p>14 A. I'm not sure. I believe it was the same sort of time</p> <p>15 that Chris was trying to get hold of someone, trying to</p> <p>16 send radio signals.</p> <p>17 Q. Did you have a discussion with either Chris, I suppose,</p> <p>18 Secrett or Dorgu, about looking for other residents in</p> <p>19 other flats on floor 20?</p> <p>20 A. At that stage, like I said, Chris Secrett's warning</p> <p>21 whistle was going off, he had limited time to actually</p> <p>22 get out of that building before his air completely ran</p> <p>23 out, so we was in a dangerous situation and it was more</p> <p>24 like we had to get him out the building.</p> <p>25 Q. You had to get him out the building. What about</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 160</p>

<p>1 Chris Dorgu, what was his air situation like?</p> <p>2 A. I don't know.</p> <p>3 Q. Was it possible for Chris Dorgu to look for other people</p> <p>4 on that floor?</p> <p>5 A. When you are in a BA team, you stay together. Policy is</p> <p>6 you stay together. If I had taken Chris out, Crew</p> <p>7 Manager Secrett out, then Firefighter Dorgu is then left</p> <p>8 on his own and that's -- we never do that.</p> <p>9 Q. Then you say halfway down page 8 at the break:</p> <p>10 "It was decided that we would leave and I started to</p> <p>11 lead the way out. I found a door but when I opened it,</p> <p>12 I realised that it was in fact the bin shoot[sic]. This</p> <p>13 area was free from smoke and the door seemed more solid</p> <p>14 and newer than that on the actual main door to the</p> <p>15 floor."</p> <p>16 Can you describe the heat inside the bin chute?</p> <p>17 What it was like?</p> <p>18 A. I don't remember, I just have this memory of being able</p> <p>19 to see inside the bin chute. It was really strange.</p> <p>20 We're up on the 20th floor, in -- nothing at all, and</p> <p>21 then we went inside and it was sort of -- we found the</p> <p>22 door. It wasn't completely clear of smoke, but you</p> <p>23 could all of a sudden, as you got close to it, you could</p> <p>24 see, and as you went inside, you could make out things</p> <p>25 inside there. It was a clearer atmosphere than in the</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 161</p>	<p>1 A. I would say it was probably about the same.</p> <p>2 Q. Okay.</p> <p>3 A. There was smoke, but you could still -- I could see if</p> <p>4 one of the Chrises was close to me, I could see him.</p> <p>5 Q. Had the conditions in the stair at level 20 changed from</p> <p>6 when you left the stair to go into level 20 lift</p> <p>7 lobby --</p> <p>8 A. Yes.</p> <p>9 Q. -- and when you came back out? How had they changed?</p> <p>10 A. They had worsened, much hotter and much less visibility.</p> <p>11 They had changed quite a lot.</p> <p>12 Q. You say that you left the hoses in situ by the wall so</p> <p>13 as not to block the stairs, you think on the 18th floor.</p> <p>14 When you say by the wall, was it the wall on the</p> <p>15 staircase itself or on the landing?</p> <p>16 A. On the landing. They come in a roll, so they're flat,</p> <p>17 and we push them up against the wall so they're</p> <p>18 literally flat against the wall.</p> <p>19 Q. Did you think that that would block the passage of any</p> <p>20 later firefighters coming back up?</p> <p>21 A. The reason why we pushed them against the wall was to</p> <p>22 make sure that didn't happen.</p> <p>23 Q. As you went down the stairs from the 20th floor, I think</p> <p>24 you say the smoke got thicker and the conditions got</p> <p>25 hotter; is that right?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 163</p>
<p>1 lobby area.</p> <p>2 Q. Thank you.</p> <p>3 Now, you say in the same part of your statement,</p> <p>4 same page:</p> <p>5 "I managed to lead us back to the stairwell and as</p> <p>6 we got a few flights down, I suggested that we leave the</p> <p>7 hoses in situ as carrying them was slowing us down. We</p> <p>8 left them by the wall, so as to not block the stairs, I</p> <p>9 think on the 18th floor. The heat was much more intense</p> <p>10 and the stairwell was completely smoke filled so</p> <p>11 visibility was really poor."</p> <p>12 Just unpacking that a little bit, when you got out</p> <p>13 from the lobby on the 20th floor into the stairwell on</p> <p>14 the 20th floor, what were the air conditions like in the</p> <p>15 stairwell?</p> <p>16 A. When we first got out of the 20th floor, I remember</p> <p>17 being able to see more than in the actual lobby area,</p> <p>18 but as soon as we started going down, conditions got</p> <p>19 worse, started getting much, much hotter and we couldn't</p> <p>20 see a thing.</p> <p>21 Q. Are you able to help me with this comparison: comparing</p> <p>22 the clarity of the air inside the bin chute with the</p> <p>23 clarity of the air in the stairwell immediately outside</p> <p>24 the stair door at level 20, which was the clearer?</p> <p>25 Which air was clearer?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 162</p>	<p>1 A. Yes.</p> <p>2 Q. What about traffic on the stairs? As you went down, did</p> <p>3 you meet any firefighters coming up?</p> <p>4 A. No.</p> <p>5 Q. Did you meet any residents coming down?</p> <p>6 A. No.</p> <p>7 Q. Now, I just want to ask you something you mentioned</p> <p>8 yourself before the break about meeting</p> <p>9 Firefighter Murphy on the seventh floor at about</p> <p>10 2 o'clock. Just try and help me with the timing of</p> <p>11 that.</p> <p>12 Was that on the same journey down from the 20th</p> <p>13 floor or was that on a different occasion?</p> <p>14 A. Same journey.</p> <p>15 Q. Same journey?</p> <p>16 A. Yes.</p> <p>17 Q. So can you just talk me through what happens when you</p> <p>18 got to the seventh floor?</p> <p>19 First of all, how do you know you're at the seventh</p> <p>20 floor when you meet Firefighter Murphy?</p> <p>21 A. I saw Firefighter Murphy. I kind of recognised his</p> <p>22 silhouette as I got close. There was other firefighters</p> <p>23 there. He asked me what floor we was on, and I got my</p> <p>24 torch out, pointed it to where I knew the numbers were,</p> <p>25 and pulled him over and showed him, and that's when</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 164</p>

<p>1 I knew it was the seventh floor.</p> <p>2 Q. Was he on his way up?</p> <p>3 A. Yes.</p> <p>4 Q. Do you know what he was on the way up to do?</p> <p>5 A. No.</p> <p>6 Q. How long did you spend having a conversation with him?</p> <p>7 A. Seconds.</p> <p>8 Q. Was he with anybody else?</p> <p>9 A. Yes.</p> <p>10 Q. Who was that?</p> <p>11 A. I don't know.</p> <p>12 Q. How many people?</p> <p>13 A. There was quite a few people on the stairwell at that</p> <p>14 stage. The stairs were very tight and you had to put</p> <p>15 your BA sets against the wall and let the crews go past</p> <p>16 you. It was tight.</p> <p>17 Q. So at what point on your journey down from the 20th</p> <p>18 floor did you start to encounter firefighters coming up?</p> <p>19 A. I believe it was around the seventh floor.</p> <p>20 Q. Below the seventh floor, could you describe the traffic</p> <p>21 on the stairs in terms of firefighters?</p> <p>22 A. There was firefighters going up.</p> <p>23 Q. Many or --</p> <p>24 A. Yes, quite a few.</p> <p>25 Q. From the seventh floor downwards, what about residents</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 165</p>	<p>1 bridgehead. Are you okay to carry on --</p> <p>2 A. Yes.</p> <p>3 Q. -- or would you like a break? There's not that much to</p> <p>4 go now, so let's just see where we go.</p> <p>5 So at the bridgehead, you get back, and do you reach</p> <p>6 the bridgehead together with Firefighter Dorgu and Crew</p> <p>7 Manager Secrett?</p> <p>8 A. Yes.</p> <p>9 Q. And can you explain what happened when you reached the</p> <p>10 bridgehead?</p> <p>11 A. I don't really remember anything from -- after seeing</p> <p>12 Firefighter Murphy, and the next thing I sort of</p> <p>13 remember is sort of coming to in the lift lobby, lying</p> <p>14 down. I don't -- I've got a bit of a blank between</p> <p>15 there.</p> <p>16 Q. Okay. You've got a bit of a blank.</p> <p>17 You say in your statement at the bottom of page 8,</p> <p>18 if we can just have a look at it, something about heat</p> <p>19 stress. I just want to see if I can get a bit more</p> <p>20 detail about that.</p> <p>21 Six lines up from the bottom of page 8, you say --</p> <p>22 I'm not sure whether this is at the bridgehead -- it</p> <p>23 isn't, I don't think -- but you say:</p> <p>24 "The temperature was getting hotter and heat stress</p> <p>25 makes you sweat lots, makes you confused and brings on a</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 167</p>
<p>1 or occupants traffic evacuating the building? Did you</p> <p>2 see anybody going out?</p> <p>3 A. I can't remember seeing residents, but the conditions</p> <p>4 were that they could've been residents, they could've</p> <p>5 been firefighters. It was only when I got literally</p> <p>6 face-to-face that I realised it was a firefighter and it</p> <p>7 was Firefighter Murphy so -- yeah.</p> <p>8 Q. On your journey from the 20th floor downwards to the</p> <p>9 bridgehead at that time, were there any particular</p> <p>10 floors that you remember which were hotter than other</p> <p>11 floors?</p> <p>12 A. I wasn't counting the floors on the way down so there's</p> <p>13 no way of me knowing.</p> <p>14 Q. Were there any patches or parts of the building, the</p> <p>15 staircase in the building, which you went through which</p> <p>16 you remember noting were hotter than other parts?</p> <p>17 A. As we started going down, I just remember it getting</p> <p>18 hotter and hotter. I mean really hot.</p> <p>19 Q. Did there come a point when it stopped being hotter or</p> <p>20 did it stay hotter and hotter all the way down to the</p> <p>21 bridgehead?</p> <p>22 A. I'm not sure. I know when we got down to the bridgehead</p> <p>23 it wasn't as hot because we all collapsed in the lift</p> <p>24 lobby area and just lied there for a little while.</p> <p>25 Q. I was going to turn to a few questions about the</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 166</p>	<p>1 headache."</p> <p>2 Do you think you had that?</p> <p>3 A. Most definitely, yes.</p> <p>4 Q. Did you have it, do you think, when you got to the</p> <p>5 bridgehead?</p> <p>6 A. Like I said, from -- I sort of -- I've got a blank from</p> <p>7 about the seventh floor and the next thing I knew I was</p> <p>8 coming round in the lift lobby, just lying down on the</p> <p>9 floor.</p> <p>10 Q. It may be you don't, but do you remember what the</p> <p>11 bridgehead was like at that point in terms of</p> <p>12 conditions?</p> <p>13 A. Sorry, I don't.</p> <p>14 Q. On page 9, if you look at it, you describe how you come</p> <p>15 out of the tower onto a grass verge, seven lines down</p> <p>16 from the top, and then, four lines down from that you</p> <p>17 say:</p> <p>18 "I remember looking up at the tower and thinking</p> <p>19 that we weren't going to stop the fire and lots of</p> <p>20 people were going to be killed. By now, the fire had</p> <p>21 reached the top of the tower and there was all sorts of</p> <p>22 crap falling off. It looked as though the building was</p> <p>23 falling apart. The cladding was coming down with other</p> <p>24 bits of the building and the wind was also catching it."</p> <p>25 At that point, when you saw that, do you think the</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 168</p>

<p>1 fire spread had gone beyond the east facade around to 2 one of the other faces? Do you remember? 3 A. I could only see the east facade, so I didn't know. 4 I know it wasn't at the front of the building. 5 Q. You say: 6 "I remember looking up and thinking that we weren't 7 going to stop the fire and lots of people were going to 8 be killed." 9 Did you share those thoughts with anybody? 10 A. It's something the people who were there were saying, 11 yeah, we -- that the fire was out of control by that 12 stage. 13 Q. And by that stage -- this is the point when you come out 14 of the tower onto the grassy verge and look up -- do you 15 know or do you remember who was in overall command -- 16 A. No. 17 Q. -- on the incident ground? You don't. 18 A. No. 19 Q. At the bottom of page 9, you then describe how you start 20 to run casualties and you describe that in some detail. 21 Were the casualties that you were helping -- perhaps 22 I should just ask you first: are you okay to give 23 a little bit of evidence about this? 24 A. Yes. 25 Q. The casualties that you were helping, were they walking</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 169</p>	<p>1 A. I'm not sure. I was in the building for -- at that 2 stage. 3 Q. Do you know where the turntable ladder had come from? 4 A. No. 5 Q. You say the firefighter had an issue, you say: 6 "He had a turntable ladder and there was a lack of 7 water pressure so not enough water was coming out." 8 Did you observe that for yourself or is that 9 something -- 10 A. Yes, I did. 11 Q. What did you see? 12 A. They have a monitor on the turntable ladder and it 13 was -- there was not enough pressure for the water to be 14 hitting the building. You need a lot of water going 15 through to use a monitor. 16 Q. You say not enough for the water to be hitting the 17 building, so what was happening when you opened the 18 throttle on the monitor? 19 A. It was just not reaching the building. 20 Q. How far could you shoot water? 21 A. It wasn't really shooting the water. The monitor is -- 22 I'd say it was maybe 20, 30 metres away from the 23 building. 24 Q. How far at that time could you get the water from the 25 monitor?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 171</p>
<p>1 casualties? 2 A. No. 3 Q. Where were you taking them from? Where in the building? 4 Or where geographically were you taking them from? 5 A. Some I was going into the lobby and taking them out the 6 lobby; some, as I was coming back, they was out of the 7 tower. So it was different stages. Depends how far 8 I got before the next one came out. 9 Q. This sounds like a bit of a lawyer's question, I'm 10 afraid, but I'll ask it anyway: were you making any kind 11 of record of who they were and where they'd come from? 12 A. No, I was working with the paramedics at that time. 13 They'd just asked me -- asked some people for help, so 14 I jumped in and started running back and forwards with 15 them. 16 Q. Right. 17 At page 10, at the bottom of your statement, you 18 describe how you helped a firefighter from Chelsea with 19 a turntable ladder. Do you remember doing that? 20 A. Yes. 21 Q. Can you explain where the turntable ladder was at that 22 time? 23 A. Yeah, it was on the eastern side of the building. 24 Q. Was that the first turntable ladder to arrive, do you 25 remember?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 170</p>	<p>1 A. Not very far. 2 Q. Feet? Inches? I don't want to suggest a distance to 3 you. What do you remember? 4 A. It was literally coming out and just -- (Indicates) 5 Q. Flopping down? 6 A. Yes. 7 Q. That's what you are doing with your hand. All right. 8 Was the problem of pressure solved by doing what you 9 say in your statement, which is tying the hose reel onto 10 the platform? Did that help? 11 A. It got water onto the tower, but it doesn't have the 12 effect -- it's a hose reel, which doesn't put much water 13 on it compared to a monitor. 14 Q. How big is the hose on the hose reel? What's the 15 diameter? 16 A. Not very big, like 30-millimetre or something. 17 Q. So smaller than the hose you would plug into a dry 18 riser? 19 A. Yes, I think it's like 23 millimetres. 20 Q. This creation of deciding to tie the hose reel onto the 21 platform, is that a standard approach you'd take on 22 a fire ground or is it something that you and he pulled 23 together on the night? 24 A. The second one. 25 Q. You say it got some water onto the fire. If you look</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 172</p>

<p>1 a little lower down, you say:</p> <p>2 "The water was then turned on and the turntable</p> <p>3 ladder sent up. This seemed to sort out the problem and</p> <p>4 get some water on the fire ..."</p> <p>5 How high up could the water reach?</p> <p>6 A. When I say -- in the statement it says "sorted out" --</p> <p>7 it didn't sort out the problem; it just got some water</p> <p>8 on the fire.</p> <p>9 Q. Okay.</p> <p>10 A. Nowhere near as much as if we had had pressure to use</p> <p>11 the monitor.</p> <p>12 Q. And how high up the building could you get some water</p> <p>13 with the use of the turntable ladder contraption that</p> <p>14 you put together?</p> <p>15 A. I don't remember. I helped him tie it on and I then ran</p> <p>16 off to do something else.</p> <p>17 Q. Do you remember which hydrant the monitor had been</p> <p>18 plugged into that was not providing sufficient pressure?</p> <p>19 A. No.</p> <p>20 Q. You describe at the bottom of page 10 once you'd done</p> <p>21 that job, you say:</p> <p>22 "I saw another firefighter who looked a bit</p> <p>23 troubled. I asked him what was wrong and he said that</p> <p>24 he had an aerial appliance which was stuck out on the</p> <p>25 road as he couldn't get it close enough to the tower."</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 173</p>	<p>1 I'm unsure if it ever managed to get any closer."</p> <p>2 I just want to ask you about the building of this</p> <p>3 new school causing access issues.</p> <p>4 You've been at North Kensington a long time.</p> <p>5 A. Yes.</p> <p>6 Q. Do you remember if the access to the tower was better</p> <p>7 for fire --</p> <p>8 A. Yes.</p> <p>9 Q. -- before the school was built?</p> <p>10 A. Yes.</p> <p>11 Q. How was that?</p> <p>12 A. Before I was a firefighter, I used to work in the sports</p> <p>13 centre next to the tower, and they used to have football</p> <p>14 pitches right next to the tower.</p> <p>15 Q. Right.</p> <p>16 A. And all the access was clear.</p> <p>17 Q. Okay.</p> <p>18 A. There was -- there was -- how can I put it? -- a lot of</p> <p>19 discussion about the building of the school from what</p> <p>20 I know.</p> <p>21 Q. Were you ever yourself party to a discussion about the</p> <p>22 building of the school from a fire safety point of view?</p> <p>23 A. No.</p> <p>24 Q. Then you go on to say:</p> <p>25 "... and our access was restricted due to</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 175</p>
<p>1 Can you remember which road he was stuck on?</p> <p>2 A. He was stuck -- I believe it was around by St Anns Road,</p> <p>3 maybe Bramley.</p> <p>4 Q. How far --</p> <p>5 A. Right next to Latimer Road tube station.</p> <p>6 Q. Okay. Okay.</p> <p>7 Where was he in relation to the tower when you saw</p> <p>8 him and had that conversation with him?</p> <p>9 A. I believe he was on Grenfell Road.</p> <p>10 Q. What was he doing?</p> <p>11 A. Looking for somewhere to somehow try and get his aerial</p> <p>12 closer to the tower.</p> <p>13 Q. Right. So I think what happens next is that you went to</p> <p>14 Bramley Road with him, did you?</p> <p>15 A. Yes.</p> <p>16 Q. Then you turned into Silchester Road?</p> <p>17 A. Yes.</p> <p>18 Q. Then I think you go on to say you couldn't get past the</p> <p>19 bollards. If you go to the top of page 11, you say</p> <p>20 this, in the second line:</p> <p>21 "The building of this new school has caused access</p> <p>22 issues and our access was restricted due to bollards and</p> <p>23 lots of people. I left the engine with the driver on</p> <p>24 the grass verge, by the school, which wasn't a good</p> <p>25 enough placement for what the engine was needed for.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 174</p>	<p>1 bollards ..."</p> <p>2 The bollards, these were different bollards from the</p> <p>3 ones that Charlie Batterbee removed. Where were these</p> <p>4 bollards?</p> <p>5 A. They were -- as you get to the corner of Silchester and</p> <p>6 Lancaster Road, you do a right and it's between the</p> <p>7 school and the swimming pool.</p> <p>8 Q. And were these bollards adjustable or removable or were</p> <p>9 they fixed?</p> <p>10 A. I believe they were -- no, you couldn't move them; they</p> <p>11 were fixed.</p> <p>12 Q. If you could just look at page 12, at the bottom, you</p> <p>13 offer some views about how things might have been</p> <p>14 better, but I just want to ask you about one. You say</p> <p>15 at the very end of the main paragraph on page 12:</p> <p>16 "I also feel that radio communications failed and</p> <p>17 should have been working within that building."</p> <p>18 Could you summarise your personal experience of the</p> <p>19 effectiveness of radio communications throughout that</p> <p>20 night?</p> <p>21 A. It's just -- they didn't work. They just completely</p> <p>22 failed. And one of the firefighters ... what</p> <p>23 firefighters rely on is communication to make their --</p> <p>24 to do the job properly.</p> <p>25 Q. Did you take up with a senior commanding officer your</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 176</p>

<p>1 problem with the communications and ask him to see if he</p> <p>2 could sort it out?</p> <p>3 A. After?</p> <p>4 Q. At any point in the night.</p> <p>5 A. My personal -- well, the problems I had with radio</p> <p>6 communications was when I was in that building.</p> <p>7 Afterwards, I didn't ... I wasn't using the radio as</p> <p>8 much. So after I came out the building, no, I didn't.</p> <p>9 Q. Do you know from your own knowledge on the night whether</p> <p>10 anybody in attendance tried to improve or sort out the</p> <p>11 communications difficulties that you yourself</p> <p>12 experienced?</p> <p>13 A. Not that I know of, no.</p> <p>14 Q. Mr Badillo, I have literally two or three questions</p> <p>15 left. Are you okay --</p> <p>16 A. Yes.</p> <p>17 Q. -- for me to ask them?</p> <p>18 On page 10, if I can just go back, this is where you</p> <p>19 are telling us about your experience of running</p> <p>20 casualties and helping out with casualties. You say</p> <p>21 a third of the way down:</p> <p>22 "I saw a man in the road but wasn't sure where he</p> <p>23 had come from, but he had obviously already been moved,</p> <p>24 but I thought he might have been unconscious."</p> <p>25 Then you go on to say:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 177</p>	<p>1 A. It was on Grenfell Road. It was underneath the walkway.</p> <p>2 Q. To the south of the tower?</p> <p>3 A. So quite close to the tower. Sort of where Golf 271 was</p> <p>4 parked, if you start walking up towards Grenfell Road,</p> <p>5 as you start going round the corner, it was around on</p> <p>6 that corner.</p> <p>7 MR MILLETT: Right. Thank you very much.</p> <p>8 Now, Mr Badillo, I want to say thank you very much</p> <p>9 for coming and giving your evidence. I have no further</p> <p>10 questions for you, but there may be one or two others</p> <p>11 which I get asked to ask you.</p> <p>12 Mr Chairman, might I take a very short break but ask</p> <p>13 you to ask the witness not to leave us while I harvest</p> <p>14 any further questions.</p> <p>15 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Can he not leave the witness box?</p> <p>16 MR MILLETT: He may, of course, of course.</p> <p>17 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes.</p> <p>18 I'm sorry that you can't finish just for the moment,</p> <p>19 because it may be there are one or two questions which</p> <p>20 others are interested in having Mr Millett ask you.</p> <p>21 So we'll take a short break -- but I mean short.</p> <p>22 5 minutes?</p> <p>23 MR MILLETT: Short and --</p> <p>24 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: And give you time to catch your</p> <p>25 breath. And then we'll come back and we'll see where we</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 179</p>
<p>1 "He had been on his back. The paramedic I was with</p> <p>2 and I went over to him and started to put him on the</p> <p>3 trolley, when a doctor came over and said to leave him</p> <p>4 as he was a jumper. We put him on the trolley anyhow</p> <p>5 and he was moved. I covered his face with the sheet, so</p> <p>6 that he could have some dignity and the doctor called</p> <p>7 his time of death. All of the man's bones were</p> <p>8 shattered and he had soiled himself. He was Arabic</p> <p>9 looking and of average build."</p> <p>10 I have three questions for you.</p> <p>11 First of all, can you assist further with the time</p> <p>12 that you saw this?</p> <p>13 A. I wish I could. I don't really have a timeline for any</p> <p>14 of that night. I was doing so much stuff.</p> <p>15 Q. When you say he had obviously already been moved, why do</p> <p>16 you say that?</p> <p>17 A. I think that was more knowing that when the paramedic or</p> <p>18 the doctor told me that he had jumped from the tower,</p> <p>19 I took that that he hadn't -- I don't want to offend</p> <p>20 anyone -- but I took it that he hadn't landed there.</p> <p>21 Q. I understand.</p> <p>22 Finally, you say that he was in the road, "I saw</p> <p>23 a man in the road". Can you help further with</p> <p>24 identifying the location? Which road are you talking</p> <p>25 about?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 178</p>	<p>1 are then. Is that all right?</p> <p>2 THE WITNESS: Thank you.</p> <p>3 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Will you go with the usher now.</p> <p>4 4.05, please.</p> <p>5 (4.00 pm)</p> <p>6 (A short break)</p> <p>7 (4.05 pm)</p> <p>8 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes, Mr Millett.</p> <p>9 MR MILLETT: Mr Chairman, to be absolutely candid, things</p> <p>10 are slightly unresolved about a particular question from</p> <p>11 a particular core participant. Rather than keeping the</p> <p>12 witness, what I would like to do is release the witness,</p> <p>13 if I may, but continue my discussions with the</p> <p>14 particular core participant to see if the information</p> <p>15 can be obtained in a different way.</p> <p>16 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Well, my understanding is --</p> <p>17 MR MILLETT: Not today.</p> <p>18 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: -- the witness is willing to answer</p> <p>19 further questions -- although I don't think he expects</p> <p>20 to be asked more than literally one or two -- so if you</p> <p>21 want to ask him, we'll have him back and ask him. I'd</p> <p>22 like him to come back in any event for other reasons.</p> <p>23 MR MILLETT: All right, Mr Chairman. I'll be guided by you.</p> <p>24 I think I will probably need, in fairness, to hear</p> <p>25 from Mr Walsh as to whether this is a wise thing, given</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 180</p>

<p>1 the witness's condition.</p> <p>2 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Mr Walsh, do you want to say</p> <p>3 something? Because you have been on the edge of your</p> <p>4 seat all afternoon.</p> <p>5 MR WALSH: Well, sir, I have been. Shall I address you from</p> <p>6 here?</p> <p>7 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Of course.</p> <p>8 MR WALSH: Sir, I have to say that, as we made very clear in</p> <p>9 our opening statement -- and it will be confirmed -- the</p> <p>10 firefighters who give evidence are and have been</p> <p>11 themselves profoundly affected by their experience.</p> <p>12 That much we all know. Some are more able than others</p> <p>13 to give evidence, but even those who apparently seem all</p> <p>14 right to give evidence are already profoundly affected</p> <p>15 and are traumatised, and it is the act of giving</p> <p>16 evidence which is itself, apart from that which occurred</p> <p>17 on the night, which can exacerbate or create further</p> <p>18 problems.</p> <p>19 Now, in relation to this witness, he has, as others</p> <p>20 have, done his best to answer many, many questions.</p> <p>21 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes.</p> <p>22 MR WALSH: But in relation to things which -- I will give</p> <p>23 an example, if I may.</p> <p>24 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Well, I wasn't inviting you to make</p> <p>25 a speech; I am just inviting you to tell me what you're</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 181</p>	<p>1 short answer.</p> <p>2 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Well, that may be, but at least we</p> <p>3 will have had his answer to the question, and if he is</p> <p>4 willing -- willing in the sense of feeling that he can</p> <p>5 cope with answering another question -- then I think it</p> <p>6 would be right to ask him and we'll see what he says.</p> <p>7 All right?</p> <p>8 Thank you very much.</p> <p>9 Could you invite Mr Badillo to come back in, please.</p> <p>10 (Pause)</p> <p>11 Thank you, Mr Badillo. I'm sorry to have you in and</p> <p>12 out of the hearing in this manner.</p> <p>13 THE WITNESS: That's okay.</p> <p>14 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: But I understand there is one</p> <p>15 further question which Mr Millett has been asked to put</p> <p>16 to you. If it's more than one, he'll have to explain to</p> <p>17 me why. But I think it is only going to be one.</p> <p>18 Yes, Mr Millett.</p> <p>19 MR MILLETT: Mr Chairman, it is one. I am going to try and</p> <p>20 make it one. But there is some context here which</p> <p>21 I just need to show you based on your statement.</p> <p>22 Could you please be shown page 7 of your statement.</p> <p>23 In the middle of the page -- this is where you've</p> <p>24 arrived on the 20th floor -- you say:</p> <p>25 "Flat 16 had been to the right of the lobby door so</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 183</p>
<p>1 inviting me to do now.</p> <p>2 MR WALSH: This witness has experienced difficulties today,</p> <p>3 but he has done very well. At the last break when he</p> <p>4 went out, sir, you will recall, there was a question</p> <p>5 whether he would be in a position to come back and</p> <p>6 answer questions. He bravely said that he would on the</p> <p>7 basis that one was talking about conditions within the</p> <p>8 tower. But we're now talking about other questions, and</p> <p>9 the question which is to be asked is one which can be</p> <p>10 answered, but it can be answered, I suspect, in one</p> <p>11 word, and may well be able to be answered in the way</p> <p>12 that Mr Millett suggests if the BSR lawyer who suggested</p> <p>13 it is willing for that to be done, rather than him</p> <p>14 having to come back.</p> <p>15 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Well, he's been a very succinct</p> <p>16 witness. He's answered an awful lot of questions in one</p> <p>17 word and that's been all to the good.</p> <p>18 MR WALSH: Yes.</p> <p>19 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: So are you suggesting we shouldn't</p> <p>20 ask him this further question?</p> <p>21 MR WALSH: I am just suggesting that certain questions can</p> <p>22 be traumatic, and I'm just trying to avoid yet further</p> <p>23 trauma. So if it can be resolved in the way Mr Millett</p> <p>24 suggests, all well and good; if it cannot then, sir, of</p> <p>25 course I'm in your hands, but it will be a very, very</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 182</p>	<p>1 I guessed that flat 176 would be to the right too.</p> <p>2 I found what I thought was flat 176, but had to use my</p> <p>3 torch and put my face right up close to the door.</p> <p>4 I moved on to the next door and saw that it was 175, so</p> <p>5 returned to 176, satisfied that it was the correct</p> <p>6 flat."</p> <p>7 My question is: did you knock on the door or shout</p> <p>8 to anybody who might be inside flat 175?</p> <p>9 A. No.</p> <p>10 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: That's it?</p> <p>11 MR MILLETT: Yes, it is.</p> <p>12 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Mr Badillo, that is the question and</p> <p>13 you've given us your answer and I'm very grateful to</p> <p>14 you?</p> <p>15 A. Can I just say --</p> <p>16 MR MILLETT: Yes, of course.</p> <p>17 A. -- to the family of the people in flat 175, I was</p> <p>18 looking for another girl and I didn't know there was</p> <p>19 anyone in there.</p> <p>20 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: That's all right.</p> <p>21 MR MILLETT: Thank you.</p> <p>22 Firefighter Badillo, thank you very much for coming</p> <p>23 back to tell us that and to share that with the family.</p> <p>24 I'm very grateful to you for doing that, thank you.</p> <p>25 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Mr Badillo, before you leave the</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 184</p>

1 witness box, can I just thank you very much on behalf of
2 myself and everyone involved in the inquiry for coming
3 to give your evidence. I can tell that it's taken
4 a great deal of courage and determination on your part
5 and also a strong sense of public duty, and we really
6 are very grateful.
7 I'd like you to know that the evidence you've given
8 about the conditions in the tower at various points in
9 the building and at various times is going to be very
10 useful. So thank you very much indeed. All right?
11 So would you like to go now with the usher.
12 (The witness was released)
13 MR MILLETT: Mr Chairman, that concludes the business of
14 a long and sometimes difficult week. I am grateful to
15 you, Mr Chairman, for all of that.
16 We start again, I think, at 9.30 on Monday morning
17 with the next witness.
18 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Is it 9.30 again?
19 MR MILLETT: No, I'm sorry, 10 o'clock.
20 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: 10 o'clock.
21 Yes. Well, thank you all very much. 10 o'clock on
22 Monday then, please. Thank you.
23 (4.15 pm)
24 (The hearing adjourned until Monday, 2 July 2018 at
25 10.00 am)

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