

GRENFELL TOWER INQUIRY

WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS ON BEHALF OF RBKC ON THE APPLICATION IN RESPECT OF AN UNDERTAKING BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

1. RBKC was not one of the signatories to the letter to the Inquiry dated 27 January 2020 and was not one of the parties who made the application dated 28 January 2020. RBKC is a separate legal entity to the TMO and does not share its position on the application. RBKC did not and does not support the application.
2. RBKC has adopted The Charter for Families Bereaved through Public Tragedy and made a commitment to candour. In its oral Opening Statement for Module 1 it admitted certain failings in respect of Module 1 issues and stated: *“In our Closing submissions for Modules 1, 2 and 3, we will set out in detail and with candour the Council’s position on all issues relevant to it that have arisen in those modules.”*
3. RBKC’s position is that it would encourage all witnesses called to give oral evidence to the Inquiry to answer all of the Inquiry’s questions and to do so truthfully. That is what it will be encouraging all RBKC witnesses in Phase 2 (i.e. current Councillors, former Councillors, current employees and former employees) to do.
4. We recognise that it is difficult to gauge what the practical effect on the Inquiry’s proceedings would be if there were no undertaking from the Attorney General but we encourage the Chairman to guard against overestimating the possible effect. RBKC considers that the views of the BSRs, who are at the centre of this Inquiry, should be of paramount importance when deciding what decision to make in respect of this application.

JAMES MAXWELL-SCOTT QC

2 February 2020