

# Grenfell Tower Inquiry

## **EXPLANATORY NOTE TO THE ADDENDUM TO THE MOU**

The MPS and the Inquiry have agreed an addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding dated 27 September 2017.

That Addendum was necessary in order to address a number of specific matters which are relevant to the relationship between the MPS and the Inquiry, as the Inquiry moves into Phase 2 of its work.

As the Addendum makes clear, the MPS will not provide weekly disclosure to the Inquiry during Phase 2, in contrast to what has occurred during Phase 1. The reason for this is that the MPS has obtained vast amounts of material from a large number of organisations and it is not necessary or practicable for that material to be disclosed to the Inquiry. The Inquiry has obtained material which is relevant to its work direct from a number of the same organisations, but on a much smaller targeted scale. The Inquiry does not require material to be disclosed to it on the scale held by the MPS and wishes to avoid receiving duplicated material.

However it may be necessary for the Inquiry to request targeted disclosure and/or assistance with searches for relevant material from the MPS during Phase 2 of its work. Any such requests from the Inquiry to the MPS will take into account the complexity of searching the volume of data the MPS holds. The scale of the MPS investigation may affect the extent to which the MPS can respond to such requests, including the time scale within which the MPS can respond.

In addition, paragraph 17 of the MOU did not take into account that the majority of witness statements would be obtained by the Inquiry by following the process under rule 9 of the Inquiry Rules 2006. The Inquiry has developed a process of informing the MPS of the rule 9 requests that have been made of witnesses/organisations and will continue to do so. The Addendum to the MOU seeks to ensure that the MPS has reasonable notice of such rule 9 requests (14 days' notice) so that the MPS can make any representations about those requests, where that is necessary in light of the ongoing police investigations.

Dated 20 February 2019.