

Attorney General's Office 102 Petty France London SW1H 9EA

To: Core Participants in the Grenfell Tower Inquiry

www.gov.uk/ago

22 April 2020

REQUEST FOR AN EXTENSION TO THE UNDERTAKING FROM THE GRENFELL TOWER INQUIRY

The Attorney General's Office has received a request from the Grenfell Tower Inquiry Panel to extend the terms of the undertaking provided.

The Panel has decided that, for the Inquiry to properly carry out its work to establish the truth about the circumstances of the fire, the Attorney General should be asked to extend the undertaking either to cover Osborne Berry Installations Ltd, Harley Facades Ltd, Arconic Architectural Products SAS and C S Stokes and Associates Ltd, or to legal persons in general. Legal persons in the proposed undertaking would apply to people who cannot be distinguished from their company, for example sole traders, partners or senior directors.

It is important to re-emphasise that this further application, which the Attorney General will consider, **does not provide any individual or company with immunity from prosecution**. It relates to how their oral evidence to the Inquiry can be used and means that <u>no one can refuse to answer questions from the</u> Inquiry on the basis that to do so would risk self-incrimination, which is a right granted to them in law.

The Attorney General will now consider the request to extend the undertaking as detailed above and consider whether it is the public interest. Once again, the victims of the fire and their families will be at the forefront of the Attorney's mind. The Attorney will also consider the objectives of the Inquiry and the administration of justice in general.

In reaching a decision, the Attorney General will consider:

- The written request from the Inquiry panel and the submissions made to it.
- Representations from interested parties including victims groups. Any further such representations should be sent by email to AGO.Correspondence@attorneygeneral.gov.uk by 5pm on 7 May 2020.
- She will also consult the Crown Prosecution Service and the Metropolitan Police Service.

The issue of an undertaking will undoubtedly cause further distress to the victims of the fire and their loved ones. It is therefore important that this issue is resolved once and for all. As such we wish to emphasise the importance of, by 7 May, representations being submitted which identify all witnesses who should be considered as part of the undertaking and the reasons why.

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE