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National Fire
Chiefs Council

The National Fire Chiefs Council

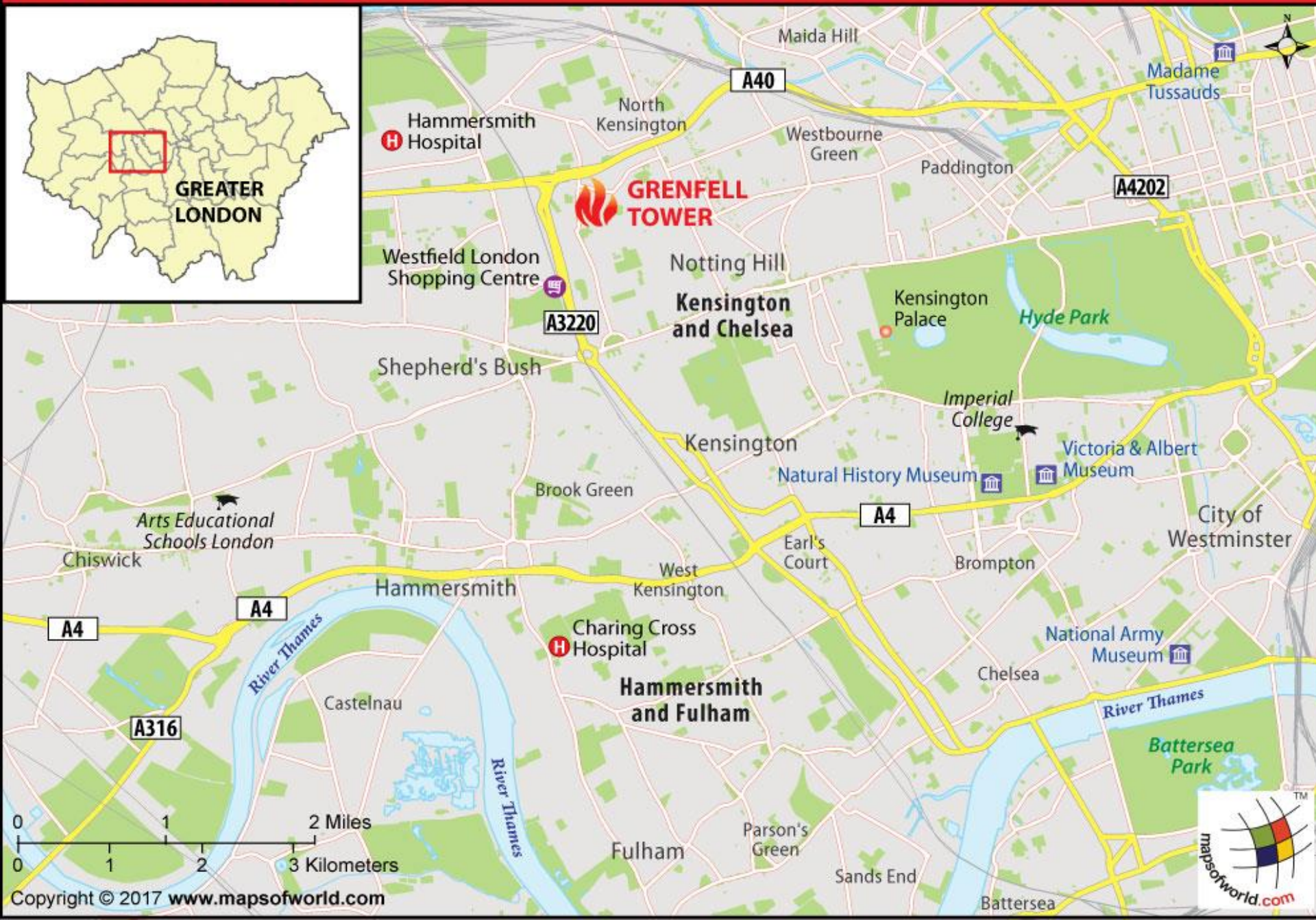


Roy Wilsher

Chair

National Fire Chiefs Council

LONDON TOWER BLOCK FIRE: FLAMES ENGULF GRENFELL TOWER - June 14, 2017



Description and location

Grenfell Tower, Lancaster West Estate, London, W11 1TG

- 24 storey residential building
- Ground floor crèche, nursery, youth club
- 129 one and two bedroom flats
- London Borough of Kensington and Chelsea



Grenfell Tower



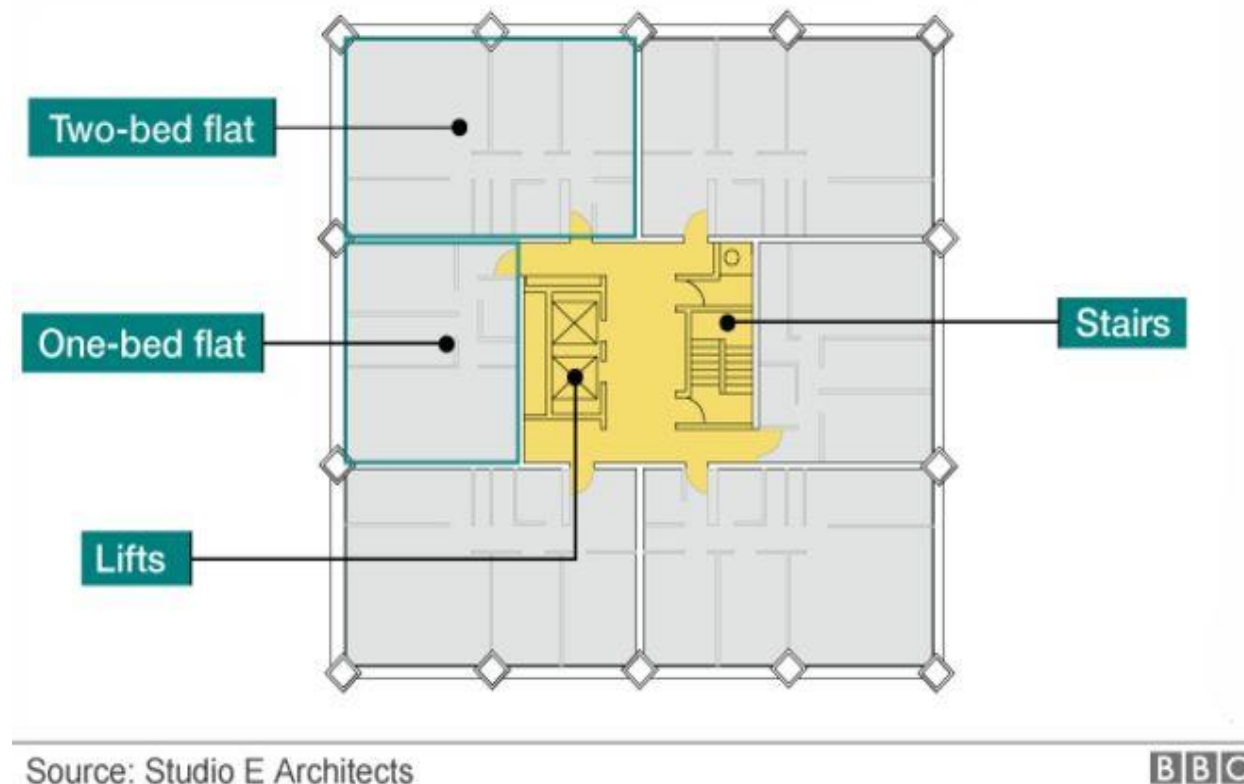
- Designed 1967
- Built 1972-74
- 24 storeys
- Brutalist architecture
- Refurbished 2014-16
- 9 further flats added



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Floor Plan

Typical residential floor in Grenfell Tower



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Resources used

- >200 firefighters and officers during response phase
- 40 pumping appliances
- 7 Command Units
- 14 Fire Rescue Units
- 4 Aerials
- 3 Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) modules
- 50 specialist USAR firefighters and specially trained search dogs
- In total, almost 700 personnel attended Grenfell Tower up to STOP message



Duration of incident



- Stop message was sent on 27 June 2017 at 1345 hours
- 13 days, 12 hours and 51 minutes after the initial call
- LFB Fire Investigation team members still on scene assisting MPS investigation



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Number of People Rescued

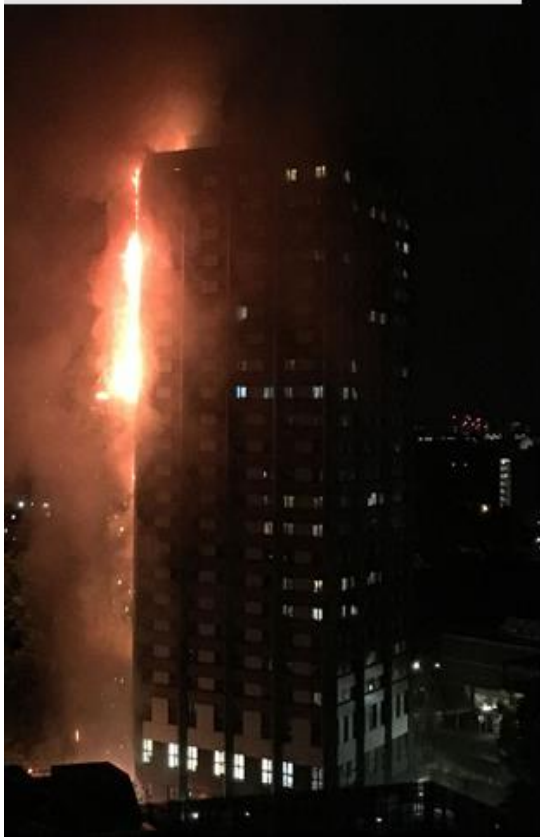


- 65 people rescued by crews using both Standard Duration and Extended Duration breathing apparatus
- Extremely difficult and arduous conditions



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Grenfell Tower: 14 June, 01:30 BST



02:10 BST



02:34 BST



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03:08 BST



03:23 BST



03:44 BST



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04:20 BST



04:43 BST



05:16 BST



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Counselling and wellbeing (C&W)

- Red Watch (RW) attend Grenfell Tower to fight the fire and remove casualties
- Blue Watch on duty 0930 hours
- Tens of stations attended
- Control officers (answering 999 calls, mobilising resources)
- Multiple senior officers
- High levels of distress identified in both those attending and answering calls



What Happened Next



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Grenfell Recovery

- **Ministerial Meetings**
 - Media
 - Disaster Victim Identification
 - Family Welfare and Pressure on Hospitals
 - Community Mobilisation
 - Response of Local Authority
 - Number of Occupants
 - Temporary Housing
 - Finance
 - Other Buildings



Related Matters

- **Data Collection other ACM Buildings 600+**
- **Visits by Fire & Rescue**
- **Screening Tests – almost 100% Failure**
- **Interim Fire Safety – 22 June**
 - **Fire Risk Assessment**
 - **Residents, Doors, Means of Escape**
 - **Compartmentation, Smoke Control**
 - **Firefighting Facilities**
 - **Car Parks and BBQs**
 - **Temporary Communal Alarms and Fire Wardens**



Related Matters Contd

- **Camden – Chalcots Estate – 21 June**



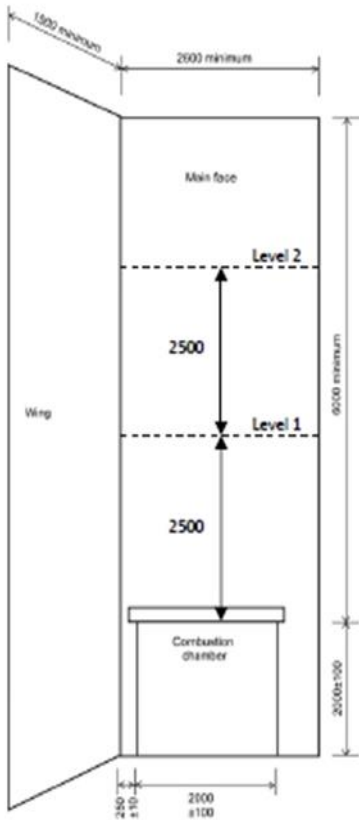
- **Mad Day Saturday – 24 June**
 - All NHS Buildings
- **Data Cleansing – 290 blocks, mainly London and Manchester**
- **Expert Panel – 27 June**



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Related Matters Contd

- Large Scale Tests – BS8414



Related Matters Contd

- Results

Aluminium Composite Material (ACM) with...	Insulation			Buildings inferred to have failed where insulation unknown
	PIR Foam	Phenolic Foam	Stone Wool	
Unmodified polyethylene filler (Cat. 3 in screening tests)	Test 1 failed 81 Buildings Report and Advice	N/A	Test 2 failed 107 Buildings Report and Advice	38 Buildings
Fire retardant polyethylene filler (Cat. 2 in screening tests)	Test 3 failed 8 Buildings Report and Advice	Test 7 failed 21 Buildings Report and Advice	Test 4 passed 12 Buildings Report and Advice	11 Buildings
Limited combustibility filler (Cat. 1 in screening tests)	Test 5 passed 0 Buildings Report and Advice	N/A	Test 6 passed 0 Buildings Report and Advice	0 Buildings



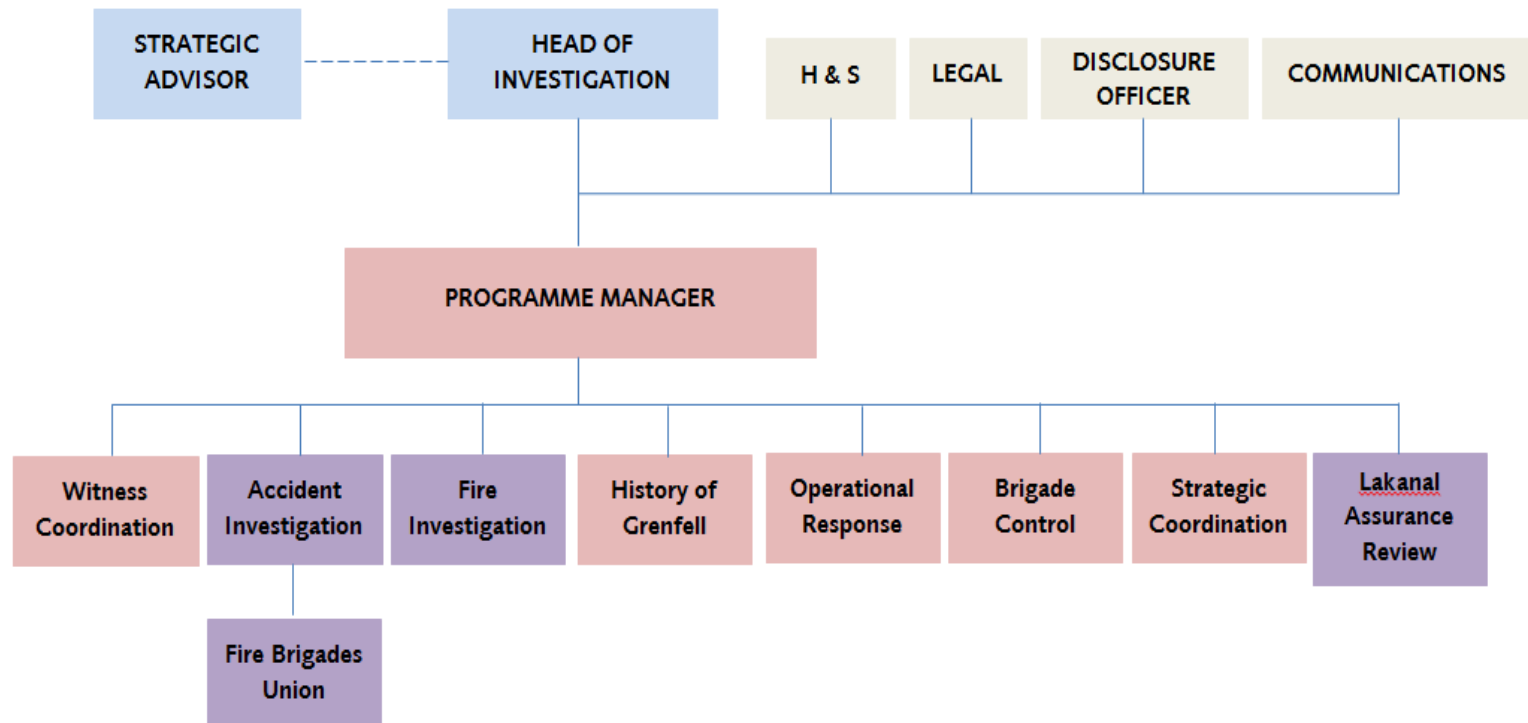
Enquiries Etc

- Criminal Investigation
- Public Enquiry
- Review of Building and Fire Safety Regulations
- Competence – Architects, Designers, Builders, Building Control, Surveyors, Fire Risk Assessors
- London Fire Brigade & national Fire Service Learning



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Investigation Structure



Building Regulations

Clause 12.7 specifically refers to insulation materials and filler materials but is now being interpreted more generally (see BCA Guidance note 18). Therefore where a building has a storey 18m or more above ground level all significant materials should be of limited combustibility (Class A2 in accordance with EN 13501-1)

➤ **Option 1**

- Use Materials of Limited Combustibility

➤ **Option 2**

- Testing to BS 8414-1/2 and meeting BR 135 criteria

➤ **Option 3**

- Fire engineered assessment of cladding based on test data (Desktop)

➤ **Option 4**

- Holistic fire engineered assessment of whole building



Next Steps

- Interim Letter Update
- Waking Watch Guidance – Stay Put
- Fire Service Revisits
- Remove Cladding – Supply Chain
- Private Sector
- Other Cladding Systems-High pressure Laminates (HPL), Render coatings, Fibre Reinforced Plastic/Panels
- Data
- National Fire Chiefs Council – Co-ordination, Advice and Consistency



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