# Grenfell Tower Memorial Commission: Community Representatives Meeting 12 September 2019

#### Attendees:

Community representatives
Nick Hurd, MP, Minister for Grenfell Victims
GTMC Secretariat
MHCLG

#### **Meeting purpose**

The first meeting of the community representatives to discuss and agree preliminary issues and interim arrangements.

#### Introductions

- All attendees joined Nick Hurd in a one-minute silence at the start of the meeting.
- Nick Hurd MP opened the meeting by reminding everyone of the purpose and scope of the Memorial Commission and of the significance of delivering a community-led memorial to a national tragedy. He thanked the representatives for their commitment and acknowledged that the journey to a memorial would be a challenging one for both the community and those representing the community on the Commission.

#### Logistics

- The secretariat introduced an item which summarised the results from a survey on meeting logistics that community representatives had completed prior to the meeting. Community representatives agreed that Commission meetings would take place monthly in the Kensington area for no more than 90 minutes to 2 hours.
  - **Action:** Secretariat to circulate the expenses policy to representatives and arrange an interpreter and translations.
- The community representatives acknowledged that the community are keen to see progress towards a fitting memorial so agreed to hold the next meeting in one month's time and then hold fortnightly meetings to ensure the Commission is fully established as quickly as possible.
  - The community representatives agreed these interim arrangements, to be reviewed once the chair and the public authorities were in place.

#### **Community engagement**

- The secretariat introduced an item which set out some of the factors that the Commission will need to discuss in the future, to ensure that the Commission is inclusive in its engagement with the community. The representatives discussed the need to use different engagement methods, with some representatives highlighting concerns that people were not opening Memorial Commission letters correspondence because they were posted with RBKC branded envelopes.
  - **Action:** Secretariat to explore alternative options for Memorial Commission correspondence.
- There was a discussion about potential conflicts of interest between community representatives involving RBKC.
  - **Action:** Secretariat to establish what would constitute a conflict of interest for the Commission and provide advice.
- Concerns were raised by some community representatives about RBKC's involvement on the Commission and their ability to act in good faith. Representatives suggested

exploring whether RBKC's planning department is a shared service with neighbouring boroughs who could replace RBKC.

**Action:** Secretariat to explore and advise community representatives at the next meeting.

• Questions were raised by community representatives about whether the Site would return to RBKC. It was explained that this is a decision for the Memorial Commission.

#### **Pastoral support**

• The secretariat introduced an item which set out the proposed individual wellbeing support package for Commission members to ensure they were properly supported in their role. Community representatives agreed to explore individual support plans following the meeting. They also strongly supported the need for pastoral support to be available at community events for attendees. The secretariat confirmed that support for the community was also being provided.

**Action:** Secretariat to follow up with representatives to discuss individual needs for wellbeing support.

#### Media handling

 The MHCLG Communications team introduced an item explaining the interim media handling support available. Community representatives agreed they would want to agree their own spokesperson but were happy for MHCLG to provide interim media handling support, with representatives collectively agreeing media lines. Community representatives were content with the offer of media training and suggested that they would need business cards.

**Action:** Secretariat to progress options for business cards.

#### **Upcoming key decisions**

• The secretariat introduced an item which set out the upcoming decisions needed to agree the Commission's chair and public authority members and agreed to circulate the chair role description ahead of the next meeting. The secretariat suggested that early decisions once the chair was in place should include ways of working, what the Commission's community engagement strategy will look like, the Commission website's content and branding, and decisions on repatriating the 9/11 Survivor Tree seedling.

Action: Secretariat to provide examples of ways of working once the chair is in place.

#### AOB

- Action: secretariat to circulate the meeting papers and minutes.
- Some community representatives were concerned about apparent decisions made by those involved in earlier discussions prior to the voting for representatives and the lack of transparency around this process. The secretariat confirmed that no decisions other than the name of the Commission and voting for representatives had been agreed and consulted on.
- Community representatives agreed to consider the process for creating a reserve list for community representatives as part of their ways of working discussions.

Next meeting: Wednesday 16 October

Meeting end.

# **English**

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### **Amharic**

### Arabic

يمكن توفير المعلومات التي وردت في هذا المستند بصيغ بديلة ولغات اخرى. إذا كنت في حاجة إلى مزيد من المساعدة، الرجاء استخدام بيانات الاتصال الواردة أدناه.

### **Farsi**

اطلاعات حاوی در این مدارک به صورتهای دیگر و به زبانهای مختلف در دسترس می باشد. در صورت نیاز به کمک بیشترلطفا از جزئیات تماس ذکر شده در ذیل استفاده کنید.

### **French**

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## **Portuguese**

A informação presente neste documento pode ser disponibilizada em formatos alternativos e em línguas diferentes. Se desejar mais assistência, use por favor os contactos fornecidos abaixo.

### Somali

Macluumaadka dokumentigan waxaa lagu heli karaa qaabab kale iyo luuqado kala duwan. Haddii aad u baahan tahay caawinaad intaas dhaafsiisan fadlan isticmaal xiriirka faahfaahinta hoose.

Please contact the Grenfell Tower Memorial Commission secretariat on 0303 444 4831 or by email at <a href="mailto:GTMCSecretariat@communities.gov.uk">GTMCSecretariat@communities.gov.uk</a> if you would like this document translated into one of the above languages.