

Grenfell Tower Memorial Commission (GTMC) Meeting
23 January 2025

Attendees

Memorial Commission

Lord Paul Boateng (Chair)
Thelma Stober

Community Representatives

(Bereaved representatives)	(Survivor representatives)	(Lancaster West representatives)
Sandra Ruiz	Mohammed Rasoul	Susan Al Safadi
Paulos Tekle	Abraham Abebe	

Apologies:

Nabil Choucair
Andrea Newton
Hanan Cherbika
Hassan Hassan
Hanan Wahabi
Adel Chaoui

Secretariat

Grenfell Tower Memorial Commission Secretariat: 6 individuals

Other

Stephanie Edwards, Independent Design Adviser
Peter Neal, Independent Landscape Design Adviser
Camilla Sheldon, Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government (MHCLG)

Meeting purpose

The sixty fourth meeting of the Memorial Commission, to discuss the design team selection process, next steps for the GTMC, and an update from MHCLG.

Opening

- A one-minute silence was held at the start of the meeting.
- It was confirmed that the meeting was quorate.
- Lord Paul Boateng opened the meeting, welcoming all in attendance, particularly Paulos Tekle, who is joining as part of the Memorial Commission's refreshed mandate.
- No conflicts of interests were declared.
- The secretariat presented the minutes from the December meeting for approval, along with an update on the risk register and action log.

Agenda item 1: Secretariat update

- The secretariat gave an update on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), which sets out a structure for the future workings of the Memorial Commission and MHCLG to work together with distinct roles and responsibilities, and timings for the MOU's completion.
- A community representative noted the need to include wording to support community representatives with their employers and to set-out the work of the Commission's activities and times when special leave may be required to uphold the requirements of being a community representative and recognising this is a voluntary role, as is done when employees are called for jury service, for example. Lord Paul Boateng endorsed this and felt that the expansion of the Memorial Commission is an appropriate moment to address this.
- A community representative raised the need for appropriate mental health support for community representatives to be included as a provision in the MOU.
- **ACTION:** Secretariat to update the MOU and bring back to the next meeting.

Agenda item 2: MHCLG update

- Camilla Sheldon gave an update from the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government. She noted that the MHCLG had been clear with the *Sunday Times* for the newspaper's recent article that the Deputy Prime Minister (DPM) has not yet made a decision on the future of the Tower. Camilla also noted the DPM and Building Safety Minister have been engaging with the community ahead of this decision, and gave an update on the MHCLG's work on expanding the membership of the Memorial Commission.
- Paul welcomed the commitment to the community from the DPM and ministers, and thanked officials for the time taken to brief them.
- Paul noted the feedback on the MoU for Camilla to take back to the MHCLG.

Agenda item 3: Design team selection process update

- The design advisers gave an update on the design team selection process, including the briefing with the shortlisted teams which took place on 21 and 22 January. They said there is a good range of diversity, professional expertise and backgrounds across the teams, which they have found encouraging. The design advisers also gave an overview of the next phases of the design team selection process and planned engagement activities.
- Camilla wished to put on record ministers' and MHCLG's thanks to the community representatives and design advisers for the time and care they have shown in the process to reach a shortlist of five design teams.
- The secretariat gave an update on communications and media activity, and press coverage about the announcement of the design team shortlist this week.