**Barking and Dagenham**

**There are four Council housing blocks in Barking and Dagenham with cladding** – Oldmead House, Bartlett House, Mersea House, and Colne House – however, this is not the same type used on Grenfell Tower and is fitted in a different way. These blocks will be subject to the independent inspections.

Aluminium Composite Material (ACM) cladding has not been used on any council-owned housing block in Barking and Dagenham.

In response to the fire, they have revisited all fire risk assessments for tower blocks that are eight storeys or above where the assessment was done more than three months ago.

A programme of inspections into the cladding used on other types of building in the borough is also underway. Housing officers are continuing to check residential blocks of six storeys and above to ensure communal areas are clear of anything that could create a fire hazard or block escape routes. The council is working with London Fire Brigade to ensure residents have the most up-to-date advice on fire safety.

Following the request from DCLG, Building Control officers are working with management companies who control private developments to ensure that the same rigour and testing of high rise residential blocks is carried out.

The Council is also intending to publish Fire Risk Assessments so residents can view them on the Council website. Approval for this is being sought at the Cabinet meeting on 19 September.

**Barnet**

**Barnet has 28 local authority blocks which it considers to be high rise (having 6 or more floors, or 5 or more if clad).** Of the 28 blocks 12 have 10 or more floors. Barnet Homes already has robust fire safety systems in place, and following the unprecedented tragedy of the Grenfell Tower fire responded immediately to ensure residents’ continuing safety. We undertook updated fire risk assessments of all of our tower blocks and engaged 24/7 fire wardens in certain blocks for added reassurance. We continue to work closely with the London Fire Brigade who have undertaken detailed joint inspections with us at a number of our blocks.

Barnet Homes has 10 blocks across the borough with some form of cladding system and of these, only the 3 blocks on the Granville Road Estate in Cricklewood have aluminium composite material (ACM) outer panels similar to those used at Grenfell Tower. The insulation material on these blocks behind the cladding panels is a rockwool non-combustible material. However, even before we knew the results of the Government’s fire safety tests on cladding systems, together with Barnet Council we made the decision to remove the cladding. This process is well underway and on schedule for completion by the end of September, and Barnet Homes is working to identify the best possible solution for re-cladding the three blocks. In the meantime, 24/7 fire wardens, two for each block, will remain on site until the removal process is completed.

Barnet Homes has also been undertaking an in-depth programme of fire safety inspections across its high rise blocks. As part of this we have arranged a series of tests on different cladding panel boards to assess whether they comply with certain British and European standards with regards to fire integrity.

In response to the Grenfell Tower fire, Barnet Council immediately committed to investing an initial £10million in fire safety enhancements measures. Barnet Homes is well advanced in undertaking its review of fire safety measures in the council’s high rise and cladded blocks to consider what improved fire safety measures can be installed, including consideration of sprinkler systems and improved fire and smoke alarms. Each block has been individually assessed, and recommendations are being formulated in discussion with the London Fire Brigade.

These proposals will go before the council’s Housing Committee on 23 October.

**Brent**

**There are 37 high rise blocks in Brent**. Following the Grenfell Tower Fire, Brent Council moved quickly to carry out extra checks to provide reassurance to residents living in high rise blocks.

Despite the fact that all high rise blocks are fully compliant, have up-to-date Fire Risk Assessments and are up to current standards, Brent was one of the first councils in London to vote through a plan to earmark £10m for [a package of enhanced fire safety measures](https://www.brent.gov.uk/council-news/july-2017/10-million-fire-safety-boost-for-tower-blocks-in-brent/), such as sprinklers, smoke detectors and fire alarms for high rise blocks.

Dozens of public meetings have taken place to give affected residents the chance to ask questions of housing providers and fire safety experts to allay any concerns they may have. Brent Council continues to liaise with housing providers and the Department for Communities and Local Government and will update the page with more information as it becomes available.

Of Brent Council’s 37 high rise blocks, only the three blocks at Watling Gardens has used cladding, however the material used is called Rockwool and has a mineral-based render which is incombustible and will not burn and - importantly - is a completely different material to ACM. There are no Brent Council blocks clad in ACM and no council block has failed a government safety test.

There are however several private and housing association blocks in the borough of Brent that have used ACM and have failed government safety tests on cladding materials and wall systems. Brent has provided the information supplied to them by the DCLG on any cladding tests done, and results. They also provide a search method for tenants to find their housing on a borough map to [check safety information](https://www.brent.gov.uk/grenfelltower).

**Croydon**

**There are 16 council tower blocks in Croydon over six storeys with cladding, and 23 without.**  All council tower blocks in Croydon passed an independent fire safety review conducted following the Grenfell Tower tragedy, and those with cladding have a different material to that on Grenfell Tower.

25 tower blocks and one eight-storey sheltered block in Croydon will get fire sprinklers as part of the council’s response to the Grenfell Tower tragedy. Deputy leader Councillor Alison Butler announced that the council will install fire sprinklers in all council blocks with 10, 11 or 12 storeys. Work starts in the autumn and the programme is due to be completed next spring.

**Enfield**

**There are 54 tower blocks owned by Enfield Council.** As soon they became aware of the Grenfell Tower Fire the Council ordered immediate top-to-bottom inspections of each of the tower blocks.  These inspections complemented the programme of annual fire risk assessments and were in addition to the checks Enfield’s caretakers do to every tower block every day to ensure any issues are addressed promptly.

No Enfield Council tower block has the type of cladding used on Grenfell Tower or contains aluminium composite material as per the cladding currently being tested by the Government for fire safety.

Enfield Council’s commitment to the residents living in their high-rise blocks is that they will put residents’ safety first in the way they respond to challenges, fund their investment programmes and carry out the robust compliance work needed to ensure fire safety.

This commitment includes:

* working on a plan to install sprinklers as part of a risk based approach to fire safety
* reviewing all fire risk assessments to ensure that they are robust and up-to-date. These will be made available on their website
* encouraging anyone whose home is still without smoke detectors to contact the council to have them installed
* keeping in close contact with residents living in any blocks where they are undertaking any precautionary work to keep residents safe
* listening to residents and their concerns through Neighbourhood Officer visits, Ward Forums, community forums and resident engagement events
* keeping residents informed about the latest London Fire Brigade advice and how they can help keep their home safe
* Enfield Council have kept residents informed of any developments and the latest safety advice through:
  + bespoke letters to residents in high rise blocks updating them on their block and the fire safety work happening there
  + fire safety booklet to all council tenants and leaseholders
  + dedicated sections in their council tenant and leaseholder quarterly newsletter
  + updates on the Council website
  + statements to the local press
  + updates on social media

Enfield Council are working closely with the London Fire Brigade and advising them of the status of their tower blocks. LBF are satisfied with the proactive approach being taken by Enfield Council, the control measures that have been put in place and the prompt actions that have been taken to address any concerns.

Enfield Council are continually reviewing these arrangements and if anything changes will take whatever measures necessary to protect the public.

**Greenwich**

Within Royal Greenwich there are **93 high rise blocks, six of which are 24 storeys high**. The six 24 storey blocks have external cladding but it is not of a Aluminium Composite Material (ACM) type and a non-combustible material is used as insulation between the cladding and the buildings . All the 93 high rise blocks are fire risk assessed annually and all have current fire risk assessments with the exception of two blocks in John Wilson Street which have interim risk assessments, as they are currently undergoing major refurbishment.

In the case of our high-rise buildings, they are all purpose constructed with fire compartmentalisation built-in to the structure of the buildings in order to control the spread of fire and smoke which should ensure that any fire remains in the particular dwelling in which it started.

The Royal Borough has also ensured that its buildings have also been upgraded in recent years as part of a comprehensive programme of fire safety enhancements put in place in consultation with the London Fire Brigade (LFB). These upgrades include:

* New front entrance doors to dwellings that automatically close and provide 60 minutes fire and smoke protection
* New or upgraded fire doors to all common/communal areas and escape routes
* 'Fire Stopping' between flats and common areas to limit the spread of smoke and fire
* The installation of enhanced Emergency Lighting
* Redecoration of internal common/communal areas with finishes that comply with 'Class O' of the Building Regulations in England and Wales to minimise the spread of fire
* The installation of Automatic Opening Ventilation (AOVs) where applicable, to allow smoke to vent from internal communal areas
* The renewal of Fire Signage and Directional Signage
* The development of an enhanced recording system for the maintenance records for Dry Risers and Automatic Opening Vents.

In addition, all the Royal Borough's high-rise buildings have a current and up-to-date Fire Risk Assessment in place and comply with current Fire Safety standards. Each Fire Risk Assessment is reviewed annually or more frequently, as required. To provide additional reassurance to our tenants, all Fire Risk Assessments of high-rise buildings are being reviewed again.

**Haringey**

**There are 54 tower blocks in Haringey over 6 storeys**. They are managed by Haringey Homes. None of the buildings have the same cladding as in Grenfell Tower. Twelve of the blocks Haringey manage have external cladding. These blocks have 'insulated render systems'. This system is made with a mineral fibre insulation that is non-flammable. The insulation is bonded to the wall, meaning there is no gap and therefore no 'chimney effect' behind the cladding. The systems that the council use comply with the Building Regulations and the associated Approved Documents which set out the fire performance requirements for buildings.

The council are working with housing providers in the borough to gain information about privately owned homes.

The council's housing partner, Homes for Haringey, is working with local tenants to offer them advice and reassurance following the incident in Kensington. Their statement is available on the [**Homes for Haringey website**.](https://www.homesforharingey.org/news/response-grenfell-tower-fire)

**Hillingdon**

**There are 11 tower blocks in Hillingdon**, with the tallest being 14 storeys, and none containing ACM cladding.

In the 1980s, four bison blocks were reclad with brick cladding containing a polystyrene layer between the brick and the original concrete building, so Hillingdon Council engaged fire safety and protection specialists to look at any potential fire hazards that could arise.

Specialists recommended that the council review the fire stopping material around windows and vents, and in addition the council will install vertical fire breaks around the buildings (alongside the existing horizontal fire breaks).

The council has a rolling programme of fire safety inspections. Prior to the Grenfell tragedy, a programme was started to upgrade all fire doors from the current universal fire doors to a new higher standard fire door.

Work started on sheltered housing blocks first, due to more vulnerable tenants living there. Plans to replace the fire doors in the high rise blocks is now underway.

To avoid lengthy statutory consultations with leaseholders in the high rise blocks, and to put the safety of residents first, it was confirmed that the council would not charge leaseholders for the installation of their fire doors.

**Hounslow**

**There are 35 high rise (6+ storeys) blocks in the borough, 7 of these have ‘rain screen’ cladding**. None of the cladding used on any of the buildings is the same as that of Grenfell. Only one cladded high-rise in the borough, Clement Court, used a similar type of ACM cladding. This cladding was sampled by the DCLG as part of its national inspection exercise. Behind this ACM cladding, however, the system is insulated with a “rockwool” material which is a non-combustible product, and the installation of the system is solely external and did not interfere with the interior of the building.

Hounslow have also inspected the cladding system used at the other six cladded high-rise. These were not found to be of the ACM type of cladding.

A decision was made on 23 June to remove the cladding on Clement Court. Residents were written to on this day, and all tenants at Clements Court were invited to a meeting with the Director of Housing at 10am on Saturday 24 June. The building was found to be largely compliant, the cladding being the only issue which failed the fire audits.

The cladding has now been fully removed. The council is now carrying out new FRAs for all their high rise tower blocks.

The council will also prepare an Fire Safety and Estate Improvement Plan, which will set out priority works for tackling fire safety and the quality of our high-rise estates. This will include plans for replacing internal and communal fire doors, and improving coverage of safety lighting and signage.

**Islington**

**There are 8 council owned high-rise blocks in Islington with panel cladding.** Of these, Braithwaite House in EC1 **failed combustibility testing.** Tests showed that cladding on the two shorter end walls of Braithwaite House contained Aluminium Composite Material (ACM). The council’s contractors started removing the cladding two working days after they received the test results and this work has been completed. The fire brigade confirmed that residents were safe to stay in their homes while the cladding was removed and the council arranged fire safety patrols day and night while work was underway. Residents were informed on 11 September that all the ACM cladding had been removed

The remaining seven high-rise blocks on Brunswick and Harvist estates were found not to contain ACM. The council and fire brigade met with residents regularly to discuss any fire safety issues and concerns  
  
The council also met with residents of Spa Green estate – a mansion block – to discuss their concerns around the effectiveness of compartmentalisation in their block.

Every council resident or leaseholder was written to confirm the fire safety arrangements (stay put or leave).

From 29 June, Islington Council has been actively looking into the effectiveness of fitting sprinklers in the borough’s council tower blocks. The council has 123 buildings fitted with dry risers, which supply water within buildings for fire-fighting. These are inspected and tested regularly.

Two dry risers are being converted to wet risers, which are permanently charged with water for fire-fighting, for Islington’s two tallest council housing buildings, Michael Cliffe House and Peregrine House.

Currently most council blocks in Islington do not have sprinkler systems fitted, though sprinkler systems have been installed in some properties of particularly vulnerable residents.

ACM has also been identified on eight schools in the borough. Parents of each of these schools have been informed and LFB have visited to check fire safety arrangements. Only one of the buildings is over four storeys high - the school occupies two floors only with residential above (managed by Guinness Trust). Residents have been informed and 24/7 fire safety patrols put in place.

The council’s Housing Scrutiny Committee is currently examining fire safety – meetings are open to the public. A meeting for Deaf residents will take place in October, with sign language interpreters, to provide advice and bespoke information. The council has committed to publishing Fire Risk Assessments for all its high rise buildings, beginning with those of 10 storeys or more.

**Lambeth**

**Lambeth has 122 medium/high rise blocks (six storeys and above), of which 31 have some form of cladding.** **It contains housing stock which failed combustibility testing.** Council officers carried out physical inspections the day after the Grenfell fire. The fire safety and housekeeping arrangements (such as keeping communal areas clear) in each block are being checked and reviewed.

All recent work in the last 5 years has installed ‘Rockwool’ cladding that is fundamentally different.

Lambeth submitted 31 cladding samples to the government for testing as it was unclear whether some older stock included ACM. One sample has come back as having failed the combustibility test - a sample taken from Southwyck House in Brixton. Council officers and the London Fire Brigade carried out a detailed assessment of the block on Friday 30 June, and following advice a 24 hour 'walking watch' patrol has been put in place to ensure residents' safety. Work has also begun immediately to remove the cladding in question, which is located around stairwells between blocks (rather than on the flats themselves). Residents are being kept updated.

Two Network Homes owned and built buildings also failed tests. The London Fire Brigade carried out a full fire safety inspection of the buildings and has confirmed that because of multiple up to date fire safety features (including sprinklers) the buildings do not need to be vacated.

Lambeth have employed professional fire risk consultants to carry out more extensive fire risk assessments (FRA-4s) on all of all high priority blocks. These will be published in due course.

**Lewisham**

**Lewisham contains housing stock which failed combustibility testing.** Most Council homes in Lewisham are managed by an ALMO, Lewisham Homes. The remaining homes are managed by our Brockley PFI contract by an organisation called Regenter B3.

On 28 June, Lewisham Council and Lewisham Homes have ordered the removal of external cladding from three buildings in New Cross following advice from the London Fire Brigade.

The three buildings were:

* 1–48 Hatfield Close, SE14
* 49–96 Hatfield Close, SE14
* Gerrard House, SE14.

Every Lewisham Home building has been risk assessed by a specialist contractor and as an extra precaution, and extra fire-safety inspections have been carried out. Lewisham Homes has also written to every resident with safety advice and staff have visited tower blocks to meet residents and answer their questions.

Interim safety measures have been put in place within the 3 blocks, including a 24 hour fire safety patrol. The cladding will start being removed from these blocks in late September 2017.

**Southwark  
  
There are 174 tower blocks in Southwark**. In response to Grenfell the council carried out an immediate review of cladding and related installation on council properties, confirming that none of the 174 tower blocks in the borough have combustible cladding. The council is now carrying out a full further fire assessment of all tower blocks in the borough. They have also appointed national fire safety expert, Ben Bradford, and his specialist firm of consulting engineers, to carry out an independent review of the council’s fire strategy and fire risk assessments.

Due to the 2009 fire in Lakanal Tower, Southwark had taken on a programme of works over the past 8 years to improve fire safety in tower blocks. These included:

* Regular fire risk assessments, beginning with those deemed high risk
* The council has spent £62 million on fire risk programme since 2009
* All fire risk works to all high rise and lower/more complex housing were completed in 2015
* Smoke detection systems have been fitted into these blocks, and a rolling programme has been established to introduce this is all remaining blocks

Southwark wrote to Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government on 7 July calling for a national fire safety strategy alongside the public enquiry, and for central government to provide funding for councils to carry out fire safety measurements required in the wake of Grenfell.

Southwark is in the process of publishing all of their fire risk assessments online, as part of a general source of information regarding fire safety within the borough.

The council published a one off fire-safety special edition of Southwark Life magazine which is delivered to all 143,000 homes in the borough. <http://www.2.southwark.gov.uk/info/200109/council_news/1386/southwark_life>

Southwark held a public meeting to discuss fire safety on Monday 26 June. At the meeting a resident of the Ledbury Estate in Peckham raised concerns about whether cracks in their flat could increase the risk of fire and smoke spread. The council took immediate action with the LFB to investigate the cracks in the four tower blocks and install 24 fire wardens while this work was done. At a subsequent public meeting on the estate to discuss these issues, an independent expert raised an issue regarding the structure of the block and its suitability for having a gas heating and hot water system. These concerns related to the partial collapse of Ronan Point in Newham in 1968. Records suggested that the Ledbury blocks had been strengthened, but following intrusive inspection, the council did not find the expected evidence of strengthening. Southwark immediately took the decision to turn off the gas and informed the DCLG Permanent Secretary because of the potential wider implications across the country. A detailed investigation into the structures of the blocks continues, and residents have been offered the option to move out, and return once the issues have been resolved.

Southwark have copies of their communication to Ledbury residents listed on their [website](http://www.southwark.gov.uk/housing/safety-in-the-home/ledbury-towers)

**Sutton  
  
There are 8 blocks between six and 16 storeys in Sutton**. **It contains housing stock which failed combustibility testing (ACM 2 passed system test).** Sutton Housing Partnership is commissioning independent experts to undertake a comprehensive review of fire safety in the tower blocks, which will be carried out promptly. The council do not intend to wait for the outcome of any inquiry or new Fire Building Regulations to trigger any works required as a result of this review.

Only two high rise properties were fitted with cladding, Chaucer and Balaam Houses. Sutton’s records show that the cladding comprises different materials than that reported to have been used at Grenfell Tower, with mineral fibre insulation used at Chaucer House, and galvanised steel used at Balaam House. Vertical and horizontal fire breaks were incorporated into the design of these systems.

Sutton will take on an accelerated programme of fire alarm installation in communal areas, and intend to install a suitable sprinkler or similar fire suppression system at Balaam House, taking into account the recommendations of the fire safety review commissioned for this block.

In addition to the work the SHP are undertaking, the London Fire Brigade has identified 242 residential properties in the borough which are four storeys or higher and is visiting them all to assess fire safety and offer advice. These inspections are on track to be completed within four weeks (release date June 23).

On Monday night (26 June) Sutton were informed of the results which revealed that the cladding on Chaucer House had failed the test. This is in common with all of the blocks that have been tested to date across the UK. Results are categorised between 1 (being the best) and 3 (being the worst). The cladding at Chaucer House was placed in Category 2.

They were also informed BRE will not be able to test the cladding on Balaam House. The cladding at Balaam House is made of galvanised steel and BRE has been instructed by the Government not to test steel clad buildings at the present time. The cladding at Chaucer House is mineral fibre based ACM.

Both Chaucer House and Balaam House have been fully refurbished and the works were designed and delivered by a recognised major surveying and engineering consultancy and contractor. The Chaucer House refurbishment project went considerably beyond the regulatory requirements and included the installation of fire alarms and the retrofit of a sprinkler system, one of the first in a residential tower in the UK.

SHP have undertaken an extensive programme of engagement and reassurance with residents in blocks over six floors.

They been working closely with the LFB and have made around 46 referrals to them for home fire safety visits.

Additionally, trained fire wardens are patrolling blocks on a daily basis, 7 days a week, between 4pm to 8am, offering reassurance and identifying any issues.

SHP have held a number of evening and daytime drop in sessions for residents and continue to regularly communicate and reassure through targeted estate newsletters, FAQ's and updates via digital media channels.