

Grenfell Tower Memorial Commission Meeting 10 July 2025

Attendees

Memorial Commission

Lord Paul Boateng (Chair)

Community Representatives

(Bereaved
representatives)

Sandra Ruiz

Paulos Tekle

(Survivor

representatives)

Mohammad Rasoul

Hanan Cherbika

(Lancaster West and
community

representatives)

Susan Al Safadi

Samia Badani

Abbas Dadou

Apologies:

Thelma Stober

Hanan Wahabi

Adel Chaoui

Hassan Hassan

Nabil Choucair

Abraham Abebe

Andrea Newton

Secretariat

Grenfell Tower Memorial Commission Secretariat, 4 individuals

Other

Stephanie Edwards, Independent Design Adviser

Peter Neal, Independent Landscape Design Adviser

Camilla Sheldon, Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government
(MHCLG)

Helen Town, MHCLG

Meeting Purpose

The sixty-ninth meeting of the Memorial Commission to give an update on the design team selection process, the July community engagement sessions and upcoming activities. To gain an update from MHCLG officials on the plans and approach to carefully taking down the Tower and the second site options.

Opening

- A one-minute silence was held at the start of the meeting.

- Lord Paul Boateng opened the meeting, welcoming all in attendance. He reflected on Thelma who we will be thinking of this week as she commemorates the 20th anniversary of 7/7 London attacks, she is in our thoughts and prayers.
- It was confirmed that the meeting was quorate.
- The secretariat presented the minutes from the June meeting for approval, along with an update on the risk register and action log.

Agenda Item 1: design team selection update

- The design advisers gave an update to the Commission on the design team selection process, what has been achieved and upcoming activities over the summer and September.
- They gave an overview of the community engagement sessions in July with the Grenfell community. The Commission have now held six sessions across local venues in the community and there will be a further five over the weekend and next week, with the last event taking place on Friday 18 July. Many have attended the events to give feedback on the five shortlisted teams, the community can also feedback online via the GTMC website until 20 July. There has been good insight and a clear theme that the final team (when chosen) will need to show strong leadership and understand the diversity of the Grenfell community. The importance of long-term maintenance and sustainability for the memorial was also mentioned by the Grenfell community.
- It was confirmed that the Commission has reached out further to groups with the link to feedback online, the secretariat is also happy to meet with groups or families (should they wish) to show them the information of the teams and enable them to feedback in whichever way suits them best.
- The design advisers then went through the timelines for the design team selection process.
- Lord Paul Boateng reiterated the importance of support being available to the community representatives throughout the summer, including frequent touchpoints in August. The secretariat confirmed that they will be around to support the representatives and ask any queries they may have throughout the summer.
- The design advisers then gave an overview of the RIBA stages and explained each stage. Lord Paul Boateng asked who will be leading the governance structure to ensure the final team is going through the RIBA stages. Secretariat took an action to confirm this with MHCLG and update the Commission at the next meeting.
- Lord Paul Boateng stated that the final team should be working closely with the Commission and keeping them updated and informed so we are reassured that they are delivering what is required.

Action:

- Secretariat to confirm with MHCLG who will be leading the RIBA stages and report back to the Commission in September.

Agenda Item 2: Secretariat update

- The secretariat updated the Commission on the MOU and next steps. It was confirmed that the MOU will need to be futureproof and include further details around ownership and maintenance of the memorial, as well as how the final team, the Commission and the secretariat will work together. The secretariat will be working on this over the summer and will update at the next meeting.

Agenda Item 3: MHCLG update

- Helen and Camilla (MHCLG) entered the meeting to give an update on second site arrangements and the discussions they have had with the community around the approach to carefully take down the Tower.
- The second site has two shortlisted sites Denham Park Farm is the preferred option. Both sites have good access for transport connections and parking. Due diligence is currently underway for both sites.
- For the Denham Park Farm site, MHCLG are currently working on the planning permission, sensitive methodology and accessibility. MHCLG has also engaged with faith leaders, CNWL and the Environment Agency for advice.
- MHCLG have investigated landscape design of the second site and have engaged the relevant local authorities.
- MHCLG has written to bereaved families and survivors to invite them to come and visit the second site over the summer.
- A community representative asked if bereaved families abroad have been engaged on the second site, as its important all bereaved families are engaged on this important piece of work.
- MHCLG asked the community representatives to let the secretariat know if they wish to visit the second site.
- MHCLG then delivered a presentation on MHCLG's approach to carefully take down the Tower and the preparatory works on the site over the summer for the works to begin in September. This had already been shared with the community.
- It was confirmed that the crane will remain within the site and will not go into other areas. The materials, dust and noise will be monitored throughout deconstruction. Lord Paul Boateng commented that it will be very important for MHCLG to inform the Grenfell community that these impacts will be monitored throughout- MHCLG noted this.
- MHCLG confirmed there will be an out of hours team and a permanent team based at the site during the day, for the community to approach for any queries throughout deconstruction. The Health and Safety Executive will also hold MHCLG account throughout deconstruction.
- MHCLG then went through the options of how they will ensure the height of the Tower remains visible throughout deconstruction and the use of light to achieve this.

- A community representative said it would be useful to see a picture of the crane and what this will look like, especially as this is so close to schools, residents and the community.
- A community representative asked for details of the health impact assessment and what has been put in place, particularly for children and young people who may be affected.
- A community representative delivered a statement from the Ethio Eritrean bereaved families group. The statement included views from the group, that height is a very important element it represents memory and urging Government to work with the Commission to ensure height and visibility is a permanent feature of the memorial, to honour the legacy of Grenfell and all those affected. Lord Paul Boateng thanked the community representative for the moving statement from the Ethio Eritrean group and asked for the statement to be shared with the Secretariat who will send this to MHCLG officials.

Action

- Community representatives to confirm with the secretariat if they would like to visit the second site option in Denham Park Farm.
- MHCLG to confirm that all bereaved families overseas have received information on the second site.
- MHCLG to share a picture of the crane which will be used for deconstruction.
- MHCLG to confirm the health impacts assessment and mitigation, especially for children and young people.

You can contact the Memorial Commission directly using the details below:

Phone: 0303 444 4831

Email: GTMCSecretariat@communities.gov.uk

Website: www.grenfelltowermemorial.co.uk/contact

Next meeting: Thursday 25 September 2025