

**Grenfell Tower Memorial Commission (GTMC) Meeting  
23 April 2026**

**Attendees:**

**Memorial Commission**

- Thelma Stober (Chair)
- Lord Paul Boateng

**Community Representatives**

(Bereaved representatives)

- Sandra Ruiz
- Paulos Tekle
- Hassan Hassan
- Hanan Wahabi

(Survivor representatives)

- Mohammed Rasoul
- Hanan Cherbika

(Lancaster West and immediate community representatives)

- Andrea Newton
- Samia Badani
- Abbas Dadou
- Susan Al Safadi

**Apologies:**

- Adel Chaoui
- Nabil Choucair
- Abraham Abebe

**Meeting purpose**

The seventy-ninth meeting of the Memorial Commission, to discuss the future of Grenfell Walk, progress of the design team's work, 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.
- Thelma Stober opened the meeting, welcoming all in attendance.
- No new conflicts of interests were declared.
- The secretariat presented the minutes from the February meeting for approval, along with an update on the risk register and action log.

**Agenda item 1: Discussion with Maxine Holdsworth, RBKC**

- Maxine Holdsworth (MH) attended to update on Grenfell Walk. She explained that Grenfell Walk, two blocks of 11 homes each, is within the Tower site cordon and remains unoccupied since the tragedy. As it is designated as social housing, the council is legally obliged to consult on any changes to its use. The options the council are proposing are: 1) to demolish Grenfell Walk to the level of walkways, 2) change the buildings' use, 3) return them to social housing. As Grenfell Walk overlooks the Tower (and therefore the future memorial), option 3 would require treatment or remodelling. MH advised that the council would need to run a consultation about any possible change of use.

- Thelma Stober noted a concern regarding option 3, as previously raised by the Memorial Commission on behalf of the community, about the future memorial to be overlooked by accommodation.
- A community representative raised concerns that RBKC had not considered how best to make a decision on Grenfell Walk and asked who they would speak to when making this decision.
- A community representative pointed out that 22 properties involve approximately 150 people whose lives were changed.
- A community representative suggested an appraisal to establish whether new properties were needed in the borough.
- Maxine Holdsworth confirmed that the voices of Grenfell Walk residents would be at the heart of this process, and that nothing will be done without due consultation.
- A community representative noted that Grenfell Walk is part of the legacy of the tragedy and the community.
- A community representative was concerned that a decision on Grenfell Walk had already been made, and whether potential new residents, should it be turned back into housing, would understand the legacy and significance of Grenfell Walk. They emphasised that using Grenfell Walk for housing again would, personally, be a 'red line' for them.
- A community representative emphasised the need for honesty around the process, and that the memorial should be protected from surrounding noise where at all possible.
- Maxine Holdsworth acknowledged the strength of feeling communicated about this matter.
- A community representative said that any consultation on the subject should be run by an independent team, who would also need to have a thorough understanding of community.
- A community representative felt that RBKC had not been proactive enough on the future of Grenfell Walk.
- Lord Boateng underlined the need for swift consultation and clarity on this matter. He emphasised that the design team is developing the memorial design with the community now and on the understanding that the memorial will not be overlooked by Grenfell Walk, and that the start of construction of the memorial is planned for the tenth anniversary of the tragedy.

## **Agenda item 2: Design team update**

- Jonathan Hagos noted the good news of the recent passing of the Grenfell Tower Memorial (Expenditure) Bill. He thanked the community representatives for their support during the design team's recent engagement. He gave an update on design and planning process prior to the RIBA Stage 02 report being submitted at the end of June, including more frequent Design Working Groups with the Commission to discuss key topics. He also talked through the options around how height will be a feature of the future memorial.

- Andy Thompson gave a presentation on options for landscape design. He summarised the team's approach so far, including workshops held on landscape design and navigation.
- Lord Boateng wished to put on record the Commission's thanks to the Commission's attendees of the design working groups and to Freehaus. He noted it was positive to see the data on engagement and options of design elements.
- Jonathan Hagos noted the need for a level of consensus on design elements, with engagement activities still ongoing, which have demonstrated the range of views in the community.
- Social Place gave an update on engagement, including the number of families engaged with to date and upcoming activities.
- A community representative asked what plans were in place to engage with families who have not yet been spoken with. Further engagement activity is planned to connect with these families.
- Jonathan Hagos suggested using Design Working Groups to think through which decisions, such as the inclusion of names, could come later, to allow more time for engagement.

### **Agenda Item 3: MHCLG update**

- Helen Town noted that The Royal Parks has been identified as the suitable organisation to manage the future memorial, with the London Museum identified as the suitable organisation to hold the long-term exhibition. The community representatives confirmed they were content in principle with this.
- Following this confirmation, a letter will be sent from the Secretaries of State of MHCLG and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport to The Royal Parks to take this forward.
- Helen Town noted that the Secretary of State of MHCLG and the Building Safety Minister have been invited to upcoming Commission meetings, with the co-chairs due to meet the Permanent Secretary too.
- Lord Boateng welcomed Jenan Hasan, incoming Director of Grenfell Site and Memorial.
- A community representative asked about the preservation of elements in the Tower. Helen Town explained that the main works have paused, with protective works currently being carried out on floors 12–14, and a conservationist advising on storage for the elements to be retained.

### **Any other business**

- Lord Boateng welcomed the approach to landscape design in particular, noting the healing power of planting.
- It was confirmed that the next meeting will take place on 21 May at the Museum of Brands.

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

**Phone:** 0303 444 4831

**Email:** [GTMCSecretariat@communities.gov.uk](mailto:GTMCSecretariat@communities.gov.uk)

**Website:** [www.grenfelltowermemorial.co.uk/contact](http://www.grenfelltowermemorial.co.uk/contact)