



Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government

Rt Hon Angela Rayner MP

*Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for
Housing, Communities and Local Government*

2 Marsham Street
London
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2 October 2024

Dear Fire and Rescue Authority Chairs,

The publication of the final Grenfell Tower Inquiry report is a significant milestone. Seven years on from Grenfell, it is unacceptable that so many people are still living in buildings with unsafe cladding. Everyone deserves to live in a safe home, and I know that you care as passionately about this as I do. This new government is determined to redouble efforts to make buildings safe. This will require a collective effort, with all parts of government working together with regulators and partners. Fire and rescue services have an invaluable contribution to make to this work.

Fire and rescue services and remediation

I am grateful for all that you have done and continue to do to make sure buildings in your area are safe. I am writing today to ask for your support in accelerating action to end the building safety crisis. All regulators have a vital role to play in increasing the pace of remediation and I would like you to work together to coordinate activity to make sure your capacity is used to best effect.

It is critical that people know they are safe in their homes, particularly so when their buildings are awaiting or undergoing remediation. I know that fire and rescue services already closely monitor high-risk residential buildings, including those which are subject to interim measures and currently undergoing remediation. Where remediation is not progressing quickly enough, I would like all partners to work together closely to agree the regulator best placed in each building to act to drive permanent remediation solutions and how best to ensure the safety of buildings undergoing remediation.

Metro mayors and local remediation acceleration plans

I recently wrote to all metro mayors in England asking them to work with regulators in support of local remediation acceleration plans. The aim of these plans will be to increase the pace of remediation in each mayor's area, and mayors will be expected to bring regulators together to coordinate activity. These plans will require the support of all regulators to be successful, and I am also writing to council leaders and the Building Safety Regulator, to lay out my proposals and ask for their support.

Overcoming challenges

Ending the building safety crisis will be a shared endeavour requiring the combined efforts of central and local government, regulators, and other partners. When I convened regulators to meet in the aftermath of the Dagenham fire, I heard of the challenges that you face – I am determined to address them, including providing additional funding to support this work.

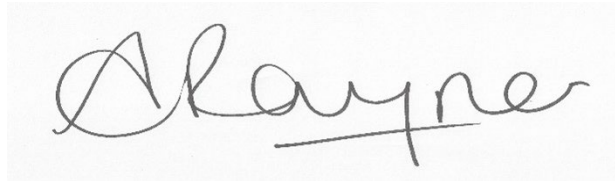
Next steps

The success of local remediation acceleration plans will depend on all partners working together. Mayors will need your support to deliver these plans, and I encourage you to work collaboratively with them and reach out to begin discussions about how you can support them to deliver the local remediation acceleration plan.

The department is here to support you, and I would encourage you to engage with your combined authority, representative bodies and my officials to discuss any challenges you face and how they can be addressed.

I have copied this letter to the Home Secretary, Chief Fire Officers, the Chief Inspector at HMICFRS, and the Chair of the National Fire Chiefs Council.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Rayner', is centered on a light-colored rectangular background. The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underlining the 'Rayner' portion.

RT HON ANGELA RAYNER MP

Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government