

Dear resident,

Chalcots cladding tile test results

I am writing to further update you about our investigations into the cladding on your building, in response to the tragic fire at Grenfell Tower in West London.

Following the fire, Camden Council immediately reviewed fire safety at all of our high rise blocks. We weren't prepared to take anything for granted and we were first in the queue to test the cladding on our blocks. Tiles were removed yesterday and we have now received the results of independent testing on Chalcots Estate from the laboratory at the Building Research Establishment.

The cladding and insulation used on your buildings differs significantly in terms of safety from the cladding arrangement on Grenfell Tower. The cladding in the Chalcots contains fire-resistant rock wool insulation designed to prevent the spread of fire and fire resistant sealant between floors, designed to stop a high-intensity flat fire from spreading to neighbouring flats. This arrangement previously prevented the spread of major fire at a flat in Taplow block in 2012.

The new results from the laboratory show that the cladding panels themselves are made up of aluminium panels with a polyethylene core. We have discovered that we have not received the level of safety we commissioned and that we expect from contractors - we are currently taking legal advice.

Camden Council will immediately take steps to begin the removal these external cladding panels from the five tower blocks on the Chalcots Estate. We have set up a team to develop the plan to make this happen as soon as possible.

Until the panels have all been removed, we will carry out 24/7 fire safety patrols in your blocks and we will continue with the enhanced fire safety work that is already underway.

The Council will have housing staff on hand in one of your TRA halls from this afternoon. Posters will be put up to tell you which room to go to if you'd like to speak to someone. Alternatively you can contact your housing officer through Contact Camden on 020 7974 4444. We will also be arranging an evening meeting for residents and we will put up notices detailing arrangements.

Yours sincerely,



Georgia Gould
Leader of Camden Council



Pat Callaghan
Cabinet Member for Housing and Deputy Leader