



Meeting	Performance and Resources Board	Agenda no.	11
Meeting Date	31 August 2022		
Report Authors:	AM Neil Fenwick, Amanda Johnson		
Presented By	Chris Parker, Director of Operations		
Subject	Grenfell Phase 1 High Level Action Plan - Update		
Type of Report:	Information		
Action Point No.	N/A	For Publication	Yes

RECOMMENDATIONS

To note progress on the actions of the Phase 1 Grenfell Action Plan recommendations.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

From January 2022 the Grenfell Action Plan became a Project in its own right: Sponsor is the Assistant Director for Change and Operations Policy, AM Neil Fenwick, the Project Manager is the Senior Projects Manager for Collaboration, Amanda Johnson. It sits within the Portfolio of Change, with highlight reports completed for the Portfolio Management Board.

The Project Board is chaired by the Director of Operations. The actions are managed via MS Planner with every action 'owned' by an Assistant Director/Area Manager.

BACKGROUND

Phase 1 of the Grenfell Tower Inquiry, released its report, including 46 recommendations based on 14 areas of interest identified by the inquiry. ECFRS took immediate action including (Paper 18-295, SLT agenda item 6a: 16/10/2018):

- Critical Incident Team (CIT) stood up to prioritise and oversee an immediate response
- NFCC sit-reps and guidance were received and actioned which resulted in an immediate assessment of risk in Essex high rise buildings
- Immediate implementation of a targeted inspection programme for high rise residential buildings, including identification of cladding and substandard fire doors. Where issues were identified – arrangements for the building were reviewed, control measures were agreed with the duty-holder and information shared with operational crews
- Review and risk assessment of 'stay-put' policy in line with NFCC guidance
- An immediate and extensive campaign; including face to face engagement aimed at reassuring high rise residents in Essex

NFCC – Grenfell Tower Inquiry. On 16 December 2019, a briefing pack was received from the NFCC Chair, Roy Wilsher detailing the NFCC response to the Grenfell Tower Inquiry recommendations. The NFCC Central Programme Office co-ordinated the fire national response to the recommendations made by the Grenfell Tower Inquiry and sought response to their survey. The ECFRS responded by the deadline of 10 January.

OPTIONS AND ANALYSIS

Progress made to date is as follows:

- 1) Terms of Reference for Project are in place. With monthly Project Boards attended by Action owners, Finance and Comms leads.
- 2) Assurance Framework is in place, ensuring that there are clear criteria to change the status of an action to assure that the action has been fully completed in a sustainable and evidenced way.
- 3) An external regional forum is being progressed, with all regional Services plus Kent. The aim is to work in collaboration as partners around the region to ensure learning is made available alongside the development of good practice, whilst not causing any delays to the delivery of the action plan within each Service.
- 4) Dashboard update.
 - a) MS Planner is now in place to manage the activity required to meet the recommendations. Every action has a specified owner, priority, forecast end date and a Definition of Done which drives the checklist and evidence log required to define completion within the Assurance Framework.
 - b) The Grenfell Recommendations Action plan now has 'Buckets' to reflect each of the statuses we have set for the Actions:
 - **Open, Not Progressing – 0**
the Action is open, but requires performance managing to progress, has other blockers or is awaiting national guidance/legislation.
 - **Open, progressing – 34**
the Action is still open, and is progressing within scope, quality, and stated timeframes.

Of the 34, 10 are Awaiting National legislation to progress any further. The legislation is due to pass into law on 23rd January 2023, and the Service is working to ensure that it is ready to progress further with these actions post January 2023.

- **Closed awaiting Assurance – 12**
Levels 1 and 2 of the Assurance framework have been completed and is with Operational Assurance for Level 3 assurance. There are **12** actions with this status.
- **Closed Assured – 0**
Operational Assurance have confirmed there is suitable and sufficient evidence, which is accessible, that the action is completed to the required standard within the Assurance Framework and meets the original requirements. Project Board have verified this and made decision to Close the Action.

c) Dashboard Update on Actions within the Grenfell Plan.

i) Number of actions by Owner:

- AD/AM Response – 10
- AD/AM Prevention and Protection - 15
- AD/AM Service Delivery - 18
- Assistant Chief Executive • People Values and Culture - 3

4) NFCC Reporting.

The National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC), in partnership with the Home Office, has been instrumental in ensuring that all FRS consider and respond to the recommendations. The NFCC has now completed four information gathering exercises on behalf of the UK FRS, and provided ministerial briefings and reports based around the information provided by each FRS. This has helped tell the story, nationally, of FRS progress and provide assurance to the government and public around work to address the recommendations.

This reporting process has now changed. It now includes a live dashboard that can be updated at any time, which in turn feeds an aggregated database, along with our responses from previous reports. This approach will allow the NFCC to add questions as new lines of inquiry are identified.

Whilst this approach allows us to maintain the information in the report, reflecting our service progress for use locally, we need to ensure assurance and evidence is in place to substantiate our return. The Project Board has agreed that the questions in the return will be managed in the same way as the actions, with each question cross-referred to an action for assurance and evidence purposes.

The NFCC will be collating data on 16 August to provide an overview of service progress against the GTI recommendations. The return will be reviewed by Chris Parker, Director of Operations before 16th August. The final national report will be shared with the Home Office and Fire Minister.

5) Financials – Protection Uplift Fund.

Appendix A is the report for June 2022.

Return for the Protection Grant to NFCC and Home Office - Financial section completed and signed 15th July 2022 to meet deadline of 18th July 2022.

There is a delay in the procurement of the Training for the Level 3 Fire Safety courses. This has been postponed until September with a possible start of training delivery in February 2023 at the earliest

RISKS AND MITIGATIONS

The following Corporate Risk has been agreed at Project Board and we are working with the Risk Lead Officer to get it added to JCAD

“Failure to progress the implementation of the recommendations from the Grenfell Tower Inquiry’s Phase 1 report”

Mitigation: Post Grenfell Action Plan and Project

LINKS TO FIRE AND RESCUE PLAN

Links to the Fire and Rescue Plan:

- Make best use of our resources
- Annual Plan AP202122- 08

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Appendix A is the Financial Report for the Protection Uplift Grant to 30th June 2022.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Changes to Fire Safety legislation are anticipated following Grenfell Inquiry Phase 2 which is likely to drive changes inspection regimes and statutory responsibilities in high rise residential buildings. This has driven changes to ECFRS Protection Strategy which has been reviewed to take this into account. The strategy and the accompanying Risk Based Inspection Programme have been approved.

STAFFING IMPLICATIONS

Proposed project resources and project management team structure are stated in the PID [para. 2.3 and 4]

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

We have considered whether individuals with protected characteristics will be disadvantaged as a consequence of the actions being taken. Due regard has also been given to whether there is impact on each of the following protected groups as defined within the Equality Act 2010:

Race	N	Religion or belief	N
Sex	N	Gender reassignment	N
Age	N	Pregnancy & maternity	N
Disability	N	Marriage and Civil Partnership	N
Sexual orientation	N		

The Core Code of Ethics Fire Standard has been fully considered and incorporated into the proposals outlined in this paper.

HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

Under the Health and Safety at Work Act etc 1974 we have a duty to protect the Health, Safety and Welfare at work of all employees as well as others who may be affected by our work including the general public. The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 also identifies our obligation to continually assess risks. The proposed piece of work seeks to identify any gaps in the approach to the management of operational risk in relation to high rise residential fire procedures and ultimately to contribute to the Health and Safety of responders and residents of High-Rise residential buildings.

CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

The Project has a Communications Strategy where appropriate consultation and engagement is considered.

Engagement with Rep Bodies will be undertaken by the project Sponsor through the standard JNCC process.

FUTURE PLANS

We will look to implement all recommendations following Grenfell Inquiry

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS AND APPENDICES

Appendix A – Protection Update finance report