



Department for
Digital, Culture
Media & Sport

Minister for Sport and Civil Society
4th Floor
100 Parliament Street
London SW1A 2BQ

020 7211 6000

www.gov.uk/dcms

Fiona Onasanya MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA
fiona.onasanya.mp@parliament.uk

Our Ref: MC2017/06084/AQ

19 October 2017

Dear Fiona,

I was sat in the chamber this morning for the Urgent Question about the government response to the Grenfell Tower fire. I would like to further elaborate on the response to your question, regarding how the victims of the Grenfell Tower disaster access charitable funds and how much of those funds have been distributed so far.

The charity sector has shown real leadership and resilience in its response to the Grenfell Tower fire; they have worked together to ensure the right funds go to the right people and at the right time. Over £20m has been raised through the great generosity of the British public and over £12.5 million of those funds have now been distributed to survivors and next of kin. To help assure public trust in this process, the Charity Commission publishes weekly transparency data on the charitable funds raised and distributed for the Grenfell Tower Fire. This information is available on the Commission's website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/grenfell-tower-fire-charitable-funds-raised-and-distributed>

Given the nature and scale of this tragedy, the Charity Commission decided to step in to drive the coordination of the distribution of charitable funds. Consequently, in terms of access to funds, the main charities involved have agreed a unified approach to ensure that it is as simple as possible for people to access funds.

The Charity Commission has provided information on the eligibility criteria for charitable funds and who to contact for further information so individuals and households can be helped as quickly as possible. This information has been released via multiple media channels and is currently available on the Commission's website: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/646519/Grenfell_Response_Financial_Support_Leaflet_210917.pdf



Regular community events have been held with victims of the fire, the individual distributing charities and the Charity Commission, to ensure they have up to date information about the distribution process and to ensure that the remaining funds can meet their short, medium and longer term needs.

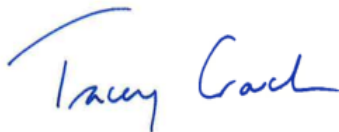
Key workers have been allocated to households from Grenfell Tower and Walk, as well as a number of other households identified as needing support. All key workers have clear information on available funds and how to claim them.

Further, the main local distributors on the ground have worked to identify people who have unmet needs or who have not yet been able to or willing to engage with the key worker system.

I am meeting with Grenfell Tower fundraising and distributing charities, and the Charity Commission, on 31 October to listen to their experiences in response to the Grenfell Tower fire, reflect on the key lessons learnt for Government and the charity sector, and discuss the current effort on the ground. I can update you accordingly about the outcomes of the meeting if you wish.

I am copying this letter to the Secretary of State for Communities, the Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tracey Crouch". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial 'T'.

Tracey Crouch MP
Minister for Sport and Civil Society