



Safety in your building

18 March 2022

Houblon Apartments,
6 Tyne Street,
Whitechapel,
E1 7AN

Dear residents,

I hope you're all doing well after last week's fire and have been able to get back to some sort of normality this week.

On Wednesday morning we met with representatives from John D Wood, the Building Owner's representative, and Rendall & Rittner who manage the upper floors where the fire took place. I'm providing some updates on what was discussed and an invite to a **residents' meeting on 31 March from 6pm-7.30pm at the Atlee Centre, 5 Thrawl Street.**

Cause of fire and London Fire Brigade (LFB) investigation

We understand the LFB has finished its investigation and is now preparing a report into the cause of the fire. As soon as we have this, we will share it with you.

Residents meeting on 31 March, the Atlee Centre, 5 Thrawl Street, 6pm-7.30pm

We're holding a residents meeting on 31 March from 6pm-7.30pm at the [Atlee Centre, 5 Thrawl Street](#). This is about a five-minute walk from your building.

In the meeting, we'll go over the fire and what has been happening since. Representatives from Network Homes, John D Wood and Rendall & Rittner will be there, plus from the London Fire Brigade who will go over the incident from their perspective. You'll be able to ask any questions about fire safety during the meeting. If you want to submit a question beforehand, please email our building safety team at buildingsafetyteam@networkhomes.org.uk and we'll read it out on the night. We will send a round-up of all questions asked with answers to all residents within two weeks of the meeting.

Stay put policy

Some residents have been in touch with us about whether a stay put policy is appropriate for your building. What stay put means, how it works, and what you should do in the event of a fire will be explained in the residents meeting on 31 March.

Ventilation and smell of smoke

Air quality checks will be carried out on a weekly basis over the next four weeks for all floors in the building to ensure that the quality of the air in the communal areas is acceptable.

Balcony safety

The Managing Agent will inspect all balconies where debris has fallen following the incident. Please allow them access when they get in touch with you.

The Hive
22 Wembley Park Boulevard
Wembley
HA9 0HP

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customerservice@
networkhomes.org.uk
0300 373 3000

A summary of this letter

- We're still waiting for the LFB to report on the cause of the fire. As soon as we have this, we'll let you know.
- We're organising a residents meeting on 31 March where you'll be able to ask any questions about building safety.
- Air quality checks will continue on a weekly basis for the next four weeks.
- We've noticed some residents storing flammable items on balconies. These must be removed asap!
- The Managing Agent has confirmed the ACM cladding on the plant room on the roof does not need to be removed.

We have also noticed some items, particularly flammable items, on balconies. These should not be stored as they could help a fire to spread in an incident where the balcony is alight. This includes items made of plastic and wood so please remove these from your balcony as soon as possible.

John D Wood will also explain the latest position on the balcony decking at the residents meeting.

Damage and insurance claims

We're carrying out repairs in areas we are responsible for and will be submitting costs to the Managing Agent's insurer. Again, this will be covered at the residents meeting.

Damage to the 7th floor from a previous fire has now been repaired and redecorated.

ACM cladding on plant room on the roof

The Managing Agent has confirmed that the ACM cladding on the plant room does not need to be replaced, but it will also be further assessed as part of the work to look at the balcony decking.

Lift repairs

I can confirm the lift which has been reported as unreliable has been repaired and should now be fully operational. We're still waiting for the parts to be delivered to repair the out of order lift and we expect these to arrive by the end of next week. We'll let you know when this has been done.

Further updates to come

I hope this update has been useful for you and we're committed to keeping you regularly informed following the fire. There are several other areas to update you on where we are still waiting for information and these will all be covered at the residents meeting on 31 March.

If you have any further questions, please get in touch with our building safety team on buildingsafetyteam@networkhomes.org.uk.

Best wishes

Gerry Doherty
Executive Director of Customer Service