



Network Homes

Safety in your building

31 May 2022

Grand Union Heights,
Northwick Road,
Alperton,
HA0

Dear residents,

The Hive
22 Wembley Park Boulevard
Wembley
HA9 0HP

www.networkhomes.org.uk
customerservice@
networkhomes.org.uk
0300 373 3000

Change to date of fire test – Monday 20 June

I wanted to update you and let you know that the large-scale fire tests will now be taking place from **Monday 20 June**, rather than in May as we had expected. We will need to undertake two tests that our design team has proposed as the new external wall systems at Grand Union Heights, to replicate the two types of external wall material that are currently on the building. These tests will be done at an approved test centre in Northern Ireland.

A summary of this letter

The fire test has been confirmed for **Monday 20 June**, as there have been delays from the Northern Ireland Test Centre and also industry delays in receiving the materials we need to carry out the test.

There are two contributing factors for the delays; the first being the test centre pushing back the date of our first test due to the test before us overrunning, and the second being industry delays in ordering and delivering cladding panels for the second test. The testing will involve building large scale rigs to replicate the future external wall system and carrying out fire testing under rig conditions. We anticipate that the tests will take approximately two months in total as they will be undertaken one test after the other.

Why are we doing the fire test?

We went over the importance of the test in our December webinar. Watch the presentation recording and read the FAQs here: www.networkhomes.org.uk/media/13499/20211224-guh-webinar-faqs-sent.pdf. In summary, we need to do a fire test because Grand Union Heights has a unique design to its external wall system. There is no 'off the shelf' solution to remediating the issues we have found. We therefore need to test the solution is adequate before we start the remediation work. Once we've got the results of the test, we'll write to you and let you know the outcome and next steps.

Further support

If you need further support, you can:

- Go to the London Fire Brigade's website, which has a free online tool to take you through a fire risk assessment of your home: <https://www.london-fire.gov.uk/safety/the-home/home-fire-safety/>
- Visit our website's building safety section with lots of information and FAQs: <https://www.networkhomes.org.uk/buildingandfiresafety/>
- View resources which may help: <https://www.networkhomes.org.uk/buildingsafetyresources/>
- Remind yourself of our top fire safety tips, including not using BBQs on balconies: <https://www.networkhomes.org.uk/advice/health-and-safety/fire-safety-top-tips/>
- Check your building's documents: <https://www.networkhomes.org.uk/guhbuildingsafety>
- Get in touch with us on customerservice@networkhomes.org.uk if you have any questions.

A reminder

Your building's fire strategy is **simultaneous evacuation**, which means you must evacuate if you hear the fire alarm, even if you think it is a false alarm.

Best wishes

Raj Gandeche

Head of Resident Management (Building Safety)