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Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP
Secretary of State
Department for Communities and Local Government,
2 Marsham Street,
London,
SW1P 4DF

2 August 2017

Dear

Thank you for your letter of 26th July to Jo Negrini, Chief Executive and also for a response of the 19th July received from Alok Sharma MP referring to the measures Croydon is putting in place to ensure all our tenants in high rise blocks are safe.

We completely agree that there should be no hesitation in putting in place additional measures to ensure the safety of our tenants and that is why we announced a programme to install sprinklers in all our blocks of 10 storeys and above within days of the Grenfell Tower tragedy. Since then we have been working on commissioning this programme as quickly as possible. We have also been working with the London Fire Brigade closely on all aspects of fire safety across our estate.

We believe these works are necessary to ensure the fire safety of our housing and therefore should receive financial support from government. We set out clearly in our initial letter to you that our Housing Revenue Account (HRA) is already facing huge financial challenges from a range of issues, principally the cut to rents imposed by government. We do not have the financial resources within our HRA to fund the sprinkler programme without significant impact on other capital work planned over the period of the business plan.

I look forward to hearing from you to confirm that government will be providing this support.

Yours sincerely

Cllr Alison Butler Cabinet Member for Homes, Regeneration & Planning Deputy Leader – Croydon Council