Date: 24<sup>th</sup> January 2017 Enquiries to:

Mr Edwin Buckett Assistant Coroner Inner North London St Pancras Coroner's Court Camley Street London N1C 4PP



London Borough of Camden Supporting Communities Directorate Town Hall Judd Street London, WC1H 9JE Phone: 0207 974 6630 www.camden.gov.uk



Dear Mr Buckett

## Response to Coroner's Regulation 28: Prevention of Future Deaths report Ellen Eileen Margaret Kelly

The London Borough of Camden takes its responsibilities for fire safety in its Housing stock very seriously and we will take action to address the concerns that have been raised. The Council already has a significant programme in place to improve fire safety in council housing. We hold regular meetings with the Fire Service to review safety and risk assessments and a £5m programme of fire safety works to 4.500 high priority housing properties has already been completed. The scope of the works is comprehensive and includes renewal or upgrading flat entrance doors to "FD30s" standard, signage, emergency lighting installations and fire stopping. The work also includes review and attention to surface spread of flame in means of escape provision. The council employs specialists to assist in specification and delivery of the programme and has appointed a fire safety advisor (recruited from the London Fire Service) to help assess risk and advise on fire protection. For 2017/18, the projected spend on fire safety is over £10m and is again concentrated on higher risk properties. The works include upgrading or renewing flat entrance doors to FD30S standard, renewal or upgrading of communal doors, installing fire alarm system to street properties, installing emergency lighting and fire stopping (compartmentation). In addition, the council's Better Homes (building fabric and communal repairs) programme will incorporate fire safety works on each block where work is undertaken.

In regards to Kilburn Gate, fire safety works have been prioritised and have been tendered. This work includes installing new FD30s flat entrance doors incorporating door closers, renewal of communal intake doors and redecoration of communal areas to Class 0 fire resistant standard. We are currently consulting with Leaseholders in the block (as required by section 20 of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1985) and this consultation is due to be completed in mid-February and the works are expected to commence in March 2017.

The council promotes fire safety to residents through our Newsletter and on the Camden website which also contains links to the London Fire Brigade website advice pages. We have also provided fire safety awareness training to our estate services and other housing staff.

If you have any query on the above please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

(Acting) Director Property Management Supporting Communities