



LONDON FIRE BRIGADE

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The London Fire Commissioner is the
fire and rescue authority for London

Date 16 May 2023

Coroner A N G Harris
Senior Coroner
London Inner South
Southwark Coroners Court
1 Tennis Street
London SE1 1YD

Dear Coroner

Response to Regulation 28: Prevention of Future Deaths Report

I write in response to the Regulation 28 report to prevent future deaths, which you issued following the inquest touching the death of Tomas Ceida.

London Fire Brigade ('LFB') actions by to address concerns following the inquest

1. Fire safety information about premises attended by LFB inspectors

Since the fire that resulted in the death of Mr Ceida, LFB has brought the role of peak activity inspector within the mainstream fire safety inspection teams. As such, peak activity inspectors are no longer independent from other fire safety inspectors.

Existing LFB policy requires that all fire safety officers review premises databases available to them within the Brigade, in advance of visiting any premises. The Assistant Commissioner for Prevention and Protection will be circulating a reminder of this requirement to all fire safety inspectors, by e-mail before 31 May 2023. He also intends to place an article reminding staff of this requirement, in the LFB fire safety newsletter - *Fire Safety News*.

Additionally, all frontline appliances carry digital information about non-residential and residential premises where available, which can include plans, information about building materials, and any known hazards. Fire Safety Inspecting Officers also have access, via a database, to information about numerous commercial and residential buildings across London.

LFB is preparing to commence the process of tendering for a specialist contractor to develop a single point of reference premises risk database, which will enable all information concerning premises to be centralised and available on demand. All firefighters and fire safety personnel will have access to the database when it becomes available. This will ensure better preparedness by LFB for all operational and fire safety contingencies.

2. Public awareness of general fire safety precautions

To meet its obligations under the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004, LFB has dedicated departments dealing with community and statutory fire safety matters. These teams continue to actively engage with local communities to promote fire safety awareness i.e. general fire precautions. The Brigade conducts fire safety campaigns in the media and will work to ensure that these continue, with the aim of raising the level of fire safety awareness in the general public.

Following the fire at Grenfell Tower in June 2017, central government introduced the following legislation aimed at strengthening fire safety in the built environment, including throughout the construction industry:

- Fire Safety Act 2021;
- Fire Safety (England) Regulation 2022;
- Building Safety Act 2022 - in part only)

LFB has enforcement powers under these new statutes, which also serve to promote greater fire safety awareness across London, with an emphasis on improving the public's understanding of general fire precautions at premises.

LFB is committed to improving fire safety provisions in premises across London, with the aim of reducing the number of fires that result in death or serious injury. I hope this response provides you with the necessary assurance of the LFB's commitment to this aim.

Yours sincerely



London Fire Commissioner