

Proposed by Councillor Cameron Geddes

Ending the Cladding Scandal

This Council notes:

- The tens of thousands of buildings around the country including those in Barking & Dagenham impacted by the cladding crisis, and millions of leaseholders unable to move and facing crippling bills for removal
- The grassroots campaign led primarily by residents affected by fire and building safety issues: including Grenfell United and the London Cladding Action group of affected leaseholders.
- The calls for urgent and nation-wide action from the Government to fix cladding issues which came to light following the Grenfell tower tragedy.
- The impact this has had on leaseholders across the country who now live in homes declared to be unsafe, due to unsafe cladding or other safety defects.
- That these costs mean that leaseholders are unable to sell their homes – leaving them effectively trapped.
- The campaign asks central Government to take responsibility and fund necessary works, reclaiming the costs from those responsible or by a levy on future developments.

This council also notes:

- The campaign has ten asks of Government, which can be summarised by the following actions:
 - Homes to be made safe as quickly as possible
 - Protection and support for those living in unsafe homes
 - Actions to unlock the market and allow people to move on with their lives

This council resolves to:

- Support the *End our Cladding Scandal* campaign and sign up to the 10-point plan to tackle the national cladding scandal which would mean:
 1. The government must lead an urgent national effort to remove all dangerous cladding from buildings by June 2022, including the prioritisation of blocks most at risk
 2. The Building Safety Fund must cover all buildings, regardless of height, and a range of internal and external fire safety defects, not just cladding

3. The government should provide the money up front and then seek to recover it from any responsible parties or via a temporary levy on development
4. Social housing providers must have full and equal access to the fund
5. The government must compel building owners or managers to be honest with residents about fire safety defects
6. The government should cover the cost of interim safety measures
7. The government should act as an insurer of last resort and underwrite insurance where premiums have soared
8. A fairer, faster process is needed to replace EWS and funding is necessary to ensure all buildings that require a form are surveyed within 12 months
9. Mental health support must be offered to affected residents
10. Protecting residents from historic and future costs must be a key commitment of new building safety legislation