



Grenfell: Lessons from the Public Inquiry

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The Grenfell Tower Inquiry Podcast

Government

*We conclude that the fire at Grenfell Tower was the culmination of **decades of failure by central government** and other bodies in positions of responsibility in the construction industry to look carefully into the danger of incorporating combustible materials into the external walls of high-rise residential buildings and to act on the information available to them.*

Timeline

1991 – Knowsley Heights Fire

1999 – Garnock Court Fire

2000 – Select Committee report

2009 – Lakanal House Fire

2013 – Lakanal coroner's recommendations

2016 – Direct warnings to civil servants about use of ACM

Government – Key Lessons

- Government Priorities
- Immediate Pressures
- ‘Defensive and Dismissive Attitude’

Manufacturers

*One very significant reason why Grenfell Tower came to be clad in combustible materials was **systematic dishonesty** on the part of those who made and sold the rainscreen cladding panels and insulation products.*

*They engaged in **deliberate and sustained strategies to manipulate the testing processes, misrepresent test data and mislead the market.***

Manufacturers – Key Lessons

- Commercial Targets & Impact on Company Culture
- Disconnection from Real-Life Consequences
- Overreliance on External Certification

Design & Build

*The choice of combustible materials for the cladding of Grenfell Tower resulted from a **series of errors caused by the incompetence** of the organisations and individuals involved in the refurbishment. Studio E, Rydon and Harley all took a casual approach to contractual relations. They did not properly understand the nature and scope of the obligations they had undertaken, or, if they did, paid scant attention to them.*

They failed to identify their own responsibilities for important aspects of the design and in each case assumed that someone else was responsible for matters affecting fire safety.

Everyone involved in the choice of the materials to be used in the external wall thought that responsibility for their suitability and safety lay with someone else.

Design & Build – Key Lessons

- Lack of Knowledge
- Unclear Responsibilities and Assumptions
- Lack of Curiosity

Continuing Safety

*The years between 2009 and 2017 were marked by a **persistent indifference** to fire safety, particularly the safety of vulnerable people.*

However irritating and inconvenient it may at times have found the complaints and demands of some of the residents of Grenfell Tower, for the TMO to have allowed the relationship to deteriorate to such an extent reflects a serious failure on its part to observe its basic responsibilities.

Continuing Safety – Key Lessons

- Oversight
- Connecting Teams
- Relationship with Residents

**THE NAMES OF ALL 72 PEOPLE WHO
DIED AS A RESULT OF THE GRENFELL
TOWER FIRE**

	Hesham Rahman	Yaqub Hashim	Isaac Paulos
	Husna Begum	Gary Maunders	Vincent Chiejina
	Kamru Miah	Anthony Disson	Joseph Daniels
	Mohammed Hamid	Ligaya Moore	Steve Power
	Mohammed Hanif	Sheila	Abufiras Ibrahim
Mariem Elgwahry	Rabeya Begum	Victoria King	Isra Ibrahim
Eslah Elgwahry	Majorie Vital	Alexandra Atala	Fathia Ahmed Elsanousi
Fatemeh Afrasiabi	Ernie Vital	Mary Mendy	Mohammad Alhajali
Sakina Afrasehabi	Marco Gottardi	Khadija Saye	Denis Murphy
Mohamed Neda	Gloria Trevisan	Farah Hamdan	Zainab Deen
Rania Ibrahim	Sirria Choucair	Omar Belkadi	Jeremiah Deen
Hania Hassan	Bassem Choucair	Malak Belkadi	Abdulaziz El-Wahabi
Fethia Hassan	Nadia Choucair	Leena Belkadi	Faouzia El-Wahabi
Debbie Lamprell	Mierna Choucair	Logan Gomes	Yasin El-Wahabi
Jessica Urbano Ramirez	Fatima Choucair	Ali Yawar Jafari	Nur Huda El-Wahabi
Hamid Kani	Zainab Choucair	Khadija Khalloufi	Mehdi El-Wahabi
Berkti Haftom	Hashim Kedir	Mohamednur Tuccu	Pilly Burton
Biruk Haftom	Nura Jemal	Amal Ahmedin	
Raymond Bernard	Yahya Hashim	Amaya Tuccu Ahmedin	
Abdeslam Sebbar	Firdaws Hashim	Amna Mahmud Idris	

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Grenfell: Building a Disaster

BBC Radio 4



The Grenfell Tower Inquiry Podcast

BBC Sounds

