



Fire Safety Works: Update to Scrutiny Committee – March 2022

Cladding Programme Dates:

Building	Current Status	Site Clearance
Princess Court	Complete: Awaiting BC sign off	March 2022
Empress Court	Complete: Awaiting BC sign off	March 2022
Grafton Court	Complete: Awaiting BC sign off	March 2022
Pickford Court	Complete: Awaiting BC sign off	March 2022
Clifford Court	Delayed: Currently at floor 8 awaiting panel delivery	Est April/May2022

Factors contributing to delays:

Four of the five tower blocks were remediated with new cladding panels and completed prior to Christmas 2021. Panels for the last block Clifford court, were delivered, however the colour batch was incorrect. We are presently awaiting approval from our appointed specialists on the contractor's proposal to install fully compliant temporary panels until delivery of correct panels, which are expected in May. If approved the block should complete early April with all scaffold removed. The contractor would then re attend and replace the small number of panels in May.

Customers

Customers and their safety continue to be at the heart of what we do and why we do it. We have and will continue to regularly engage with and update our customers during and following this programme of work.

During the pandemic the High-Rise Living Panel has continued to meet on a virtual platform, and we also met residents of HRRBs at our Involved Customer Conference earlier this month. We expect to resurrect face to face HRLP meetings, with any being able to also attend virtually, to accommodate our customers preferences, a choice they can make at an individual level, and we will support their choices.

We continue to: -

- Issue update letters to customers with on progress and anticipated completions
- issue weekly works activities update on the notice boards and LCD screens in the tower's foyers.
- respond to individuals' enquiries, concerns, and complaints.
- have THT staff and our representatives regularly on-site.
- provide support to individual customers on a case-by-case basis.
- keep in mind the unavoidable disruption that these essential fire safety works create.

- progress completion dates with our principal contractor who share the objective of completing the works safely and as swiftly as practicable.

Sprinklers- We have included retrospective water suppression systems in our proposed Asset Investment plan, which will be considered as part of our overall business plans. The outcomes of which will become the subject of future customer consultation

Additional Building & Fire Safety initiatives: The following summarises the various initiatives we have / are rolling out across all our homes: -

- Progressing the set up sub-forums to support the High-Rise Living Forum to progress specific issues of interest to our customers
- Consulted on options regarding support for individual customers – quiet working / reading space / mental health support
- Recognised by Dame Judith Hackett's, Industry Safety Steer Group regarding our approach to resident engagement and recognised as a sector leader in the building safety space, providing provides advice and guidance to other housing providers, promoting the sharing of best practice across multiple organisations through our best practice group
- Introduced a Building & Fire Safety Customer Engagement plan
- Produced and issued a new Fire Safety booklet for customers
- Successfully had our BS9997 accreditation certificate renewed earlier this year, underpinned by our Fire Risk Management System
- Embarked on a comprehensive programme of remediation works and mitigation measures including: -
 - Roll out of additional mobility scooter stores
 - Roll out of additional domestic waste / recycling waste bin stores
 - Fire compartmentation works
 - Fire door replacements
 - Fire alarm upgrades
 - Replacement of High-Pressure Laminate
 - Replacement of Ecodecking
 - Fire door inspection regime in place
 - Communal Area inspection regime in place to manage items left in communal areas / means of escape / access routes for emergency services
- Established open relationships and have a Primary Authority Partnership agreement with GMFRS