



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

**Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local
Government**

Fry Building
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

T 030 3444 0000

www.gov.uk/mhclg

Kunal Kunal
WDTK

Date: **29 June 2020**

Dear Kunal Kunal

Freedom of Information Act 2000 - 8065200

Thank you for your request for information which we received on 16 June 2020 and processed under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You requested: *"I am concerned about fire safety three years on from the Grenfell tragedy. I therefore request you to please provide a complete list of buildings in the UK with Aluminium Composite Material cladding."*

I can confirm that we hold this information, but I am withholding it as explained below.

We are unable to list individual buildings as this poses a public safety risk. We are therefore withholding this information under section 38.

This information is exempt from disclosure under section 38(1)(b) of the FOI Act as disclosing it would be likely to endanger the safety of individuals. Providing the names and addresses of these buildings could enable someone to identify particular buildings which have failed or are inferred to have failed cladding tests. There are concerns that this information could be used by those with malicious intent to attack or otherwise compromise the safety of these buildings and their residents.

Information falling within this exemption must still be provided however unless it is not in the public interest to do so.

Factors in favour of disclosure

The Department recognises the public interest in transparency with respect to building safety and accordingly we have published frequent updates on the Department's website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/grenfell-tower>

We provide monthly data releases here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/building-safety-programme-monthly-data-release-april-2020>

We also publish updates specifically on the Building Safety Programme here:
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/building-safety-programme>

The Department intends to continue providing these updates regularly, and in appropriate levels of detail.

Factors in favour of withholding

However, we consider that there is also a significant public interest in ensuring the safety of individuals or groups of individuals and that disclosure of the information you have requested would be likely to endanger the safety of people resident in the buildings concerned as stated above.

It should be noted that owners of each of the affected buildings have been informed, and they should have informed residents. The relevant fire and rescue services have been notified. The National Fire Chiefs Council is confident that when a fire and rescue service has been advised about a residential high-rise building with ACM cladding, the local service is working with relevant people and organisations to ensure risks are being managed properly and safely. This will also include, where appropriate, putting additional interim measures in place to ensure the safety of the residents. As new buildings come to light, checks continue to be carried out by fire and rescue services as soon as the National Fire Chiefs Council and the local fire and rescue service are notified.

We are engaging with the relevant owners and local authorities to ensure remediation happens as swiftly as possible. On 9 May 2019, the Government announced its commitment to fund the remediation of private sector high-rise residential blocks with unsafe ACM cladding, except where a warranty claim has been accepted. This fund is intended to ensure remediation happens quickly, which will restore peace of mind and is intended to protect leaseholders from bearing the cost.

I have decided, on balance, that it is not in the public interest to disclose this information at this time.

Complaints procedure

If you are unhappy with this response, we will review it and report back to you. (This is called an internal review.) If you want us to do this, let us know by return email within two months of receiving this response. You can also ask by letter addressed to:

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
Knowledge and Information Access Team
4th Floor SE, Fry Building
2 Marsham Street
London, SW1P 4DF

If you are unhappy with the outcome of this internal review, you can ask the independent Information Commissioner to investigate. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at email address casewoxx@xxx.xxx.xx or use their online form at ico.org.uk/concerns or call them on 0303 123 1113.

Yours sincerely,

MHCLG FOI Team