



**Department for
Communities and
Local Government**

Councillor Alison Butler
Deputy Leader
Croydon Council
Town Hall
Katharine Street
Croydon
CR0 1NX

Alok Sharma MP
Minister of State for Housing and Planning

**Department for Communities and Local
Government**
Fry Building
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

Tel: 0303 444 3430
Fax: 020 7035 0018
Email: Alok.Sharma@communities.gsi.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/dclg

Our Ref: 3450020

29th September 2017

Dear Alison,

Thank you for your letter of 2 August 2017 to the Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP about costs incurred in implementing remedial fire safety measures in Croydon. I am replying as Minister for Housing and Planning. I apologise for the delay in this response.

The Government expects building owners to fund measures designed to make a building safe, and to draw on existing resources to do so. The Secretary of State, in his letter to all local authority chief executives on 31 July, outlined that we would consider the removal of financial restrictions in limited circumstances. This would be where it is necessary for essential fire safety works required to make a building safe, as advised by local fire services, to be carried out. It would also cover cases where the landlord has received professional advice on any essential work to make cladding systems safe, following the conclusion of tests being conducted by the Building Research Establishment.

Based on the information provided in your correspondence, it would appear that the work you want to carry out to buildings does not meet either of these categories, and the fire safety measures you outline are additional rather than essential. On this basis, any costs would have to be borne by your authority without any further financial flexibilities.

However, if you can provide further information showing that this work is within these categories please let my officials know by contacting:
localauthorityhousing@communities.gsi.gov.uk

P.P. **ALOK SHARMA MP**