



Cultivating Success: Collaborating for the benefit of our
Customers and Consumers

BME London Landlords Grenfell Tower Statement

As BME London Landlords a collective of BME led Housing Organisations (Registered Social Landlords), we note the appointment of the taskforce to support recovery from Grenfell fire disaster. Having witnessed the unfolding tragedy; the aftermath and the impact on our communities, we understand there is an implicit responsibility placed upon us as BME Housing Organisations, that extends beyond just only expressing our solidarity and support.

We recognise that the immeasurable impact, the fire and subsequent events has had, and is having. Not only the traumatic effect on the survivors and the local community, but also, the affect on the mobilisation of the response from the statutory agencies tasked with providing frontline services to those concerned.

Our admiration goes out to the local community who have had to find the resilience to articulate their experience and feelings to so many. They have spoken loud and clear. It is important that we, along with others, continue hearing their voices; seek to support and address the issues as they continue to unfold.

One of our member housing associations, Westway, operating in the locality, has had first hand experience of the impact and frustrations of dealing with the many challenges continuing to face those who are the victims following the Grenfell Tower tragedy. We would like to commend them and all those who have been involved in and contributed to the rescue and relief effort, especially all the volunteers, voluntary agencies from the local community and further afield, who have sought to support and empathise with those in need after this disaster.

In addition to the offerings of support and considerable levels of individual and institutional experience and expertise that may already exist within the pooled resources; we wish to formally add to this by extending our support as specialist BME led Housing Organisations providing services to BME communities in an organisational capacity. We are available to contribute our expertise and experience in any way needed in the short medium and long term to all voluntary, community and statutory agencies.

We recognise there are numerous issues that arise out of this disaster; many that cannot not be anticipated, so as such we are available to act as a body to reflect, review and monitor issues as they manifest and lend our collaborative structure as a platform through which the advocacy of addressing those issues will receive a hearing and given support beyond the initial aftermath of the relief effort.

24th August 2017