**Nobel House Residents Q&As 18.10.21**

Below are the weekly questions on the Nobel House cladding issue, including responses to specific questions that residents posed.

**Questions for Y&Y**

Q1: With regard to the BSF application, please can you expand upon “the portal” to which you refer? As far as we are aware, the BSF is closed and Y&Y failed to express an interest with regard to Nobel House in 2020 (when required to do so). Are we now expected to believe that an application to the BSF is in progress? If so, please provide screen shots from “the portal”.

A: At present we are working on the ACM cladding removal claim. This claim is not being made via the portal but direct with MHCLG and Homes England. We are waiting for the Building Safety Fund to reopen and we will then be able to process the Non ACM claim. We have explained previously that Y&Y did express an interest.

**BSF Queries**

Q2: We understand this is split into two claims, one for the ACM cladding via the Private Sector ACM Cladding Remediation Fund and one for the rest of the works via the Building Safety Fund. Is this correct that the two are being claimed from separate funds? Are the government treating them as separate?

A: Yes, there are two sperate funds. ACM and Non ACM. The portal is combined however they are two separate funds.

Q3: Has any formal acceptance of claim been made by government in respect of the ACM fund?

A: No. This is currently being assessed by Cushman and Wakfield and the legal team for Homes England.

*Follow up question for next week: What date have they given you for a firm answer on this? Have you got evidence in writing (in case of fire and subsequent enquiries) of your efforts to speed them up? Have you specifically pointed out to them that MHCLG themselves have expressed serious safety concerns about a delay to the ACM works? If not, could you please pass this on?*

Q4: Has any value of funding been indicated?

A: No.

Q5: When is work expected to commence to remove the ACM from the stairwell? This is an urgent H&S concern as it is on a fire escape route.

A: As soon as we are able to proceed. We are looking at January 2022

Q6: How long is this work expected to take once it begins? For the safety of all occupiers of the block, this must be progressed as soon as possible.

A: Four months.

Q7: Can we get agreement from government to start works whilst they review the funding position as we understand they have communicated that the removal of this must be a priority?

A: We are looking to do so.

*Follow up question for next week: Can you provide more clarity on the reason behind the delay? What communication has been held on this matter on what dates, as above? Have they specifically said that you cannot proceed without the funding confirmation or is it that Y&Y has decided not to forward-fund this? If you were to press ahead with works before the government funding comes through, you had confirmed in the past that you could take out a loan from Avon to do so. Have the funders said they won’t fund if the work has been completed already?*

Q8: Have you had any more specific indication of when the BSF is expected to re-open?

A: We are advised the Govemnent are going to be announcing an update after the 28th of this month.

Q9: Is the application ready to be submitted as soon as it opens?

A: Yes.

Q10. Has the Government agreed to cover any costs duplicated by treating the items separately?

A: No.

*Follow up question for next week: Have you asked for this specifically? The only reason we may incur duplicate costs on scaffold etc for the removal of ACM and non-ACM cladding, is because of the government’s delay in making the new fund available. Even once the fund is announced there will almost certainly be long delays before release of funds as it took 6m+ last time.*

**Capital Queries**

Q11: Are all submissions/applications to Government up to date?

A: Yes.

Q12: Are sub-contractors appointed to undertake all work once funding is agreed?

A: The contractors who submitted quotations for the works will need to book this in for a start date however yes, all is in place to move ahead.

Q13: If not, please give details
A:

**NHBC Queries**

Q14: Please provide a copy of the claim form and supporting documents submitted.
A:

Q15: Has the list of heads of claim been agreed and submitted?

A: This is all under review with the NHBC.

Q16: What is the latest update in terms of the NHBC response around expiry dates of policies and the notification date of the claim?

A: This is all under review with the NHBC.

*Follow up question for next week: What date has NHBC agreed to give you a response by? Have you asked for this specifically and if so what do they say? Do they have all the information they need now?*

**Hollybrook Claim**

Q17: This has been nothing further to report for some time, what are the next steps to be taken to pursue this? The wall survey indicates they did not follow regulations at the time and must be held accountable for this failure.

A: The company is dissolved therefore there is no one to take responsibility for this. There is no legal basis to make a claim against one of their sister companies.

**L5 Alarm System**

Q18: Was full funding on this received from government i.e. covering 100% of the cost or is there anything outstanding in respect of either the installation or the funding for this item?

A: All has been installed with the Waking Watch Relief Fund coverning all the costs of the installation.