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11<sup>th</sup> July 2018

Clive Betts MP  
Chair, Housing Communities and Local Government Select Committee  
House of Commons,  
London  
SW1A 0AA

Dear Mr Betts

We have followed with interest the Committee's recent hearings which have looked into immediate and longer-term changes needed to improve the safety of residential tower blocks, and how improvements can be applied more widely in the construction industry. We note that a number of representations (including from the Royal Institute of British Architects) have been made to the Committee in respect of fire suppression (commonly referred to as sprinklers) systems. In particular, we note that RIBA call for fire suppression to be fitted to all new and existing high rise residential buildings, and also to all new residential properties as is now the case in Wales.

As a manufacturer of fire suppression systems that can support projects for individual residences and retrofit projects as well as new high-rise buildings Grundfos recently responded to the Hackitt Review. Although it would not be appropriate for us to take a strong position on the conclusions due to our obvious commercial interest, we do support the review's call for improvement in the culture of compliance and improvements to the enforcement framework for building regulations. We also understand the desire of some responding to the review who call for greater prescription in the approach to fire suppression in buildings – as evidenced by the government's own decision to consult on use of certain types of combustible cladding.

To enable informed decision making we are keen to make available as much information as possible on the practicalities and cost of developing, designing as well as installing fire suppression equipment in residential buildings or buildings with mixed demands.

We recognise that the Summer Recess is fast approaching, however should the committee be interested in developing its understanding of the practical application, benefits and drawbacks of fire suppression systems we would be delighted to provide you with further expertise. Please don't hesitate to contact me if something of that nature would be of interest.

Yours sincerely,

Linda Dingley  
Marketing Manager, Grundfos Pumps Ltd



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