



Department for
Communities and
Local Government

Rt Hon Norman Lamb MP
Chair
Science and Technology Committee
House of Commons
London
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The Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP
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Thank you for your letter of 24 October about science advice in DCLG.

Officials in my department have been working closely with the Government Office for Science as well as drawing upon expertise from across government to inform policy making and advice to Ministers.

I recognise the importance of scientific evidence and advice in good policy making. As such, in the immediate aftermath of the Grenfell Tower, as part of the building safety programme, my Department set up an independent expert advisory panel with a wealth of experience in fire and building safety.

In addition, my Department draws on excellent analytical advice, as Professor Whitty notes, through our Chief Scientific Adviser Stephen Aldridge. My officials are speaking with Professor Whitty about the best way to ensure my Department has access to a wide range of scientific advice. I will keep the Committee updated on the progress of those discussions.

RT HON SAJID JAVID MP