

Press release: Government confirms emergency funding available in response to Grenfell Tower incident

Communities Secretary Sajid Javid has confirmed that a government emergency scheme – the Bellwin scheme – will be activated to support the immediate response operation following the horrific incident at Grenfell Tower in London.

Under the scheme, financial assistance is available to local authorities to help with immediate costs following a disaster or emergency in their area that involves danger to life or property. They can apply to have 100% of their eligible costs above a threshold reimbursed.

Communities Secretary Sajid Javid said:

First and foremost my thoughts are with the residents and families of those affected by the horrific incident at Grenfell Tower. Emergency services and the local community have been tremendous in their response.

As the Prime Minister has been clear, the Government stands ready to help in anyway possible. We're determined to stand squarely behind the affected communities.

Funding through the Bellwin scheme will help councils support the community to get back on their feet.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Philip Hammond, said:

We are all deeply saddened by this terrible tragedy and are determined that all necessary support will be there for victims and their families.

That is why we have made emergency funding available so the local council can provide much-needed services to everybody affected.

Housing Minister Alok Sharma also confirmed today that working with Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, the Government will guarantee that every single family from Grenfell Tower will be rehoused in the local area.

Background

The Bellwin scheme compensates authorities for the exceptional costs incurred in incidents such as flooding. Relevant authorities are eligible for costs

under Bellwin when they have spent more than 0.2% of their calculated annual revenue budgets on emergency works.

Eligible authorities include:

- councils
- police authorities
- fire and rescue authorities
- national park authorities

The scheme provides emergency financial assistance to local authorities under section 155 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

The scheme is named after former Department of the Environment Minister Lord Bellwin.

[News story: More A&E funding to help hospitals prepare for winter](#)

The Secretary of State for Health Jeremy Hunt has today (15 June 2017) announced a second wave of funding to ease pressure on hospital emergency departments ahead of next winter.

The Secretary of State will confirm that a further £20.74 million has been awarded to 27 hospitals in England, which follows an initial £55.98 million given to 70 hospitals in April. This money is part of the dedicated funding announced in the Spring Budget to ensure local A&Es are prepared for the additional demands that winter brings.

Health Secretary Jeremy Hunt said:

The NHS prepares well in advance for winter each year, but despite the hard work and dedication of staff, demand on services continues to increase as a result of our ageing population.

This vital investment will help hospitals change the way they assess and see patients so people are given the most appropriate medical care as quickly as possible.

The funding will be used to help hospitals properly equip themselves ahead of winter, particularly to handle the large volumes of patients attending A&E.

Hospitals will be able to 'stream' patients when they arrive in A&E, with a clinician assessing their needs and deciding where they can receive the most appropriate care.

It will also allow hospitals to build GP practices within their A&E units where patients with less urgent needs can receive treatment, further alleviating pressure.

Today's funding will also support wider plans set out by NHS England to improve A&E performance in England by 2018. In particular, it will help hospitals hit the target of admitting, transferring or discharging 95% of patients within 4 hours.

List of agreed proposals

Region	Bid value	Name
London	£750,000.00	Epsom and St Helier University Hospitals NHS Trust
London	£757,554.00	Barts Health NHS Trust – The Royal London Hospital
Midlands	£596,976.00	East & North Hertfordshire NHS Trust
Midlands	£998,900.00	Norfolk & Norwich University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Midlands	£221,000.00	The Queen Elizabeth Hospital King's Lynn NHS Foundation Trust
Midlands	£400,000.00	South Warwickshire NHS Foundation Trust
Midlands	£968,000.00	United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust
Midlands	£650,000.00	University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust – (QE site)
Midlands	£1,000,000.00	West Hertfordshire Hospitals NHS Trust
North	£1,000,000.00	Aintree University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
North	£975,000.00	Doncaster and Bassetlaw Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust – Doncaster site
North	£1,000,000.00	Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
North	£875,000.00	City Hospitals Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust
North	£981,560.00	Co Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust – Darlington site
North	£200,000.00	Countess of Chester Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
North	£825,500.00	County Durham And Darlington NHS Foundation Trust – North Durham site
North	£879,000.00	East Cheshire NHS Trust
North	£340,000.00	Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust
North	£660,000.00	St Helens and Knowsley Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
North	£990,667.00	Wirral University Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
North	£830,000.00	York Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
South	£944,291.00	Dartford and Gravesham NHS Trust – Darent Valley Hospital
South	£732,982.00	Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust – John Radcliffe Hospital
South	£645,000.00	Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust
South	£855,000.00	Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust Queen Alexandra Hospital

Region	Bid value	Name
South	£600,000.00	Ashford and St Peter's Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust St Peters Hospital (Chertsey) site
South	£842,600.00	Weston Area Health NHS Trust
South	£225,000.00	Yeovil District Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

[News story: Webinar – 11 July – Meet the Buyer – The Department for Work and Pensions](#)

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) is the largest government department in the United Kingdom, and is responsible for welfare and pension policy. In this webinar, hear from Claire Thomas and Zara Carter on how to sell your products and services to the work & health category of DWP, with a particular focus on mental health and wellbeing.

Join us to understand:

- How and where DWP advertises contract opportunities
- Spending trends on wellbeing and mental health
- Top tips on securing work via frameworks
- How to come to the attention of government buyers at DWP

Click [here](#) to register.

[News story: Start date announced for negotiations with European Commission](#)

The first round of talks that will see Britain leave the European Union will start on Monday June 19, officials have confirmed.

Following discussions in Brussels today, both sides agreed that the formal negotiations under the Article 50 process can now start.

In a joint statement issued today, officials said: "Michel Barnier, the European Commission's Chief Negotiator and David Davis, Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, agreed today to launch Article 50 negotiations on Monday June 19."

News story: Lord Ahmad appointed FCO Minister for the Commonwealth and UN

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon has been appointed as Minister for the Commonwealth and the United Nations at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. His responsibilities also include the Overseas Territories and the Caribbean.

I am honoured to have been appointed and look forward to representing the UK's interests across the world.

It will be a privilege to continue the UK's work internationally in support of our shared human values, promoting international peace, security and prosperity – all of which are in the vital interests of our country. I am also committed to promoting the UK's leading role on global issues such as countering violent extremism and the protection and safeguarding of human rights and religious freedoms.

I am also honoured to have been appointed as the Prime Minister's Special Representative on Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict.

As the UK prepares to host the Commonwealth Summit next year I also look forward to visiting and meeting with Commonwealth leaders and representatives across the world.