

The Archbishop of Canterbury has urged "deep reflection and meaningful change" in response to the findings of the Grenfell Inquiry final report, released today. Condemning the "systematic dishonesty" that contributed to the deaths of 72 people, Archbishop Justin has called for the creation of a fairer, more just housing system, where safety is not just "the preserve of the wealthy". Read the full statement below:

"The survivors and families of the 72 people who died in the Grenfell Tower seven years ago are in our prayers today. The hundreds of bereaved people who have contributed to this painstaking inquiry have shown extraordinary courage – often reliving their deep grief, unimaginable loss and the horrors of that terrible night.

"The report published today must enable survivors to move closer towards securing justice, which seven years on from the fire, is long overdue. Its findings must also prompt deep reflection and meaningful change from all those identified as having failed victims - from politicians to the tenant management organisation, builders, fire-testing experts and material manufacturers - to ensure that such a tragedy never happens again.

"It is chilling to read that systematic dishonesty and a refusal to listen to concerns were in part to blame for Grenfell Tower becoming a death trap. This is a dreadful reminder that human lives should never be sacrificed in the pursuit of profit.

"Home should be a place where we all feel safe, a sanctuary where we are able to grow and develop. But despite being in one of the richest cities in the world, home was not that for the residents of the Grenfell Tower. This tragedy shows us that we must cherish and protect everyone in our society, and that safety should not just be the preserve of the wealthy. We must commit to building a housing system that is safe and fair for everyone in this country."

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