

Reference: Safety checks and testing of Aluminium Composition Material cladding sample at Park Plaza Leeds

09 January 2018 statement:

Further to the below statement dated 03 August 2017, PPHE Hotel Group (“PPHE”) can confirm that it is nearing the completion of reviewing all guidance and reports issued in collaboration with its independent facade engineering consultants, the Tower Casework Team and Government authorities. PPHE’s current interim measures remain sound and it will provide a further update by the end of 31 March 2018.

PPHE is committed to the safety and security of its guests and team members and carries out regular accredited Fire Risk Assessments in full compliance with the Fire Regulatory Reform Safety Act.

03 August 2017 statement:

Following recent events, the government body’s Tower Casework Team has been set up to oversee the safety checks and testing of Aluminium Composition Material (“ACM”) cladding samples by Building Research Establishment (“BRE”). As part of this, the Department for Communities and Local Government (“DCLG”) has published guidance dated 22 June 2017 on the interim mitigating measures in the event of a failure.

PPHE Hotel Group (“PPHE”) is committed to the safety of all its guests and team members, and the Group chose to proactively submit cladding samples to the BRE for testing of Park Plaza Leeds (“the Hotel”). PPHE has been informed that, similar to many other commercial properties in the UK, the sample of the ACM cladding at the Hotel has not passed the BRE tests.

In line with the Group’s safety policy, the Group has subsequently had the Hotel inspected by the West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service. The inspection report required interim mitigating measures to be implemented, with which the Hotel has fully complied and which have subsequently been noted by the Tower Casework Team. The DCLG has issued further guidance to the public on 2 August 2017. Park Plaza is currently reviewing this with its independent facade engineering consultants but its current interim measures remain sound.

PPHE carries out regular accredited Fire Risk Assessments in full compliance with the Fire Regulatory Reform Safety Act, and Park Plaza Leeds along with each managed and owned UK hotel has rigorous safety measures in place. These measures include emergency evacuation plans, sprinkler systems, smoke detectors, CCTV, team training and refresher training as well as on-going full hotel evacuation training. All the Group’s hotels are manned 24 hours a day. The safety and security of our guests and team members remains our priority at all times and we will keep our guests updated should any operational or building changes need to be amended.