

# Sydney high-risk apartments yet to sign up to Project Remediate

Four years after London's Grenfell Tower went up in flames, NSW is nowhere close to removing flammable cladding from hundreds of buildings.



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Sky News host Peta Credlin says here in Australia we have our own "cladding crisis" with more than "three thousand" buildings still at risk from a potential inferno similar to London's Grenfell Tower blaze of 2017. "Millions of dollars were promised, to fix it, but it still hasn't happened, according to an expert report," Ms Credlin...

## NSW

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Almost 50 high-risk flammable apartments are yet to sign up to a laborious government scheme to remove dangerous cladding from their exterior – with many concentrated in the same suburbs.

Latest government figures show 187 of the 231 buildings that are covered in flammable cladding have registered for the government's Project Remediate.

That leaves 44 buildings that still have a long process ahead of them to begin removing the cladding.

Cladding has not been removed from any of the registered buildings either.



Contractors begin the process of replacing the cladding from The Foundry apartment building in Darlington as part of the NSW Government's Project Remediate. NSW Minister Better Regulation and Innovation Kevin Anderson (left) inspects some of the cladding that will be removed with contractor Morgan Lalor. Picture: Toby Zerna

And The Daily Telegraph can reveal that Parramatta and Bondi are riskiest suburbs with seven unregistered buildings each followed closely by Waterloo and Zetland, with six buildings each that are unlikely to remove their flammable cladding in the near future.

Wollongong and Darlinghurst also had six buildings that are eligible under the scheme but only one from each area have been registered.

The suburb breakdown was publicly available on the NSW Cladding Taskforce website but was removed after the Daily Telegraph inquired about the issue.

The website now only states how many buildings have registered but not the total flammable buildings in each area.



The notorious Grenfell Tower fire in London which spread via flammable cladding and left 72 people dead. The remains of the Grenfell Tower. Picture: AFP

Labor better regulation spokeswoman Courtney Houssos said building owners were not signing on to the project because of how expensive it was and due to the slow process.

“The NSW Government has had years to make our buildings safe, yet thousands of people across NSW are still living in apartments wrapped in dangerous, flammable cladding,” she said.

“NSW apartment owners are still choosing not to join the Government’s low-interest loans scheme. The slow pace of the

Government's removal of dangerous, flammable cladding has put lives in danger.

“The NSW Government needs to provide better support to remove dangerous, flammable cladding urgently.”



Labor MP Courtney Houssos. Picture: Getty

Better Regulation Minister Kevin Anderson.  
Picture: NCA NewsWire / Adam Yip

Better Regulation Minister Kevin Anderson said 187 buildings had registered for Project Remediate so far.

“We are working closely with other eligible buildings to get them registered. Work is underway on triage and investigation for the first 32 buildings,” he said.

“We want all affected building owners to have access to a no interest loan and the comprehensive project management services available through Project Remediate.”