

Gerda fire doorset replacement programme for Trellick Tower



THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF
KENSINGTON
AND CHELSEA

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Trellick Tower Fire Door Replacement Programme was an extensive effort delivered by Gerda Security Products (GSP) in close collaboration with RBKC to achieve a new standard in fire safety while preserving the heritage of this iconic building.

Client
Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea

Product
30 minute Fire Rated Timber Doorsets

Sector
Social Housing

Region
London

Value
£0.5m



Introduction

Trellick Tower, a Grade II* listed tower block in North Kensington, is a marvel of Brutalist architecture designed by Ernő Goldfinger. Commissioned in 1972, the tower was intended to replace outdated social housing and featured innovative space-saving designs. Following on from the changes to Building Regulations in the aftermath of Grenfell the residents doors were found to be inadequate and in need of replacement.

Challenges and Solutions

The Fire Door Replacement Programme faced significant hurdles in regards to the buildings Grade II* listed status, Gerda worked in close collaboration with RBKC and planning consultants Litchfield to navigate the complexities of obtaining listed building consent. After months of **meticulous planning** and design, we successfully implemented a solution that not only met but exceeded building

regulations while staying as close as possible to the original door design.

The Safer Homes Range Fire doorsets offered the design flexibility the building needed while also offering outstanding Thermal and Acoustic performance in line with the latest building regs (1.8 U-Value and <29db) significantly improving on the **energy efficiency** and resident comfort.

Gerda's Technical and Contract Management teams collaborated with the building control team for seamless, rapid communication, especially during unique challenges that come up in renovations of historic buildings.

In all, Gerda replaced over 180 resident front entrance doors, addressing all necessary fire stopping measures while exceeding expectations to **preserve original features**. The project also replicated other design elements, all within the original budget.



Before

After

Call 01638 711 028
for more information
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PROJECT INSIGHT

The Challenge

Ensuring that replacing the doors as legally required to meet fire safety regulations was done sensitively, without causing harm to the fabric of the Grade II* listed building and in keeping with the original Brutalist architecture.

The Solution

Following 9 months of meticulous planning and design with RBKC and the Trelick Tower Residents Association (TA), we successfully implemented a solution that not only met but exceeded building regulations, while staying as close as possible to the original door design.



ORIGINAL VENTS

As vents above the door frames had been filled in over time, we had to carefully remove them and fireproof behind, then shot blast, repaint and reinstate, or replicate if missing, to preserve the original design.

APPROVED FIXINGS

Through working with the RBKC and TA, a specific design of required external closer, along with compliant ironmongery colour matched to the original fixings, was given listed building consent.

DOOR NUMERALS

The existing door numerals were individually recreated using 3D printing to ensure an as close to original feature preservation, with a specialist jig ensuring exact placement on the letterboxes as per original doors.

COLOUR MATCHING

With the help of an architect who worked alongside Goldfinger, we determined and colour matched our doors to the original pebble grey.

ORIGINAL TILES

Original tiles around the doors that were irreplaceable meant extreme care had to be taken by the installers not to damage them.

PRODUCT INSIGHT

With a remit to ensure the purposefully high-quality doors exceeded building regs and matched the existing Brutalist architecture, the multi-performance **FD30S Prosper** and **Lymn** style doorsets from the Safer Homes Range were chosen by RBKC, with residents able to select between the glazed (Lymn) or solid (Prosper) designs.

Safer Homes Range™ of Internal Flat Entrance Doorsets FD30S / FD60S

- Extensive range of Gerda-owned primary fire and smoke test evidence. Designed for overrun in fire tests
- 25 glazed & solid styles with selection of configurations
- Ease of access options and innovative features
- Building regulation compliant for fire resistance, smoke control, acoustics, thermal transmittance and enhanced security, with G-Smart™ as standard

