The fire at Grenfell Tower in London was a catastrophe which resulted in the deaths of 72 people. As well as the legal Inquiry into the circumstances there was an Independent Review of Building Regulations and Fire Safety commissioned by government that was published in May 2018. This Review, by Dame Judith Hackitt, found that the existing system is not fit for purpose and makes 50 recommendations for a sufficiently robust regulatory system for the future to ensure that buildings are safe. The regulatory implications of the report will be described along with the measures that are being taken to improve safety. Other recent major failures and fires will also be discussed.

Alastair Soane, BSc PhD CEng FICE FInstuctE, is the Director of Structural-Safety, which incorporates CROSS (Confidential Reporting on Structural Safety) and SCOSS (Standing Committee on Structural Safety), and he has extensive experience on major UK and International projects. He is a former member of the Building Regulations Advisory Committee for the UK government and Chair of its Structures Working Party. Currently a member of the Advisory Group on Temporary Structures, the IStructE Ethics panel, and the Ethics panel of the Royal Academy of Engineering. He is a Lewis Kent award winner from IStructE, author of numerous publications, and visiting professor of Civil Engineering at the University of Liverpool. In 2012 he was President of the Smeatonian Society of Civil Engineers.

6.30pm, Tuesday 13th November
DIT, Bolton Street
Tea and Coffee from 6pm