

PRESS RELEASE |

MPs COME TOGETHER TO TACKLE UNHEALTHY HOMES

Members of Parliament meet today with academics and industry leaders to discuss what more can be done to combat unhealthy conditions in the UK's homes and buildings.

It is estimated that people in the UK spend up to 90% of their time inside buildings of some form. Too often, noise pollution, poor air quality and lack of ventilation, warmth and light can result in significant health problems. Today's Healthy Homes and Buildings All Party Parliamentary Group will shine a light on the many health problems exacerbated as a result of people living and working in unhealthy homes and buildings.

It will bring together members of a number of All Party Parliamentary Groups to discuss how they can collaborate to raise awareness about the problem of unhealthy indoor environments and work together to win Government support for recommendations to improve indoor environments.

The meeting is generously supported by the Gas Safety Trust, the Local Authority Building Control, UCL Public Policy and the UK Indoor Environments Group.

Jim Shannon MP, Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group for Healthy Homes and Buildings said:

"The health problems caused by poorly-constructed homes and buildings is an issue that faces people throughout the country. I welcome today's meeting as an opportunity to bring members of parliament together to tackle the problem. The Green Paper recently published by the APPG for Healthy Homes and Buildings provides key recommendations for government to tackle the unhealthy indoor environments and we will work to together raise our concerns with government."

Paul Overall, Chief Executive of Local Authority Building Control said:

"Local Authority Building Control (LABC) represents all local authority building control teams in England and Wales, working to ensure buildings are safe, healthy and efficient to meet the standards set by the building regulations. Parliamentary support and cooperation is absolutely essential to ensuring that the homes and buildings across the country are built to the highest standards and LABC welcomes this meeting as a crucial step in strengthening that."

Dr Marcella Ucci, Vice- Chair of the UK Indoor Environment Group and Senior Lecturer at University College London said:

“Healthy buildings and indoor environments can make a fundamental difference to health and wellbeing. We welcome collaboration amongst different stakeholders and All Party Parliamentary Groups to address this issue and to encourage the gathering of evidence to support the development and effective implementation of relevant policies.”

Media Contact

Ross Cathcart

Secretariat of the All Party Parliamentary Group for Healthy Homes and Buildings |
07539288881 | hbbappg@devoconnect.co.uk

Note to Editors

1. The meeting above, called *Driving Integration: Healthy Homes and Buildings*, is to be held at 14:00-15:30, 20th March 2018 in the Boothroyd Room, Portcullis House, Westminster. If you would like to attend this meeting, please contact hbbappg@devoconnect.co.uk. There is limited space and attendance must be confirmed.
2. The meeting was supported by Gas Safety Trust, Local Authority Building Control, UCL Policy and the UK Indoor Environments Group.
3. All Party Parliamentary Groups are informal, cross-party issue-based groups for members of the House of Commons and the House of Lords.
4. The APPG for Healthy Homes and Buildings, chaired by Jim Shannon MP, launched a draft Green Paper in late 2017, *Building our Future: Laying the Foundations for Healthy Homes and Buildings*. The Green Paper can be read [here](#).