

Damp & Mould

Information & Support Available in Hertfordshire

This flyer has been produced to give front line professionals advice about the health risks of damp and mould in housing and contact details for council Environmental Health teams who can help with concerns.

The health risks of damp and mould in the home:

Respiratory	Other physical health	Mental health
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• General symptoms: cough, wheeze, and shortness of breath• Increased risk of airway infections• Development or worsening of allergic airway diseases, asthma and other conditions that involve inflammation of the airways	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Irritation of the eye• Eczema, and other patches of itchy skin or skin rashes• Other fungal infections	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Poor mental health

Factors influencing damp and mould in the home:

- Inadequate insulation
- Poor ventilation
- Inefficient, ineffective and or unaffordable heating systems
- Overcrowding
- Disrepair
- High rent – cost of living
- Lack of knowledge and or awareness
- Lack of appropriate facilities for clothes drying.

Environmental Health

Environmental Health teams have the expertise, competencies, practical experience, and community involvement required to deliver strong health safeguards and effectively promote wellbeing.

Housing is one area of necessary regulation carried out by Environmental Health.

Environmental Health and Housing

Environmental Health have a **duty** to enforce standards under the Housing Act 2004 if they identify category 1 damp and mould hazards and have the **power** to act for category 2 hazards. Environmental Health consider the chance of harm, how serious it would be, and any extra risk to vulnerable individuals. Environmental Health will act if serious problems are found by:

- Issuing a legal improvement notice requiring works in a certain time period.
- Declaring a legal order prohibiting the use of part or all of a property.
- In some cases, the council will complete the works themselves and charge the landlord.

Environmental Health may need re-contacting if a landlord ignores an improvement notice, especially for category 1 hazards.



Hertfordshire Support Available

Local Authority	Email Address	Contact Number	Webpage
Broxbourne Borough Council	envhealth@broxbourne.gov.uk	01992 785555 ext 2512	
Dacorum Borough Council	pshousing@dacorum.gov.uk	01442 228574	
	ECP@dacorum.gov.uk	01442 228000	
East Hertfordshire District Council	environmental.health@eastherts.gov.uk	01992 531502	
Hertsmere Borough Council	private.sector@hertsmere.gov.uk	0208 207 2277	
North Hertfordshire District Council	Env.Health@north-herts.gov.uk	01462 474000	
St Albans City and District Council			Private rental properties
			Council tenants
Stevenage Borough Council	env.health@stevenage.gov.uk	01438 242908	
Three Rivers District Council	environmentalhealth@threerivers.gov.uk	01923 77611	
Watford Borough Council	HousingandWellbeing@watford.gov.uk	01923 226400	
Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council	housingandcommunity@welhat.gov.uk	01707 357 672	
	e.health@welhat.gov.uk	01707 357 242	



National Energy Foundation – Better Housing Better Health

Provides residents with a single point of contact to get impartial expert advice to help improve the energy efficiency of their home, save money, and improve comfort.

- Request an online assessment: [Request an Assessment](#)
- Or call 0800 107 0044 (Monday to Friday 9.00-17.00, excluding bank holidays).

Citizens Advice

Offers a range of advice services, including housing quality and conditions.

- Contact your local office: [Hertfordshire Advice Services](#)
- Or call 0800 144 8848 (Monday to Friday 9.00-17.00).