

Guidance

Understanding and addressing the health risks of damp and mould in the home

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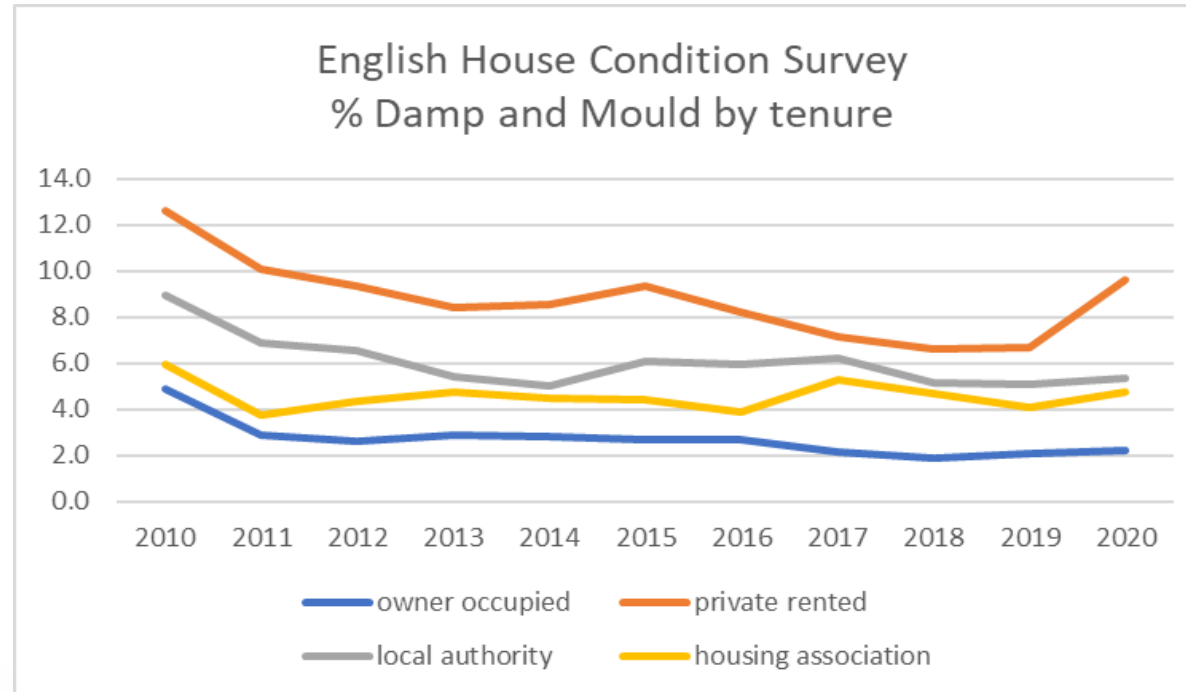


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Cheshire West
and Chester

National Overview of Damp & Mould (D&M)



Living with D&M



Vulnerable Groups

- Pre existing health condition (allergies, asthma, COPD, cystic fibrosis, lung disease, cardio vascular disease)
- Immuno compromised
- Mental health conditions
- Pregnant women
- Children and young people
- Older people
- Mobility issues



Other Factors

- Fuel Poverty
- Low income
- Overcrowding
- Location
- Construction
- Reporting Concerns



Causes of Damp and Mould

- Rising Damp
- Penetrating Damp
- Condensation
- Traumatic Damp

“It’s not Lifestyle” Housing Ombudsman report



Change in culture needed

Reactive

Proactive

Inferring blame

Taking responsibility

Resident-focused

Fabric-focused

Fatalism

Zero tolerance

Proactive Approach

- Clear processes and records
- Understanding property condition
- Address the underlying causes
- Awareness of health risks (tenants, staff, contractors)
- Prioritise vulnerable tenants
- Prompt response and follow up
- Signposting and Reporting



Our Role

Aim to reduce incidence of D&M

Advice, Awareness, Education

Improve Partnership working

Promote support available

Explore funding, research and better ways of working



Any Questions?

- Useful links

<https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/housing/dealing-with-damp-and-mould>

[Understanding and addressing the health risks of damp and mould in the home - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

[damp-and-mould-advice-leaflet \(cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk\)](#)

