



Department for Levelling Up,
Housing & Communities

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**Department for Levelling Up, Housing and
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For the attention of all
Housing Enforcement Teams

22 December 2022

Dear Local Authority Chief Executive,

Housing Standards in Rented Properties in England

Following on from Caroline Crowther and Charlotte Spencer's letter of 25 November, I am writing to you to share the response form for information on damp and mould in privately rented homes, which we have worked with the LGA and a small group of local authorities to design. Please find the form at the following link: <https://consult.levellingup.gov.uk/private-rented-sector/37d66cc1> which we would be grateful if you could complete no later than 27 January 2023. Please do not share this link more widely than necessary and please ensure that your local authority only submits one response.

Local authorities play a vital role in enforcing standards in the private rented sector, supporting tenants and tackling rogue landlords. The tragic death of Awaab Ishak has highlighted the importance of ensuring that tenants do not have to live with unsafe damp and mould in their homes.

The information provided through this form will enable us to better understand the issues surrounding damp and mould and will inform future policy, including how we support local authorities. In collecting this data, we are aware that the pandemic period may not be representative of usual times, and we will take this into account when interpreting the data provided.

We also recognise that data collection systems and practices will vary from council to council, and that precise data may not be available for all the questions listed below. Some questions have been marked as optional for this reason. However, where you have enough information available to allow a relatively robust estimate, we would welcome your support in providing as detailed a picture as possible.

Thank you in advance for your time in assisting with this request and for the essential work you do to address these important issues. If you have any further questions, you can contact us at housingstandards@levellingup.gov.uk.

Best wishes,
Stephanie Kvam

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