

Further information around damp and mould

Clearly, the death of Awaab Ishak in a housing association property in Rochdale has shocked the nation. However, the uncomfortable truth is that damp & mould in properties of all tenures has been a problem for years. The causes are complex, and individual but some of the issues are:

- In a small number of cases, persistent leaks that penetrate the fabric of the building, and provide moisture for mould to grow
- In most cases, condensation from normal family living (cooking, bathing, drying clothes, occupancy levels) will result in seeing surface moisture within the home, and enabling mould growth
- Poor ventilation doesn't allow air movement or moisture to escape, compounding the issues. Also, the addition of thermal improvements within the home such as double glazing, external insulation, uPVC doors, and modern heating systems has seen more homes becoming 'sealed' homes creating more condensation problems
- Overcrowding doesn't help (as more humans produce more moisture) and too many families need to move
- The cost-of-living crisis means homes will be colder, and people will be even more reluctant to use heating systems or open windows and ventilate

If you have a problem with damp and mould in your property, please report to your landlord in the first instance. If you require any additional advice and support, see further information below.

[Damp, mould and condensation | Wyre Forest District Council \(wyreforestdc.gov.uk\)](https://www.wyreforestdc.gov.uk)

[Housing Standards in Rented Accommodation | Stratford-on-Avon District Council](https://www.stratford-on-avon.gov.uk)

[Improve or adapt my home - bromsgrove.gov.uk](https://www.bromsgrove.gov.uk)