

57517 Damp and Mould Issues in Council-Owned Housing

I am writing to request the following information in relation to damp and mould in council-owned housing stock, ahead of Awaab's Law being introduced in October 2025.

Please could you tell me:

The total amount of money allocated by your council in the 2025/26 financial year specifically for remediation, repairs, or prevention of damp and mould issues in council-owned housing, including any budget or resource set aside in preparation for compliance with Awaab's Law.

Total amount of money allocated by the City of Edinburgh Council for 2025/26 is as follows:

Dampness and Mould Approved Revenue Budget - £728,000

Dampness and Mould Approved Capital Budget - £4,327,000

Total - £5,055,000.

The total amount spent in the previous two financial years (2023/24 and 2024/25) on remediation, repairs, or prevention of damp and mould issues in council-owned housing (the same purpose of spend as in question 1).

2023/24 - £4,257,194

2024/25 - £6,707,042

The total number of damp and mould inspections completed in 2023/24 and 2024/25.

2023/24 - 1,849 completed surveys

2024/25 – 1,990 completed surveys

The council's target number of damp and mould inspections for the entirety of 2025/26 financial year. If no formal target has been set, please confirm.

No target has been set.

If available, please provide a short description of how the 2025/26 budget allocation for damp and mould remediation to comply with Awaab's Law will be used (e.g. new staffing, inspections, repairs, new technology, tenant support, or other measures).

The City of Edinburgh Council has formed a new in-house Preservation Team. This team consists of the following:

Preservation Manager (CSRT & CSSW) x 1

Preservation Team Leader x 2

Preservation Surveyors (CSRT & CSSW) x 4

Preservation Housing Officers x 8

Preservation Joiners x 5

Preservation Plumber x 1

Preservation Plasterers x 2

Preservation Painter & Decorators x 2

Preservation Labourer x 2

Total 27

The Council has made significant efforts to raise awareness of damp and mould amongst tenants and encourage reporting, including articles in the Council's newsletter for tenants, development of an information booklet, production of fridge magnets and awareness training with a wide range of services across the Council. The Council's Preservation Team is also developing an e-learning module for staff, and a video that can be shared online with tenants to help raise awareness of damp and mould, and action that can be taken to help prevent it. The Council has also installed damp sensors in 500 homes to assist with early identification and intervention.