



CIEH Housing and Health Conference

Programme day two: Thursday 14 May 2026

09.15 **Registration and online login**

09.30 **Welcome and introduction**

Chair: Dr Henry Dawson, Programme Director Environmental Health, Senior Lecturer in Housing and Public Health, Cardiff Metropolitan University

09.35 **Keynote: PAS9980:2022 – what is it and what does it mean for enforcement?**

Speaker: Jeremy Thwaites, Associate Director, OFR Consultants

10:05 **Panel discussion: Fuel poverty across the nations: housing, public health and partnership in practice**

- Exploring how environmental health colleagues can work alongside national fuel poverty organisations to deliver healthier homes across England, Wales and Northern Ireland. The discussion will examine the impact and ambition of affordable warmth projects and consider what it means for each nation within its own policy and legislative context. How do we move from parallel working to genuine collaboration? We will explore the skills and capacity needed across the environmental health and fuel poverty workforce to support this shift, including opportunities for upskilling and shared learning across nations.

Chair: Joanna Seymour, Head of Environmental Health Workforce Programme, CIEH

Panellists:

- Ben Saltmarsh, Head of Wales, National Energy Action (NEA)
- Pat Austin, Director, National Energy Action (NEA) NI
- Bill Purvis, Health and Fuel Poverty Consultant, National Energy Action (NEA)
- Dr Ffion Prothero, General Practitioner

11:20 **Comfort break & sponsorship videos**

11.35 **Local authorities and the importance of partnership working: identifying risk and making effective referrals**

- Exploring how local authorities and services can better identify risk within housing and make effective referrals, particularly where vulnerability, neglect and health inequalities intersect. Drawing on lived experience and a case study that highlights the consequences of missed opportunities, the session will examine how fragmented systems, service pressures and silo working can leave critical housing risks unrecognised - and how those gaps can be closed

Speaker: Louise Harford, Strategic Housing Improvement Partner, Liverpool City Council

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12:20 Energy efficiency: realistic energy improvement strategies for the PRS and the latest on the new assessment regime

Speakers: Anees Mank, Programme and Policy Lead (Retrofit), Greater Manchester Combined Authority & Richard Tacagni, Managing Director, London Property Licensing

13:00 Case study: Responding to a new wave of unsafe HMO layouts: Ealing's enforcement approach

- Ealing has seen a sharp rise in newly configured HMOs with unsafe internal layouts and compromised means of escape, and five arson incidents in the last 14 months. Through case studies, this session explains how Ealing are using expert evidence to justify licence refusals and revocations, including mental health considerations, ventilation, and the fit and proper person test

Charlotte Ward, Head of Private Sector Housing – Housing and Environment, London Borough of Ealing

13.40 **Closing remarks**

13.45 **End of conference**

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