

Baroness Brown of Cambridge  
Chair of the Adaptation Committee  
Climate Change Committee

By email: [kingjb@parliament.uk](mailto:kingjb@parliament.uk)

18 March 2024

Dear Lady Brown,

**RE: Understanding climate adaptation and the third National Adaptation Programme (NAP3)**

I was pleased to hear your interview on the Radio 4 PM programme last week and the Climate Change Committee's view on the government's National Adaptation Programme.

As the leading representative organisation for the protection of buildings, our skilled and audited membership operates across domestic, commercial and civil sectors in the structural repair, structural waterproofing, timber preservation, damp protection, flood remediation, ventilation, ground gas, sprayed foam and invasive weed control industries. We are a scheme provider for Trustmark, the government-endorsed scheme for work carried out in and around the home and all our members are registered.

Regardless of international governments' progress against the Paris Climate Agreement, prevention and adaptation will both be required simultaneously.

We were disappointed with the government's Future Homes Standard consultation, which could have been an opportunity to consider the wider scope for adaptation in existing buildings. Amongst others, [our response](#) highlighted the need for existing homes to fall under its scope and for future climate conditions to be considered when building new homes.

As [extreme weather](#) becomes more common due to climate change, we need to ensure that planning applications, Flood Risk Assessments and Building Regulations take into account future flood risk. For example, increasing the resilience of homes to flooding and installing sumps and pumps at the outset where future flooding is predicted, alongside other measures such as Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS), will ensure residents are able to return to their homes as soon as possible after future flood events.

In existing homes, where intelligence tells us that houses will likely fall into a future flood plain, existing retrofit funding including the [Home Upgrade Grant](#), could be expanded to include the installation of flood resilience measures.

This is also true of residential ventilation systems, which should be designed and installed considering future atmospheric conditions, as we strive to make our buildings more airtight and thermally efficient. Without considering the long-term, our homes will require increased adaptation in future, and issues such as damp and mould will likely increase.

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss the contents of this letter with you further and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



**Sarah Garry**  
Chief Executive