# Scottish Housing Minister visits Raac-hit Torry community after year-long appeals



Scottish Housing Minister Paul McLennan has made a notable visit to the Raac-affected residents of Torry, Aberdeen, after a year of persistent appeals from the community. Accompanied by local MSP Audrey Nicoll, McLennan met with members of the Community Raac Campaign at the Bridge Centre community hall, formerly known as the Phoenix. The visit marked an important moment for the families impacted by the crisis, although it remains to be seen whether it will provide them with the reassurance they seek in such challenging circumstances.

During the meeting, the Minister's warmth and approachability were acknowledged by attendees, who appreciated the effort to engage directly with those facing the distress of having their homes compromised due to Raac (Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete) issues. McLennan promised to respond to each handwritten letter he received from residents, highlighting the sharp contrast to the distressing manner in which many residents became aware of the condemnation of their homes—often via social media.

The crisis has affected not only homeowners but also more than 400 households in council-owned properties, emphasizing that the impact of Raac is a widespread issue for the community. Dr Adrian Crofton drew attention to the significant health implications arising from this predicament, noting that the psychological toll has been severe, including increased prescriptions for sedatives and antidepressants. Residents have reported feelings of being uprooted from their communities and support networks, a situation that adds to the anxiety and uncertainty surrounding their future.

As the campaign for fair treatment continues to gain momentum, the number of signatures on residents' petitions has risen to over 1,000. However, the community remains vocal about the pressing need for a more coordinated response from elected officials at all levels of government. Observers have expressed concern that the ongoing crisis is exacerbated by delays and a lack of accountability, as the responsibilities of addressing the situation seem to shift between local authorities, the Scottish Parliament, and Westminster.

The pressing challenge facing those impacted is the return to stability and normalcy, with many now navigating the prospect of starting anew through no fault of their own. As frustration mounts, the call for unity among elected officials grows stronger, with an emphasis on the need for fairness rather than a fragmented approach to responsibilities. The situation in Torry remains a poignant reminder of the human cost of such crises, as families seek clarity and support amid the uncertainty.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/news/demolition-raac-affected-homes-be-carried-out> - Aberdeen City Council has agreed to demolish council and private homes affected by RAAC, with a phased approach for demolition and landscaping. This decision was made after extensive community engagement and independent survey work.
2. <https://www.pressandjournal.co.uk/fp/news/aberdeen-aberdeenshire/6449759/torry-tenants-homeowner-raac/> - Residents in Torry, Aberdeen, have expressed significant stress and mental health concerns due to the RAAC crisis, with some reporting increased prescriptions for sedatives and antidepressants.
3. <https://www.scottishconstructionnow.com/articles/torry-residents-consider-legal-action-over-raac-affected-homes> - Homeowners in Torry are considering legal action due to financial hardship and potential homelessness caused by the RAAC crisis, as compensation offers from the council are deemed insufficient.
4. <https://www.scotsman.com/news/people/unbearable-stress-over-compensation-for-demolished-homes-with-faulty-raac-concrete-4802634> - Residents facing demolition of their homes due to faulty RAAC concrete report 'unbearable' stress over unclear compensation, with some homeowners potentially losing significant equity.
5. <https://www.pressandjournal.co.uk/fp/news/aberdeen-aberdeenshire/6486405/torry-raac-residents-council/> - Torry residents have raised concerns about the council's handling of the RAAC crisis, including fears of being moved to unsuitable accommodations and the need for better mental health support.
6. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cgm7wmvky4ro> - Aberdeen City Council has voted to demolish and rebuild hundreds of homes affected by RAAC, with the process expected to cost over £150 million and take several years.
7. <https://www.pressandjournal.co.uk/fp/opinion/6747816/raac-buck-passing-needs-to-stop-aberdeen-people-are-suffering/> - Please view link - unable to able to access data