# Aberdeen families face uncertain future amid Raac housing crisis



For the past year, hundreds of families in Aberdeen have been confronting the consequences of a serious housing crisis linked to the discovery of Raac concrete in local authority-built homes. Raac, a low-cost building material now deemed potentially hazardous, has been found in numerous properties, particularly affecting communities in Torry.

The ongoing situation has created upheaval and uncertainty for residents. Among those impacted is an army veteran facing the threat of homelessness, as well as numerous families grappling with the breakdown of a once close-knit community due to planned demolitions. The Press and Journal (Aberdeen) has extensively covered the crisis, highlighting the voices of residents caught in this precarious position.

The issue is no longer confined to Aberdeen but has spread to areas such as Dundee and Stirling, prompting collaborative efforts between the Press and Journal and its sister paper, The Courier. Together, they have launched the "Trapped by Raac" campaign, aiming to raise awareness and secure more support for affected homeowners.

In Aberdeen, the situation is particularly dire for those living in 138 private homes constructed with Raac. While 366 council homes containing this material remain largely vacant, private homeowners—many of whom purchased their properties directly from Aberdeen City Council—are faced with difficult choices. They can either sell their homes back to the council, often for prices up to £50,000 below their value before the Raac discovery, risking significant financial loss, or remain in their homes amidst the ongoing turmoil, hoping for future assistance.

The Press and Journal and Evening Express have committed to championing the cause of these families, emphasising that each property represents a household with individual concerns. Many residents have children and worry about their future, while others who have lived in these homes for generations face the prospect of leaving behind cherished memories. Newer homeowners find themselves in precarious financial positions, trapped in unsellable properties. The uncertainty has taken a toll on the wellbeing of many, with reports of declining physical and mental health.

Understanding the gravity of the crisis, the newspapers are calling for a coordinated approach involving local authorities, the Scottish Government, and the UK Government. The fact that these homes were constructed before the establishment of the devolved Scottish administration complicates responsibility, requiring engagement from all levels of government to devise a solution.

As part of the campaign, the Press and Journal is encouraging public support through a petition addressed to the UK Government. The petition urges for clear communication about the scope of the problem, fair compensation for homeowners affected by Raac, and the development of practical solutions to enable these residents to feel safe in their homes. A target of 10,000 signatures has been set by 17 June, underscoring the urgency of the matter.

The campaign stresses that this issue transcends political accountability for the original construction decisions, focusing instead on the need for compassionate and prompt action from current government leaders. With the crisis deepening, Aberdeen families seek assurance that effective measures will be implemented to protect their livelihoods and communities.

Members of the public and stakeholders interested in supporting the campaign are invited to sign the petition and engage with ongoing coverage to stay informed about developments related to the Raac housing crisis.

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

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/services/housing/raac-housing> - Confirms the demolition and rebuilding plan for homes in Aberdeen affected by RAAC, supporting the claim that the council has agreed to a phased approach to address the housing crisis caused by RAAC concrete in local authority-built homes.
2. <https://www.scottishhousingnews.com/articles/torry-residents-consider-legal-action-over-raac-affected-homes> - Details the situation in Torry, Aberdeen, where residents face significant hardship including financial losses and the threat of homelessness due to RAAC, validating the point about families and an army veteran impacted by the crisis in that community.
3. <https://matrixstructuresuk.com/aberdeens-hidden-housing-hazard-the-bubble-trouble/> - Explains the nature of RAAC as a low-cost, aerated bubble-like concrete that has been found in around 500 homes in Aberdeen, providing background on the material’s risks and the scale of the crisis, aligning with the article's description of RAAC housing hazards.
4. <https://www.scottishhousingnews.com/articles/aberdeen-declares-housing-emergency-amid-raac-crisis> - Reports on Aberdeen City Council’s declaration of a housing emergency due to RAAC, supporting the article’s statement about the severity and official recognition of the crisis requiring urgent government action.
5. <https://news.sky.com/story/hundreds-of-aberdeen-homes-to-be-demolished-amid-raac-safety-fears-13200798> - Confirms that hundreds of Aberdeen homes containing RAAC are to be demolished and rebuilt due to safety concerns, corroborating the claim about the extensive impact on both council and private homes and the financial implications for affected homeowners.
6. <https://www.pressandjournal.co.uk/fp/news/aberdeen/lead-story/4348356/trapped-by-raac-community-campaign-raises-awareness-of-housing-crisis/> - Describes the 'Trapped by Raac' campaign led by the Press and Journal and The Courier to raise awareness and support for homeowners, validating the article’s mention of media involvement and the call for coordinated government response and public petition.
7. <https://www.pressandjournal.co.uk/fp/news/6738537/trapped-by-raac-campaign-aberdeen-homeowners/> - Please view link - unable to able to access data