

17th June 2021

Minister Darragh O'Brien
Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
Custom House
Dublin 1

Dear Minister O'Brien,

I am contacting you in relation to the plight of the homeowners in the northwest and west of the country, whose homes and lives have been severely affected by the mica problem.

It would seem to Congress that these many thousands of homeowners have effectively been required to pay the full price for regulatory failure in key areas of the economy, over many years.


The effective absence of any coherent form of regulation across the construction sector played a key role in the financial collapse of 2008, for a which heavy price was paid by many.

In more recent years, the ongoing legacy impact of that disastrous policy choice has been seen in scandals involving pyrite and the exposure of fire defects in homes and dwellings across the country.

It is clear that many of those affected by the more recent mica controversy have been similarly affected by official neglect and, as such, it is neither fair nor equitable that they have been offered only partial cover for their costs.

None of the affected families or individuals had any role in the creation of this problem and it is clear that that government must now move with urgency to meet and cover their full costs, in a fair and transparent manner.

Yours sincerely



Patricia King
General Secretary