

# 2023/2024 Activity Summary

The All-Party Parliamentary Group for Carbon Monoxide

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## January 2023

### **Event: Carbon Monoxide Safety in Homes**

**Chair:** Sir Peter Bottomley MP

#### **Speakers included:**

- Andy Speake, National Technical manager, Aico
- Scott Darroch, Director of Marketing & Communications, Gas Safe Register
- Ian Palmer-Smith, Supplier and Heating Services Director, Domestic & General
- Sam Graham, Technical Manager, Social Programs, Cadent
- Martin Garbutt, IEng MIGEM, Head of Technical Governance at HomeServe, representing IGEM

This event discussed practical and policy means to reduce risk of carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning in homes. The panel discussed the repair and servicing of fossil fuel appliances and outlets, protocols for responding to CO incidents, and the detection of carbon monoxide in homes.

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## May 2023

### **Event: Indoor Air Quality and Health**

**Chair:** Clive Betts MP

#### **Speakers included:**

- Baroness Jenny Jones
- Professor Frank J Kelly PhD, FRSB, FRSC, FKC, FMedSci, Humphrey Battcock Chair, Imperial College London
- Professor Sani Dimitroulopoulou, Principal Environmental Public Health Scientist - Indoor Environments, Air Quality and Public Health, Environmental Hazards and Emergencies Dept, UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA)
- Jason Torrance, CEO, UK100
- Dr Sarah West, Director, Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) at University of York
- Larissa Lockwood, Director of Clean Air, Global Action Plan
- Peter Smith, Director of Policy at National Energy Action (NEA)

The APPCOG hosted a panel debate to consider the impacts of indoor air quality (IAQ) on health, sources of indoor pollutants, and explore the urgently needed local and national solutions that can improve indoor air quality. Convening key stakeholders in air quality and

gas safety, important policy opportunities to improve IAQ were identified, as well as challenges in practically improving IAQ.

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## May 2023

### **APPCOG Annual General Meeting**

AGM

**Chair:** Barry Sheerman MP

This meeting elected officers of the group for the next 12 months.

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## July 2023

### **Improving Carbon Monoxide Safety in Health and Care Services report launch**

**Parliamentarian:** Liz Twist MP

#### **Speakers included:**

- Adrian McConnell, Chief Executive, CO Research Trust
- Laura Fatah, report author

Liz Twist hosted the launch of the APPCOG's report on protecting against carbon monoxide poisoning in health and community care settings. Key stakeholders attended and the launch was covered across the housing, gas safety and healthcare sectors.

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## December 2023

### **Delivering CO Safety roundtable**

**Chair:** Liz Twist MP

#### **Speakers included:**

- Becky Walker, Manager, Oxford Home Improvement Agency
- Michaela Nuttall, Founder and Director, Learn with Nurses
- Isabella Myers, Chair, Carbon Monoxide Medical Group
- Hilary Bath, Lead, Think CO programme (Gas Safe Charity)
- Mike Porter, CO Prevention Lead, National Fire Chiefs Council
- Dan Edwards, Manager, SGN
- Dr Julie Connolly, Senior Lecturer, Liverpool John Moores University
- Dr Henry Dawson, Lecturer in Housing and Health at Cardiff Metropolitan University & Member, CIEH Housing Advisory Panel
- Paulette Samuels, Coordinator, Association of London Environmental Health Managers
- Andy Speake, National Technical Manager, Aico
- Ian Sanders, Principal Environmental Health Officer, Hull City Council & Member, CIEH Housing Advisory Panel
- Tim Thomas, Policy and Campaigns Officer, Property Mark

- Stephanie Trotter, President and Director, CO-Gas Safety
- Matthew Clark, Air Quality Specialist, Hertfordshire County Council

The 'Delivering CO Safety and IAQ' hybrid roundtable discussion, chaired by APPCOG Officer Liz Twist MP, convened stakeholders to discuss services for the promotion of carbon monoxide safety and indoor air quality in the community. The group aligned on how services can be better integrated, and CO safety should be better embedded in frontline roles through mandated protocols and better awareness.

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## APPCOG Media Outputs

- Article in Landlord Today co-authored with Barry Sheerman MP on the importance of purchasing compliant alarms
- Article with Propertymark in Property118.com on regulation to prevent CO poisoning
- Coverage of the APPCOG CO healthcare protection report across housing and gas sector websites
- Carbon Monoxide Awareness Week achieved significant traction on social media with the generous support of APPCOG members