



## Family's anger at landlord over mould in house

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MOULD scars the living room wall of this family home – but the residents claim their landlord is doing nothing about it.

The family with two small children claim their housing association is fobbing them off after they complained the mold is spreading.

Karla Lewin, 20, and her partner Raymond Davison, 22, live in Rutherford Street, Howdon, North Tyneside, with daughter Ellie, two, and Kye, nine months old.

They moved into the semi a year ago and at first there was no problem.

But in December they moved a chair from a wall and were horrified to discover green mould growing up from the skirting board and walls.

Karla said: "The information they have given us has been very limited and they kept fobbing us off and never return calls when they say they will.

"The mould is spreading throughout the house and its getting on all the furniture, the children's toys and clothes.

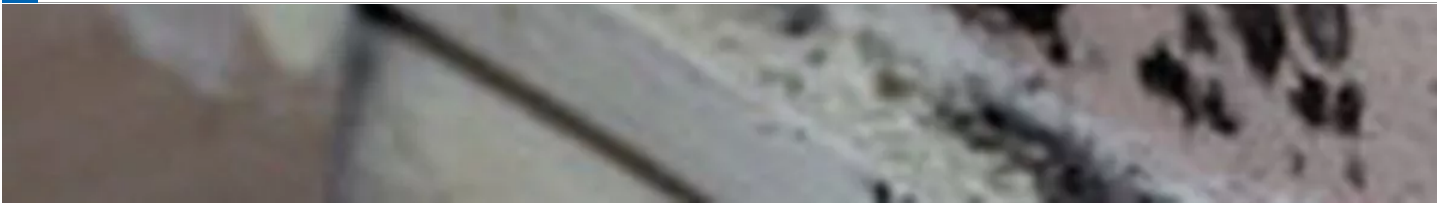
"Its been in the house for a couple of months and its accelerating and now growing everywhere.

"I've got it in the kitchen and I went to give my children some cereal and it was covered in green mould. It's all over the house.

"They said it was a job that we could do ourselves but if you wash it off it just spreads it even further. They also tried to say its a shed against the outside wall. But nothing in the shed is mouldy.







"I'm really annoyed about this as they are just fobbing us off."

Although in small quantities mould doesn't cause major health problems, it can spread unseen in wall cavities, the loft and under floors.

Every type can cause health problems, but a form known as toxic mould has been linked by medical experts as a major cause of sinus infections, asthma and can even kill by causing allergic reactions.

All molds can get into your lungs, digestive tract and even your brain. Symptoms include eye irritation, sneezing and runny nose.



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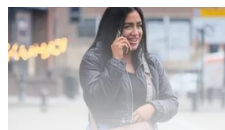


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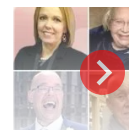


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Mould can also cause dry rot if it becomes established in wood.

A spokeswoman for Kier North Tyneside said: "The tenant informed us of her concerns about some dampness within the property on January 6. A specialised damp proofing company will attend the property on February 4, which is within the 30-day timeframe for a priority three call out, to complete a full survey and diagnose any repairs. Any repairs identified will be arranged and completed as soon as possible.

"We are committed to responding to all call outs within the time frames specified within our service policy, as is the case here, and we would be pleased to receive feedback on our service."

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