

ANNUAL REPORT – CROSS PARTY GROUP ON ASBESTOS

Chair – Dawn Bowden AM

Secretary – Cenric Clement-Evans

Background

The 2017/18 Annual General Meeting of the CPG was held on 20th September 2017. The AGM confirmed a work programme that retained a strong focus on understanding Welsh Government arrangements for the management of asbestos in schools, and other public buildings in Wales.

The Work programme 2018

Objective – to press for the publication of a clear schedule for the removal of asbestos from schools and public buildings in Wales.

Activities

- To monitor the work of the Welsh Government's 'Asbestos Management in Schools Working Group',
- To ensure that the Working Group reflects the Social Partnership model applied in Wales.
- To provide a network for sharing information across members of the CPG.

Two meetings were held during the year and the invited speakers were:

- January 2018: John Evans of Santia Asbestos gave a detailed presentation on the history of asbestos use in the UK, incident rates involving asbestos, the current arrangements for the management of asbestos in schools and other public buildings, the evidence that we have available and the challenges which still lie ahead to manage asbestos safely.
- May 2018: Sarah Morgan is Specialist Nurse for mesothelioma and described the work undertaken and services available in Wales for people and families with the condition. This was a joint meeting with the CPG on cancer.

Other activities

As the chair of the CPG Dawn Bowden AM participated in World Mesothelioma Day 2018 speaking at their conference in the National Maritime Museum Swansea.

Next AGM/Meeting

The officers of the CPG met in November 2018 and have agreed arrangements for the next AGM and Ordinary meeting both to be held **22nd January 2019**.

The CPG does not have accounts and therefore has no need to make a financial return. Refreshments for one meeting were sponsored by the GMB trade union.