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From: **Adrian Clarke** <adrianclarke22@gmail.com>

Date: Sun, Jan 8, 2017 at 9:15 AM

Subject: DWI study, asbestos cement drinking water supply pipes in the Cranleigh area

To: anne.milton.mp@parliament.uk

Cc: sue.pennison@defra.gsi.gov.uk, info@cranleighsociety.org

Dear Anne,

According to a recent (2011) major study into non-pulmonary asbestos risk (1), **quote** "The most likely route of exposure for gastrointestinal tract disorders due to ingested asbestos is in contaminated drinking water. Exposure from pipelines containing chrysotile asbestos is the most obvious source for exposure."

The network of water supply pipes in the Cranleigh area contain over 30% of old asbestos cement pipes (compared to around 2% elsewhere). They regularly burst, releasing free asbestos fibres into the water supply network, and as all the pipes are 50 to 60 years old (with some even older), we know from UK Government data (2) that internal surface abrasion over many years is now leaching fibre migration into the drinking water supply.

New housing estates being planned for the Cranleigh area will be fed from these same pipes, and the resulting increased flow rates will exacerbate internal pipe wall erosion and burst failures. Current 1 bar delivery pressure requirements for new housing as the UK moves more towards unvented heating systems (3) are much higher than those previously, further increasing ingestion risk to local people in the area. This is because water supply companies are having to increase flow rates and pressure into their supply networks to meet demand from new housing.

There is growing concern locally that people living in this area are being exposed to asbestos with all the health risks that entails, and that Government data on ingested asbestos risk is at best scant.

We have asked the Government's Drinking Water Institute to investigate non-pulmonary risk to people living in the Cranleigh area (as part of a national study), and we understand that the DWI is now looking for funding to do this. If you could lend your encouragement to DWI to do this, it would be greatly appreciated.

Also, please would you contact Jeremy Hunt and ask him to supply information from NHS data supplied to the Dept of Health to Cranleigh Civic Society for us to pass on to DWI as follows:

Please confirm the area incidences for the following diseases / outcomes within an 8 mile radius of Stocklund Square in Cranleigh, Surrey, compared to national figures:

- 1. Colon, colorectal and stomach cancer gastrointestinal tract diseases**
- 2. Autoimmune disease.**
- 3. Ovarian cancer, childhood mesothelioma, infertility, stillborn and infant mortality.**

Thank you in advance for your help, and we will copy this email to Sue Pennison at DWI for her information

Kind regards,

Adrian

(1) *Journal of Toxicology and Environmental Health, Part B*, 14:122-152, 2011

(2) *Deterioration of asbestos cement water mains, Department of the Environment, EMSP 9731 SLD, September 1988*

(3) *Heating, Ventilation and Plumbing magazine, April 2009*

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Adrian Clarke

Cranleigh Civic Society

"Speaking up for Cranleigh"

email: info@cranleighsociety.org

Website: www.cranleighsociety.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/cranleighsociety

Twitter: [@CranleighSoc](https://twitter.com/CranleighSoc)