



Environmental Audit Committee

House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

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Dear

Thank you for providing oral evidence for my Committee's timely inquiry on adapting to heatwaves. As you know, my Committee has been looking at the health impacts of heatwaves since February. Every year, 2,000 people die from heat-related conditions in the UK.

In the last couple of weeks, temperatures have soared across the UK reaching 30.3°C in Cheshire and 30.1°C in west London. When you gave evidence to my Committee, you informed us that heat-related deaths and illnesses start to occur when temperatures go above 25°C. What trends has Public Health England observed in the symptoms for heat-related illness during the current hot period? Have these symptoms been more prevalent in people over the age of 75? Has there been an increase in heat-related mortality?

Ensuring the public are informed about how to protect their health during periods of extremely high temperatures is essential for preventing unnecessary deaths, and Public Health England has a key role to play in this. How effective has the Heatwave Plan for England been for reducing heat-related illness and mortality in the current hot period?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Mary Creagh MP

Chair of the Environmental Audit Committee