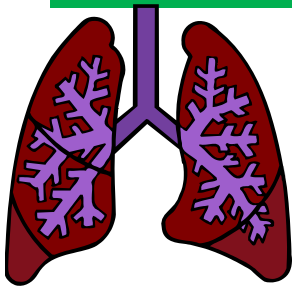


# Radon Remediation of existing buildings



Radon Forum  
24-10-2016



Eamonn Smyth  
Building Standards Section  
Dept. of Housing, Planning,  
Community and Local Government



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# National Radon Control strategy



## National Radon Control Strategy

### Task 23

Develop a framework for training in radon remediation:

- Set up steering group
- Establish syllabus, entry requirements and pass criteria
- Establish arrangements for course development and delivery
- Develop course material
  - pilot
  - rollout



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# Set up steering group

- A 6 person steering group was set up.
- Representatives from:
  - EPA (Stephanie Long)
  - CCMA (Karl Cashen)
  - Radon Industry Association (Eugene Monaghan & David Doyle)
  - Ex Fás training manager (Kevin Sheridan)
  - DECLG (Eamonn Smyth-Chair)



# Establish syllabus, entry requirements and pass criteria

- SG identified that the course was required by personnel responsible for:
  - Local Authority housing,
  - OPW - public buildings,
  - HSE - hospitals, nursing homes
  - Dept of Education, schools,
  - Remediators currently or previously on EPA list.
- Dedicated course delivered to 100 approx.



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# Local Government services National Training Group (LGSNTG)

The SG identified Local Government services National Training Group (LGSNTG) as the course provider as:

- The Environmental Section of LASNTG has a remit to provide training on radon
- In delivering the course, LASNTG would provide the course with the same quality assurance as is applied to QQI registered courses
- A certificate of attendance/completion would be received by participants



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# Establish arrangements for course development and delivery

- The course was developed from the original BRE course.
- The steering group undertook to do this work directly due to their experience.
- It was updated and Irish case studies added while unnecessary and outdated techniques were removed.
- Notes relating to each slide were developed to serve as a reference book for the participants.



# Course & Pilot

- The developed course consists of 12 sections incl. introduction to radon, construction survey, remediation methods and case studies from Ireland and the UK.
- A multiple choice assessment was developed.
- It was piloted in Roscrea in March 2016 after which the course was finalised.
- It was decided that the Chair on the day would present the Irish case studies and the EPA would do the introduction.
- The remediation methods would be presented by Chris Scivyer from BRE a noted and respected author on Radon



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# Course Programme

- Programme for Radon Remediation Training Course
- Day 1
- 09:30 Registration and tea/ coffee
- 10.00 Introduction, welcome and course overview
- 10.15 Radon in Ireland – current situation
- 11.00 Selecting remedial measures and Construction survey
- 11.45 Sealing and ventilation
- 12.10 Q&A
- 12.30 Lunch
- 13.30 Sub slab depressurisation or sump systems
- 14.30 Whole house positive input ventilation
- 15.00 Coffee
- 15.20 Underfloor ventilation
- 15.50 Q&A
- 16.15 Close



# Course Programme

- Programme for Radon Remediation Training Course
- Day 2
- 9.30 Cellars and basements
- 10.00 Radon wells
- 10.15 Diagnosis and fault finding and Q&A
- 11.00 Q &A
- 11.15 Coffee
- 11.30 UK case studies
- 12.30 Lunch
- 13.30 Irish case studies
- 14.30 Q&A
- 14.45 Assessment
- 15.30 Close

# Delivered Course

- The course was delivered through the LGSNTG in their regional centres in Roscrea, Cork, Sligo and Dublin in May this year.
- In total it was attended by 87 participants consisting of staff from:
  - Local Authorities
  - Office of public Works
  - Dept. of Education
  - HSE
  - Remediation contractors



# Task 25

Develop criteria which remediation contractors must meet in order to be included on any Government list or website.

The SG requested this task because:

- Natural continuation from course rollout.
- Driver for attendance of remediators at course.
- Synergy with development of new website.



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# Task 25 Registration Scheme

The purpose of the scheme is to:

- promote quality and expertise in radon remediation services
- ensure the consistency and quality of radon remediation
- help to enhance public confidence in the works carried out as part of the remediation process and
- support research into indoor radon gas in Ireland



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# Register requirements.

The requirements to which a remediator has to comply are finalised and currently awaiting legal scrutiny.

They include:

- Attendance at the NRCS remediation course,
- Current tax compliance,
- Public Liability Insurance,
- Agreement to adhere to contractor obligations
- Agreement to provide anonymized data.



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# Register

It should be noted that the “Register” is Voluntary. There is no legislation or regulation enforcing the register.

A remediator can operate without being on the register.

Its success will be reliant on LA's and Government bodies requiring remediation companies they are contracting to be on the list and the website/ public awareness campaigns highlighting the list.



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# Register Timeline

- Following legal scrutiny the SG will review the proposed registration scheme and finalise the document.
- Remediators who successfully completed the course will then be informed of the scheme and invited to apply.
- It is hoped to have the registration list in place before the end of Q4 2016.



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# Radon Remediation Course

Thank You for your attention.



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