

CTI media release

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MPs call for Government to focus on timber industry to tackle housing crisis and climate change

A report launched today by the All-Party Parliamentary Group for the Timber Industries (APPG), highlights the key role timber industries can play in helping the Government meet its targets for housebuilding whilst working to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050.

The report argues that using timber in construction is key to meeting emissions targets, and urges the Government to implement the recommendations of the Climate Change Committee by increasing the use of timber in construction.

A long-term spending commitment, reform of right-to-buy and building regulations that encourage innovation in construction are amongst the recommendations to the Government made in the report. Modern Methods of Construction (MMC) have long featured in the timber industry. Timber frames are built using offsite construction methods, and are quicker, cheaper, quieter and more environmentally friendly than traditional construction methods.

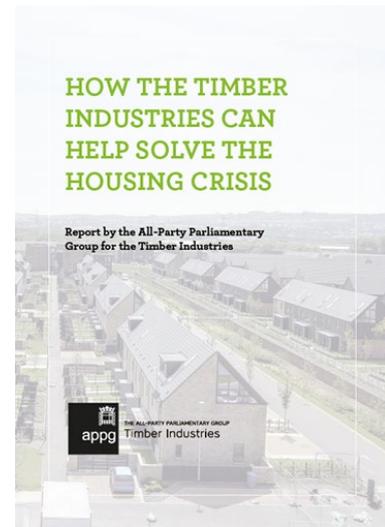
In order to meet the skills requirement needed to build more homes, the report recommends that Government should place an increased emphasis on construction apprentices and invest in developing construction courses, bringing together skills development with technological solutions.

Martin Whitfield MP, chair, APPG, said:

“This report addresses an important dilemma governments have: increase housebuilding whilst reducing carbon emissions. The timber industry will provide skilled jobs, it can deliver sustainable and affordable homes and it should be at the forefront of addressing the climate emergency we face.”

“Housebuilding should be part of an environmental revolution that is firmly integrated into our net-zero emissions targets. Using timber will lock carbon within homes for generations and is considerably more environmentally friendly than other core building materials such as concrete.”

Roy Wakeman OBE, chair of the Confederation of Timber Industries, said:



“We know there is capacity in the industry which can be unlocked with the right policies, regulatory framework, and partnership between the public and private sectors. By bringing together experts from across the timber supply chain - all the way from the forest to the finished house - we will be able to make an even greater contribution.”

The report follows a UK-wide inquiry the APPG launched to explore how the timber industry can contribute towards solving the housing crisis. You can [download the report here](#).

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If you have further questions, please contact Liam Macandrew at info@cti-timber.org or on 07921726212.

About the APPG for the Timber Industries: Established in 2016, the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for the Timber Industries aims to help grow the use of timber and develop vibrant timber-based industries. Find out more at <http://www.cti-timber.org/timber-industries-appg>

About the Confederation of Timber Industries: The Confederation of Timber Industries is an umbrella organisation which represents the UK's Timber supply chain from forest to end of life recycling. Find out more at <http://www.cti-timber.org/>.