

‘Asbestos is still with us’ warns Dundee-based charity ahead of conference

A charity which supports sufferers of asbestos related conditions has warned that ‘asbestos is still with us’ ahead of a conference being held in Dundee next week.

Dundee-based Asbestos Action’s annual conference will bring together experts in the field along with trade union representatives.

The keynote speaker at the conference will be Sarah Lyons, a senior officer with National Union of Teachers and a member of the Joint Union Asbestos Committee (JUAC). The JUAC brings together a number of trades unions and campaigns to raise awareness of the levels of asbestos still present in school buildings and estates and the need for better management of asbestos in schools and colleges.

Asbestos Action’s John Fearn said:

“Asbestos related illness is sometimes seen as a relic of our industrial past but sadly this couldn’t be further from the truth. This conference is the latest part of our work to highlight the very real and very current effects of asbestos exposure on an increasing number of people in Dundee, Tayside and throughout Scotland.”

The event is being supported by Digby Brown Solicitors who work alongside Asbestos Action, investigating incidences of asbestos related illnesses.

Fraser Simpson, head of Digby Brown’s Industrial Disease department, said:

“The work of the Joint Union Asbestos Committee shows how relevant this issue is today. From employers to the insurance industry and local authorities, there has to be recognition of the risks that asbestos poses, not just to those employed previously in heavy industry and construction, but also to those exposed to asbestos in our schools, hospitals and elsewhere, and a commitment to doing everything possible to eliminate those risks. “

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Notes to Editors

1. Asbestos Action' conference takes places on Friday 3rd July in Dundee's Malmaison Hotel. Further details of the event are available from either Asbestos Action or Digby Brown Solicitors.
2. More information on the charity's work can be found on its [website](#) and on its [Facebook](#) page
3. Further information on the work of the Joint Union Asbestos Committee can be found on its [website](#)

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