

The Legacy of Cape Plc and the case for justice

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The Legacy of Cape Plc (and Group companies), and the case for justice

A report from the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Occupational Safety and Health public hearing, 24 March 2025.

Foreword

I present this report on behalf of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Occupational Safety and Health (APPG). This APPG has followed with great concern the Asbestos Victims Support Groups Forum UK's (The Forum) court case, commenced in 2017, to disclose documents related to the historic actions of Cape Plc (Cape). Our concerns were justified. The documents exposed Cape's egregious behaviour, notably in the cover-up of the dangers posed by their asbestos products, as well as efforts to water down exposure limits to asbestos.



The APPG supports the Forum's subsequent Cape Must Pay campaign calling on Cape/Altrad to donate £10 million towards mesothelioma research in atonement for their actions which have led to so many preventable deaths. In May 2023, I was proud to be the primary sponsor of EDM 93, supporting the call for a donation of £10 million.

The government must act, too. Not only to set out a timely plan for the removal of asbestos from our public buildings, to prevent future deaths, but also to suspend public contracts to Altrad until suitable reparations have been made.

The public hearing into the legacy of Cape's actions, and the demand for justice, heard from eleven witnesses. I would like to thank all the witnesses for their attendance and for providing both written and oral testimonies. I would also like to thank the panel of MPs and peers who gave their time to hear the evidence, and who asked so many penetrating questions which helped to deepen our understanding of the many issues presented by the witnesses.

I hope this report and its recommendations will be considered and ultimately accepted by our government, and by Cape, in the interest of justice for asbestos victims and for the health and safety of the public.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Ian Lavery', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ian Lavery MP

Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Occupational Safety and Health

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Introduction

On Monday 24 March 2025, the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Occupational Safety and Health held a public hearing in Parliament to investigate the legacy of Cape PLC; a company implicated in Britain's asbestos epidemic.

A panel of MPs and Peers was presented with oral and written evidence from witnesses whose testimonies were powerful, personal, and pointed. The witnesses described a pattern of Cape PLC's corporate denial, suppression of vital health information, and a refusal to accept responsibility. This report summarises the evidence, the key themes raised and sets out urgent recommendations.

Members of the hearing panel:



- Ian Lavery MP (Chair), Labour MP for Blyth and Ashington
- Christine Jardine MP, Liberal Democrat MP for Edinburgh West
- John Glen MP, Conservative MP for Salisbury and South Wiltshire



- Frances O'Grady, Labour Peer and former General Secretary of the Trades Union Congress (TUC)
- Baroness Ilora Finlay of Llandaff, Crossbench Peer and Professor of Palliative Medicine
- Lord John Hendy KC, Labour Peer and Barrister specialising in personal injury law

A total of 11 witnesses provided written and oral evidence:

- Christopher Chambers, Former HSE Inspector, now an expert witness on negligence
- Dr Astero Klampatsa, mesothelioma researcher at the Institute of Cancer Research
- Dr Robin Rudd, Physician specialising in asbestos-related diseases
- Harminder Bains, Joint Head of Asbestos and Industrial Diseases Department at Leigh Day
- John Flanagan, Support Officer at Merseyside Asbestos Victims Support
- Michael Phillips, Asbestos Lead at National Association of Schoolmasters Union of Women Teachers (NASUWT)
- Nevyn Stevenson, Head of Service at Yorkshire and Humberside Asbestos Support Group
- Peter Gartside, Former Managing Director within Cape PLC
- Professor Peter Szlosarek, Professor of Medical Oncology at St Bartholomew's Hospitals
- Sarah Lyons, Asbestos Lead at National Education Union (NEU)
- Tony Whitston, Founding Chair of the Asbestos Victims Support Group Forum UK

Ran Oren (CEO of Altrad and Director of Cape Intermediate Holdings Limited) was invited to attend the hearing, but was unable to do so and declined to put forward a substitute.

A full transcript of the hearing, and all written evidence provided to the panel, can be accessed on the [APPG's website](https://www.appgosh.org/post/evidence-public-hearing-on-legacy-of-cape-asbestos)¹.

¹ <https://www.appgosh.org/post/evidence-public-hearing-on-legacy-of-cape-asbestos>

Background to the Hearing: The Cape Must Pay Campaign

2.1 The Devastating Impact of Asbestos and its Legacy

i) Mesothelioma

Mesothelioma is predominantly a cancer of the pleura of the lung caused by inhaling asbestos fibres. It is one of the most severe cancers as sufferers literally suffocate to death. The panel was shown compelling photographs of sufferers by John Flannagan.

Symptoms of mesothelioma are typically as follows. Commonly pain becomes so severe that morphine is required however, despite large doses, the pain is sometimes intractable. Breathlessness may become severe as the tumour enlarges, constricting the lung so that it cannot expand. The tumour may also spread to constrict the heart and may develop in other parts of the body including the abdomen where it may cause swelling due to an accumulation of fluid causing pain, vomiting, and bowel disturbance.

The average life expectancy from the onset of symptoms is just 1-2 years.

It is likely that the sufferer will become completely incapacitated and in need of constant nursing care towards the end of life.

ii) Asbestos Disease is the Leading Cause of Workplace Deaths in the UK

Asbestos disease is the leading cause of workplace deaths in the UK, with the highest global incidence of mesothelioma. Over 5,000 people die annually from asbestos-related diseases, including mesothelioma, lung cancer, asbestosis, and pleural thickening. These statistics are particularly shocking when compared to the 1,500 road traffic deaths recorded per year.

The HSE estimates annual costs at £3.4 billion for mesothelioma deaths and £3.1 billion for asbestos-related lung cancer.

Asbestos remains in 80% of schools and 94% of hospital trusts in England. Diseases from asbestos exposure in former school and hospital workers costs the UK economy £1.3 billion per year.

There is 'no safe level' of asbestos exposure and all asbestos is dangerous. The Health & Safety Executive ('HSE') acknowledges this on their website and in numerous publications.

2.2 The Asbestos Victims Support Group Forum UK ('The Forum')

The Asbestos Victims Support Group Forum UK ('The Forum') is a charity which represents groups who support sufferers of mesothelioma and other asbestos-related diseases in the UK. These support groups provide specialist benefits advice, emotional support, and access

to medical professionals, free of charge, at a time of crisis. The Forum also campaigns for justice for victims of asbestos disease, and has won court cases in the Supreme Court and has achieved success in numerous judicial reviews.

Nevyn Stevenson stated that public awareness and legal support services are often the only line of defence for victims of asbestos disease. His charity now receives around 300 referrals a year, many of them school or hospital workers with asbestos exposure histories.

2.3 Cape/ Altrad

Cape PLC, and its numerous group companies ('Cape'), was one of the largest manufacturers of asbestos products in the world. Asbestos is not a natural mineral found in the UK. Cape mined asbestos in countries such as South Africa and imported the lethal product into the UK.

Cape manufactured many asbestos products including Asbestos Insulation Board (AIB), trade name 'Asbestolux'. Asbestolux was used in many ways including in the construction of fire doors, ceiling tiles, window panels, internal walls, and to cover columns. Another major product manufactured by Cape was asbestos lagging.

Cape opened factories throughout the UK where it produced asbestos products for sale as well as installing these asbestos products into thousands of public buildings including schools, hospitals, offices, banks, power stations, and into ships.

Altrad is the ultimate parent company of Cape. It purchased Cape in 2017 and has benefitted substantially from the transaction.

2.4 The Forum's legal case against Cape

In 2017, the Forum commenced a legal case against Cape to obtain historical documents which they say Cape had deliberately continued to conceal from the public. The court case was fought for three and a half years and culminated in a Supreme Court judgment which allowed the Forum access to some documents, currently available via [the Forum's website](https://asbestosforum.org.uk/cape-documents/)²

Some of the most shocking findings in the Cape documents are as follows:

- Cape knew that simply handling Asbestolux would release asbestos fibres which could cause mesothelioma;
- Cape deliberately prevented warning labels being placed on Asbestolux due to their concerns about loss of profitability;
- Cape deliberately publicly continued to state that there was no risk from handling Asbestolux;

² <https://asbestosforum.org.uk/cape-documents/>

- Cape's in-house medical advisor, Dr Smither, accepted that mesothelioma could be caused by short and possibly small exposure, and that no type of asbestos proved innocent;
- Cape adopted a policy of selectively sharing its sampling data with the British Occupational Hygiene Society ('BOHS'), providing evidence of only low dust counts and withholding the more damning results;
- Cape provided misleading reassurance about the dangers of asbestos in its communications with the government and the public, contrary to its own data as to dust counts and the health risks of asbestos;
- Cape continued to manufacture Asbestolux in 1980 contrary to defending court cases on the basis it had ceased manufacture in 1978.
- Cape hired a team of lawyers from a top-tier city law firm and a team of barristers. The Forum was represented by Harminder Bains and barristers who, due to the significance to public health, agreed to act on a pro bono basis. The Forum argued Cape could and should have simply handed over the documents for the benefit of public health. Instead, they chose to pay substantial amounts of legal fees to their lawyers to fight the claim for disclosure.

2.5 The Cape Must Pay Campaign

After the Forum succeeded in the legal case and placed the documents in the public domain, it made a request to Cape to pay £10 million to fund medical research to find a cure for mesothelioma in atonement for knowingly concealing the dangers of asbestos, as revealed in their documents.

As no response was provided by Cape, the Forum commenced its 'Cape Must Pay' campaign in 2022, calling on Cape/Altrad to donate £10 million to fund mesothelioma research.

i) The Forum's Requests

- Cape/Altrad to pay £10 million to Asthma + Lung UK towards medical research to find a cure for mesothelioma; and
- The government to refrain from awarding any government contracts to Cape/Altrad and/or any of their parent companies or subsidiaries or associated companies until Cape/Altrad pays the above £10 million.

Evidence Provided to The Panel

3.1 Urgent Need for Funding into Medical Research

Compelling evidence from three renowned medical professionals was emphatic that a payment of £10 million is required in a lump sum, as small amounts spread over years would make far less significant difference.

According to Dr Astero Klampatsa, research into mesothelioma has been underfunded to date even though the issue of asbestos-related diseases will continue to blight the lives of many thousands of people for years to come.

Professor Peter Szlosarek's evidence was clear: mesothelioma will remain a major problem because asbestos, often poorly managed, is found in thousands of buildings throughout the UK.

Dr Robin Rudd explained that the reason it is necessary to have £10 million paid in one lump sum is because it will allow a core group of people to come together with a secure future of funding, ensuring that long-term projects can be undertaken without scientists having to constantly scramble for money to keep going year to year.

This was supported by Professor Peter Szlosarek who gave evidence that he had been undertaking research into improved treatments for mesothelioma patients for over 20 years in addition to his daily work seeing patients. He explained that due to financial constraints in funding, it had taken him over 20 years to make small, but meaningful, progress in his research. This research has been undertaken with two other part-time scientists. Whereas, if Professor Szlosarek had access to additional funding, he would have been able to hire more laboratory technicians and scientists on a full-time basis. In summary, he stated that the £10 million would allow principal investigators to employ a critical mass of post-doctoral fellows and technicians to accelerate laboratory discoveries and translate these into improved treatments for patients.

Dr Astero Klampatsa echoed this sentiment by stating that she is urgently seeking large-scale external grants in order to continue her research into mesothelioma treatment. Without this funding, Dr Klampatsa will be forced to move to a position in Industry (which is not interested in mesothelioma), change focus or expertise, or move to taught-only academic posts.

3.2 Evidence Provided to Cape During Meetings

In 2023, Ran Oren (CEO of Altrad and Director of Cape Intermediate Holidays Limited) engaged in discussions with the Forum regarding the Forum's request for a £10 million donation to Asthma + Lung UK. The Forum produced detailed evidence from independent medical experts.

With regards to how a donation might be structured and best used, evidence was provided by Dr Robin Rudd, Professor Sanjay Popat and Professor Sir Anthony Newman Taylor. All three recommended that the £10 million donation be paid to Asthma + Lung UK as this charity has experience in dealing with large scale medical trials.

Sarah Woolnough (CEO of Asthma + Lung UK) provided suggestions as to how the £10 million could be allocated. In addition, written evidence on the current lack of funding for research was provided by Professor Peter Szlosarek and Dr Astero Klampatsa.

The evidence was unanimous in that each of the above renowned experts agreed it is exceptionally difficult to find funding for mesothelioma research and that small amounts of funding spread over many years will not make a significant difference. Conversely, £10 million would be transformational as it would allow investigators to employ a critical mass of post-doctoral fellows and technicians and leverage research grant funding.

In addition, the Forum arranged for a sufferer dying from mesothelioma, whose father was a Cape employee and had already died from mesothelioma, to give clear evidence as to how Cape's actions had affected both him and his father.

3.3 Cape's Offers

On 13th March 2025, in the BBC Radio 4 podcast 'Asbestos Killer Dust', Ophelia Byrne, podcaster, stated *"An All Party Parliamentary Group wrote to Altrad, Cape's parent company, asking it to make the £10m donation towards mesothelioma research. Altrad says it 'has engaged with Asbestos Victim Groups and tabled a substantial 7-figure offer towards research'"*.

Evidence was provided by Tony Whitson that the reference to Altrad offering a substantial 7-figure sum had breached Ran Oren's self-imposed confidentiality clause. He said it is therefore incumbent on the Forum to put the record straight regarding the negotiations and offers. Although it is true that a 7-figure sum was proposed, it was to be paid in instalments of £300k over a period of up to 10 years. The offer was also subject to a number of highly restricted conditions which, if not met, the instalments would cease. These conditions made the offer untenable and unacceptable to the Forum.

The negotiations were conducted by email. Three offers were made; a summary of the three offers are set out below:

- The first offer was £1.5m + £600k match-funding at £300k per year (over 7 years).
- The second offer was £2.4m at £300k per year (over 8 years).
- The third offer was £3m at £300k per year (over 10 years).

However, all three offers imposed stringent conditions, quoting from Ran Oren's emails, these were as follows:

(Note: "AVSG" refers to the Forum)

- Leigh Day must not begin any legal process against Cape relating to its past asbestos-related activities.

- Leigh Day must not involve Cape indirectly in any other legal activity. Of course, this excludes qualifying individual claims under the Scheme in respect of which individuals are fully entitled to approach Leigh Day, as with any other lawyers, for assistance. We would need an undertaking from Leigh Day on this.
- AVSG must stop lobbying for reparations and we agree forms of communication to explain satisfactory nature of this funding & dissuade other parties from seeking reparations.
- If other lobbying or public bodies seek reparations for Cape past activities outside of the Scheme then our funding obligation stops.
- The All Party Parliamentary Group also signs off on this being satisfactory, as was proposed during the call.
- Leigh Day undertaking to be wider than just stopping lobbying (they could simply find other reasons to pursue Cape relating to past asbestos activities) whilst not preventing ordinary scheme claims.
- AVSG committing not to seek reparations.
- APPG to confirm it will also not seek further reparations.

Tony Whitston gave evidence that the offers were clearly impossible to accept, not only because they imposed stringent obligations on the Forum, the APPG and Leigh Day, but the offers did not meet the essential criteria for effective research detailed by the medics and Asthma + Lung UK.

Further, from the above, he confirmed that the Forum did not reject a 'substantial' 7-figure donation nor did the Forum pick an arbitrary sum of £10 million. The £10 million sum was requested after discussions with medics who suggested that this would be an effective transformational amount.

Tony Whitston's evidence continued that Cape's statement in the podcast was misleading and misrepresentative of the negotiations. It cast the Forum in a bad light implying that the Forum was being greedy and unreasonable. The Forum, however, has never sought money for its own organisations.

3.4 The Cape Scheme

There was reference to the Cape Scheme from Harminder Bains. She gave evidence that since the Forum has requested £10 million, Cape/Altrad has made press statements referring to the generosity of its Scheme by paying 100% of all eligible claims. However, Cape/Altrad neglects to inform the press that the primary purpose of the Scheme was to protect Cape's present and future businesses of the numerous Scheme companies.

Harminder explained that the Scheme was set up because, as a consequence of the compensation claims for negligently exposing people to asbestos, Cape and its numerous companies lost business opportunities. These companies were unable to obtain funding at commercially acceptable rates and therefore it set up the Scheme for its benefit, to enable it to continue to be commercially viable.

She stated that although the Scheme did, of course, benefit Claimants in that there is a certainty of funds, compensation is not simply paid over to Claimants as is the impression given by Cape/Altrad's press statements. Harminder explained that in her and many other lawyers' experience, Claimants are only successful in obtaining compensation after commencing Court action.

The panel heard evidence from Peter Gartside, former Managing Director within Cape PLC, who explained that since Altrad acquired the business the amount that has been paid to claimants under this Scheme is barely £25 million of the £172 million set aside for the purpose of meeting claims.

3.5 Asbestos in Schools: A National Education Health Crisis

Among the most urgent concerns raised was the scale of asbestos contamination in schools. Both the NASUWT and the NEU trade unions submitted detailed evidence showing that over 80% of schools in England and Wales are known to contain asbestos.

The Department for Education's own Asbestos Management Assurance Process (AMAP) also found that almost half of participating schools had not completed an asbestos survey in the last three years, and nearly 18,000 school estates still contain asbestos—much of it Asbestolux, manufactured by Cape.

NEU evidence, provided by Sarah Lyons, explained how children face a higher lifetime risk from even low levels of exposure, with the effects of mesothelioma sometimes not appearing for decades. Since 1980, over 400 teaching professionals have died from the disease. But that figure likely underrepresents the true scale, as it excludes those over 74 or those whose final listed occupation was not teaching.

Maintenance delays, poor awareness, and vandalism increase the likelihood that damaged asbestos materials go unnoticed. The NEU plainly stated that "this policy of 'managing asbestos in place' does not work in schools". The hearing heard that some pupils are at risk simply by being in the classroom, due to asbestos in crumbling ceilings or heating ducts.

The panel also heard directly from Michael Phillips, representing the NASUWT teachers' union. He summarised the NASUWT's written submission, which painted a stark picture of risk in the education sector. Phillips referenced the Health and Safety Executive's annual research on mesothelioma mortality rates by occupation, which demonstrates that teaching is one of few occupations where mesothelioma mortality rates - the proportion of people dying of mesothelioma - is increasing not decreasing.

Phillips argued forcefully that Cape's conduct had directly endangered the education workforce, not only through the sale of hazardous materials but by actively working to suppress warnings and weaken regulatory safeguards.

Harminder Bains also presented irrefutable documentary evidence titled 'Asbestos in Clasp Buildings Handbook' which clearly shows Cape Asbestolux was used in the construction of schools.

The APPG's Findings

4.1 Cape Knowingly Concealed the Dangers of Asbestolux

The evidence presented to the panel was overwhelming. Cape, now owned by Altrad, played a central role in the asbestos crisis that continues to kill thousands every year.

Chris Chambers noted that Cape had a corporate interest across the entire asbestos lifecycle; from mining in South Africa to installation and removal in Britain's buildings. He highlighted Cape's presence at a 1964 New York symposium where risks of mesothelioma were made explicit. This proves Cape had knowledge of these dangers from at least 1964.

This is supported by Peter Gartside who stated that Cape failed to make the dangers inherent in the use of Asbestolux apparent to users. Peter also confirmed that there was concealment of these dangers by Cape for profit.

The Forum's legal case against Cape, which was then owned by Altrad, was fought for three and a half years. Cape/Altrad sought to prevent their documents from coming into the public domain. The Supreme Court ultimately ruled in favour of transparency, and the documents revealed that Cape knew that simply handling Asbestolux could cause the fatal cancer of mesothelioma. However, Cape continued to conceal this risk to life simply for profit.

Dr Robin Rudd, with over 40 years' experience working with mesothelioma patients and providing expert evidence in court, stated that Cape were aware of the dangers which they didn't wish to publicise until they were forced to do so, and that Cape has a long history of obfuscation.

This proves that Cape profited while knowingly downplaying the dangers of its products and has so far resisted making any meaningful financial contribution to repairing that harm.

4.2 Damage Caused by Cape Will Continue for Generations

As set out in Peter Gartside's evidence, Asbestolux remains in the UK's infrastructure, in schools and hospitals and will continue to give rise to claims for asbestos related disease for some years to come.

Dr Robin Rudd was asked whether more research was required to establish the risk of developing mesothelioma from exposure to asbestos in buildings. Dr Rudd stated that more research into this was not required as the dangers are already known. Instead, he explained that funding is needed to remove asbestos from buildings, such as schools and hospitals, as he is seeing more and more cases of mesothelioma arising from exposure to asbestos in buildings.

Chris Chambers reiterated this point and explicitly stated that the number of cases where Cape is a Defendant in a legal case has increased over the past few years.

4.3 Cape/Altrad's Conduct and Government Intervention

Harminster Bains explained that in preparation for this public hearing, she spoke to other lawyers to obtain an insight into Cape's conduct in legal cases. In her and her colleagues' experience, even though some cases may settle early, typically, Cape continues to vigorously defend Court cases brought against it by sufferers of mesothelioma and other asbestos-related diseases. She detailed their conduct as follows:

- Cape's lawyers try and bully victims out of compensation.
- Cases are litigated and only settle often weeks or sometimes days before trial.
- Typically, Claimants are forced to make multiple applications for disclosure of documents.
- Cape does not even disclose documents which are referred to in its own experts' reports.
- Cape continues to deny breach, even on some cases in which they have clearly been negligent.
- On numerous occasions, Cape's lawyers have threatened to report the solicitor who is representing the Claimant to the Solicitors Regulations Authority after the solicitor has requested documents/disclosed documents. In such cases, Cape's solicitors request the Claimant's solicitor to recuse themselves from bringing cases against Cape.

Harminster referred to the fact that Altrad's President, namely Mohed Altrad, was found guilty of corruption, including fraud and bribery, in the French Courts and was fined and given an 18-month suspended sentence. She suggested that UK government funds should not be spent on companies which have been found guilty of such crimes.

The panel also noted Tony Whitson's evidence above that Cape's statement in the BBC Radio 4 podcast '*Asbestos Killer Dust*' was misleading and misrepresentative of the negotiations with the Forum. The panel reiterates that the Forum has never asked for money to be paid directly to it.

In light of the above evidence, it is clear to the panel that Cape/Altrad is failing to adequately acknowledge its role in the widespread harm caused by its asbestos products and will continue to conceal its involvement. It is therefore incumbent upon Parliamentarians and the government to intervene for the benefit of public health.

4.4 Cape/Altrad Can and Should Pay

According to [Altrad's press release dated 18 December 2024](#), Cape/Altrad made €5.452 billion in revenue for the 2024 financial year. It is located in more than 50 countries.

Significantly, Harminster Bains made the point that currently, it is the taxpayer who is having to fund the medical care which is provided to mesothelioma and other asbestos disease sufferers, via the under-resourced NHS. She therefore invited the panel to consider whether it is 'just and equitable' for a company to continue to profit under such circumstances.

In recent years, Altrad has been awarded multi-million pound contracts to undertake government-backed work by the UK Nuclear Decommissioning Authority, Magnox and Sellafield. Despite owning Cape Plc, one of the main producers of asbestos, Altrad is now awarded lucrative contracts to remove the material.

As Cape/Altrad can afford to make a £10 million donation in one lump sum without affecting their commercial obligations or profitability, and the panel considers this a fair request.

The APPG's Recommendations

The APPG on Occupational Safety and Health makes the following recommendations to the UK Government:

- That the government upholds the Forum's request that until Cape/Altrad pays £10 million to Asthma + Lung UK;
- That the government refrains from awarding any public contracts to Cape/Altrad and/or any of their parent companies or subsidiaries or associated companies until such a donation is made; and
- The government establishes a national asbestos removal strategy by developing and funding a phased removal of asbestos from all public buildings, starting with schools and hospitals. The Department for Work and Pensions Select Committee previously set out such a plan (2022)³

The APPG will now take forward the findings of this hearing by writing to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, the Secretary of State for Business and Trade, the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, and the Minister for the Cabinet Office, urging them to consider these recommendations immediately.

We will also seek a meeting with ministers and raise this issue formally in both Parliamentary debates and questions. APPG Officers are also pursuing a meeting with Cape, to raise the issues heard in the inquiry and put forward the recommendations.

³ <https://committees.parliament.uk/committee/164/work-and-pensions-committee/news/172269/committee-publishes-government-response-to-asbestos-management-report/#:~:text=The%20report%2C%20published%20in%20April,from%20cancers%20such%20as%20mesothelioma.>

“Cape’s deadly legacy has destroyed thousands of lives, and the company has yet to show real accountability. As the parent company, Altrad now carries that responsibility — and the government must stop turning a blind eye. It is completely unacceptable that Altrad continues to receive public contracts while failing to address the devastation caused by Cape’s asbestos products. The government must act now: no more contracts, no more excuses, until a meaningful contribution is made to mesothelioma research.”

Ian Lavery MP

“As someone who has experienced the devastating loss of a loved one due to asbestos exposure at work, I know all too well the pain that families face. Mesothelioma is a cruel and entirely preventable disease. This report shines a vital light on the ongoing legacy of asbestos and the responsibility that companies like Cape must own up to. I fully support the call for Cape to contribute £10 million towards mesothelioma research — a step that could bring hope to those affected and help us move closer to finding effective treatments.”

John Glen MP

“Losing my mother to an asbestos related disease caused by asbestos exposure — showed me the true cost of inaction. No one should suffer or die from something that is entirely preventable. With one of the highest rates of asbestos-related cancers in the world, the UK cannot afford to delay any longer. I strongly support the report’s recommendation that the Government set out a national plan to remove asbestos from all public buildings. Its new Infrastructure Strategy must include this — our schools, hospitals and public spaces should be safe for everyone, now and in the future.”

Christine Jardine MP
