

I'm interested in sharing my story, I own and live in [redacted] Apartments in Kensington. The apartments have poor ventilation which causes a lot of moisture build up and this has led to a significant amount of mould in my bedroom. I have suffered from fatigue and many other health issues for the 4 and a bit years living here, and only discovered early this year that I have mould illness (CIRS). I have since removed the mould (which was hidden behind furniture) and bought a dehumidifier, but have had to relocate to my spare room, as I react to the residual mould spores in the bedroom if I spend any significant amount of time in there (1 hour or more).

The apartment building is around 15 years old, so relatively new I guess. I believe there are many compounding reasons why there was so much mould build up in my bedroom. Firstly because the ensuite is connected to the bedroom and the exhaust fan in there is completely inadequate, it does basically nothing besides make a whole heap of noise. The ensuite doesn't have any windows, so there is no way to ventilate it.

As my apartment is facing [redacted] Road there is a lot of street noise, so I tend to not have the windows open in my bedroom. I couldn't sleep with it were open in winter as it would be too cold, and that's when the most condensation builds up. Every morning in winter there would be a big puddle on the window sills, it was so big it would be dripping down the wall.

Also the windows appear to seal basically air tight, so there isn't any air flow.

Additionally, there is no ventilation in the apartments. So even though I would keep the ensuite door closed all the time to reduce any moisture getting into the bedroom, there was still so much condensation. I would put around 25 damp rid containers around the apartment and they would be full in just over a month.

I emailed the owners corporation and all they provided a list of ways to reduce moisture and said was I should buy a dehumidifier.

I've been suffering from fatigue and other health issues since shortly after I moved into the apartment in May 2014. I was diagnosed with Chronic Inflammatory Response Syndrome (CIRS)/Mould Illness in January of this year. At which time I did a thorough inspection of my apartment and found mould hidden behind my bedroom, my dresser, the bedside tables, and my tallboy.

I've had my bedroom cleaned and repainted with mould resistant paint. So far I've had to throw out about 6 big garbage bags of my possessions; I'll have to throw out more when I have enough energy. I now have a dehumidifier, while this keeps the majority of moisture under control, there is still enough to have mould growth on the window sills. I've also have to invest in a hepa filter and ionising air purifier in order to clean the air so I don't get sicker. I've had to take so much sick leave over the last 4 years, there have been times when I thought I might get fired. I've spent around 20 thousand on my health every year for the last 4 years just so I can function enough to get to work.