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"Plumbing products are highly reliant on the R&M market, though new construction growth is also boosting demand and legislation is a determinant in the heating sectors. Against these positive influences, increases to interest rates and the potential for house price inflation/moving activity to dampen following Brexit will reduce the level of market growth."

This report looks at the following areas:

- Climate change targets slipping
- The Brexit issue

Plumbing products are significantly dependent on the R&M market, supported by demand from new construction activity and in the case of central heating products, legislation and government policy. The market traverses the residential market through to significant commercial applications, with hotel builds and refurbishments a significant source of demand for bathroom products. The residential R&M market is strongly affected by house price inflation, which encourages householders to view expenditure as an investment. Bathrooms and kitchens tend to be big ticket investments, so the market is also impacted by interest rate changes. House price inflation also encourages house moving activity, which is a significant issue for the plumbing products sector, with both kitchens and bathrooms seen as major lifestyle statements.

UK house sizes are very small by international comparison. This affects the choice of plumbing products, particularly in bathrooms, where en-suite facilities are often placed in confined areas. Another impact of this more confined space is the move to open plan living, combining the kitchen, eating area and living area, with no dividing wall. This accentuates the importance of the kitchen's appearance as every visitor now sees the room.

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- Terry Leggett, Senior Analyst

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DID YOU KNOW?

This report is part of a series of reports, produced to provide you with a more holistic view of this market



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