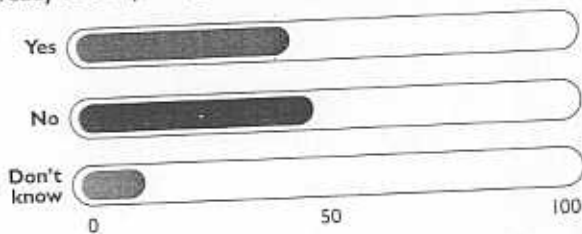


### Post Magazine News Barometer

Last week, on its website, [www.postmagazine.co.uk](http://www.postmagazine.co.uk), Post Magazine posed the question: Is RSA's appointment of a senior Norwich Union figure, Bridget McIntyre, a sign that it is ready to compete again in the big league? The barometer shows the result: Check the website on Thursday for this week's PM News Barometer question.

Is Royal and Sun Alliance's appointment of a senior Norwich Union figure, Bridget McIntyre, a sign that it is ready to compete again in the big league?



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## Call for construction industry to fall in line

I READ with interest the article by Michael Blackburne of law firm Reynolds Porter Chamberlain in respect of latent defects insurance (*PM*, 28 April, p18).

I would like to point out that, within the subsidence section of the construction industry, ASUC Plus — the association for specialist subsidence repair and engineered foundations — members have been providing insurance for more than five years.

Dig (defects insurance guarantee), can be issued automatically by all ASUC Plus members. It is arranged on their behalf by MD Insurance Services, which operate similar schemes for new foundations and house builders.

The article mentions the National House Building Council warranty scheme. In fact, the

Dig policy goes one better as they operate cover from day one and do not have the two-year clause where the initial liability lies with the contractor.

The ASUC Plus scheme operates at similar costs to those mentioned in the article and the premium sum is included in all members' quotations to clients. They are able to operate such a scheme as all members are technically, financially and safety audited on a regular basis.

It would be good if the rest of the construction industry could fall into line behind such schemes and follow our lead.

Robert Withers  
Chairman,  
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POST MAG  
12-5-05