

General Policy**ASBESTOS DISPOSAL POLICY**

Intent This Policy is intended to provide direction to the general public on the requirements for the disposal of domestic generated asbestos at Council's Portsmouth Waste Transfer Station. This policy is not intended to provide detailed advice on all aspects of handling and transporting asbestos waste.

Scope This Policy applies to all domestic customers intending to dispose of asbestos wastes volumes under 250kg at the Portsmouth Transfer Station.

BACKGROUND

Asbestos is extremely hazardous as it is easily liberated into the atmosphere and if inhaled may cause serious health concerns including death. Current estimates show that 8 people per day die of an asbestos related disease in Australia, and it is expected that numbers will escalate significantly over the coming years. People are most at risk of asbestos exposure when removing or renovating old houses, and when handling or coming into contact with damaged asbestos materials. Prior to dealing with asbestos material it is strongly advised to consult with the department of Workplace Health and Safety for advice on the procedures and personal protective equipment needed during the demolition / removal of asbestos fixtures. It is also advised that it is best practice to use qualified contractors or suitably trained personnel when dealing with asbestos material.

PROVISIONS

Asbestos products being removed should be thoroughly saturated moistened with water to limit the potential for asbestos fibres to be liberated into the air. Asbestos must be wrapped in heavy-duty builder's plastic, labelled in accordance with the asbestos advisory standard clearly identifying the contents and relevant safety precautions. Asbestos labelled tape may be purchased from selected retail outlets.

The wrapped asbestos must be sealed to prevent the escape of air and dust. The asbestos material must be double-wrapped in heavy duty builder's plastic to prevent punctures from sharp edges.

ACCEPTANCE OF ASBESTOS

Asbestos will only be accepted at Portsmouth Waste Transfer Station and must be in small manageable bundles which can be lifted by hand by the customer. Quantities of asbestos exceeding 250kg will not be accepted at the Portsmouth Transfer Station.

FURTHER INFORMATION ON ASBESTOS HANDLING

Further information can be obtained from the Asbestos Removal and A-C Sheeting Advisory Standards issued by the Division of Workplace Health and Safety, which are also available on the web at www.worksafe.qld.gov.au. Alternatively contact the following:

- Department of Workplace Health and Safety Ph. 1300 369 915
- Department of Environment and Heritage Protection Ph. 137 468
- Portsmouth Transfer Station Ph. (07) 4035 6556
- Cairns Water & Waste Ph. (07) 4044 3044

Advice regarding asbestos related diseases can be obtained from the following:

- Queensland Asbestos Related Diseases Support Society Ph. 1800 776 412.
- Asbestos Diseases Foundation of Australia Ph. 1800 006 196.

wwwwww

This Policy is to remain in force until otherwise determined by Council.

General Manager Responsible for Review:

Manager Waste & Environment

ORIGINALLY ADOPTED: 20/02/2002

CURRENT ADOPTION: 31/10/2012

DUE FOR REVISION: 31/10/2016

REVOKED/SUPERSEDED: