

## FACT SHEET - ASBESTOS

Asbestos is a naturally occurring mineral that was once used in the construction industry. If it is inhaled it can cause long term illness such as lung cancer and other serious medical conditions.

There are special requirements for the demolition, renovation, recladding, brick veneering buildings and disposal of asbestos products. This is to ensure the safety of workers and neighbouring residents.

If the development is found to contain asbestos the owner/applicant/builder must investigate, and carry out, their obligations as specified under WorkCover, the *Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011*, and the *Protection of the Environment Operations (Waste) Regulation 1996*.

For further information, please refer to the local council fact sheet on the WorkCover website, [www.workcover.nsw.gov.au/fact-sheet](http://www.workcover.nsw.gov.au/fact-sheet) or visit <http://www.asbestosawareness.com.au>.

Works involving the removal and disposal of asbestos cement must only be undertaken by contractors who hold a current WorkCover "Demolition License" AND a current WorkCover "Class 2 (Restricted) Asbestos Licence". For details relating to licensing requirements, contact [NSW Work Cover Authority](#).

The disposal of asbestos within the Inverell Shire must be done so at the Inverell Landfill located on Burtenshaw Road, Inverell.

Council's Civil and Environmental Services Officers will attend construction sites to ensure compliance with the various legislative requirements. Any non compliance may result in a direction to stop work with the possibility of WorkCover Inspectors being advised of the non compliance.

In circumstances where you are unsure of what you may be dealing with, a request can be made for an Officer of Council to visit your site and provide additional information.

Any questions regarding handling or disposal of asbestos can be directed to Council's Civil and Environmental Services Department on (02) 6728 8200.

