

CAMDEN COUNCIL

Media Release



17 March 2014

Council's First Asbestos Policy

At Tuesday night's Council meeting, Councillors voted unanimously to adopt Council's first Asbestos Policy for the Camden community.

The Policy, which was recently on public exhibition, is based on the Model Asbestos Policy by the Local Government and Shires Association of NSW and designed to provide a comprehensive guideline for Council, building contractors and homeowners when dealing with asbestos.

The Policy also includes information on where asbestos may be found, legislative frameworks, responsibilities, complaints, investigations and procedures in addition to specific Safe Work Method Statements.

Now adopted, Council officers will implement the Asbestos Policy across all sections of Council as well as prepare an Asbestos Management Plan which will inform staff of the correct procedures when dealing with asbestos. Additional Council staff will also receive asbestos related training to raise awareness within the organisation.

Mayor of Camden, Councillor Lara Symkowiak said she was pleased Council was delivering its first Asbestos Policy.

"I am pleased to say that this Council has been proactive regarding asbestos. Due to the age of our area, we have a number of homes in our LGA where asbestos might be found so this policy will help provide important information to homeowners and DIY renovators".

"As a Council we have a responsibility to help minimise our resident's exposure to asbestos. Council fulfils this role by training our staff, educating our community through mediums such as Asbestos BETTY (a mobile information van), as well as developing Council's first Asbestos Policy".

Asbestos containing material that is intact, undisturbed, painted and sealed will pose no risk to the health of residents and can remain safely in place.

Media Contact:
Emma Robilliard
Public Relations Officer, Camden Council
PO Box 183, CAMDEN NSW 2570
Phone: 4645 5115
Fax: 4645 5142
Email: emma.robilliard@camden.nsw.gov.au

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