

KENSINGTON COMMUNITY AQUATIC AND RECREATION CENTRE REDEVELOPMENT

Asbestos contamination

July 2022

As part of the construction process for the new Kensington Community Aquatic and Recreation Centre, City of Melbourne engaged a licensed contractor to test soil on the site in accordance with the Environment Protection Act 2017, Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017 and WorkSafe Victoria Compliance Codes.

Laboratory testing has identified some asbestos-containing material in soil samples. The asbestos poses no risk to the community as it's non-friable material, meaning it doesn't release any asbestos fibres into the air. Every precaution is being taken to remove it safely from the site before works continue.

The areas where asbestos was found are not accessible to the public and are only being accessed by qualified professionals. City of Melbourne will engage a licensed asbestos removalist to remove the asbestos material.

FAQs

What is asbestos?

Asbestos was commonly used to manufacture residential and commercial building materials from the 1950s to the 1980s. According to the Environment Protection Authority (EPA), one third of Australian homes contain asbestos. It can be found in buildings, cars and other products, including fibre cement sheeting and piping, vinyl floor tiles, electrical parts and brake pads in vehicles.

Why is there asbestos on the site?

The site was filled with waste and likely levelled using materials manufactured with asbestos between 1951 and 1962.

Am I at risk if I live nearby or visited the old centre?

The asbestos found on site does not pose a health risk to the community as it's sealed, undisturbed and in good condition, which means asbestos fibres are not released into the

air. Asbestos only becomes a potential health risk if asbestos fibres are released into the air and breathed into the lungs. We conducted air monitoring for asbestos fibres and all results were below the detection limit.

How will the asbestos removalist treat the soil?

A licensed asbestos removalist will excavate the asbestos material in accordance with the Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017. An Asbestos Management Plan will be in place for the duration of the works and all materials will be disposed at a landfill facility licensed by the EPA to accept this material.

Does this impact the delivery time of the project?

The health of our community and workers is our number one priority and we need to allow extra time for the asbestos material to be removed safely. We will aim to complete the works as quickly as possible and will contact you when we have further details about any changes to the project timeline.

Where can I find out more about asbestos and asbestos removal?

You can find out more about asbestos at www.asbestos.vic.gov.au or on the EPA Victoria website.



We will also hold a drop in session to answer your questions about asbestos on site.

When: 4pm - 6pm on Thurs 28 July

Where: Bill Vanina Pavilion
1A Childers Street
Kensington VIC 3031

For more information

Scan the QR code, call **9658 9658** or email the project team at KCARC@melbourne.vic.gov.au



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