Asbestos

What is asbestos?

Asbestos is a naturally occurring mineral that was used in building materials, mainly as a fire-retardant and insulating material. Its use was officially banned in 2003 but hasn't been used in Australia since the early 1980's. If your home was built before 1990, asbestos may be present.

Is asbestos dangerous?

Asbestos containing material is not dangerous if it is not damaged, drilled, cut, crumbled or crushed. This means that while there may be asbestos in your home, it is not a health issue if left undisturbed. When asbestos fibres are inhaled, they may get stuck in the lungs, this may cause illness and can lead to death.

What is Loreto Community Housing doing about asbestos?

We take asbestos very seriously. We know that many Loreto Community Housing properties were built with asbestos containing materials. We will remove asbestos from homes as necessary, however undamaged asbestos in your home, does not need to be removed.

If you notice any damage, you must let us know straight away. A lot of the time, the areas that contain asbestos are on the outside of a home. It's also a good idea to look out for damage when you and your tenancy officer do an inspection of your home. If we think there is damaged asbestos in your home, we will remove it.

Sanding and drilling make asbestos a problem

Please don't do any sanding or drilling in your home. This could create a problem with asbestos. Your lease agreement states that you can't do any renovations without our permission, so please consult with us first.

What if you want to buy a Loreto Community Housing home?

Before you buy a Loreto Community Housing home, we suggest you talk to a builder about asbestos. Registered builders are the best people to talk to. Once you buy the home, the maintenance and upgrades are up to you. We suggest that you avoid disturbing any asbestos that is in your home and have it professionally removed if required.

Where to find out more

You can visit http://www.worksafe.tas.gov.au/asbestos to find out more.

More information

If you would like further information about your responsibilities as a Loreto Community Housing tenant please refer to your Lease or contact us.