



your home

Asbestos in your home

What you need to know

Available in large print, Braille and on tape

العربية 中文 فارسی Français हिन्दी كوردی Somali أُرُودو Việt-Nam

Northwards Housing has created a policy on asbestos to ensure the safety of residents and of contractors who carry out building work in Northwards homes.

Under that policy we promise to record the location and condition of any materials containing asbestos in all Northwards homes, remove any materials that are damaged and pose a risk to health, and tell you all you need to know about managing asbestos.

What is asbestos?

Asbestos is a material that was widely used for its fire resistant and insulation qualities in the construction of buildings up to the 1980's.

Why is it harmful?

If asbestos fibres are inhaled they can cause a number of harmful diseases, the effects of which only become apparent after many years. Because of the delay in symptoms appearing the potential scale of the health risk only became known after asbestos had been widely used and many people had already been exposed. Asbestos products are a risk to health for Northwards residents only when they are damaged releasing asbestos fibres into the air. **Most asbestos products pose no risk to health. Whilst they remain in good condition and undisturbed.**

Where might I find asbestos in my home?

While there may be asbestos products in your home, they represent little risk because they are in good condition and there's little chance of accidental damage.

You might find asbestos in these common building materials:

- sprayed asbestos – generally used as fire breaks in ceiling voids, fire protection of ducts and structural steelwork
- thermal insulation lagging around pipes and boilers
- linings for walls, ceilings and doors
- roofing tiles and felt
- some types of ceiling tiles
- some types of flooring materials
- decorative textured coatings, generally applied prior to 1990
- bath panels
- boarding and gaskets within electrical mains fuse cupboards and certain gas fires
- asbestos cement products, compressed into flat or corrugated sheets, typically used as roofing and wall cladding on garages, sheds etc

- other asbestos cement products including gutters, rainwater pipes, water tanks and flues.

What precautions should I take?

If you've been told there is some material containing asbestos in your home you should avoid damaging it in any way. You should not carry out any work that involves drilling, sawing, sanding or cutting into it that may release fibres into the air.*

If you are concerned about any suspect material in your home you should always treat it as if it does contain asbestos until you hear otherwise from a representative of Northwards Housing.

Never handle any suspect material or try to dispose of it yourself. This is our responsibility and we will employ licensed and experienced contractors to remove and dispose of it at an approved tip.

If in any doubt you should always seek advice from your local Northwards Housing office or telephone the Surveying Team on 0161 795 6760.

Can I do any DIY?

You should not carry out any alterations or improvements to your home, other than cleaning and basic decorating, without permission from your local Northwards Housing office.

We may not give you permission where there is a likelihood of you removing or damaging any materials containing asbestos.

Northwards Housing's commitment to managing asbestos

We already have a lot of information on the location of asbestos in Northwards homes from the council. We are undertaking a comprehensive survey of all our homes to record the location of materials containing asbestos so that we can safeguard the health of residents and make sure there is no accidental release of asbestos fibres during refurbishment work or repairs.

**We will not normally remove undamaged asbestos products. The safest way of dealing with damaged asbestos may be to seal it.*

Extra services for customers with reduced hearing or vision

To get this leaflet in Braille, large print or on tape:

Call 0161 953 2662 **E-mail:** info@northwardshousing.co.uk

Fax: 0161 953 2660 **Text phone:** 0161 953 2526

للحصول على هذه المعلومات بأي لغة أو بالبرايل أو بالحروف الكبيرة أو على شريط الرجاء الإتصال برقم الهاتف الموجود أسفله.

Arabic

如欲索取這資料以任何語言或盲人用點字、大字印刷編制的版本或錄音帶，請致電下列號碼。

Chinese

لطفاً برای دریافت این اطلاعات به زبان های دیگر، به خط بریل (خط ویژه افراد نابینا)، چاپ درشت و یا بر روی نوار با شماره تلفن زیر تماس بگیرید.

Farsi

Pour recevoir ces informations dans d'autres langues, en Braille, en gros caractères, ou sur bande sonore, prière d'appeler le numéro de téléphone ci-dessous.

French

यदि आप यह जानकारी किसी दूसरी भाषा, ब्रैल, बड़े प्रिन्ट या टेप में चाहते हैं तो कृपया नीचे दिये गये नम्बर पर फोन कीजिए।

Hindi

بو بەدەست هێنانی ئەم زانیاریانە بە هەر زمانێک یان بە بریال، پیتی گەورە یان لەسەر شریت، ئەوا تکایە تەلەفون بکە بۆ ئەم ژمارەیە خوارەوە.

Kurdish

Si aad u hesho macluumaadkaani oo ku qoran luqad kasta, tan indhoolaha, daabacaad balaaran ama cajal ku duuban fadlan telefoonka hoos ku qoran:

Somali

یہ معلومات کسی بھی زبان، بریل، بڑے حروف یا ٹیپ پر حاصل کرنے کے لئے براہ کرم ذیل کے نمبر پر فون کیجئے۔

Urdu

Nếu cần bản tin này bằng ngôn ngữ khác, bằng chữ nổi cho người mù, chữ in lớn hay băng ghi âm, xin vui lòng gọi điện thoại số dưới đây:

Vietnamese

0161 953 2662