



your home

Asbestos in your home

What you need to know

Available in large print, Braille and on CD

**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 741 5301.

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 have undertaken a comprehensive survey of all our homes and recorded 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 CD:

Call: 03000 123 123 **E-mail:** info@northwardshousing.co.uk

Fax: 03000 124 123 **Text phone:** 0161 274 0899

Nëse këtë dokument e domi të përkthyer, ju lutemi telefononi numrin më poshtë, ky dokument gjendet edhe në gjuhën braille, në format me germa të mëdha ose në CD.

Albanian

إن كنت تريد ترجمة هذه الوثيقة، يرجى الاتصال بالرقم المذكور أعلاه. تتوفر هذه الوثيقة أيضاً بصيغة برايل للمكفوفين وبالحروف الطباعية الكبيرة أو على قرص مدمج – سي دي.

Arabic

如果您想要一份中文译本，请拨打下列电话。
这文件也有盲文版、大字体版和 CD 光盘备索。

Chinese

Přejete-li si překlad tohoto dokumentu zavolejte prosím na níže uvedené číslo. Tento dokument je také k dispozici ve slepeckém písmu, ve velkém formátu nebo na CD.

Czech

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French

نه گه ر بڻت خوڻشه نه رچومه ي. نه م به لڱه نامه به وه رگريت، نڪانه به يوه ندي بکه به نه و ژمنه ي
خواره وه. نه م به لڱه به هه ر وه ها به شپوارزي نوسراوي ڳوڻران، نه چيني ڳه زړه و بيان نه سه ر سي دي
هه به.

Kurdish

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Portuguese

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Somali

اگر آپ امن دستاویز کا ترجمہ چاہتے ہیں تو براؤ کریم نیچے دئے گئے نمبر پر کال کریں، یہ دستاویز بریل، بڑی چھپائی یا سی ڈی کی شکل میں بھی دستیاب ہے۔

Urdu

03000 123 123