

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (APPENDICES)

APPENDIX B – QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE FOR ASBESTOS CONTAMINATION

The following table provides a quick reference guide to some of the more common questions that Councils will need to address when asbestos is found.

QUESTION	RESPONSE
Who is responsible for the situation at hand?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The perpetrator The property owner (if the perpetrator cannot be determined)
What if the site/house is abandoned or the owner/perpetrator cannot be found?	Council can assume responsibility for the remediation and attempt to recover costs.
Who pays for the investigation, remediation and validation?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The perpetrator The property owner <p>If neither can be found, Council may assume responsibility.</p>
Can Council costs be recovered?	Yes, under section 104 of the <i>POEO Act</i> .
Who is the ARA at different stages?	It varies. Refer to Appendix A.
Does the ARA change depending on the stage of the process?	Yes. Refer to Appendix A.
Is the asbestos bonded or friable, and what are the different management processes?	For the simple friable test and processes, refer to the 'Asbestos Management' tab.
What if asbestos is involved in a house fire?	It is treated as friable asbestos. Refer to the 'Asbestos Management' tab and Appendix G.
Who can undertake investigations, remediation and validation?	<p>Council and EPA authorised officers with appropriate delegations can undertake investigations.</p> <p>Duly qualified consultants can prepare and manage remediation and prepare validation reports. Council staff can approve validation reports.</p>
How should the transport and disposal of contaminated material be handled, and who is the ARA?	<p>For less than 10 square metres of asbestos, Council is the ARA.</p> <p>For more than 10 square metres of asbestos, the EPA is the ARA (refer to Appendix C).</p>
What needs to be done with an 'unexpected find'?	The material should be tested by a NATA-accredited laboratory and, depending on the outcome, follow due processes for disposal.

Note: ARA = appropriate regulatory authority; POEO Act = *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997*; NATA = National Association of Testing Authorities.