The South Australian Asbestos Action Plan published in October 2022 details the strategic actions the South Australian Government will undertake in order to implement the National Strategic Plan for Asbestos Awareness and Management 2019-2023.

- 1. Increase awareness
- 2. Identified and assessed the risks associated with ACMs in Government infrastructure
- 3. Prioritised safe removal of asbestos, according to risk in Government infrastructure.
- 4. All regulators have in place and have implemented asbestos compliance program.
- 5. Commercial buildings have an up-to-date asbestos register and management plan
- 6. All regulators are investigating, prosecuting and penalising serious breaches of asbestos-related laws.
- 7. Easier and cheaper disposal of asbestos waste.

# Health and Safety Snapshot

In 2022-23, SafeWork SA received 5348 asbestos removal notifications, that is a:

- 12% decrease in notifications compared to the previous financial year
- 8% increase in friable removals compared to the previous financial year



#### Top 5

Reasons for issuing



- 20% Failed to prepare or maintain an asbestos register.
- 13% Asbestos Removal Control Plan not prepared or inadequate for the type of removal being undertaken.
- 9% Independence not maintained between asbestos removalist and asbestos assessor.
- 7% Failure to comply with licensed asbestos removal conditions.
- 6% Failed to prepare or maintain an Asbestos Management Plan.

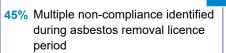
## Top 5

Reasons for issuing prohibition notices

- 20% Workers who wear a tight fitting respirator to minimise exposure to airborne asbestos fibres were not clean shaven
- 20% Failure to identify and remove asbestos prior to commencing demolition or refurbishment work
- 20% Using implements that cause the release of airborne asbestos into the atmosphere
- 17% Licensed asbestos removal workers not VET trained for the specific type of removal being undertaken
- 10% Not wearing, or inadequate PPE for the removal of asbestos.

## Top 5

Reasons for issuing letter of warning



- 9% Failure to comply with asbestos removal licence conditions
- 9% Unlicensed asbestos removal
- 7% Inadequate personal protective equipment, such as respiratory protective equipment
- 5% Licensed asbestos removal worker had not undertaken heath monitorina.



#### **Expiations issued**

2 x Failed to ensure workers were supervised by a supervisor name the the regulator by the license holder - \$2,160

Failed to give a copy of the asbestos removal control plan to the person who commissioned the work - \$2,160

#### License suspension and cancellations

- Licensed asbestos assessor cancelled and disqualified for 5 years following an immediate suspension and previous 3 month suspension for failing to undertake proper and effective clearance inspections and for failing to place an adequate number of air monitors for the type of asbestos removal being undertaken
- Licensed asbestos removalists cancelled and disqualified for 1 year following an immediate suspension for failing to identify and remove asbestos prior to commencing demolition and a history of not removing asbestos safely and competently
- Licensed asbestos removalists suspended for 1 year for having a history of not removing asbestos safely and competently
- Licensed asbestos removalists suspended for 3 months for having a history of not removing asbestos safely and competently
- Asbestos removalists licence renewal was not granted due to having a history of not removing asbestos safely and competently.

## **Top 30**

Highest number of asbestos removal notifications per suburb/town

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2. WHYALLA

3. SALISBURY SUBURBS

4. MODBURY SUBURBS

5. ELIZABETH SUBURBS

6. WOODVILLE SUBURBS

7. GLENELG SUBURBS

8. PLYMPTON SUBURBS

9. BEDFORD PARK

10. MOUNT GAMBIER

11. MORPHETT VALE

12. SEATON

13. GRANGE

14. BRIGHTON SUBURBS

15. PORT PIRIE

16. HENLEY BEACH SUBURBS

17. PORT AUGUSTA

18. SEMAPHORE SUBURBS

19. MURRAY BRIDGE

20. FULHAM

21. LEIGH CREEK

22. INGLE FARM

23. CHRISTIES BEACH

24. BELAIR

25. CAMPBELLTOWN

26. HAPPY VALLEY

27. MAGILL

28. KILBURN

29. PROSPECT

30. SOMERTON PARK

#### **Focus** for FY 2023-24

- Monitoring of removalist whose licencing is up for renewal
- Review/revise of asbestos registers prior to demolition or refurbishment work commencing
- Fit-testing for negative pressure respirator use
- Health monitoring
- Adequate supervision
- Independent engagement of licensed asbestos assessors
- Air monitoring and clearance inspections
- Asbestos removal controls

### Top 5 - Asbestos Containing Material Removed

Domestic Premises (2946 Notifications)

- 1. Eaves (1621)
- 2. External Sheeting (733)
- 3. Internal Sheeting (713)
- 4. Ceiling (372)
- 5. Fence (236)

95 Notifications were associated with asbestos backed vinyl. A friable asbestos material found in a home.

Workplaces (2402 Notifications)

- 1. Eaves (706)
- 2. Internal Sheeting (636)
- 3. External Sheeting (474)
- 4. Ceiling (346)
- 5. Flooring (328)

402 notifications were friable asbestos removals. 154 were associated with asbestos backed vinyl.