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## PARISH PROPERTY - ASBESTOS

Approved by Diocesan Council  
Review due

23 November 2016  
23 November 2019

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### 1 PREAMBLE

The ultimate goal is for all Parish and non-Parish buildings to be free of asbestos.

The presence of asbestos in parochial and non-parochial buildings and fences shall be identified at the earliest opportunity. The Property Asset Manager will be able to assist in this regard.

Asbestos identified in buildings, which has been incorporated in a stable form and presents no risk to health may be sealed or encased subject to the advice of accredited technical persons first being obtained.

The removal of asbestos is subject to priority-setting, determined by the condition and location of the asbestos.

In all instances, the provisions of the 'Asbestos Code of Practice for the Safe Removal of Asbestos' prepared by the Australian Safety and Compensation Council, shall be adhered to.

### 2 RESPONSIBILITY TO INFORM

Where asbestos products are present (or thought to be present) in Parish-owned properties, it is the responsibility of each Parish Council to ensure user groups are advised that asbestos products are present in a building.

The Parish Council shall also ensure that user groups are advised:

- That an inspection of the buildings is to take place.
- Whether or not asbestos has been found in the buildings after the inspection.
- Of the evaluation and control process (outlined below).

### 3 INSPECTION AND IDENTIFICATION

The aim of an inspection is to determine whether a hazard exists. The location of suspected asbestos-containing materials shall be determined by persons familiar with construction practices. The materials are then identified by accredited technical persons.

### 4 EVALUATION

The level of risk shall be determined by competent persons, in consultation with the Diocesan Property Manager.

### 5 REGISTER

A register shall be maintained, with regular updating of the results of these inspections.

### 6 CONTROL

Notwithstanding the ultimate goal of asbestos-free buildings, priorities must be established for control in the short term. Asbestos products, if stable and inaccessible, may be left in situ until demolition,

## **DIOCESAN COUNCIL POLICY 6.8**



partial demolition or renovation. Where in situ asbestos is in a stable condition, but accessible, it should be appropriately controlled, if necessary, by encapsulation or sealing, enclosure or removal. Asbestos which is not in a stable condition, or is determined to constitute an unacceptable health risk, shall be removed by a registered removalist.

### **7 REMOVAL AND MAINTENANCE WORK**

The removal or maintenance of asbestos shall be undertaken only by registered asbestos removalists and in accordance with the Code of Practice determined by the Department of Occupational Health and Safety or procedures from a similar accredited agency. This can be arranged by the Property Asset Manager.