



Heads of Asbestos Coordination Authorities (HACA)

research | communication | prevention | coordination
Year in review 2014-2015

Front cover image

Asbestos Awareness Ambassadors with Serafina Salucci and Betty the ADRI House.
Left to right: Don Burke, John Jarratt, Serafina Salucci, Scott McGregor, Barry DuBois.

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Message from the Executive Director – Peter Dunphy

The work of the Heads of Asbestos Coordination Authorities, more familiarly known as the HACA, is literally life-saving.

Asbestos-related diseases are responsible for the overwhelming majority of work-related deaths in Australia, even though mining, manufacture and installation of asbestos products has long ceased in New South Wales.

Sadly, in 2014 the Australian Mesothelioma Register reported 641 new cases of mesothelioma and 607 deaths. This does not include the many additional deaths from other asbestos-related diseases such as asbestosis and lung cancer.

The HACA works to prevent future asbestos-related disease through coordinated management, monitoring and response to asbestos issues in NSW and proactive illness prevention programs.

Our year in review report 2014/15 outlines the significant progress the HACA has made in raising asbestos awareness in the NSW community through key prevention programs and initiatives.

Many of the initiatives in 2014/15, including the loose-fill asbestos insulation program and naturally occurring asbestos mapping, demonstrate the value of cross-government collaboration and maintaining strong networks across the HACA State agencies and local government.

I thank members for their commitment to the NSW state-wide Asbestos Plan and the work of HACA. I look forward to seeing future achievements of the HACA in the important health and safety management of asbestos.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter Dunphy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Peter Dunphy
Executive Director, SafeWork NSW

Collaboration

HACA aims to ensure that government agencies and local councils coordinate the safe management of asbestos through improved coordination and key prevention programs.

HACA is chaired by the Executive Director, SafeWork NSW, with senior representatives from:

- Department of Industry
- Department of Planning and Environment
- Dust Diseases Authority
- Environment Protection Authority
- Local Government NSW
- Ministry of Health
- Office of Emergency Management
- Office of Local Government.

HACA demonstrates how cross-agency coordination and partnerships can benefit the NSW community with key initiatives including:

- 'Betty the ADRI House'
- loose-fill asbestos insulation
- National Asbestos Awareness Campaign
- naturally occurring asbestos
- NSW Asbestos Emergency Sub-plan
- Woodsreef Mine Rehabilitation Project.

State-wide Asbestos Plan

The State-wide Asbestos Plan continues to secure the safe management of asbestos to reduce the incidence of asbestos-related diseases in NSW, by targeting four priority areas:

- research
- risk communication
- prevention
- coordination.

The implementation plan highlights 62 initiatives across the four priority areas.

A schedule of key actions that were completed up to June 2015 is also contained in this report.

Model Asbestos Policy for NSW Councils

The Model Asbestos Policy for NSW Councils was released as a guideline under section 23A of the *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)* on 14 May 2013.

Councils must consider the policy when developing, adopting and implementing asbestos policies for their local government areas.

The Model Asbestos Policy is due for a three-year review in November 2015.

A series of asbestos management training workshops have been held across the state since the Model Asbestos Policy began. Councils were given expert advice on various aspects of asbestos management, with 433 council staff from 130 councils (86 per cent of NSW councils) attending a workshop.

The workshops used peer-to-peer learning, showcasing the councils' asbestos management initiatives, and featuring presentations by councils, including:

- Armidale Dumaresq Council
- Blacktown City Council
- Cooma-Monaro Shire Council
- Holroyd City Council
- Lane Cove Municipal Council
- Orange City Council
- Penrith City Council
- Wollongong City Council.

The workshops were held between 1 July 2014 and 30 June 2015 at:

- Berrigan – 4 September 2014
- Bungendore – 24 July 2014
- Dubbo – 17 July 2014.

In September 2014, an asbestos speed talks and discussion event was held at Parramatta, with 40 council staff attending.

The forum offered new updates and networking opportunities across all levels of government and the private sector.

Practical demonstrations gave council officers the chance to view asbestos fibres under microscopes and encased samples of asbestos.

Council staff members have embraced these opportunities and as a result have:

- obtained expert advice on asbestos issues
- understood relevant legislation and its practical application
- clarified the role of local and state government in managing asbestos
- identified areas for improvement in managing and coordinating responses to asbestos issues.

HACA has continued to fund the role of Project Manager – Asbestos Policy at Local Government NSW to assist councils to adopt and implement local asbestos policies, based on the Model Asbestos Policy.

Local Government NSW has been highly proactive in awareness-raising, including:

- continued encouragement to councils to use the resources available via the [asbestos awareness website](#) including '[Betty the ADRI House](#)'
- arranged for '[Betty the ADRI House](#)' to appear at the [Waste Management Conference in May 2015](#) with sponsorship from Local Government NSW and the waste conference
- developed two new case studies which have been added to the suite of case studies of asbestos management on the [Local Government NSW website](#):
 - [Asbestos Collection and Education Program](#) – Holroyd City Council (published December 2014)
 - [Being 'asbestos aware' for naturally occurring asbestos](#) – Port Macquarie-Hastings Council (published April 2015).

Asbestos awareness campaign

The National Asbestos Awareness Campaign is an initiative of the Asbestos Education Committee working in partnership with the Asbestos Diseases Research Institute to educate all Australian's about the dangers of asbestos and how to manage it safely during home renovations or maintenance.

Asbestos-awareness activities have been ongoing throughout 2014/15 with extensive promotion throughout [National Asbestos Awareness Month](#) in November 2014, with the theme 'Get to kNOw asbestos', as highlighted by the poster (below).

Highlights from the campaign included:

- media coverage – 1,606 media clips nationally
- strong traffic to [asbestosawareness.com.au](#)
- 26 media events in NSW and Victoria
- 379 campaign registrations
- a record number of councils were engaged raising council participation to 343 (61 per cent of councils nationally)
- '[Betty the ADRI House](#)' first interstate tour from Sydney to Melbourne
- [blue lamington drives](#)
- [Betty Awards for asbestos awareness](#).



Events featuring 'Betty the ADRI House'

- National Asbestos Awareness Campaign launch – Friday 31st October 2014.
- [Asbestos Diseases Foundation of Australia](#) events
 - 1 November 2014 – Race Day
 - 28 November 2014 – Asbestos Memorial Day.
- Betty's debut in Melbourne, Federation Square on 15 November 2014.
- Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency Inaugural International Conference – 17 and 18 November 2014 in Melbourne.
- Multiple 'Betty the ADRI House' media calls in association with NSW and Victorian councils, and Bunnings Warehouse stores throughout November 2014.

Stakeholder engagement

- asbestos support groups
- corporate and business participation
- trades and trades associations
- local government organisations, councillors and council staff
- state government representatives
- state and federal government members.

Campaign awards

- National recognition of asbestos awareness – National Library of Australia – requested to archive websites:
 - asbestosawareness.com.au
 - bluelamington.com.au.
- International interest in the asbestos awareness campaign and 'Betty the ADRI House' from France, Germany, New Zealand, the Netherlands and United Kingdom.
- 2012 Asbestos Awareness Week campaign was presented at the [World Public Relations Forum](#) in Madrid as a case study for best practice and excellence
- Industry Awards in 2014 – national, state and international
 - 2014 International Association for Measurement and Evaluation of Communication (AMEC) Awards for 'Best Use of Communication Management: Not-for-Profit (Bronze)'
 - 2014 CommPrix Awards – International Global Alliance for Public Relations and Communication Management – Award of Distinction
 - 2014 Public Relations Institute of Australia (PRIA) – NSW Awards for Excellence: Highly Commended
 - 2014 Public Relations Institute of Australia (PRIA) – National Golden Target Awards: Highly Commended

Further information about the asbestos awareness campaign can be found at asbestosawareness.com.au.

Loose-fill asbestos insulation

There has been ongoing concerns about loose-fill asbestos ceiling insulation installed in more than a thousand homes in the ACT during the 1960's and 1970's as well as an unknown number of homes in NSW. The majority of loose-fill asbestos ceiling insulation in Australia was installed by a contractor known as 'Mr Fluffy'.

Independent investigation

In August 2014 the HACA engaged PricewaterhouseCoopers to conduct an independent investigation into loose-fill asbestos in NSW with the final report received in April 2015 after thorough research and investigation.

Sampling program

In August 2014, the NSW Government announced [free ceiling insulation testing](#) for residences in the 26 local government areas that, from archival government records, were likely to be affected.

In December 2014, the NSW Government announced increased support and assistance for affected residents through the 'Make Safe Assistance Package'.

This package included free technical assessments, building works to seal exposure pathways and provided environmental cleaning, reimbursement for soft furnishings, financial assistance for short term accommodation, and counselling services.

The HACA developed the Sampling Protocol for licensed asbestos assessors to undertake the testing program and the Technical Assessment Protocol to determine the level of asbestos in the air and contamination in premises known to contain loose-fill asbestos insulation.

HACA members visited the councils in the 26 local government areas affected by loose-fill asbestos insulation to advise them of the risks and explain the sampling program. The HACA also undertook consultation with affected residents including individual meetings and public forums.

Loose-fill Asbestos Insulation Taskforce

In December 2014, the government also established the Loose-fill Asbestos Insulation Taskforce to consider the cost and benefits of a NSW Government purchase and demolition program.

The taskforce was also asked to make recommendations on the most effective and enduring solution to manage the potential on-going risks posed by the presence of loose-fill asbestos insulation in residential premises in NSW.

The taskforce considered the independent investigation by PricewaterhouseCoopers, a cost benefit analysis, health surveillance information, public and council submissions, industry consultations and a report from the state parliament Joint Select Committee on Loose-fill Asbestos Insulation.

The taskforce determined that demolition, comprehensive site remediation and disposal were the most effective methods of removing the potential health risks from affected properties.

The taskforce also made a number of recommendations about the identification of affected homes for homebuyers, tenants, tradespeople and emergency service workers.

The [final report](#) represents six months of intensive work and collaboration of multiple agencies including:

- Department of Planning and Environment
- Department of Premier and Cabinet
- Environment Protection Authority
- Fair Trading NSW
- Local Government NSW
- Ministry of Health
- Office of Local Government
- SafeWork NSW
- Treasury NSW.

On 29 June 2015, the government announced that it had accepted all 13 recommendations made in the final report from the taskforce, including the establishment of a new Implementation Taskforce within NSW Fair Trading to oversee a Voluntary Purchase Demolition Program.

Voluntary Purchase Demolition Program

The [Voluntary Purchase Demolition Program](#) will safely remove any long term risk posed by loose-fill asbestos insulation in residential premises and will provide affected homeowners with assistance and support.

Affected homeowners in NSW will have two options available to them, to provide flexibility to accommodate their individual circumstances. In all cases, the premises must be demolished and the land remediated.

The first option for homeowners is to sell both their home and land to the government. The second option for homeowners is to allow the government to demolish their premises, whilst retaining ownership of the remediated land.

Further information on the program can be found at fairtrading.nsw.gov.au.



Loose-fill asbestos insulation inside ceiling space

Naturally occurring asbestos

Asbestos occurs in some rocks and soils as a natural mineral. Less than one per cent of the land surface of NSW has the potential for naturally-occurring asbestos within 10 metres of the land surface.

Mapping of potential locations of naturally occurring asbestos has been done by the Geological Survey of NSW, part of the Division of Resources and Energy in the Department of Industry, on behalf of the HACA to help local councils and land managers manage the risks associated with naturally occurring asbestos.

The mapping shows both known and potential areas of naturally-occurring asbestos, but does not identify all places.

In addition to the mapping, we have developed:

- a mapping report on potential locations of naturally-occurring asbestos to accompany the mapping
- farming in areas of naturally-occurring asbestos fact sheet
- recreation in areas of naturally-occurring asbestos fact sheet
- residing in areas of naturally-occurring asbestos fact sheet
- frequently asked questions on naturally occurring asbestos.

The materials help identify simple precautions that can be taken to minimise exposure to naturally occurring asbestos.

A number of forums to promote the mapping have been hosted by Local Government NSW with guest presenters from the Department of Industry, Department of Planning and Environment, the Environment Protection Authority, industry experts, NSW councils and SafeWork NSW.

Feedback from the forums assisted with the finalisation of guidance material and key messages.

Further information on [naturally occurring asbestos](#) can be found at safework.nsw.gov.au.

Woodsreef Mine Rehabilitation Project

[Woodsreef mine](#) is a derelict asbestos mine in the NSW Northern Tablelands. Open cut mining for asbestos first occurred at Woodsreef from 1919–1923. The Chrysotile Corporation of Australia carried out large scale mining at Woodsreef between 1970 and 1983. Approximately 500,000 tonnes of chrysotile, or white asbestos, was produced from 100 million tonnes of mined material.

The former mine extends over an area of approximately 400 hectares. The site comprises a 75 million tonne waste rock dump, a 25 million tonne tailings dump and a number of open pits, some containing considerable quantities of water. There are also a number of derelict buildings within the site, including an eight-storey mill building.

The government provided \$6.3 million to address the most significant health, safety and environmental issues at the Woodsreef mine, including:

- the containment of processed friable chrysotile asbestos
- removal of the mill building, silos, and administration buildings
- implementation of a comprehensive air quality monitoring program and health risk assessment before, during and following remediation works
- closure of Mine Road, Woodsreef.

On 28 March 2011, the NSW Department of Industry engaged NSW Public Works to project manage the demolition works.

The demolition works included an overall planning phase that was extended to allow for additional assessment/ studies relating to the threatened Large-eared Pied Bat roosting in the mill building. The Large-eared Pied Bat is listed as a threatened species under the NSW *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* and the *Commonwealth Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Act 1999*. The Commonwealth Department of the Environment approved the NSW Department of Industry to demolish infrastructure and carry out rehabilitation works at the derelict Woodsreef asbestos mine on 4 July 2014. Consultation was also undertaken by the Woodsreef Taskforce with the Woodsreef Community Advisory Group.

On 3 June 2015 all demolition works were completed eight weeks ahead of the 32 week schedule and within the allocated budget.

All demolition works were carried out in accordance with the Work Health and Safety Act and Environmental Management Plan in consultation with SafeWork NSW and the NSW Environmental Protection Authority. This included regular independent audits, carried out to verify the contractor's compliance with safety and environmental requirements.

There were no safety incidents during the 24-week construction period, and a comprehensive air monitoring program undertaken by an independent licensed asbestos assessor for the duration of site works confirmed there were no off site impacts arising from the works.

As per the plan, the derelict buildings and infrastructure were demolished and buried on site within the Environment Protection Authority's approved engineered containment cell.

Some structural steel from within the mill building was recycled following a decontamination process which was verified by an independent licensed asbestos assessor.

The final report will help the government in the long-term management of the Woodsreef mine.

Further information about the Woodsreef Mine Rehabilitation Project can be found at resourcesandenergy.nsw.gov.au.



Mill House during demolition, aerial view



Woodsreef after demolition, containment cell in background



Mill House during demolition, ground view

NSW Asbestos Emergency Sub-plan

Events like natural disasters can cause asbestos debris to be in the community for an extended period of time. This increases the potential for exposure to airborne asbestos and delays recovery, increases costs and causes undue community distress.

The [NSW Asbestos Emergency Sub-plan](#) details specific arrangements for the coordinated funding and management of asbestos debris during, and following, a large-scale emergency.

The plan is designed to complement the current arrangements for the management of hazardous materials as detailed in the [Hazmat/CBRN emergency plan](#).

Further information about the asbestos emergency sub-plan can be found at emergency.nsw.gov.au

National Strategic Plan for Asbestos Management and Awareness

The [National Strategic Plan for Asbestos Management and Awareness](#) gives a framework for the states and territories to work cooperatively but independently to achieve set objectives.

The [Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency](#), who oversees the plan, will provide insights into asbestos management and eradication across Australia's public health, environment, planning, work health and safety, emergency services and research sectors.

The plan will not direct or duplicate the content of any state, territory or local government plans.

The [NSW State-Wide Asbestos Plan](#) encompasses all priority areas identified in the national plan. The chair of the HACA Working Group is a state representative on the national council.

The issues around asbestos safety, awareness and management are complex and multi-faceted.

Many of the issues covered by this plan, in particular identification and removal, will require all levels of government to work together to find the best approach to this task.

Further information can be found at asbestossafety.gov.au

Imported materials with Asbestos Working Group

The Heads of Workplace Safety Authorities (HWSA) [Imported Materials with Asbestos Working Group](#) has been established to consider the importation of products and materials containing asbestos. They will identify issues and make recommendations on the most effective ways they can be resolved by agencies, regulators and key stakeholders.

SafeWork NSW is a representative of the working group and provides regular updates to HACA on projects.

The HWSA imported materials with asbestos working group have developed a rapid response protocol to assist regulators, Australian Customs and Border Protection and other agencies, including online suppliers, in handling future imported asbestos incidents.

The rapid response protocol is available at asbestossafety.gov.au.

Management of asbestos in waste facilities

The NSW State-wide Asbestos Plan sets out a range of activities around asbestos management in waste facilities that need regulatory action.

Commencing June 2015, SafeWork NSW and the Environment Protection Authority will be carrying out a series of state-wide visits to asbestos waste facilities to ensure asbestos management systems meet legislative requirements. They also provide information and education to workers at the facilities on appropriate handling and storage of asbestos.

The team has visited a number of facilities, checking:

- check asbestos registers
- asbestos management plans
- decontamination procedures
- health monitoring of workers
- incident and emergency procedures
- asbestos awareness training
- personal protective equipment.

The findings from the site visits will be used to assess if asbestos in waste facilities is an emerging issue that requires more attention from SafeWork NSW.

Schedule of actions from 1 July 2014 – 30 June 2015

State-wide Asbestos Plan implementation

Initiative	Agencies	Action taken	2013	2014	2015	2016
1. Provide epidemiological/research studies and report on trends and risk profiles using data from available sources including Workers Compensation Dust Diseases Board (DDB), the Australian Mesothelioma Registry and the Dust Diseases Tribunal. Seek funding sources including NHMRC to support research.	DDA HACA	Work is underway with the Dust Diseases Authority regarding collation of epidemiological trends data for NSW using data sources from the Dust Diseases Authority, Dust Diseases Tribunal, Coal Services, SafeWork NSW and the Australian Mesothelioma Registry.	✓	✓	✓	✓
2. Assess the cost/benefit of current screening practices and develop evidence based guidelines for screen and health surveillance monitoring.	DDA	Scheduled for 2015–2016.			✓	✓
3. Develop evidence-based guidelines for the diagnosis and treatment of malignant mesothelioma.	ADRI HEALTH	In Australia there were no evidence based guidelines for the diagnosis and treatment of malignant pleural mesothelioma. The evidence-based guidelines developed through the Asbestos Diseases Research Institute (ADRI) were approved for publication by the National Health and Medical Research Council in July 2013. The guidelines have been distributed at various national and international conferences via a USB style credit card to 7,000 intended users including: general practitioners, respiratory physicians, pathologists, radiologists, nuclear medical specialists, surgeons, medical and radiation oncologists, palliative care and nurse specialists and allied health professionals responsible for providing services or patients with malignant mesothelioma. ADRI and Cancer Council NSW have produced an easy-to-read booklet called <i>Understanding Pleural Mesothelioma. A guide for people with cancer their families and friends</i> . The dissemination of the booklet will be through Cancer Council Australia's extensive network and ADRI's stakeholders.	✓	✓	✓	
4. Maintain a biobank to provide a research resource for the development of early diagnostic markers and new treatment options for mesothelioma.	ADRI	The ADRI's research is focused on basic, clinical and epidemiological aspects of asbestos-related diseases. New insight will be translated into more effective ways of prevention, better, diagnostic and therapeutic procedures and novel treatment approaches. In the laboratory a variety of molecular and biological techniques are being applied to blood and tissue specimens stored in the ADRI Biobank, and promising new molecules will be quickly tested in clinical trials. More information can be found at asbestosresearch.org.au	✓	✓	✓	✓

State-wide Asbestos Plan implementation

Initiative	Agencies	Action taken	2013	2014	2015	2016
<p>5. Conduct research to develop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • best practice protocols for asbestos-related disease management • screening technologies for disease detection. 	ADRI	<p>On 31 July 2013, the ADRI announced a world first clinical trial into a newly developed drug therapy for the treatment of mesothelioma, a cancer caused by exposure to asbestos fibres, arising from the cells lining the thoracic and abdominal cavities.</p> <p>The treatment options for asbestos-related cancers are very limited and effective new therapies are urgently needed. The clinical study is based on research from the ADRI, which has uncovered a novel way to inhibit the growth of malignant mesothelioma.</p> <p>Since September 2014, 13 patients have entered the trial and early results have indicated that the medication is rather well tolerated and quality of life measurements suggest that a majority of the patients do experience some improvement.</p> <p>More information can be found at asbestosresearch.org.au</p>	✓	✓	✓	
6. Review literature, incidents and issues to establish a watch list of emerging asbestos hazard issues to monitor, manage and promote information and learnings.	HACA	Scheduled for 2015–2016			✓	✓
7. Review research priorities into asbestos-related issues.	HACA	Scheduled for 2015–2016			✓	✓
8. Facilitate NSW government agencies' participation in partnership grants to fund priority research areas. Encourage partnerships and collaboration through interdisciplinary research and centres of research excellence in asbestos.	DDA SW NSW Grants Scheme Environmental Education Trust	Scheduled for 2015–2016			✓	✓
<p>9. Develop an education campaign with a focus on 'home renovators' by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • alerting those people to the dangers of asbestos • alerting those people as to what products may contain asbestos and where those products may be found in existing households or other environments • advising those people as to the steps that ought to be taken by people planning home renovations or who otherwise identify asbestos products in their home or other environment. 	AEC	<p>Highlights from the Asbestos Awareness Campaign 2014 include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1,606 media clips nationally • Major increase in traffic to asbestosawareness.com.au • 26 media events • strong stakeholder engagement • 343 councils participated nationally • a record number of organisations participated in the campaign including trades, corporates and relevant associations • 'Betty the ADRI House' first interstate tour to Melbourne • international interest in the campaign and Betty the ADRI House • Blue Lamington Drives • Betty Awards for asbestos awareness campaign participation • state, national and international industry award winning campaign • national recognition of Asbestos Awareness and Blue Lamington website in the National Library of Australia. 	✓	✓	✓	✓

State-wide Asbestos Plan implementation						
Initiative	Agencies	Action taken	2013	2014	2015	2016
10. Encourage media organisations to help promote asbestos awareness through the use of articles and television segments on asbestos risks and safety in relevant shows, magazines and other media.	SW NSW	<p>The Asbestos Awareness Campaign 2014 achieved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1,606 media clips nationally including MX, Channel 10's Studio 10, Saturday Telegraph, realestate.com.au, domain.com.au, ABC News (National and State) 'Betty the ADRI House' attended 29 community events and conducted 26 media events. 	✓	✓	✓	✓
11. Review all current guidance material to ensure accuracy, consistency and completeness.	DACC HACA	<p>The HACA web page provides a comprehensive list of publications and guidance material regarding asbestos. New publications include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Living in a home with loose-fill asbestos (flyer and DVD)</i> <i>Working in a home that may contain loose-fill asbestos</i> <i>Loose-fill asbestos: A guide for real estate agency principals, their agents, property managers, strata managers and auctioneers.</i> 	✓	✓	✓	✓
12. Work with communities in regional, rural and remote regions of NSW, including the Aboriginal Land Councils and communities, to promote the safe management of asbestos.	HACA LGNSW	An asbestos awareness campaign, designed specifically for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island communities, will be launched early 2016.			✓	✓
13. Develop a database of asbestos-containing products to improve knowledge of asbestos-containing materials and provide a reference tool for occupational hygienists, asbestos assessors, industry and the general community.	HACA SW NSW	Development of a unique website as a reference tool for identifying various types of asbestos products and relevant information that is easily accessible for all types of online users and target groups including occupational hygienists', licensed asbestos assessors building inspectors, trades people and the general public. The website will be launched November 2015.		✓	✓	✓
14. Undertake a coordinated government awareness raising campaign during National Asbestos Awareness Month held annually in November.	ADFA AEC HACA	<p>The Heads of Asbestos Coordination Authorities provides significant funding and support towards the annual Asbestos Awareness Campaign. Refer to initiative 9.</p> <p>The International Asbestos Conference was held in Melbourne in November 2014 during asbestos awareness month. 'Betty the ADRI House' was on display at the Crown Hotel Melbourne during the conference, attracting interstate and international interest.</p> <p>The Asbestos Diseases Foundation of Australia held an annual Gala Race Day and National Asbestos Awareness Day during Asbestos Awareness Month in November 2014.</p>	✓	✓	✓	✓

State-wide Asbestos Plan implementation

Initiative	Agencies	Action taken	2013	2014	2015	2016
15. Develop and issue a Model Asbestos Policy for NSW councils.	HACA LGNSW NSW Councils OLG	<p>The Model Asbestos Policy for NSW Councils was launched on 26 November 2012. A guide to the Model Asbestos Policy was also made available.</p> <p>The Model Asbestos Policy for NSW Councils' was released as a guideline under section 23A of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> on 14 May 2013. This means that councils must consider the policy when developing, adopting and implementing asbestos policies for their local government areas.</p> <p>The Model Asbestos policy is due for a three year review in November 2015.</p>	✓			
16. Assist councils to adopt and implement the Model Asbestos Policy.	HACA LGNSW	<p>From April 2013 to September 2014, a total of 14 Asbestos Management Training Workshops were held across NSW and 433 council staff from 130 councils (86 per cent of NSW councils) attended.</p> <p>Councils were provided with expert advice on various aspects of asbestos management from representatives from HACA agencies and other organisations.</p> <p>The workshops facilitated peer-to-peer learning and showcased councils' asbestos management initiatives, featuring presentations by councils including: Armidale Dumaresq Council, Blacktown City Council, Cooma-Monaro Shire Council, Holroyd City Council, Lane Cove Municipal Council, Orange City Council, Penrith City Council and Wollongong City Council.</p> <p>The workshops held between 1 July 2014 and 30 June 2015 were at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Berrigan – 4 September 2014 • Bungendore – 24 July 2014 • Dubbo – 17 July 2014 <p>In September 2014, an asbestos speed talks and discussion event was held in Parramatta which attracted 40 council staff.</p> <p>The forum offered new updates and networking opportunities across all levels of government and the private sector.</p> <p>Practical demonstrations gave council officers the chance to view asbestos fibres under microscopes and encased samples of asbestos.</p>	✓	✓	✓	✓

State-wide Asbestos Plan implementation

Initiative	Agencies	Action taken	2013	2014	2015	2016
		<p>Council staff members have readily embraced these opportunities and as a result have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> obtained expert advice on asbestos issues understood relevant legislation and its practical application clarified the role of local and state government in managing asbestos identified areas for improvement in managing asbestos and coordinating responses to asbestos issues. <p>HACA has continued to fund the role of Project Manager – Asbestos Policy at LGNSW to assist councils to adopt and implement local asbestos policies based on the Model Asbestos Policy.</p> <p>From February to June 2015, the Project Manager contacted 40 NSW councils that had not yet adopted an Asbestos Policy based on the Model Asbestos Policy to offer further assistance.</p>				
17. Develop specific educative tools for training and workshops for local councils.	EPA LGNSW SW NSW	<p>LGNSW has continued to encourage councils to access the educative resources available via the Asbestos Awareness website including 'Betty the ADRI House'.</p> <p>LGNSW arranged for 'Betty the ADRI House' to appear at the Waste Conference in May 2015 with sponsorship for Betty's appearance from LGNSW and the Waste Conference.</p> <p>LGNSW added two new case studies to the suite of case studies of asbestos management which are available on the LGNSW website:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asbestos Collection and Education Program – Holroyd City Council (published December 2014) Being 'asbestos aware' for naturally occurring asbestos – Port Macquarie-Hastings Council (published April 2015) 	✓	✓	✓	✓
18. Develop a fact sheet for persons undertaking an exempt development that has identified asbestos is present.	DP&E	<p>Existing fact sheets and planning circulars available on the DP&E website that provide information regarding exempt and complying development and asbestos were reviewed for currency and completeness.</p> <p>Further review will be undertaken in 2015–2016 to consolidate information and improve linkages with other recently published guidelines.</p>		✓	✓	✓
19. Promote the local council asbestos fact sheet for inclusion on local council websites.	HACA	<p>A local council fact sheet has been developed and promoted to NSW councils to provide consistent advice on all council websites.</p>	✓			

State-wide Asbestos Plan implementation

Initiative	Agencies	Action taken	2013	2014	2015	2016
20. Coordinate and disseminate information to local government through contact with individual councils and LGNSW to assist local government to ensure consistent information and advice is available to the public.	LGNSW	<p>LGNSW has continued to regularly disseminate asbestos information to councils. LGNSW has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arranged for 26 councils to receive briefings about loose fill asbestos insulation (July – September 2014). The briefings were jointly delivered by LGNSW and SafeWork NSW on behalf of HACA. • Provided ongoing updates to councils on the issue of loose fill asbestos insulation. • From April 2015 to June 2015, LGNSW on behalf of HACA convened three regional forums on naturally occurring asbestos (NOA) for councils to explain the mapping of NSW areas with the potential for NOA, discuss implications for land use planning and provide case studies and information on legal obligations for councils. <p>The three forums were attended by 52 council staff and the series of forums has continued beyond June 2015.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivered regular asbestos management presentations to NSW CouncilSafe Advisory Network meetings, namely updates on loose fill asbestos insulation. • Included a presentation by SafeWork NSW on Asbestos Management Plans at the 2015 work health and safety briefings for general managers and senior managers which were held at 11 locations across NSW by LGNSW together with SafeWork NSW, StateCover and CouncilSafe in February and March 2015. • Presented at the Environmental Health Australia conference on 31 October 2014. • Provided councils with email updates, items in the LGNSW local government weekly e-newsletter and asbestos information on the LGNSW website. 	✓	✓	✓	
21. Provide awareness initiatives for relevant government agencies, local government planners, council and private certifiers, environmental health and building personnel and environmental regulators/educators on roles and responsibilities in relation to asbestos issues.	SW NSW DP&E	To be undertaken in 2015–2016.			✓	✓
22. Review the role of private and council certifiers in relation to the certification of building works where asbestos is present through consultation with the Building Professionals Board.	SW NSW DP&E	To be undertaken in 2015–2016.			✓	✓

State-wide Asbestos Plan implementation						
Initiative	Agencies	Action taken	2013	2014	2015	2016
23. Develop practical guidelines/protocols for the control of the risks of naturally occurring asbestos during excavation, building, mining and road works.	EPA DI SW NSW	Guidance material including a number of fact sheets and frequently asked questions has been developed to provide greater information to councils and land managers regarding naturally occurring asbestos. The guidance material will include information for reducing possible exposure if residing or undertaking farming or recreational activities in a naturally occurring asbestos area. The guidance material was published in August 2015.	✓	✓	✓	
24. Develop a practical guide for safe management of soil contaminated with asbestos-containing materials.	EPA SW NSW	Guidance material was published on the HACA website in April 2014: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Managing asbestos in or on soil: guide How to deal with asbestos fibro in soil at home: fact sheet. 	✓	✓		
25. Provide improved mapping of naturally occurring asbestos and contaminated land sites in NSW to assist councils with land use planning.	DI EPA SW NSW	Improved mapping of naturally occurring asbestos has been undertaken by the Department of Industry. A communication strategy has been developed for the dissemination of maps to local councils and key stakeholders to assist with civil construction projects and for land use safety studies. The NOA mapping and supporting guidance material was released in August 2015.	✓	✓	✓	
26. Manage the stabilisation and risk mitigation works for the Woods Reef Mine site.	DI Woodsreef Taskforce	Air Monitoring & Health Risk assessment project NSW Trade & Investment has engaged SLR Consulting Australia Pty Ltd to implement the Air Monitoring and Health Risk Assessment Project. The health risk assessment will assist the NSW Government in the long-term management of the Woodsreef Mine. The Woodsreef Taskforce has issued a factsheet containing the tasks of the Air Monitoring and Health Risk Assessment. Demolition works NSW Department of Industry engaged NSW Public Works to project manage the demolition works. A number of specialist consultants were engaged to assist in planning the demolition works and environmental assessments. The overall planning phase of the demolition project was extended to allow for additional assessment/studies relating to the threatened Large-eared Pied Bat roosting in the mill building. The Large-eared Pied Bat is listed as a threatened species under the <i>NSW Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995</i> and the <i>Commonwealth Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Act 1999</i> .	✓	✓	✓	

State-wide Asbestos Plan implementation

Initiative	Agencies	Action taken	2013	2014	2015	2016
		<p>NSW Department of Industry committed to ensuring relevant environmental approvals are obtained before undertaking the demolition works. These approvals are a legal requirement under both state and commonwealth law.</p> <p>On 3 June 2015 all demolition works were completed eight weeks ahead of the 32 week schedule and within the allocated budget.</p> <p>There were no safety incidents during the 24 week construction period, and a comprehensive air monitoring program undertaken by an Independent Licensed Asbestos Assessor for the duration of site works confirmed there were no off site impacts arising from the works.</p> <p>As per the plan, the derelict buildings and infrastructure were demolished and buried on site within an EPA approved engineered containment cell. Some structural steel from within the Mill Building was recycled following a decontamination process which was verified by an Independent Licensed Asbestos Assessor.</p> <p>For further information please visit resourcesandenergy.nsw.gov.au</p>	✓	✓	✓	✓
27. Alert importers and suppliers to the risks and control measures to prevent the illegal import of asbestos goods.	Australian Customs and Border Protection HWSA Imports SW NSW	<p>The Heads of Workplace Safety Authorities (HWSA) Imported Materials with Asbestos Working Group was established to consider the importation of products and materials containing asbestos, identify issues, explore ways of addressing them and make recommendations on the most effective ways that they can be resolved by agencies, regulators and key stakeholders.</p> <p>A number of imported goods containing asbestos have been detected including wall panels from China.</p>	✓	✓	✓	✓
28. Identify high risk imported goods that could contain asbestos including the purchase of asbestos products online.	Australian Customs and Border Protection HWSA Imports SW NSW	<p>The HWSA Imported Materials with Asbestos Working Group developed a rapid response protocol to assist regulators, Australian Customs and Border Protection and other agencies in handling future imported asbestos incidents including online suppliers.</p> <p>The rapid response protocol is available at asbestosafety.gov.au</p>	✓	✓	✓	✓
29. Promote implementation of workplace asbestos <i>Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011</i> and codes of practice which commenced from 1 January 2012.	SW NSW	<p>Numerous presentations have been undertaken to asbestos licence holders, licensed asbestos assessors, safety professionals and asbestos support groups.</p> <p>Assistance has also been provided to the ACT on the implementation of the <i>Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011</i> which the ACT has adopted.</p> <p>Community engagement has also occurred around loose fill asbestos insulation and support provided around asbestos awareness ('Betty the ADRI House').</p>	✓	✓	✓	✓

State-wide Asbestos Plan implementation

Initiative	Agencies	Action taken	2013	2014	2015	2016
30. Develop and maintain a comprehensive demolition and asbestos strategy to ensure the health, safety and wellbeing of workers is protected.	DACC SW NSW	<p>The Demolition and Asbestos Consultative Committee (DACC) has been established to provide a consultative forum that can effectively address health and safety issues in the asbestos and demolition industry in NSW.</p> <p>The DACC meets on a quarterly basis and regularly shares information, exchanges views and provide constructive feedback and guidance about asbestos and demolition issues to promote continuous improvement of the safe management of demolition work and asbestos.</p> <p>The DACC is Chaired by SafeWork NSW with representatives from</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asbestos Removallists Contractors Association • Building Trades Group • CFMEU • Civil Contractors Federation • Demolition Contractors Association NSW • Land and Housing Corporation • Master Builders Association • Unions NSW. <p>The DACC is involved in the review of all asbestos-related publications to ensure accuracy and consistency and provides industry feedback on any new guidance material being developed.</p> <p>The DACC have played an integral role in the review of demolition training to ensure it meets industry standards.</p>	✓	✓	✓	✓
31. Target high risk occupations such as asbestos removalists, building, construction and electricity industry supply workers, waste and landfill operators, carpenters, plumbers, electricians and automotive mechanics to improve awareness, knowledge and skills in the safe handling of asbestos-containing materials.	SW NSW	<p>SafeWork NSW and the EPA will carry out a series of state-wide workplace visits in landfill facilities to verify safe work practices. The verification project is focusing on issues such as: the process for identifying asbestos, asbestos management plans, asbestos awareness training for workers, decontamination procedures for plant and personnel. The verification project will commence in July 2015.</p> <p>Guidance material was developed for the Loose-fill asbestos insulation program including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Living in a home with loose-fill asbestos (Flyer and DVD) • Working in a home that may contain loose-fill asbestos • A guide for real estate agency principals, their agents, property managers, strata managers and auctioneers. 	✓	✓	✓	✓

State-wide Asbestos Plan implementation

Initiative	Agencies	Action taken	2013	2014	2015	2016
32. Undertake an annual compliance and enforcement monitoring and targeted audit program for licensed asbestos removalists and asbestos assessors with a focus on training, health monitoring, safety management systems and safe disposal (checking of landfill receipts).	SW NSW	<p>There is a dedicated specialist Asbestos & Demolition Unit located within SafeWork NSW.</p> <p>The specialist unit is responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> providing a specialist response to complaints related to demolition and asbestos removal delivery of information and education to stakeholders and the public conducting of planned and targeted audits on licence holders and registered training organisations undertaking asbestos and demolition training courses monitoring of online notifications strategic investigations with multiple agencies cooperation review and feedback towards harmonized legislation contributing to authorization programs and policy for demolition and asbestos licensing implementing initiatives in the state-wide Asbestos Plan on behalf of SafeWork NSW coordinating and managing asbestos and demolition stakeholder strategies including forums such as the DACC. 	✓	✓	✓	✓
33. Ensure ongoing inclusion of information on asbestos safety in training for apprentices in the building, construction, automotive and electrical supply trades.	SW NSW	Ongoing liaison with the Industry Skills Council for inclusion of asbestos safety information to be incorporated into all relevant training courses.	✓	✓	✓	✓
34. Develop and foster industry networks such as the Demolition and Asbestos Consultative Committee to promote the safe management of asbestos.	DACC SW NSW	See initiative 30 The Loose-fill Asbestos Taskforce built strong relationships with local councils and residents whose properties are affected by loose-fill asbestos through individual consultation and public forums.	✓	✓	✓	✓
35. Require NSW government agencies to be exemplars of asbestos management and ensure that all government buildings, including government owned housing, have current asbestos management plans and asbestos registers.	GP NSW SW NSW	Consultation has commenced with relevant agencies including Government Properties NSW and Land and Housing Corporation to ensure that all government buildings have current asbestos management plans and asbestos registers in place.	✓	✓	✓	✓

State-wide Asbestos Plan implementation						
Initiative	Agencies	Action taken	2013	2014	2015	2016
36. Ensure sufficient procedures are in place for the approval of asbestos assessor licenses responsible for air monitoring and clearance inspections/certificates for friable asbestos removal work.	SW NSW	Stringent processes are in place for the approval of asbestos assessor licences. When applicants apply for an asbestos assessor licence it is lodged with SafeWork NSW licensing who review the documentation provided including confirming with their training organisation that the training records provided are valid. The evidence of experience is reviewed by a technical specialist including reference checks. Numerous applicants have been contacted in instances where additional information is required. When applicants fail to meet the minimum licensing criteria a letter is sent with information including the rights of appeal. Following a tender submission a number of Licensed Asbestos Assessors have been contracted to undertake the sampling and testing of loose-fill asbestos in 26 local government areas in relation to the loose fill asbestos insulation program.	✓	✓	✓	✓
37. Develop guidance material to assist asbestos assessors for undertaking the assessment of friable asbestos removal work.	SW NSW	Licensed Asbestos Assessors and Occupational Hygienists have been provided with information when undertaking air monitoring, taking samples or clearance inspections associated with asbestos removal work.		✓		
38. Publish a listing of licensed asbestos removalists, demolition contractors and asbestos assessors on the SafeWork NSW website.	SW NSW	The Asbestos and Demolition License Holder Search Facility was developed to allow the public easy access to find qualified asbestos removalists and demolition contractors within their local area. The search facility helps raise the awareness of using qualified licensed contractors when undertaking asbestos removal or demolition work to ensure there is no risk of exposure to asbestos fibres.	✓			
39. Increase the awareness of the homeowners when purchasing or renovating/ maintaining a property that may contain asbestos.	AEC	Refer to initiative 9 The annual National Asbestos Awareness Campaign primarily focuses on alerting Australians about the dangers of working with asbestos during home renovations and maintenance.	✓	✓	✓	✓

State-wide Asbestos Plan implementation

Initiative	Agencies	Action taken	2013	2014	2015	2016
40. Implement a pilot program of home renovator asbestos removal kits similar to a program implemented by La Trobe Council, Victoria to promote the safe removal of asbestos in small home renovation jobs.	EPA HACA	<p>The Waste Less, Recycle More initiative launched in 2013 is the largest waste and recycling funding program in Australia.</p> <p>It is a five-year \$465.7 million initiative led by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) to help achieve the state's recycling targets, stimulate investment in infrastructure and combat illegal dumping and littering.</p> <p>As part of an integrated approach to combat illegal dumping, the EPA has completed a significant pilot program to make it easier for householders to dispose of small non-commercial amounts of asbestos waste. The EPA committed \$3 million to trial the Household's Asbestos Disposal Scheme in 23 councils over 12 months during 2014 and 2015. The scheme waived the waste levy, reduced tip fees and provided a \$50 per tonne subsidy to reduce the cost of asbestos disposal for home renovators.</p> <p>The pilot was designed to explore the relationship between disposal costs and rates of illegal dumping. Under the scheme 1623 householders registered and 746.63 tonnes of asbestos waste were disposed.</p> <p>The results of the trial are currently being evaluated by independent experts to inform future decisions on how to improve asbestos disposal into the future.</p> <p>In addition, the EPA has funded the Combatting Illegal Dumping: Clean-up & Prevention grant funding program for public land managers to combat illegal dumping. Over \$3 million has been provided in funding to public land managers and community groups in 2014/15 and 2015/16 to deal with illegal dumping.</p> <p>The EPA has allocated a further \$1 million until June 2017 for this program.</p> <p>For further information on the Waste Less, Recycle More Initiative visit environment.nsw.gov.au</p>	✓	✓	✓	✓
41. Develop guidance material for the laundering of asbestos contaminated clothing and equipment for emergency personnel.	SW NSW in consultation with Emergency Services	Scheduled for 2015–2016			✓	✓

State-wide Asbestos Plan implementation

Initiative	Agencies	Action taken	2013	2014	2015	2016
42. Promote bi-annual exercises to test current emergency guidelines to ensure appropriate response levels for asbestos incidents.	Emergency Services EPA HACA LGNSW	The NSW asbestos emergency sub-plan details the specific arrangements for the coordinated funding and management of asbestos debris during and following a larger scale emergency, being an event that requires a significant and coordinated response, where the presence of asbestos containing material in the community poses a significant risk to public health and safety. This plan is designed to augment and be complementary to the current arrangements for the management of hazardous materials as detailed in the Hazmat/CBRN emergency plan .	✓	✓		✓
43. Promote asbestos-related emergency response plans through relevant government and council websites.	EPA HACA	The EPA on behalf of all combat agencies is developing a training program that builds on the NSW asbestos emergency sub-plan.	✓	✓		
44. Encourage the use of economic incentives through the waste levy scheme to support the safe handling and disposal of small (household) quantities of asbestos waste.	EPA HACA	Refer to initiative 40	✓	✓	✓	✓
45. Promote and expand the existence and use of the Regional Illegal Dumping program in regional and rural areas to improve appropriate disposal of asbestos waste.	EPA LGNSW	Refer to initiative 40	✓	✓	✓	✓
46. Promote the piloting of waste tracing technology.	EPA	Asbestos transporters and facilities receiving asbestos waste must report the movement of this waste to the EPA. To help industry meet their legal obligations the EPA has developed an easy to use online tool, WasteLocate. WasteLocate generates a unique EPA consignment IS that will allow each load to be monitored from the place of generation to the site of disposal. Further information can be found at wastelocate.epa.nsw.gov.au	✓	✓	✓	✓
47. Provide public land managers with information and technical support.	EPA/ SW NSW	Refer to initiative 40	✓	✓	✓	✓
48. Consider and plan to accommodate future expected needs of disposed asbestos materials and reduce barriers for safe disposal.	EPA/ LGNSW	Refer to initiative 40	✓	✓	✓	✓
49. Undertake an annual regulatory campaign focussing on illegal dumping in regional, rural and remote regions of NSW, including the aboriginal communities, to help promote the safe management of asbestos.	EPA	Refer to initiative 40	✓	✓	✓	✓
50. Undertake an annual regulatory campaign focussing on recycled waste products such as aggregate, green waste and concrete to assist industry with meeting their regulatory obligations.	EPA	Refer to initiative 40	✓	✓	✓	✓

State-wide Asbestos Plan implementation

Initiative	Agencies	Action taken	2013	2014	2015	2016
51. Undertake an annual regulatory campaign focussing on the transport and disposal of asbestos to assist industry with meeting their regulatory obligations.	EPA	Refer to initiative 40	✓	✓	✓	✓
52. Review the <i>Guide: Management of asbestos in construction and demolition waste</i> (catalogue no. WC02772) to incorporate other forms of recycling products such as concrete, green waste and compost.	EPA SW NSW	The Environment Protection Authority has developed a draft protocol in consultation with SafeWork NSW and Ministry of Health and has been reviewed and approved by the Heads of Asbestos Coordination Authorities. The draft publication will be released shortly for public and industry consultation.	✓	✓	✓	
53. Provide education to landfill operators on the requirements relating to the disposal of asbestos waste	EPA SW NSW	SafeWork NSW and the Environment Protection Authority have collaboratively been carrying out a series of state-wide visits to asbestos waste facilities to ensure asbestos management systems meet legislative requirements and to provide information and education to workers at asbestos waste facilities on appropriate handling and storage of asbestos. The project team has visited a number of asbestos waste facilities to check asbestos registers, asbestos management plans, decontamination procedures, health monitoring of workers, incident and emergency procedures, and that asbestos awareness training and personal protective equipment is provided. The findings from the site visits will be used to assess whether management of asbestos in waste facilities represents an emerging issue that requires additional interventions from SafeWork NSW.			✓	✓

State-wide Asbestos Plan implementation

Initiative	Agencies	Action taken	2013	2014	2015	2016
54. Identify opportunities for improved coordination and a national approach to asbestos issues, including participation in the National Asbestos Management Review.	HACA	<p>The <i>National Strategic Plan for Asbestos Management and Awareness</i> establishes a framework within which the states and territories are able to work cooperatively and independently to achieve set objectives.</p> <p>The Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency oversees the coordination of the plan and over the life of the plan will provide insights into the dimensions of asbestos management and eradication across Australia's public health, environment, planning, work health and safety, emergency services and research sectors.</p> <p>The plan supports coordinating common efforts across governments with a strong focus on facilitating information sharing. The plan will not direct or duplicate the content of any state, territory or local government plans.</p> <p>The NSW state-wide Asbestos Plan encompasses all priority areas identified in the National Strategic Plan for Asbestos Management and Awareness. NSW is well represented with the Chair of the HACA Working Group being a State Representative on the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Council.</p> <p>The issues around asbestos safety, awareness and management are complex and multi-faceted.</p> <p>Many of the issues covered by this plan, in particular identification and removal, will require all levels of government to work together to determine the best approach to this task which complements the charter of the HACA.</p> <p>Further information can be found at asbestosafety.gov.au</p>	✓	✓	✓	✓
55. Monitor and review the NSW State-wide Asbestos Plan.	HACA	A review of the initiatives outlined in the State-wide Asbestos Plan is undertaken on an annual basis.		✓	✓	✓
56. Review and promote the Asbestos Blueprint which outlines the roles and responsibilities of local government and state agencies.	HACA LGNSW	Scheduled 2015–2016			✓	✓
57. Monitor and review the implementation of the Model Asbestos Policy for NSW councils.	LGNSW	To measure how many councils have adopted the Model Asbestos Policy, LGNSW emailed an online questionnaire to General Managers of all councils on 26 May 2014, one year since the Model Asbestos Policy was issued to all councils under section 23A of the <i>Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)</i> and 18 months since the Model Asbestos Policy was launched in November 2012.	✓	✓		
		In July 2014, the response rate was 73 per cent of NSW councils (111 councils) and the results revealed that 75 per cent of respondents had a draft or final asbestos policy based on the Model Asbestos Policy.				

State-wide Asbestos Plan implementation						
Initiative	Agencies	Action taken	2013	2014	2015	2016
58. Work with other state and national jurisdictions to encourage consistency in compensation arrangements for victims of asbestos-related disease	DDA	The Dust Diseases Authority is participating in the national Safe Work Australia's Strategic Issues Group for Workers Compensation. This group is to consider jurisdictional differences and identify individual areas where national consistency could be achieved in the area of dust diseases.	✓	✓	✓	✓
59. Promote collaborative information, advice and regulatory services across agencies.	Cross agency	The HACA has provided improved coordination between relevant government agencies with a role in asbestos and local councils and have played an interactive role in the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loose-fill asbestos insulation • Naturally-occurring asbestos • Woodsreef Mine rehabilitation project • NSW asbestos emergency sub-plan. 	✓	✓	✓	✓
60. Identify, develop and progress partnerships with stakeholders, local councils and government agencies.	HACA	The HACA meets twice yearly and adhoc as required. The HACA Working Group meets on a monthly basis and liaises regularly out-of-session to progress programs of work. The HACA has continued to build and progress relationships through the Asbestos Diseases Research Institute, the Asbestos Diseases Foundation of Australia, the Demolition and Asbestos Consultative Committee, the HWSA Imported Materials with Asbestos Working Group, Emergency Services Organisations and the Loose Fill Asbestos Insulation Taskforce.	✓	✓	✓	✓
61. Undertake coordinated monitoring and enforcement of asbestos removal and disposal work.	EPA HACA Health NSW Councils	Senior officers of the relevant agencies liaise and exchange information on a regular basis and through regular HACA meetings to ensure continued monitoring and enforcement of asbestos removal and disposal work including annual regulatory campaigns. Refer to initiatives 32, 49–51.	✓	✓	✓	✓
62. Strengthen cross agency information sharing of regulatory monitoring, enforcement actions and statutory breaches of work health and safety, and environmental legislation.	EPA HACA Health NSW Councils	Senior officers of the relevant agencies liaise and exchange information on a regular basis and through regular Heads of Asbestos Coordination Authorities meetings to ensure regulatory monitoring of work, health and safety and environmental legislation. Refer to initiatives 32, 49–51.	✓	✓	✓	✓

Definitions:

ADRI	Asbestos Diseases Research Institute
AEC	Asbestos Education Committee
ADFA	Asbestos Diseases Foundation of Australia
DACC	Demolition and Asbestos Consultative Committee
DDA	Dust Diseases Authority
DI	Department of Industry
DP&E	Department of Planning and Environment
Emergency Services	Office of Emergency Management
EPA	Environment Protection Authority
GP NSW	Government Properties NSW
HACA	Heads of Asbestos Coordination Authorities
Health	Ministry of Health
HWSA	Heads of Workplace Safety Authorities
LGNSW	Local Government NSW
SW NSW	SafeWork NSW
OLG	Office of Local Government

