



**Matt Kean**  
Minister for Innovation and Better Regulation

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Wednesday, 20 June 2018

### **NEWCASTLE AND HUNTER RESIDENTS WARNED ABOUT UNLICENCED ASBESTOS REMOVALIST**

Consumers are being warned about an unlicensed asbestos removalist targeting Newcastle and Hunter Valley residents.

Minister for Better Regulation Matt Kean said SafeWork NSW has issued a warning over reports of a tradie quoting cheap asbestos removal work, who only takes cash payments.

“I’m urging all property owners to be aware of an unlicensed trader in the region who is offering quick and cheap quotes for asbestos removal,” Mr Kean said.

“We all know the devastating impact asbestos can have on a person’s health. So it’s absolutely critical this dangerous product is only handled by a licenced professional.

“If an operator offers to remove asbestos from your property for cash, do not engage them, and report them to SafeWork immediately.

“We will take strong action against anyone working without a licence, with fines ranging from \$3,600 for individuals to \$18,000 for body corporates.”

Mr Kean said consumers can find a list of licenced asbestos removalists on the SafeWork website.

“Licenced traders are listed by region, so Newcastle and Hunter property owners can find one close to them,” Mr Kean said.

From 1 July 2018, residents can check if a licenced asbestos removalist has received any penalty notices on the SafeWork NSW Licence Register, empowering consumers with more information to make better decisions.

For more information on asbestos safety, or to report an unlicensed removalist, contact SafeWork on 1800 272 378, or visit [www.safework.nsw.gov.au](http://www.safework.nsw.gov.au)

To check a license, visit [www.licencecheck.nsw.gov.au](http://www.licencecheck.nsw.gov.au)

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