



Rialtas Áitiúil Éireann
Local Government Ireland

BEST PRACTICE GUIDANCE FOR **HANDLING ASBESTOS**



Note: When dealing with asbestos containing material the Health & Safety Authority (HSA) Guidelines should always be adhered to. The current HSA Asbestos Guidelines are [Asbestos-containing Materials \(ACMs\) in Workplaces Practical Guidelines on ACM Management and Abatement \(2013\)](#). Full details regarding asbestos are available on the [HSA website](#).

Contents

Introduction	3
What is asbestos?	3
Where is asbestos typically found?	4
Is asbestos harmful?	4
What are the health effects from exposure to asbestos?	5
What is the exposure limit for asbestos?	6
Who is most at risk?	6
Is asbestos banned in Ireland?	7
Are there any exemptions to the asbestos ban in Ireland?	7
How do you identify if asbestos is present in a building?	8
Responsibilities of the holder of ACMs	9
Asbestos Management	11
Selecting a Specialist Asbestos Contractor	12
Managing Asbestos left in situ.	13
Asbestos Removal	14
Is asbestos removal notifiable to the Health & Safety Authority (HSA)?	14
Movement of asbestos waste within Ireland and abroad	15
Collection of asbestos waste:	15
Transport of asbestos:	16
Disposal of asbestos waste:	17
Role of public bodies:	18
Health & Safety Authority (HSA)	18
Health Service Executive (HSE)	18
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	18
National Transfrontier Shipment Office (NTFSO)	18
National Waste Collection Permit Office (NWCPO).....	19
Local Authorities	19
Useful Links and References	20

Introduction

The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) current [National Hazardous Waste Management Plan](#) (NWHMP) covers a six-year period from 2021 to 2027. The purpose of this plan is to protect the environment and human health in Ireland through best-practice management of hazardous wastes.

The NWHMP sets out a number of recommendations to be actioned within the lifetime of the plan to strengthen protection of the environment and human health through best-practice management of hazardous wastes.

Recommendation No. 15 states: Promote best practice in the management of asbestos contaminated waste with the associated key actions:

- Key Action 15.1: Produce best-practice guide for handling asbestos waste; and identify options for collection of asbestos and asbestos contaminated wastes.
- Key Action 15.2: Develop a network of asbestos collection points.

This best-practice guide has been developed in response to Key Action 15.1.

What is asbestos?

Asbestos is a general name given to several naturally occurring fibrous minerals that have crystallised to form long thin fibres. Asbestos fibres do not dissolve in water or evaporate; they are resistant to heat, fire, chemical and biological degradation and are mechanically strong.

Asbestos is divided into two sub-groups: serpentine (chrysotile (white asbestos)), which was the most commonly used type of asbestos and amphiboles, which includes crocidolite (blue asbestos), amosite (brown asbestos), tremolite, actinolite and anthophyllite, of which crocidolite was the most commonly used globally. In Ireland, there are three main types of asbestos – chrysotile (white asbestos), amosite (brown asbestos) and crocidolite (blue asbestos). Chrysotile asbestos was used in the majority of asbestos applications nationally.



Where is asbestos typically found?

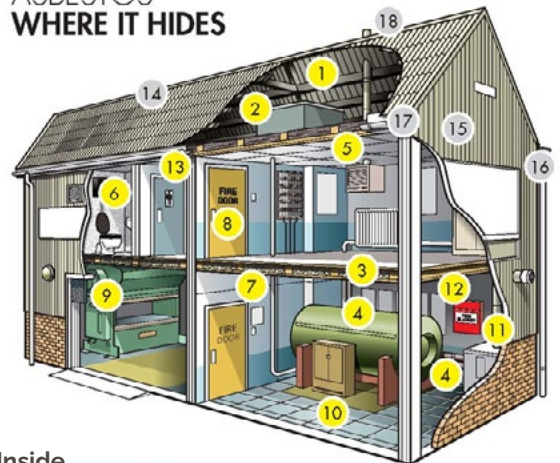
Due to the properties of asbestos, it is an ideal material for use in a number of products, including insulation material for buildings, boilers and pipes; insulating boards to protect buildings against fire and asbestos cement for roofing sheets and pipes.

Asbestos may be found in any industrial, commercial, public or residential building built or refurbished before the year 2000. It is considered reasonable to assume that any building built after the year 2000 is unlikely to contain Asbestos-Containing Materials (ACMs).

The amount and type of asbestos found in the fabric of buildings depends on the product. The majority of buildings built between 1940 and 1985, during which time asbestos production peaked, contain asbestos in some form.

The 'Asbestos Building' diagram describes the common types and locations of asbestos containing materials in buildings. **Note: This diagram does not show all possible uses and locations of ACMs.**

ASBESTOS WHERE IT HIDES



Inside

- 1 Sprayed coatings on ceilings, walls, beams and columns
- 2 Asbestos cement water tank
- 3 Loose fill insulation
- 4 Lagging on boilers and pipes
- 5 AIB ceiling tiles
- 6 Toilet seat and cistern
- 7 AIB partition walls
- 8 AIB panels in fire doors
- 9 Asbestos rope seals, gaskets and paper
- 10 Vinyl floor tiles
- 11 AIB around boilers
- 12 Textiles eg fire blankets
- 13 Textured decorating coatings on walls and ceilings eg artex

Outside

- 14 Asbestos cement roof
- 15 Asbestos cement panels
- 16 Asbestos cement gutters and downpipes
- 17 Soffits – AIB or asbestos cement
- 18 Asbestos cement flue

AIB = Asbestos Insulating Board

Is asbestos harmful?

If ACMs are in good condition and left undisturbed, it is unlikely that airborne asbestos will be released into the air, and therefore the risk to health is extremely low. In these situations, it is usually safer to leave it and review its condition over time.

However, when ACMs are disturbed or damaged, the likelihood that airborne asbestos fibres will be released into the air is increased. The potential for asbestos fibre release from ACMs depends on three principal factors:

- The content and type of asbestos i.e. the relative risk from Crocidolite (blue) and Amosite (brown) asbestos is greater than that from white asbestos.
- The integrity of the material
- Any sealant or enclosure

What are the health effects of exposure to asbestos?

The risk of asbestos-related conditions will depend on; the type of asbestos; the level of exposure, and the duration of such exposure. Smoking substantially increases the risk of lung cancer in those exposed to asbestos.

When asbestos fibres are inhaled they can cause serious asbestos-related diseases including

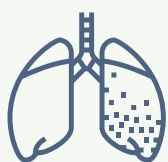
- Asbestosis (scarring of the lung),
- Mesothelioma (a cancer of the lining of the lung),
- Asbestos-related lung cancer,
- Pleural plaques/effusions

These diseases will not occur immediately and can take from 15 – 60 years to develop. Asbestos-related lung diseases, mainly cancers, kill more people than any other single work-related illness. **In the EU 78% of occupational cancers are recognised as asbestos-related and 88% of occupational lung cancers are asbestos-related.**

Therefore once diagnosed, it is often too late to do anything. This is why it is important that you protect yourself now.

Note: As long as asbestos is in good condition and there is no disturbance or damage to the ACM, it will not pose a risk to health as fibres will not be released.

EU Facts



78%

of cancers recognised as occupational cancer in the EU are asbestos-related.



70.000

workers in the EU died from past exposure to asbestos, in 2019.



4.1 to 7.3 Million

workers are currently exposed to asbestos



Over 220 Million

building units were built before the ban. It is therefore likely that a significant part of today's building stock contains asbestos.

What is the exposure limit for asbestos?

An exposure limit value is a level of daily exposure above which no employee shall be exposed.

The [Safety, Health and Welfare at Work \(Exposure to Asbestos\) Regulations 2006](#), as amended specifies the following exposure limit value for asbestos -

Every employer shall ensure that no employee is exposed to an airborne concentration of asbestos in excess of 0.1 fibres per cm³ as an eight-hour time-weighted average (TWA).

Note: In December 2022 the European Council agreed their proposal to the European Parliament to amend the Asbestos at Work Directive to reduce the occupational exposure limit for asbestos to 10 times lower than the current value (from 0.1 fibres per cubic centimetre (f/cm³) to 0.01 f/cm³). If agreed this will allow for more uniform protection of workers across the EU on the basis of the latest scientific and technological developments. It also creates a level playing field for businesses and prevents higher healthcare costs for medical treatment in the future.

Who is most at risk?

Those who are more likely to be exposed to asbestos are listed below. However, it should be noted that any person may be at risk if they are exposed to asbestos fibres. For example, if there is a fire in a building with ACMs then the locality is potentially at risk of airborne fibres.

Who is likely to be exposed to asbestos fibres?

- Demolition contractors;
- Electricians;
- Roofing contractors;
- Painters and decorators;
- Construction contractors;
- Joiners;
- Heating and ventilation engineers;
- Plumbers;
- Telecommunications engineers;
- Gas fitters;
- Fire and burglar alarm installers;
- Plasterers;
- General maintenance staff;
- Builders;
- Computer installers;
- Shop fitters;
- Building surveyors.

Is asbestos banned in Ireland?

Asbestos was phased out with laws passed in [1994](#) and [1998](#), but a complete ban was not enacted until 2004, under the [European Communities \(Dangerous Substances and Preparations\) \(Marketing and Use\) Regulations 2003](#), (details of exemption below).

In Ireland and EU, it is now illegal to use, re-use, sell or supply asbestos or ACMs or products. However, products or ACMs which were already installed or in service prior to the prohibition may remain in place until they are disposed of or reach the end of their service life. As a result, there is still potential for exposure to asbestos in a variety of places, including domestic properties undergoing refurbishment and workplaces, due to the large quantities of asbestos and ACMs which were used in buildings in the past.

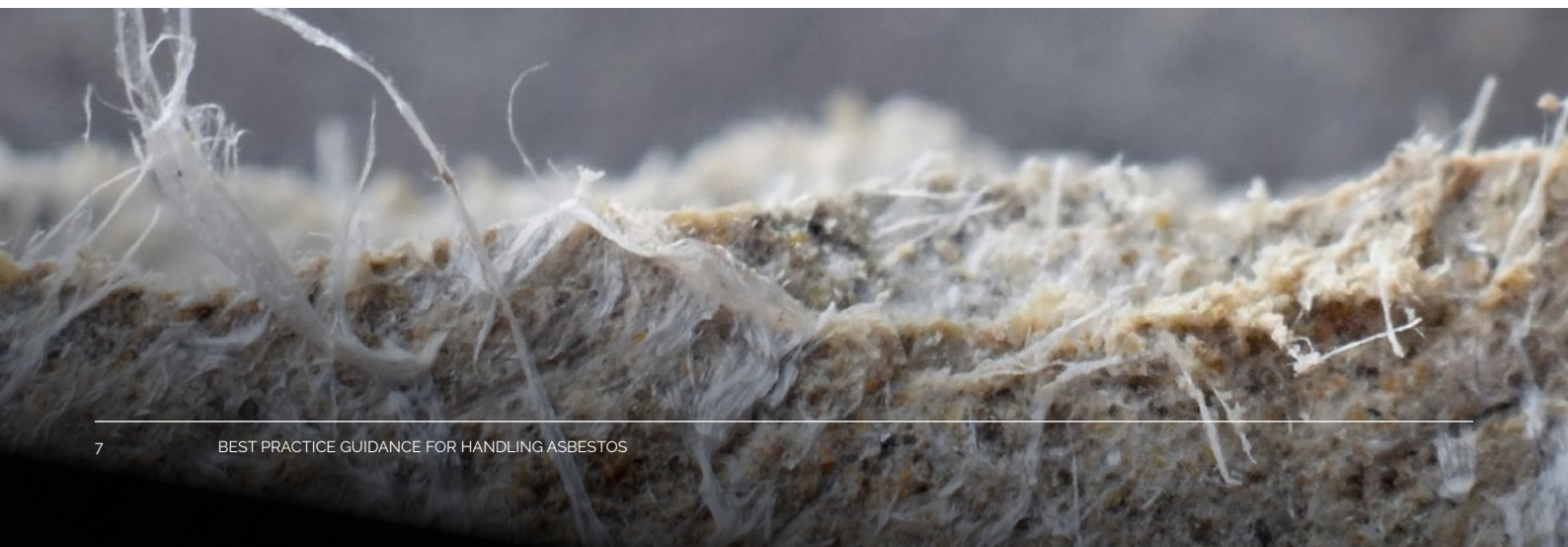
While the EU has banned all use of asbestos, several non-EU countries still produce and use asbestos-containing products, with global production reaching approximately [1.2 million tonnes](#) in 2021. Internationally chrysotile asbestos has been recommended by the Chemicals Review Committee (CRC) for listing in Annex III to the Rotterdam Convention (chemicals that have been banned or severely restricted for health or environmental reasons) but for which the Conference of the Parties (COP) has not yet been able to reach consensus. EU and other countries have been unsuccessful to date in convincing other countries for the need to list this chemical

Are there any exemptions to the asbestos ban in Ireland?

Yes.

The [Chemicals \(Asbestos Articles\) Regulations 2011](#) govern the regime under which persons or bodies must apply to the Health and Safety Authority (HSA) for an 'Asbestos Article Exemption Certificate' before they may place permitted asbestos-containing articles on the market. It is an offence to place such articles on the market in the absence of such an exemption certificate. Otherwise, asbestos-containing articles may not be placed on the Irish market.

Examples of such articles would include second-hand acetylene cylinders, articles of historical value and classic/vintage cars.



How do you identify if asbestos is present in a building?

A detailed survey will be required to identify where asbestos is present in your building.

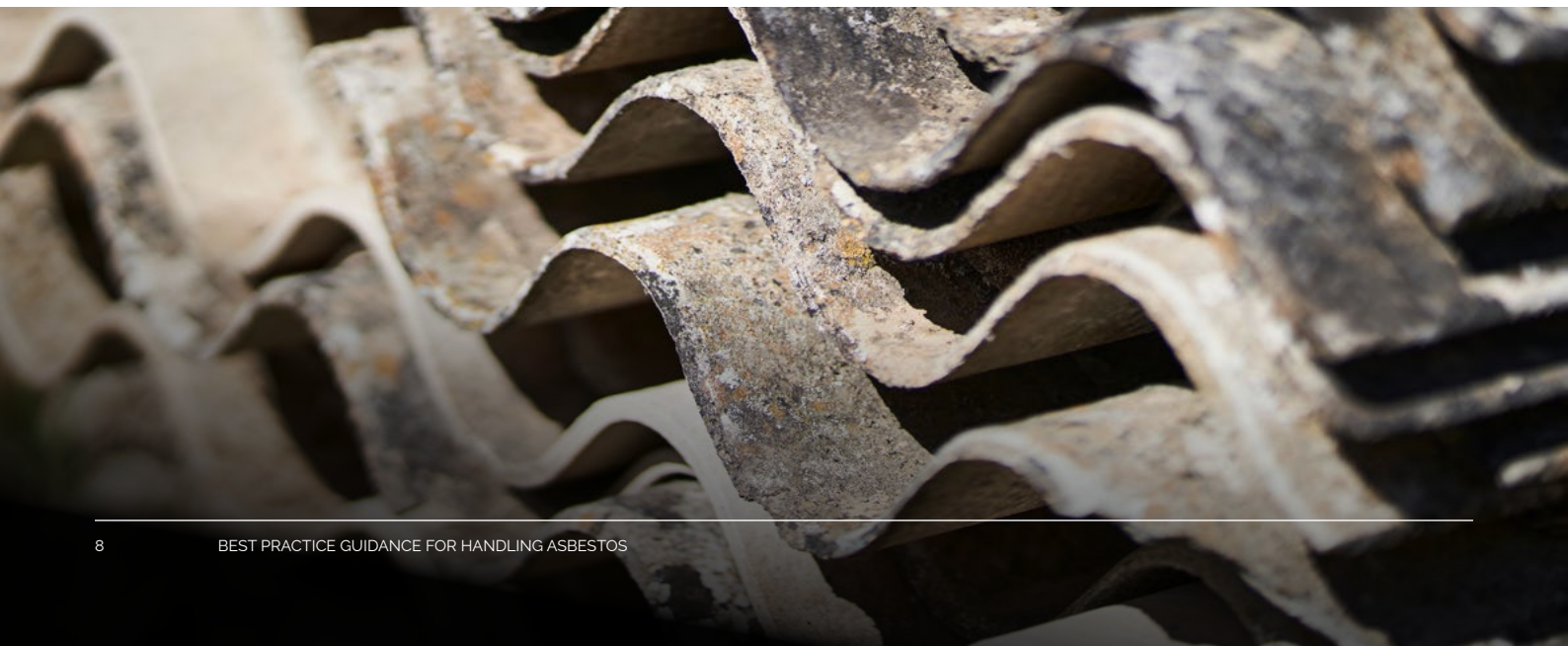
Asbestos surveys must be undertaken by a competent person or company and may consist of building inspection, sampling of suspect materials, laboratory analysis and provision of a survey report.

A competent person will have:

- Surveyor qualifications e.g.
 - The British Occupational Hygiene Society (BOHS) P402 proficiency module, covering buildings surveys and bulk sampling for asbestos,
 - The Royal Society for Public Health (RSPH) Asbestos training courses.
- Thorough knowledge of relevant Irish legislation
- Access to appropriately accredited laboratory
- Maintain quality assurance and control procedures that conform to internationally recognised standards for asbestos analytical and inspection activities.

There are two types of asbestos surveys:

1. A management asbestos survey (MAS) - to manage ACMs during the normal occupation and use of premises.
2. A refurbishment/demolition asbestos survey (RDAS) - is required where the premises, or part of it, needs upgrading, refurbishment or demolition.



The asbestos survey will:

- Locate and record the location, extent and type of any presumed or known ACMs
- Inspect and record information on the accessibility, condition and surface treatment of any presumed or known ACMs
- Determine and record the type of asbestos, either by collecting representative samples of suspect materials for laboratory identification, or by making a presumption based on the product type and its appearance etc.
- Provide an asbestos management plan.

Responsibilities of the holder of ACMs

If your premises has/or is suspected of having ACMs:

- Presume materials may contain asbestos unless proven otherwise and seek competent advice.
- A refurbishment/demolition asbestos survey (RDAS) must be carried out by a competent person well in advance of the commencement of site works to comply with the [Safety, Health and Welfare at Work \(Exposure to Asbestos\) Regulations 2006](#), as amended and the [Safety Health and Welfare at Work \(Construction\) Regulations 2013](#), as amended. This facilitates effective planning of any necessary 'pre-works' ACM removals.
- If a construction project presents a risk of disturbance of ACM, a Project Supervisor for the Design Process (PSDP) and a Project Supervisor for the Construction Stage (PSCS) must be appointed in writing. Work involving asbestos is a 'Particular Risk' as set out in Schedule 1 of the [Safety, Health and Welfare at Work \(Construction\) Regulations 2013 \(S.I. No. 291 of 2013\)](#).



- The Preliminary Safety and Health Plan drawn up by the PSDP must address all particular risks including asbestos. This should include the results/findings of any asbestos survey (RDAS).
- Where the site works are planned, so as to avoid disturbance of any ACMs that are to remain in situ, the location of those ACMs must be communicated by the PSCS via the Safety and Health Plan to all contractors on site. This is to ensure that inadvertent disturbance of ACMs during the works is avoided.
- ACMs must be removed prior to demolition or to any refurbishment works which may cause disturbance. Removal must be carried out by competent trained contractors using appropriate safe working practices.
- **All high-risk ACMs** e.g. asbestos pipe/vessel insulation, laggings, spray coating or insulating board etc. must be removed by specialist asbestos contractors under strictly controlled conditions and notified to the Health & Safety Authority 14 days in advance of asbestos removal commencing. A four-stage clearance process, including air monitoring, to assess the fitness for reoccupation (or, as appropriate, demolition) must be carried out by an independent, competent, asbestos analyst. A 'certificate of reoccupation' or 'clearance certificate' is issued by the analyst.
- Lower-risk ACMs e.g. asbestos cement flue, toilet cistern etc, can be removed by a competent contractor with appropriate training, risk assessments and detailed method statements. Verification of complete removal, in the form of a certificate or written statement, must be drawn up by the competent person who has carried out the necessary post-works checks, visual or otherwise.
- Leaving ACMs in situ for the duration of a refurbishment contract must be subject to a thorough risk assessment by a competent person.

The requirements stated above apply equally to refurbishment and demolition sites from commercial, agricultural and domestic origins.



Asbestos Management

ACM does not always have to be removed and disposed of as waste. On occasion, it can be safer to maintain it rather than disturbing the ACM by removing it. This decision should be based on a risk assessment evaluation, carried out by a specialist.

If ACM is to be repaired and maintained, this must be done safely. Any remaining material should be clearly labelled for asbestos and its location should be clearly marked on the plans of the building for future reference.

Removing asbestos-containing material is a complex procedure and must only be done by a specialist contractor.

Note: The EU Commission intend to revise the 2016 EU Construction and Demolition Waste Management Protocol and the 2018 Guidelines for the waste audits before demolition and renovation works, with a particular focus on asbestos.

In November 2022 the EU Commission commissioned a study on assessing impacts regarding asbestos screening in buildings, asbestos registries and national asbestos strategies. Based on the provided evidence, the Commission will suggest a legislative proposal on asbestos screening, registration and national asbestos strategies, reflecting national building codes and circumstances.

Minor Damage

- The material should be repaired and/or encapsulated
- The condition of the material should be monitored at regular intervals. Where practical the material should be labelled
- Inform the contractor and any other worker likely to work on or disturb the material

Good condition

- The condition of the material should be monitored at regular intervals
- Where practical the material should be labelled
- Inform the contractor and any other worker likely to work on or disturb the material

Poor condition

- Asbestos in poor condition should be removed

Asbestos disturbed

- Asbestos likely to be disturbed should be removed

https://www.hsa.ie/eng/Topics/Health_and_Safety_Presentations/Management_of_Asbestos.pdf

Selecting a Specialist Asbestos Contractor

In accordance with Section 18 of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 2005 and Regulation 16 of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Exposure to Asbestos) Regulation 2006, as amended, the importance of the careful selection of a suitable contractor to undertake repair or removal of ACMs cannot be overestimated.

The Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Exposure to Asbestos) Regulation 2006, as amended (Schedule 4) requires such companies to provide evidence of their ability to carry out the work to those commissioning asbestos works and inspectors on request.

This includes the following:

- Company safety statement and associated risk assessments,
- Training Plan and policy for employees working with materials containing asbestos.
- Individual employee training certificates indicating where, when, duration and type of training received and who provided the training.
- Confirmation of health assessments (medical certificates) of employees undertaking the asbestos work,
- Respiratory protective equipment face-fit certificates for employees undertaking the asbestos work,
- Clearance certificate for Decontamination Unit to be used onsite (as appropriate to work) and
- Relevant experience.

Confirmation that appropriate insurances are held by the specialist contractor for work with ACMs and references should also be requested.

Although not mandatory, membership of a relevant trade association, e.g. Asbestos Removal Contractors Association (ARCA) (Ireland), is also an indicator of professional attitude and the association can be contacted to verify the competence of the contractor. ARCA carries out mandatory annual site auditing of their full members.

Note: There is no licensing regime for asbestos contractors in the Republic of Ireland

A specialist asbestos contractor will ensure

- Work is risk assessed for all inherent hazards
- Method statement detailing work method and control measures (wet stripping, shadow vacuuming) is provided
- Work is correctly notified to HSA
- Correct site management – segregation and spread of contamination is eliminated by use of enclosures and negative pressure units
- Correct wrapping (usually double wrapped prior to collection) and labelling of the ACM
- Correct arrangements for waste collection, transport and disposal
- Appropriate insurances are held

Managing Asbestos left in situ.

Any maintenance or repair work with ACMs should be restricted to specialist asbestos contractors. When managing asbestos left in place:

- Develop Asbestos Management Plan,
- Maintain the asbestos register,
- Inform those who may inadvertently disturb the ACMS e.g. use Permit to Work, Job Card, labelling etc.,
- Monitor the condition of material e.g. as part of maintenance inspections, at least every 6 to 12 months,
- Develop emergency arrangements e.g. specialist contractor



Asbestos Removal

Asbestos waste is hazardous and improper removal increases the risk of fibre inhalation. There are [detailed rules](#) about how the waste should be wrapped, labelled and disposed of and a **competent person must carry out ALL asbestos removal or abatement work**.

Any asbestos waste, debris or contaminated material (including cleaning rags) should be placed into a suitable, UN-approved red bag which displays the appropriate asbestos warning label, and then sealed with tape. The red bag should then be wiped clean before being carefully placed into a suitable approved clear asbestos bag which should then also be sealed. The waste bags must be labelled to identify that they contain asbestos waste.

If the asbestos waste, debris or other material cannot fit into a waste bag, it must be double-wrapped in two layers of strong polythene. A red asbestos 1,000 gauge bag or printed label (with the same information as the bag) should be securely attached to indicate that it contains asbestos waste. Identifying and planning on how to address ACMs prior to construction & demolition projects is paramount. The EPA's [Best practice guidelines for the preparation of resource & waste management plans for construction & demolition projects \(2021\)](#) provides details in relation to dealing with ACMs.

Is asbestos removal notifiable to the Health & Safety Authority (HSA)?

The requirement to notify is specified in the [Safety, Health and Welfare at Work \(Exposure to Asbestos\) Regulations 2006](#) as amended, and depends on the risk associated with the asbestos work.

Notification is required where the planned asbestos-related work activity will expose, or could possibly expose, workers to a concentration of asbestos fibres in the air in excess of the exposure limit value of 0.1 fibres per cm³ (or 100 fibres per litre of air) and/or where the work activity does not meet the criteria set out in regulation 5 (b) of the 2006 Regulations i.e. short duration maintenance works with non-friable ACMs, removal of non-degraded bonded materials without deterioration, and encapsulation or sealing of non-friable ACMs in good condition.

If a planned asbestos-related work activity could expose workers to a higher concentration of asbestos fibres in the air, the employer must prepare a written notification to the HSA that must be received by the Authority at least 14 days prior to commencement of the any activities involving the removal, repair or encapsulation of lagging, insulation or other materials containing asbestos. This should be made using the [Asbestos Notification Form](#) (size 53 KB).



Movement of asbestos waste within Ireland and abroad

The collection, transport and disposal of waste containing asbestos is covered by the provisions of the Waste Management Act 1996.

Prior to any removal work and as part of developing the plan of work, the collection, transport and disposal of asbestos must be arranged.

Collection of asbestos waste:

Any collector used to transport asbestos waste must have a valid waste collection permit (WCP) issued under the Waste Management (Collection Permit) Regulations, 2007 as amended.

The National Waste Collection Permit Office (**NWCPO**), in Offaly County Council is designated as the National Competent Authority for the processing of all new and review Waste Collection Permit (WCP) applications for the Republic of Ireland. Details of waste collectors, with a valid WCP to collect asbestos waste, are available on <http://www.nwcpo.ie/permitsearch.aspx>.

To search for a waste collector (authorised to collect asbestos waste):

- Select the website <http://www.nwcpo.ie/permitsearch.aspx>.
- Select the tab "Search by EWC Codes" &
- Select the relevant county from the drop-down list under "Select Counties"
- Select the relevant 6-digit EWC Code from the drop-down list under "Choose an EWC Code"



The List of Waste (LoW) Codes relevant for the type of asbestos waste arising in Ireland include:

- **15 01 packaging (including separately collected municipal packaging waste)**
15 01 11* metallic packaging containing a hazardous solid porous matrix (for example asbestos), including empty pressure containers
- **16 01 end-of-life vehicles from different means of transport (including off-road machinery) and wastes from dismantling of end-of-life vehicles and vehicle maintenance (except 13, 14, 16 06 and 16 08)**
16 01 11* brake pads containing asbestos
- **16 02 wastes from electrical and electronic equipment**
16 02 12* discarded equipment containing free asbestos
- **17 05 soil (including excavated soil from contaminated sites), stones and dredging spoil**
17 05 03* soil and stones containing hazardous substances
- **17 06 insulation materials and asbestos-containing construction materials**
17 06 01* insulation materials containing asbestos
17 06 05* construction materials containing asbestos

Note: Those LoW codes denoted with an * display hazardous properties.

The full list of LoW Codes is available at <https://www.epa.ie/publications/monitoring--assessment/waste/2019--FULL-template.pdf>

A list of the Irish asbestos removal contractors registered with the Asbestos Removal Contractors Association (ARCA) is available via [Asbestos Removal Contractors in Ireland \(arca.ie\)](http://arca.ie)

Transport of asbestos:

As asbestos waste is hazardous, its movement is subject to notification procedures in accordance with various pieces of legislation:

- **European Communities (Shipments of Hazardous Waste exclusively within Ireland) Regulations, 2011 (S.I. No. 324/2011)**, for waste movements within the State. A Waste Transfer Form (WTF) is a tracking document which must be used whenever hazardous waste is moved within Ireland and is obtained from the **National Transfrontier Shipment Office (NTFSO)**
- **Waste Management (Shipments of Waste) Regulations 2007** for waste movements into/outside the State. If you plan to export/import or transit asbestos waste through the EU, you must contact the NTFSO prior to the movement of any waste i.e., the procedure of prior written notification and consent.

For further information, contact the NTFSO at 01 222 4402/4522 or email nationaltfs@dublincity.ie or website www.dublincity.ie/residential/environment/national-tfs-office

Asbestos is also subject to dangerous goods transport regulations. The genesis of any such regulations was founded in the Agreement Concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road, or more commonly referred to as ADR, to which Ireland is party to.

The European Communities (Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road and Use of Transportable Pressure Equipment) Regulations, 2011 (S.I. No. 349 of 2011) as amended provides the legal framework under which all dangerous goods, including asbestos, may be transported by road. It is important that advice be sought from a competent person, If ACMs are to be carried by road it is essential to seek the advice of a dangerous goods safety adviser (DGSA) certified in accordance with ADR 1.8.3.

Disposal of asbestos waste:

Once collected by an appropriately authorised waste collector, asbestos waste must be sent to an appropriately EPA licensed waste transfer facility.

There are currently no EPA-licensed waste disposal facilities for asbestos waste in Ireland, however, there are EPA-licensed hazardous waste transfer stations. These facilities accept asbestos waste and then arrange to have it disposed of at an appropriate facility abroad.

Details of the EPA-licensed hazardous waste transfer station should be obtained from your asbestos contractor.



Role of Public Bodies

Health & Safety Authority (HSA)

The HSA has overall responsibility for the administration and enforcement of health and safety at work in Ireland, including that related to asbestos.

The HSA monitor compliance with legislation at the workplace and can take enforcement action (up to and including prosecutions). They are the national centre for information and advice to employers, employees and self-employed on all aspects of workplace health and safety. There are also links to publications such as Practical Guidelines on ACM Management and Abatement (for employers and those in control of workplaces) on the HSA [website](#).

Health Service Executive (HSE)

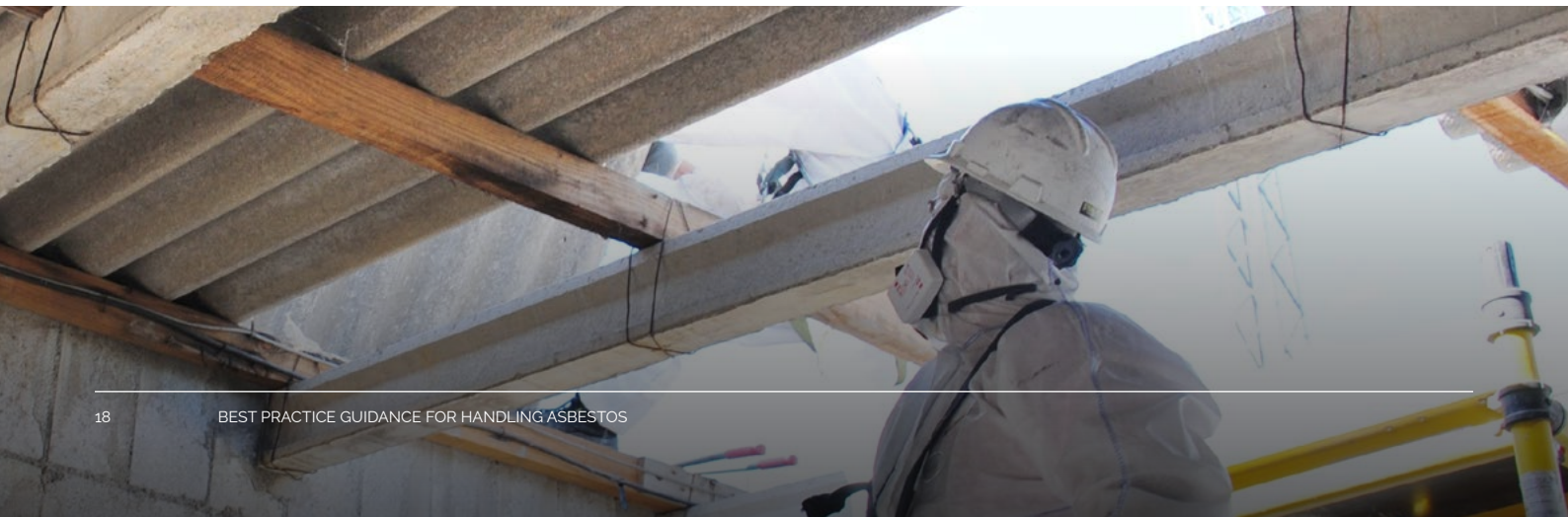
Consultants in Public Health Medicine provide an on-call service at all times for public health emergencies and risks. A link to Asbestos Guidance and a Public Health Advice leaflet are available on the HSE [website](#).

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

The [Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\)](#) deals with the licensing for storage of hazardous asbestos waste. Any company or Local Authority that stores asbestos waste - after initial collection from a site of generation - must be licensed.

National Transfrontier Shipment Office (NTFSO)

The [National Transfrontier Shipment Office \(NTFSO\)](#) in Dublin City Council is designated as the national competent authority for the export, import and transit of waste shipments refer to [Transport of Asbestos](#) section.



National Waste Collection Permit Office (NWCPO)

The [NWCPO](#) in Offaly County Council is designated as the national competent authority for processing all new and review Waste Collection Permit (WCP) applications for the Republic of Ireland.

Any hauliers or contractors or waste collector used to transport asbestos waste must have a valid WCP for asbestos waste.

Local Authorities

Local Authorities are responsible for investigating any complaints/incidents relating to the alleged unauthorised storage, removal and/or disposal of asbestos waste. A Local Authority may require specific measures to be undertaken to address issue(s) arising and/or can prosecute for infringements under the Waste Management Act 1996, the Air Pollution Act 1987 and/or the Local Government (Water Pollution) Act 1977. Anyone who is found to be in breach of the legislation listed is guilty of an offence.

Local Authorities Planning Section may request a refurbishment/demolition asbestos survey (RDAS), either prior to a decision or as a condition of a planning grant decision, where it is proposed to refurbish or demolish a building



Useful Links and References

- Health & Safety Authority (HSA) information regarding asbestos: https://www.hsa.ie/eng/your_industry/chemicals/legislation_enforcement/asbestos/
- Health & Safety Authority (HSA) guidelines: [**Asbestos-containing Materials \(ACMs\) in Workplaces Practical Guidelines on ACM Management and Abatement \(2013\)**](#)
- UK Health & Safety Executive (HSE) website - <https://www.hse.gov.uk/asbestos/index.htm>
- Citizens Information Board guidance - https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/environment/buildings_and_structures/asbestos_regulations.html
- European commission Press release 28th September 2022 - Commission acts to better protect people from asbestos and ensure an asbestos-free future https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_22_5679
- EEA Briefing on Asbestos: <https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/environmental-burden-of-cancer/asbestos>
- EPA 2021 Best Practice Guidelines for the preparation of resource & waste management plans for construction & demolition projects [**Resources | Environmental Protection Agency \(epa.ie\)**](#)

