

How is Warwick District Council making homes safe?

Warwick District Council is currently surveying many of our properties to identify any potential asbestos risks that may be present. We have an Asbestos Management Plan in place, which is our legal duty, and explains how asbestos containing materials will be managed to prevent exposure to airborne fibres.

By Law all non domestic properties must have a survey carried out. Warwick District Council has carried out asbestos surveys to all its communal areas. We have recorded the location of asbestos materials and where needed these have been removed or protected, any asbestos materials left in place are re-inspected on an annual basis.

In line with the Law, and with Central Government policy, Warwick District Council will leave any asbestos that is in good condition and is unlikely to be damaged, as it is safer to leave it where it is. Where there is a high risk, and asbestos has to be removed, we will use a specialist asbestos removal contractor.



Getting in touch

To contact us, call Warwick District Council on: 01926 456129

Where possible, information can be made available in other formats, including large print, CD and other languages if required. To obtain one of these alternatives, please contact 01926 456129

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This is a guide about asbestos: what it is, its health effects, where it may be in the home, and what you can do about it.

ASBESTOS IN YOUR HOME



What is Asbestos?



Asbestos is a naturally occurring material. Asbestos fibres are strong and resistant to heat and chemicals, this has led to its use in a wide range of building materials and products.

Why is asbestos dangerous?

Asbestos containing materials, if maintained in a good condition, are not dangerous. There are low levels of asbestos fibres in the air everywhere because it has been so widely used. Exposure at this low level is unlikely to harm people's health. However, when it is damaged, sanded, scrubbed, drilled or sawn it can become dangerous.

If damaged or disturbed, asbestos containing materials have the potential to release fibres into the air which can be breathed in and can lead to a number of harmful diseases.

If you think you have asbestos in your home:

- don't panic, it is usually only a problem if it gets disturbed or damaged
- don't disturb any damaged area or product that might contain asbestos
- don't carry out any DIY. Don't sand, drill, saw or strip any area that might contain asbestos
- don't dust, sweep or vacuum dirt or debris that might contain asbestos
- don't remove any material that you think contains asbestos

Want to improve your home?

It is vitally important for your safety and those living in your home that, before you carry out any alterations or improvements to your home, you seek permission from Warwick District Council. We have an asbestos register, so we can check our records first to see if there is any likelihood of asbestos containing materials in your home.

Where is it normally found?

Asbestos fibres have been added to a range of products and materials, commonly used in the construction of houses and building since the early 1900's.

Don't take risks! If you find damaged asbestos in your home, let us know immediately. If you don't know whether something contains asbestos, phone us on 01926 456129 and we will check our register. If we haven't got a record, we can arrange to have the material inspected by trained personnel, have it analysed and/or carry out a risk assessment.



Outside

Roof cladding – numerous brands and types.

Roof tiles

Roofing sheets – corrugated for sheds and garages.

Soil and vent pipes

Undercloak – board supporting roof tiles where they overhang beyond brickwork. Usually found on the end of the house.

Wall cladding sheets (double) – both plain and decorative.

Wall cladding sheets (single) – both plain and decorative.

Soffit boards – horizontal board beneath the roof overhang bridging the gap between brickwork and fascia board with the guttering attached.

Window sills (external).

Inside

Fire surrounds – heat and fire proof.

Flue pipes – to heating systems.

Insulation of warm air heating systems

Insulation – heating systems.

Partition sheets or wallboard – rarely used in domestic property.

Lagging – to pipes and boilers.

Sprayed asbestos coatings – used for the fire protection of steel beams and other central services in system-built flats.

Sprayed insulation coatings – rarely used in standard domestic properties.

Textured decorative finish – to ceilings and occasionally walls such as Artex.

Window sill – black cast resin sheet.

Wall boarding – to internal partitions, airing cupboard linings, shelving, duct and pipe covers.

Floor tiles – PVC vinyl.