Guidance Note 4

Contractors

This section relates to contractors (e.g. plumbers, builders, decorators and IT technicians) working on or near asbestos containing materials (ACMs). (This does not include specialised asbestos contractors.) They must be made aware of the location and type of materials and the Council's procedures. Contractors should be given access to the Asbestos Register and sign it (or an attached form) to confirm they have looked at and understood it.

Contractors must be given all relevant information when they are invited to tender for work.

It is the contractor's responsibility to provide information to their staff and sub-contractors and ensure it is understood.

The Council will monitor contractors to ensure operatives receive information and understand our policy and procedures.

Monitoring Contractors

Contractors are required to demonstrate they comply with this policy. The policy and any subsequent revisions and updates will be issued to the Council's partners who will ensure their staff and sub-contractors are made aware.

Asbestos issues are a standard agenda item for meetings held between the Council and its contractors. Issues such as the effectiveness of training and works orders are reviewed with management practices amended if necessary.

Contractors who fail to comply with the Council's Asbestos Policy may be suspended until they can demonstrate adequate asbestos safety awareness.

Working with Asbestos

The following procedure will be followed when ACMs are suspected in our managed buildings, open spaces or other places.

All work involving asbestos or ACMs must have an adequate risk assessment and the work must be carried out according to the procedures defined in the risk assessment that include details of re-occupation requirements.

Samples of material will only be removed or taken for analysis by officers whose duties specifically include this task and who are adequately trained and equipped.

Bulk sample analysis, air monitoring and site supervision of asbestos removal contractors will be undertaken by an independent accredited and licensed laboratory selected from the Approved List (UKAS Accredited).

Asbestos Waste Disposal

Asbestos waste must only be disposed of at a disposal site that is licensed to take asbestos waste.

All contractors transporting asbestos waste must be licensed to do so.