

COMMUNIQUE

The fourth meeting of the NSW Asbestos Coordination Committee (NACC) was held on Tuesday 31 August 2021.

The focus of the meeting was on determining the priority issues that will drive the NACC's work to reduce unsafe exposure to asbestos in NSW until December 2022.

Priorities for action

Committee members, representing NSW Government agencies and local land managers (councils and Aboriginal land councils), agreed on the following 5 priorities that will be focus of the NACC until December 2022:

Increasing asbestos awareness in the NSW community – how to stay safe

Managing asbestos in Discrete Aboriginal Communities – prioritised clean-up and education

Improving asbestos waste disposal – cost, convenience, and legislative requirements

Addressing legacy asbestos waste in Western Sydney – progressing a long-term solution

Assessing the economic impact of asbestos in the NSW economy – to inform a forward looking and long-term agenda.

These priorities all require a whole-of-government response.

The NACC also recognised that 'business-as-usual' roles and functions of individual agencies will continue but that the focus of the Committee is on priorities requiring multi-agency input. The development of a long-term Strategic Agenda for the NACC will take place throughout 2022.

Consultation

The Committee welcomed the input that has been provided by many stakeholders, both government and non-government, on the NSW Asbestos Outcomes Framework and the priorities for action. Stakeholders expressed strong support for comprehensive work being undertaken by the NACC on asbestos safety.

The Committee looks forward to further discussion with stakeholders and partners in 2022 to develop the long-term agenda for asbestos safety in NSW. The NACC will also be inviting stakeholders and partners to contribute to the development of this agenda in 2022.



Carolyn Walsh

Independent Chair

13 September 2021

The NACC is proudly supported by the NSW Environment Protection Authority

