

## COMMUNIQUE

The sixth meeting of the NSW Asbestos Coordination Committee (NACC) was held on Wednesday 23 February 2022.

The focus of the meeting was to review progress on the priorities identified in *Asbestos in NSW: Setting the Direction 2021–2022*, which was launched during Asbestos Awareness Week in November 2022, and to look ahead to our plans for beyond 2022.

### **Progress on *Setting the Direction***

The Committee heard updates from the lead agencies for each of the NACC's five priority issues, and I am satisfied that efforts are progressing soundly on all fronts. Foundational work has begun for the more complex long-term issues, and work on the more discrete priorities is progressing well. For example, a new asbestos awareness campaign is in the later stages of audience testing, and will be launching in April to coincide with the surge in DIY projects usually seen over the Easter period.

### **Beyond 2022**

*Asbestos in NSW: Setting the Direction 2021–2022* was developed as a one-year agenda to ensure progress while a more comprehensive, long-term strategy is developed. The NACC considered how best to approach the development of this longer-term strategy. Some guiding principles have been handed down to the NACC working group, who will develop a proposed way forward ahead of the next NACC meeting scheduled for 1 June 2022.

### **Social research findings highlight important of preparation**

Thank you to Heartward Strategic for presenting to the NACC on the findings of social research commissioned by the NSW Environment Protection Authority. The standout finding for me was the crucial importance of considering asbestos early in the preparation stages of renovations. This research is integral to making sure our awareness campaigns hit their intended marks. I encourage you to read these two exceptional reports yourself – they are available on the [NSW EPA website](#).



Carolyn Walsh  
**Independent Chair**

25 February 2022

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The NACC is proudly supported by the NSW Environment Protection Authority

