

Communique

The tenth meeting of the NSW Asbestos Coordination Committee (NACC), and first for 2023, was held on 2 March 2023.

It is always great to get back together after the festive break and look to the new year to continue the NACC's good work.

Progress towards the Next Horizon

The NACC agreed on its longer term strategy *Asbestos in NSW: Next Horizon*. (This is now published on asbestos.nsw.gov.au). The document sets out the NACC's priority issues for the long term, and its thinking behind why these are critical. *Next Horizon* also reports back against actions promised by the NACC in 2021 in its first, short term, strategy – *Asbestos in NSW: Setting the Direction 2021 and 2022*.

Next Horizon is our pathway forward to continue to reduce exposure to airborne asbestos in NSW.

In 2023 the NACC will be working hard on developing options to address the priority issues in *Next Horizon*. This year will be a time for critical policy discussion about ways to address asbestos exposure including harnessing what we already do as well as potential new steps. The NACC will be seeking Government support for its proposals once formed.

This presents both excitement and difficulty, and we remain determined to succeed.

Ageing Asbestos Materials

One of the issues prioritised in *Next Horizon* is the issue of how to tackle the legacy of ageing asbestos materials in buildings and the environment in NSW. The NACC used its March meeting to take a deep dive into the ageing asbestos issue. We discussed the different perspectives of the NACC agencies and agreed pathways that the NACC will explore further.

Carolyn Walsh
Independent Chair

2 March 2023



The NACC is proudly supported by the NSW Environment Protection Authority

