

Communiqué

It was wonderful to get together on 23 November 2023 during National Asbestos Awareness Week for the thirteenth meeting of the NSW Asbestos Coordination Committee (NACC). The NACC did not have a formal meeting in August as myself and many agency representatives instead used the time to strategise with Treasury officials about how future asbestos funding needs might be met.

So many highlights!

Just a few of the recent highlights discussed at our November meeting:

- Local Government NSW and Coates RTO won the prestigious Industry Collaboration Award at the Department of Education's 2023 Training Awards. The award recognised the [Statement of Attainment in Asbestos Related Work for Local Government](#), which has already been delivered to more than 1000 local government workers across NSW.
- SafeWork NSW launched a fantastic new awareness course. Course feedback has included that it is very practical, easy to follow and has a lot of videos and interactive activities. Visit the [SafeWork website](#) to find out more.

Office of the Chief Scientist and Engineer gets involved

I am very excited that the Office of the Chief Scientist and Engineer is undertaking a project looking at asbestos management in the context of waste intended to be beneficially reused. The NACC is keen for an improved evidence base on the risk tolerance, health and environmental impacts and technologies available to deal with asbestos found in waste that would otherwise be re-usable. This project is in its early days and will take some time. If you would like to be consulted, then please contact them via asbestosreview@chiefscientist.nsw.gov.au

Asbestos National Strategic Plan

Phase three of the Asbestos National Strategic Plan (2024-2030) is nearing completion. Compiled by the Australian Government's Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency, the plan focuses on safe and sustainable ways to remove asbestos containing materials from the built environment. The NACC stands ready to implement the plan within NSW once it is released.

Asbestos Safety Awareness

We hope everyone saw some of the 'Be asbestos ready' materials during National Asbestos Awareness Week from 20 – 26 November 2023. Special thanks go to the Men's Shed for working with us and honestly answering questions about asbestos for a fantastic video. I encourage you to use the campaign materials at any time of year. Check out the EPA's collaboration with [The Men's Shed](#) on [YouTube](#), [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#).

I look forward to another great year in 2024, making NSW safer from asbestos.



Carolyn Walsh (**Independent Chair**)
23 November 2023

The NACC is proudly supported by the NSW Environment Protection Authority

