



ACT
Government

Chief Minister, Treasury and
Economic Development

Freedom of Information Disclosure Log Publication Coversheet

The following information is provided pursuant to section 28 of the *Freedom of Information Act 2016*.

Application Details	
Ref. No.	CMTEDDFOI 2024-402
Date of Application	6 December 2024
Date of Decision	18 February 2025
Processing time (in working days)	45
Fees	Waived
Decision on Access	Partial Release
Information Requested (summary)	Remediation of the mulch at Denman Prospect ACT 2611
Publication Details	
Original application	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Published <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Decision notice	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Published <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Documents and schedule	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Published <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Decision made by Ombudsman	N/A
Additional information identified by Ombudsman	N/A
Decision made by ACAT	N/A
Additional information identified by ACAT	N/A

From: [CMTEDD FOI](#)
To: [CMTEDD FOI](#); [iCBR FOI](#)
Cc: [Hotham, Emma](#); [Ball, Kirstie](#)
Subject: RE: Partial Transfer Request - MPCFOI2024/27
Date: Friday, 6 December 2024 3:23:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Good afternoon Kirstie

Access Canberra has confirmed that we do hold material. We accept partial transfer of this request.

Kind regards
Emma

Emma Hotham (she/her) | Director, Freedom of Information

Phone: 02 6207 0811 | emma.hotham@act.gov.au
Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate | **ACT Government**
Level 1, 220 London Circuit, Canberra City | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601 | www.act.gov.au

From: CMTEDD FOI <CMTEDDFOI@act.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 5 December 2024 4:57 PM
To: iCBR FOI <iCBR.FOI@act.gov.au>; CMTEDD FOI <CMTEDDFOI@act.gov.au>
Cc: Hotham, Emma <Emma.Hotham@act.gov.au>; Ball, Kirstie <Kirstie.Ball@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Partial Transfer Request - MPCFOI2024/27

OFFICIAL

Hi Kirstie

Thanks for your email – I am making inquiries with Access Canberra and hope to get back to you soon.

Kind regards
Emma

Emma Hotham (she/her) | Director, Freedom of Information

Phone: 02 6207 0811 | emma.hotham@act.gov.au
Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate | **ACT Government**
Level 1, 220 London Circuit, Canberra City | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601 | www.act.gov.au

From: Ball, Kirstie <Kirstie.Ball@act.gov.au> **On Behalf Of** iCBR FOI
Sent: Thursday, 5 December 2024 3:20 PM
To: CMTEDD FOI <CMTEDDFOI@act.gov.au>
Cc: Hotham, Emma <Emma.Hotham@act.gov.au>; iCBR FOI <iCBR.FOI@act.gov.au>; Ball, Kirstie <Kirstie.Ball@act.gov.au>

Subject: Partial Transfer Request - MPCFOI2024/27

OFFICIAL

Hi Emma and CMTEDD team,

Thank you for the chat yesterday, as discussed, we have an FOI application with the following scope (correspondence attached):

In relation to Major Projects Canberra remediation of the mulch at [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Denman Prospect ACT 2611, we request any correspondence or documents regarding:

- 1 *The initial scheduling of the remediation work in August 2024 (as the last scheduled date), and prior committed dates in early 2024.*
- 2 *any delay to the commencement of work on the remediation and,*
- 3 *the projected commencement date of the remediation.*

As discussed, please advise if CMTEDD holds information and will accept partial transfer

Have a lovely afternoon,

Kirstie

Kind regards,

Kirstie Ball

A/g Senior Information and Audit Officer | Governance, Audit & Risk

Phone: via MS Teams | Email: kirstie.ball@act.gov.au

Chief Operating Office | Infrastructure Canberra (iCBR) | ACT Government

GPO Box 158 Canberra City ACT 2601 | www.act.gov.au/iCBR

Canberra Health Services acknowledges the Ngunnawal people as traditional custodians of the ACT and recognises any other people or families with connection to the lands of the ACT and region.

We acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and contribution to the life of this region.





FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – NOTICE OF DECISION

I refer to your application under section 30 of the *Freedom of Information Act 2016* (the Act), that was partially transferred from **Infrastructure Canberra** to Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate (CMTEDD) on 6 December 2024.

Specifically, you have sought access to the following information:

“Remediation of the mulch at [REDACTED] we request any correspondence or documents regarding:

- 1 The initial scheduling of the remediation work in August 2024 (as the last scheduled date), and prior committed dates in early 2024.*
- 2 Any delay to the commencement of work on the remediation and,*
- 3 The projected commencement date of the remediation.”*

Authority

I am an Information Officer appointed by the CMTEDD Director-General under section 18 of the Act to deal with access applications made under Part 5 of the Act.

Timeframes

In accordance with section 40 of the Act, CMTEDD is required to provide a decision on your access application within 30 days.

As this matter required third party consultation, the decision due date was extended by 15 working days, in accordance with section 40(2) of the Act.

Therefore, a decision is due by **18 February 2025**.

Decision on access

Searches of CMTEDD records have identified five documents within the scope of your request.

I have decided to grant **partial access** to all five documents.

The records identified as relevant to your application are listed in the schedule enclosed at **Attachment A**. This provides a description of each document that falls within the scope of your request and the access decision for each of those documents.

Release of documents

The information being released to you is provided at **Attachment B**.

Statement of Reasons

In accordance with section 54(2) of the Act a statement of reasons outlining my decisions is below. In reaching my access decisions, I have taken the following into account:

- the Act
- *Human Rights Act 2004*
- the information that falls within the scope of your request
- third party views

As a decision maker, I am required to determine whether the information within scope is in the public interest to release. To make this decision, I am required to:

- assess whether the information would be contrary to public interest to disclose as per **Schedule 1** of the Act.
- perform the public interest test as set out in section 17 of the Act by balancing the factors favouring disclosure and factors favouring non-disclosure in **Schedule 2** of the Act.

Exemptions claimed

Schedule 1: Information taken to be contrary to the public interest.

No Schedule 1 factors were identified as relevant and therefore this has not been a consideration in my decision.

Public Interest Test

The Act has a presumption in favour of disclosure. As a decision maker I am required to decide where, on balance, public interest lies. As part of this process, I must consider factors favouring disclosure and nondisclosure.

In *Hogan v Hinch* (2011) 243 CLR 506, [31] French CJ stated that when ‘used in a statute, the term [public interest] derives its content from “the subject matter and the scope and purpose” of the enactment in which it appears’. Section 17(1) of the Act sets out the test, to be applied to determine whether disclosure of information would be contrary to the public interest. These factors are found in subsection 17(2) and Schedule 2 of the Act.

Schedule 2: Factors to be considered when deciding the public interest

Taking into consideration the information contained in the documents found to be within the scope of your request, I have identified that the following public interest factors are relevant to determine if release of the information contained within these documents is within the ‘public interest’.

Factors favouring disclosure (Section 2.1)

- *Section 2.1(a)(v) – allow or assist inquiry into possible deficiencies in the conduct or administration of an agency or public official*
- *Section 2.1(a)(vii) – advance the fair treatment of individuals and other entities in accordance with the law in their dealings with the government.*

The information sought could reasonably provide insight into the delays in remediating mulch and provide further information to those who have been impacted by the delays.

I am satisfied that these factors favouring disclosure carry some weight. However, these factors are to be balanced against the factors favouring nondisclosure.

Factors favouring nondisclosure (under Schedule 2, Section 2.2 of the Act)

- *Section 2.2(a)(ii) - prejudice the protection of an individual's right to privacy or any other right under the Human Rights Act 2004.*
- *Section 2.2(a)(xi) - prejudice trade secrets, business affairs or research of an agency or person.*

I have identified the above factors as relevant when deliberating on the release of information. I have placed significant weight on the sch 2, sections 2.2(a)(ii) and 2.2(a)(xi) factors and placed moderate weight on the other factors identified above.

Having reviewed the information, I consider that the protection of an individual's right to privacy, is a significant factor. It is my opinion in this instance that the parties involved did not provide their consent to release their personal information. While some individuals may have their names known in the media, their right to personal privacy under section 12 of the *Human Rights Act* remains.

Schedule 2 section 2.2(a)(xi) allows for government information to be withheld from release if disclosure of the information could reasonably be expected to prejudice the trade secrets, business affairs or research of an agency or person. Considering the impact of disclosing information relating to business affairs, I have concluded disclosure of the information could reasonably be expected to prejudice the trade secrets, business affairs or research of an agency or person.

Having applied the test outlined in section 17 of the Act and deciding that release of personal information contained in the documents is not in the public interest to release, I have chosen to redact this specific information in accordance with section 50(2). Noting the pro-disclosure intent of the Act, I am satisfied that redacting only the information that I believe is not in the public interest to release will ensure that the intent of the Act is met and will provide you with access to the majority of the information held by CMTEDD within the scope of your request.

I note that a considerable amount of out of scope information was captured in relation to this request. This has been marked as out of scope on the documents and on the schedule to assist you in identifying material that is relevant to Denman Prospect.

Charges

Processing charges are applicable for this request because the total number of pages to be released to you exceeds the charging threshold of 50 pages. However, the charges have been waived.

Online publishing – Disclosure Log

Under section 28 of the Act, CMTEDD maintains an online record of access applications called a [disclosure log](#).

Your original access application and my decision will be published on the CMTEDD disclosure log. Your personal contact details will not be published.

Ombudsman Review

My decision on your access request is a reviewable decision as identified in Schedule 3 of the Act. You have the right to seek Ombudsman review of this outcome under section 73

of the Act within 20 working days from the day that my decision is provided to you, or a longer period allowed by the Ombudsman.

We recommend using this form [Applying for an Ombudsman Review](#) to ensure you provide all of the required information. Alternatively, you may write to the Ombudsman at:

The ACT Ombudsman
GPO Box 442
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Via email: actfoi@ombudsman.gov.au

ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal (ACAT) Review

Under section 84 of the Act, if a decision is made under section 82(1) on an Ombudsman review, you may apply to the ACAT for review of the Ombudsman decision. Further information may be obtained from the ACAT at:

ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal
GPO Box 370
Canberra City ACT 2601
Telephone: (02) 6207 1740
<http://www.acat.act.gov.au/>

Should you have any queries in relation to your request please contact the CMTEDD FOI Team by telephone on 6207 7754 or email CMTEDDFOI@act.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Emma Hotham
Information Officer
Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate

18 February 2025



ACT
Government

Chief Minister, Treasury and
Economic Development

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST SCHEDULE

WHAT ARE THE PARAMETERS OF THE REQUEST	Reference NO.
<p><i>“Remediation of the mulch at [REDACTED] Denman Prospect ACT 2611, we request any correspondence or documents regarding:</i></p> <p><i>1 The initial scheduling of the remediation work in August 2024 (as the last scheduled date), and prior committed dates in early 2024.</i></p> <p><i>2 Any delay to the commencement of work on the remediation and,</i></p> <p><i>3 The projected commencement date of the remediation.”</i></p>	<p>CMTEDDFOI 2024-402</p>

Ref No	Page number	Description	Date	Status	Reason for Exemption	Online Release Status
1	1-10	24_23219 - Ministerial Brief	14 March 2024	Partial release	Sch 2, s 2.2(a)(xi) and Outside scope	Yes
2	11-12	Email Correspondence: ELTR EBM to Rachel Sutherland - RE Media enquiry - Asbestos Remediation - Denman Prospect	15 August 2024	Partial release	Sch 2, s 2.2(a)(ii)	Yes
3	13-15	Letter regarding asbestos mulch - Denman Prospect complex	26 August 2024	Partial Release	Sch 2, s 2.2(a)(ii)	Yes
4	16-25	24_66714 - Ministerial Brief	2 September 2024	Partial Release	Sch 2, s 2.2(a)(xi) and Outside scope	Yes
5	26-28	Letter regarding asbestos mulch - [REDACTED]	28 November 2024	Partial Release	Sch 2, s 2.2(a)(ii)	Yes
Total No of Docs						
5						

Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate

To: Minister for Government Services and
Regulatory Reform

Tracking No.: 24/23219

Treasurer

Date: 14/03/2024

CC: Work Health and Safety Commissioner
Under Treasurer
CFO (CMTEDD)

Min Vasanthi

From: A/g Deputy Director General, Access Canberra

Subject: Asbestos contaminated mulch options for remediation

Critical Date: 14/03/2024

Critical Reason: To provide for prompt remediation, and advice to the public noting the Work Health and Safety Commissioner will issue a media release late this afternoon on the detection of friable asbestos in mulch at a unit complex in Denman Prospect.

- DG .../.../...
- UT .../.../...
- DDG .../.../...
- CFO .../.../...

Recommendations

That you:

1. **Note** the information contained in this brief;

Noted / Please Discuss

Option D4

2. **Agree** to a framework for a rapid response where the ACT Government remediates sites that were supplied with potentially contaminated mulch (~~Option E~~); and

Agreed / Not Agreed / Please Discuss

- 3. **Note** we will arrange for further briefing with detailed costings, implementation and communication plan in conjunction with Major Projects Group.

Noted / Please Discuss

Tara Cheyne MLA *Tara Cheyne* 14/3/24

Minister's Office Feedback

** This is the approach used but can be reviewed as more information comes to hand.*

That you:

- 1. **Note** the information in this brief.

Noted / Please Discuss

- 2. **Note** that if Option D (part remediation) or Option E (full remediation of all sites) is selected, we would propose to seek approval from the Under Treasurer to use Access Canberra's frozen appropriation which will cover the costs of the remediation of positive sites.

Noted / Please Discuss

Andrew Barr MLA *Andrew Barr* 14/3/24

Treasurer's Office Feedback

Background

- 1. Asbestos has been confirmed to be present in mulch samples tested by WorkSafe ACT (**WorkSafe**), from mulch supplied by **Sch 2.2(a)(xi)**.
 - a. The asbestos was originally contained in approximately 800m³ of mulch supplied to **Sch 2.2(a)(xi)** between 1 March 2023 and 16 February 2024 (**First supplier**).

- b. Sch 2.2(a)(xi) also supplied a quantity of the affected mulch to a landscape supplier, Sch 2.2(a)(xi).

Outside Scope

First supplier response

5. Sch 2.2(a)(xi) have proactively remediated their own site.

Outside Scope

Outside Scope

Outside Scope

Removal and remediation

21. Following brief 24/19560 on the initial options for the ongoing management of all impacted properties the options identified are now:

Outside Scope

Option D: The Government undertakes a two-step approach, of remediating sites that have tested positive and provides advice on further testing, disposal, remediation and/or management process to private owners of sites that have returned initial negative test results.

Option E: The Government undertakes a one-step approach of remediating all ACT sites with contaminated mulch.

Outside Scope

Outside Scope

4. Option D is not recommended however is feasible noting the risks of cost and time blowouts. This option would see the ACT take a similar path to NSW. It would remove readily confirmed instances of contamination while providing a process for owners to undertake intensive testing of sites that still have a probability of contamination.
- a. It introduces uncertainty for owners, knowing a negative report does not guarantee the site is free from contaminated material, although is categorised as low risk.
 - b. It would require ongoing administrative oversight and monitoring in Government, possible assessments and additional remediation. The long term costs of such activity could exceed current estimates of remediation of all sites.

Outside Scope

Outside Scope

Outside Scope

25. Option D (two step approach). This option involves the Government incurring the cost of remediation all identified sites that have tested positive to date. Further, in the event of half the private owners undertaking further tests and any sites being confirmed as positive, it can be expected those owners would also seek Government assistance.
- a. Noting that 60-250m³ of the contaminated mulch is yet to be inspected, an estimate on costs for those sites is included. Implementation is similar to Option E – albeit with preliminary testing step and likely less testing by owners.
 - b. Noting that the estimated cost of Option D is ^{Sch 2.2(a)(xi)} this can be funded from the frozen appropriation noting the risk of both cost and time blow out with this option.

Outside Scope

Outside Scope

28. There can be eligibility criteria applied which will reduce the costs. These would need Ministerial Endorsement. For example, commercial entities are required to provide a safe place and arguably, should be responsible for remediation costs of their sites.

Outside Scope

Consultation

Internal

Outside Scope

From: "Kamarul, Matthew" <Matthew.Kamarul@act.gov.au>
Sent: 15/08/2024 2:46 PM
To: "Sutherland, Rachel" <Rachel.Sutherland@act.gov.au>; "Wild-River, Su" <Su.Wild-River@act.gov.au>
Cc: "McDonald, Luke" <Luke.McDonald@act.gov.au>; "MPC Media" <MPC.Media@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Media enquiry - Asbestos Remediation - Denman Prospect
Categories: ATTENTION

OFFICIAL

Hi Rachel,

Thanks for the email.

I confirm that EPA can provide input and review, but suggest this response should be led by MPC in first instance noting the that remediation and procurement has been led by MPC. I have asked Su Wild River to prepare some input for EPA.

Kind regards,

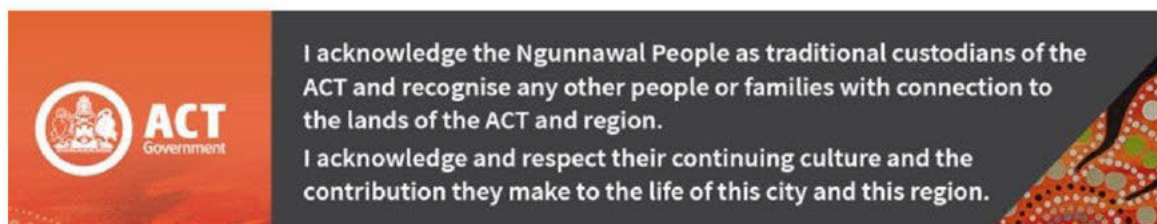
Matthew Kamarul

Executive Branch Manager | Environment Land and Technical Regulation

Ph: 02 6207 7291 | Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

Access Canberra | Chief Minister Treasury and Economic Development Directorate | ACT Government

GPO Box 158, Canberra City ACT 2601 | www.act.gov.au/accessCBR



This email and any of its attachments may be confidential. If you are not the intended recipient please notify the sender and delete immediately. You should not copy or use it for any purpose, nor disclose its contents to any other person.

From: Sutherland, Rachel <Rachel.Sutherland@act.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, August 15, 2024 2:29 PM
To: Kamarul, Matthew <Matthew.Kamarul@act.gov.au>
Cc: McDonald, Luke <Luke.McDonald@act.gov.au>; MPC Media <MPC.Media@act.gov.au>
Subject: Media enquiry - Asbestos Remediation - Denman Prospect
Importance: High

OFFICIAL

Hi Matthew,

MPC Media have received the below enquiry regarding asbestos contaminated mulch in Denman Prospect.

Could you please provide responses to the three questions and we will manage all contact with Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

Please note the deadline is 1:00pm tomorrow. Let me know if you require any assistance.

Kind regards,
Rachel

Rachel Sutherland | Senior Media and Communications Officer
Mobile: [Sch 2.2\(a\)\(ii\)](#) Email: rachel.sutherland@act.gov.au
Communications and Engagement | Major Projects Canberra | ACT Government

MPC acknowledges the Ngunnawal people as traditional custodians of the land we are meeting on and recognise any other people or families with connection to the lands of the ACT and region. We wish to acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region.

From: [Sch 2.2\(a\)\(ii\)](#)

Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2024 8:30 PM

To: MPC Media <MPC.Media@act.gov.au>

Subject: Asbestos Remediation - Denman Prospect - ACT Government Remediation ****OVERDUE****

You don't often get email from [Sch 2.2\(a\)\(ii\)](#) [Learn why this is important](#)

Caution: This email originated from outside of the ACT Government. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Good evening,

On 04 April 2024, ACT Property Group advised [Sch 2.2\(a\)\(ii\)](#) in writing that the ACT Government would remediate asbestos contaminated mulch at [Sch 2.2\(a\)\(ii\)](#) and [Sch 2.2\(a\)\(ii\)](#) Denman Prospect, ACT 2611.

The ACT Government advised that the asbestos contaminated mulch would be remediated "swiftly" by mid-June 2024, as it poses a health risk to the community, however, the asbestos contaminated mulch has not yet been remediated 4 months later.

Can you please **provide responses to the following questions by 1300hrs (GMT+1000) 16 Aug 2024:**

- i) Advise why the asbestos contaminated mulch at [Sch 2.2\(a\)\(ii\)](#) has not yet been remediated?
- ii) Advise of the exact date by which the ACT Government will remediate the asbestos contaminated mulch at [Sch 2.2\(a\)\(ii\)](#)
- iii) Confirm that 'MPCFOI@act.gov.au' is the correct email address for Major Projects Canberra Freedom of Information (FOI) requests?

Many thanks,

[Sch 2.2\(a\)\(ii\)](#)



Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

DENMAN PROSPECT, ACT 2611

Dear Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

Why are we writing to you?

WorkSafe ACT previously arranged for a licensed asbestos assessor to inspect the mulch at your property. A result of this inspection found mulch located at your property to be contaminated with small amounts of bonded asbestos which needs to be removed.

A copy of the Asbestos Assessment Report was provided to you previously.

We are writing to advise there has been a delay in the commencement of these works, from the previously advised commencement date.

Update on remediation progress

ACT Property Group is undertaking a process to establish a new contract to finalise remediation works on the remaining identified properties. Unfortunately this is taking longer than anticipated and we will provide you with another update with further information in late September 2024 with an indication of the schedule of when the remediation works will be undertaken.

ACT Government is committed to securing and remediating the asbestos affected mulch and replace it with clean mulch at your property as quickly as possible at no cost to you.

What is the health risk of asbestos when it's in my mulch?

Statutory notices issued by WorkSafe prohibit disturbance to the land for sites which have cottage mulch containing asbestos.

It is acknowledged, and widely supported by evidence, that when asbestos materials are contained in a bonded form that is maintained in a good condition and left alone, they present no health risk. However, asbestos becomes a potentially dangerous substance when asbestos fibres are released into the air and the fibres are inhaled.

There is a low risk to the community if the mulch is left as is. However, the risk increases if contaminated mulch is disturbed. Asbestos fibres can pose a risk to health if airborne, as inhalation is the main way that asbestos enters the body.

If you are concerned about your level of exposure to asbestos, you may wish to speak with your medical practitioner to discuss your concerns.

You can also register your details on the National Asbestos Exposure Register, under Asbestos Risks and Exposure at: www.asbestossafety.gov.au/

What do you need to do?

It is very important that the mulch at your home is not disturbed, handled, or disposed of. Please keep children, residents, and pets away from the mulch. Please do not do any gardening or weeding in the areas where this contaminated mulch has been identified.

Please follow any advice that WorkSafe ACT and the licensed asbestos assessor have given you.

Where can I get more information?

We encourage you to contact **Ashley Martins at ACT Government on Sch 2.2(a)(ii)** if you have any concerns or questions about the contaminated mulch removal.

We apologise for any inconvenience you may have experienced, and we thank you for your cooperation and assistance in relation to this matter.

Sincerely,

Ashley Martins

26 August 2024



Accessibility

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If you have difficulty reading a standard printed document and would like to receive this publication in an **alternative format** – such as large print or audio – please telephone **1800 950 255**.

If English is not your first language and you require the **translating and interpreting services** – please telephone **131 450**.

National Relay Service phone 133 677 then ask for 1800 950 255.

Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate

To: Minister for Government Services and
Regulatory Reform

Tracking No.: 24/66714

Date: 02/09/2024

CC: Minister for Environment, Parks and Land Management
Minister for Industrial Relations and Workplace Safety
Treasurer
Work Health and Safety Commissioner
Under Treasurer
Chief Financial Officer (CMTEDD)

Ryann 5/9

From: Acting Deputy Director-General, Access Canberra

Subject: Progress Update on Asbestos Contaminated Mulch Taskforce

Critical Date: 05/09/2024

Critical Reason: To inform activities into the new financial year

Recommendations

That you:

1. Note the information contained in this brief;

Noted / Please Discuss

2. Note the cost pressure for the remediation process for remaining residential sites of around **Sch 2.2(a)(xi)**; and

Noted / Please Discuss

3. Note the approach to limit the scope of remediation conducted on behalf of the ACT Government to residential sites.

Noted / Please Discuss

Tara Cheyne MLA



4/9/24

Minister's Office Feedback

Background

Outside Scope

Outside Scope

Issues

11. MPC engaged with Worksafe ACT to take carriage of the remediation process for private properties that tested positive. **Outside Scope**

Outside Scope

16. Procurement for the remaining planned remediation is now being progressed by MPC.
17. The initial procurement process conducted by MPC for completion the second stage of remediation was quoted at **Sch 2.2(a)(xi)** The higher-than anticipated cost is due to the large sizes and complexity of the areas to be remediated at the two large multi-unit sites and was based on a specific removal methodology – which included the use of a crane. It is the EPA’s preliminary view that the proposed mediation of the multi-unit sites was a “Rolls Royce” solution. MPC is in the process of undertaking a new procurement process

for the remediation works for the three remaining private properties to ensure value for money is achieved while maintaining the integrity of the remediation process.

18. MPC is engaging with Worksafe ACT to confirm the standard of remediation proposed is suitable at those three sites.

19. Accordingly, we wish you to note the possible budget implications and the strategy to ensure value for money. No budget for 2024-25 has been identified to cover this expenditure.

Outside Scope

Outside Scope

External

30. MPC have written to the owners and residents of affected sites to advise them of the ongoing process and that they will be provided further information in late September 2024 with an indication of the schedule of when the remediation works will be undertaken.

Out of scope

Signatory Name: Matthew Kamarul

Phone: *79703

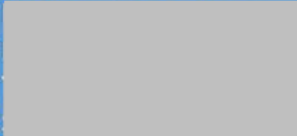
Action Officer: Su Wild-River

Phone: *71191

Attachments

Attachment	Title
Attachment A	Out of scope
Attachment B	Out of scope
Attachment C	Signed Options Paper 24/23219
Attachment D	Asbestos Mulch QTB July 2024
Attachment E	Out of scope
Attachment F	Sites and remediation

Table of private properties to be remediated by ACT Property Group

Address	Proposal	Cost	Comments
<h1>Outside Scope</h1>			
Second phase of private property remediation – scheduled for 2024-25 financial year			
<p>Outside Scope</p> <p>Denman Prospect multi-unit complex –</p> 	<p>Major Projects</p> <p>Canberra is in the process of procuring work for remediation by government</p>	<p>Remaining cost initially estimated at <small>Sec 2.2(a)(ii)</small></p>	<p>No budget allocated</p>
<h1>Outside Scope</h1>			
<h1>Outside Scope</h1>			
<h1>Outside Scope</h1>			

• Outside Scope

- The ACT Government has offered to remediate sites that still have asbestos in the mulch. This includes removing the asbestos using licensed asbestos removalists and replacing the mulch with a clean alternative and then providing a certificate of clearance for the site.
- Owners of the Sch 2.2(a)(xi) remaining positive sites have all been contacted to commence arrangements for the remediation. Procurement for works to carry out the remediation is underway, led by ACT Property Group.

Outside Scope

Outside Scope

Out of scope

Cleared as complete and accurate: 16/07/2024
Cleared for public release by: Executive Branch Manager Ext: 79703
Contact Officer name: Matthew Kamarul Ext: 79703
Lead Directorate: Chief Minister, Treasury and
Economic Development
Objective Ref: 24/67311



Sch 2.2(a)(ii)

DENMAN PROSPECT, ACT 2611

Dear ^{Sch 2.2(a)} [REDACTED],

Why are we writing to you?

WorkSafe ACT previously arranged for a licensed asbestos assessor to inspect the mulch at your property. A result of this inspection found mulch located at your property to be contaminated with small amounts of bonded asbestos which needs to be removed.

A copy of the Asbestos Assessment Report was provided to you previously.

We are writing to advise the current status from the previously advised communication.

Update on remediation progress

ACT Property Group is undertaking a process to establish a new contract to finalise remediation works on the remaining identified properties. Based on the current progress of the procurement we expect the works to be carried out in early 2025.

We will update you again in mid-December once the procurement process has progressed further.

ACT Government is committed to securing and remediating the asbestos affected mulch and replace it with clean mulch at your property as quickly as possible at no cost to you.

What is the health risk of asbestos when it's in my mulch?

Statutory notices issued by WorkSafe prohibit disturbance to the land for sites which have cottage mulch containing asbestos.

It is acknowledged, and widely supported by evidence, that when asbestos materials are contained in a bonded form that is maintained in a good condition and left alone, they present no health risk. However, asbestos becomes a potentially dangerous substance when asbestos fibres are released into the air and the fibres are inhaled.

There is a low risk to the community if the mulch is left as is. However, the risk increases if contaminated mulch is disturbed. Asbestos fibres can pose a risk to health if airborne, as inhalation is the main way that asbestos enters the body.

If you are concerned about your level of exposure to asbestos, you may wish to speak with your medical practitioner to discuss your concerns.

You can also register your details on the National Asbestos Exposure Register, under Asbestos Risks and Exposure at: www.asbestossafety.gov.au/

What do you need to do?

It is very important that the mulch at your home is not disturbed, handled, or disposed of.

Please keep children, residents, and pets away from the mulch. Please do not do any gardening or weeding in the areas where this contaminated mulch has been identified.

Please follow any advice that WorkSafe ACT and the licensed asbestos assessor have given you.

Where can I get more information?

We encourage you to contact **Ashley Martins at ACT Government on 6213 0700** if you have any concerns or questions about the contaminated mulch removal.

We apologise for any inconvenience you may have experienced, and we thank you for your cooperation and assistance in relation to this matter.

Sincerely,

Ashley Martins

28 November 2024

Accessibility

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If English is not your first language and you require the **translating and interpreting services** – please telephone **131 450**.

National Relay Service phone 133 677 then ask for 1800 950 255.