

LOOSE FILL ASBESTOS INSULATION

Meeting: NSW Chief Health Officer’s Air Pollution Expert Advisory Committee
Time: 5.15 to 6.15 pm, Wednesday 26 November 2014
Venue: Teleconference

Present: Dr Kerry Chant, Prof Bruce Armstrong, Prof Guy Marks, Dr Jeremy McAnulty, Prof Wayne Smith, Dr Stephen Corbett, Dr Richard Broome, Adam Capon, Peta Pippas
Apologies Dr Mark Hibberd, Prof Bin Jalaludin, Prof Alison Jones, Dr Vicky Sheppard, Prof David Durrheim

Conflicts of interest

No new conflict of interest declared regarding loose fill asbestos insulation issue.

Loose fill asbestos insulation meeting summary

The Chief Health Officer provided members with an update of the Heads of Asbestos Coordinating Agencies activities to manage loose fill asbestos insulation.

The Chief Health Officer thanked members on their continuing advice and comments on health messaging to support the technical assessment of homes with confirmed loose fill asbestos insulation. Members were advised that the purpose of today’s meeting was to discuss remaining issues with the aim to reach an agreement on the wording of the factsheet and template letters.

Members acknowledged that there was clear evidence of risk to health at high exposure, but that there was some uncertainty at the lower exposure levels. Members considered it was important to acknowledge the uncertainty and ensure messaging was appropriate.

Members considered that while the overall the risk was difficult to quantify, it was generally low. Members considered the draft wording was close to finalisation however they would like some further information on the suspension of dust.

Members also considered it was important that the NSW Government representatives explain the technical assessment results to the homeowners, and provide an opportunity for homeowners to ask questions.

ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY
NSW Health to provide some further advice to EAC members on re-suspension of dust out of session	Environmental Health Branch
NSW Health to revise factsheet and templates in light of additional comments and re-circulate to members for final comment out of session.	Environmental Health Branch
