

White, Kelly

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 7 September 2020 5:02 PM
To: Sloane, Brenton
Cc: EDU Media
Subject: Re: Lead contamination in schools

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: Brenton - FOR ACTION

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.

Thanks Brenton.

On Mon, Sep 7, 2020 at 4:58 PM Sloane, Brenton <Brenton.Sloane@act.gov.au> wrote:

OFFICIAL

Hello [REDACTED]

Apologies for the delay in responding to you. Please attribute the below responses to an Education Directorate spokesperson:

Alfred Deakin High School:

At Alfred Deakin High School, what were the readings of lead contamination found in the school hall?

Lead paint was commonly used in buildings, including schools, before 1970. Where this is the case, hazardous materials management plans are in place. The management of lead paint is part of managing older buildings.

A licenced assessor found four samples with above threshold lead dust levels in the ceiling and floor cavities in the hall at Alfred Deakin High School. These levels ranged from 1.33mg/m² to 3.22mg/m². This lead dust was only found in non-accessible areas.

How is this dust being contained and removed from the site?

The Education Directorate has undertaken an environmental cleaning process in accordance with the school's hazardous materials management plan.

The safety of students, staff and the community remains the highest priority.

When is this work expected to be completed?

The work to remove the lead dust found in the hall has been completed.

The general works on the school hall at Alfred Deakin High School are ongoing.

What type of work was being done in the school hall?

The government was undertaking roof replacement works at Alfred Deakin High School hall.

Did the discovery of lead dust extend the time planned for the building work?

No.

North Ainslie Primary School:

At North Ainslie Primary School, have the five rooms where lead was found been cleared for occupation?

Cleaning in these five impacted rooms was undertaken over the weekend.

The impacted rooms will remain closed until testing by the licenced assessor confirms they are safe to occupy. While the testing has occurred, the results of these tests have not yet been received.

The safety of students, staff and the community remains the highest priority and as such these rooms remain closed until we receive confirmation they are safe to open.

Were items in these rooms taken off-site for cleaning? Were items in these rooms destroyed? If so, what type of items were they and was their estimated value?

Some items were taken off site for cleaning. A small number of minor items – screws, paper and other loose, easily replaceable low-cost objects - were destroyed as part of the cleaning process.

Were test results from other parts of the school returned and were any further elevated areas of lead detected? What were the readings?

Further testing will be conducted across the school to determine if the issue is more widespread.

Was the hazardous materials plan followed when painting work was carried out at the school? If so, how did the contamination occur?

Following recent Directorate communications to all schools regarding lead paint management, North Ainslie Primary School identified to the Directorate painting work carried out across the school over a period of time that could have created lead paint dust at the school. This included recent work in non-teaching areas of the school.

Yarralumla Primary School:

At Yarralumla Primary School, what was the cost of environmental cleaning due to lead contamination?

The total cost of the environmental cleaning is not yet finalised and thus is unknown at this stage.

In line with our commitment to openness and transparency, as well as our previous commitment to you, once the final cost of the environmental cleaning conducted at Yarralumla Primary School is known we will provide that figure to you.

Are all rooms affected by lead contamination open for full use by staff and students, including all toilets, kitchens and both Montessori preschool rooms?

All classroom spaces at Yarralumla were reopened on Monday August 31. This included the Montessori preschool rooms, which have been available for use since that date. The decision of when and how to use those rooms since they have been reopened is a matter for the staff of the preschool.

Regarding non-classroom spaces at the school, some areas remain closed. These spaces will remain closed until testing by the licenced assessor confirms they are safe to occupy.

Cheers,

Brenton Sloane | Director

Media and Communications | Education | ACT Government

P: (02) 6205 4196 | M: 0431 252 698 | E: brenton.sloane@act.gov.au

Level 6, 220 Northbourne Avenue | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601

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From: Sloane, Brenton

Sent: Monday, 7 September 2020 3:59 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: EDU Media <EDU.Media@act.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Lead contamination in schools

OFFICIAL

Hello [REDACTED]

Unfortunately, it would appear we won't be able to get this back to you by 4pm today.

Anticipating being able to get this back to you before 5pm though.

Cheers,

Brenton Sloane | Director

Media and Communications | Education | ACT Government

P: (02) 6205 4196 | M: 0431 252 698 | E: brenton.sloane@act.gov.au

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From: Sloane, Brenton

Sent: Monday, 7 September 2020 9:20 AM

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: EDU Media <EDU.Media@act.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Lead contamination in schools

OFFICIAL

Thanks [REDACTED]

We will endeavour to respond to you within the requested time frame.

Cheers,

Brenton Sloane | Director

Media and Communications | Education | ACT Government

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 7 September 2020 9:09 AM
To: EDU Media <EDU.Media@act.gov.au>
Subject: Lead contamination in schools

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 morning,

I have some further questions regarding lead contamination at schools.

Alfred Deakin High School:

- At Alfred Deakin High School, what were the readings of lead contamination found in the school hall?
- How is this dust being contained and removed from the site?
- When is this work expected to be completed?
- What type of work was being done in the school hall?
- Did the discovery of lead dust extend the time planned for the building work?

North Ainslie Primary School:

- At North Ainslie Primary School, have the five rooms where lead was found been cleared for occupation?
- Were items in these rooms taken off-site for cleaning?
- Were items in these rooms destroyed? If so, what type of items were they and was their estimated value?
- Were test results from other parts of the school returned and were any further elevated areas of lead detected? What were the readings?
- Was the hazardous materials plan followed when painting work was carried out at the school? If so, how did the contamination occur?

Yarralumla Primary School:

- At Yarralumla Primary School, what was the cost of environmental cleaning due to lead contamination?
- Are all rooms affected by lead contamination open for full use by staff and students, including all toilets, kitchens and both Montessori preschool rooms?

I would appreciate a response by 4pm today.

Kind regards,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]



[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

White, Kelly

From: Sloane, Brenton
Sent: Tuesday, 8 September 2020 9:30 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: EDU Media
Subject: RE: Alfred Deakin High School

OFFICIAL

Hello [REDACTED]

We didn't see this last night as this inbox isn't monitored outside of business hours.

In future, please feel free to call our media phone on 6205 4196.

Cheers,

Brenton Sloane | Director

Media and Communications | Education | ACT Government

P: (02) 6205 4196 | M: 0431 252 698 | E: brenton.sloane@act.gov.au

Level 6, 220 Northbourne Avenue | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 7 September 2020 5:34 PM
To: EDU Media <EDU.Media@act.gov.au>
Subject: Alfred Deakin High School

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.

Hi,

I'm seeking confirmation that Alfred Deakin High School is the third Canberra school dealing with lead paint contamination.

When was it discovered? What is the extent of the contamination? What were the lead readings?

Could I please have this today.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]



White, Kelly

From: Sloane, Brenton
Sent: Tuesday, 8 September 2020 10:01 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: EDU Media
Subject: RE: [REDACTED] Statement Request

OFFICIAL

Hi [REDACTED]

Sincere apologies for the delay in responding to you on this one.

Please attribute the following response to an Education Directorate spokesman:

Are the levels found dangerous?

The management of lead paint at North Ainslie Primary School is covered by that school's hazardous materials management plan.

The five locations at the school where lead paint dust has been identified have been closed off and as such presents no risk of ongoing exposure to the students or staff at the school.

What's being done?

The affected rooms underwent an environmental clean over the weekend. The rooms will remain closed until testing by the licenced assessor confirms they are safe to occupy.

Are school students and staff safe?

The school has taken immediate steps to prevent access to areas where lead paint dust has been identified - there is no risk of ongoing exposure to the students or staff at the school. The situation is being managed at North Ainslie Primary School in accordance with expert advice.

Cheers,

Brenton Sloane | Director

Media and Communications | Education | ACT Government

P: (02) 6205 4196 | M: 0431 252 698 | E: brenton.sloane@act.gov.au

Level 6, 220 Northbourne Avenue | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 4 September 2020 4:55 PM
To: Sloane, Brenton <Brenton.Sloane@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: [REDACTED] Statement Request

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.

Hey Brenton

Unlikely we'll be able to include it due to deadlines but would still appreciate a response.



From: Sloane, Brenton <Brenton.Sloane@act.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 4 September 2020 4:05 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: EDU Media <EDU.Media@act.gov.au>; Health Media <HealthMedia@act.gov.au>
Subject: [Redacted] Statement Request

OFFICIAL

Hello [Redacted]

Further to your below request, please be advised a written response is still coming.

I'll be in touch again when it is coming through.

Cheers,

Brenton Sloane | Director
Media and Communications | Education | ACT Government
P: (02) 6205 4196 | M: 0431 252 698 | E: brenton.sloane@act.gov.au
Level 6, 220 Northbourne Avenue | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601
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-----Original Message-----

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, 4 September 2020 10:44 AM
To: Health Media <HealthMedia@act.gov.au>
[Redacted] Statement Request

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 morning,

Hoping for a written statement regarding the lead contamination at North Ainslie Primary School.

Are the levels found, dangerous?

What's being done?

Are school students and staff safe?

Any help would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

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This email and its attachments are for the sole use of the addressee and may contain information which is confidential and/or legally privileged. This email and its attachments are subject to copyright and should not be partly or wholly reproduced without the consent of the copyright owner. Any unauthorised use or disclosure of this email or its attachments is prohibited. If you receive this email in error, please immediately delete it from your system and notify the sender by return email.

White, Kelly

From: Sloane, Brenton
Sent: Monday, 14 September 2020 3:58 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: EDU Media
Subject: RE: Questions regarding hazardous materials

OFFICIAL

Hello [REDACTED]

Unfortunately, it would appear we won't be able to get this back to you by 4pm today.

Anticipating being able to get this back to you before 5pm though.

Cheers,

Brenton Sloane | Director
Media and Communications | Education | ACT Government
P: (02) 6205 4196 | M: 0431 252 698 | E: brenton.sloane@act.gov.au
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From: Sloane, Brenton
Sent: Monday, 14 September 2020 10:37 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: EDU Media <EDU.Media@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Questions regarding hazardous materials

OFFICIAL

Hello [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email.

We will endeavour to respond to you within that time frame.

Cheers,

Brenton Sloane | Director
Media and Communications | Education | ACT Government
P: (02) 6205 4196 | M: 0431 252 698 | E: brenton.sloane@act.gov.au
Level 6, 220 Northbourne Avenue | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601
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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 14 September 2020 9:35 AM
To: EDU Media <EDU.Media@act.gov.au>
Subject: Questions regarding hazardous materials

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 morning,

I have some questions regarding hazardous materials in schools.

- At North Ainslie Primary School, have all of the five rooms which had high lead levels been reopened after cleaning?
- Have any further test results been returned for other areas of the school and were the levels above the threshold?
- Have the items that were taken off-site for cleaning been returned?
- Why was lead paint work carried out at the school without controlling lead dust?
- Will any processes be reviewed as a result of this situation?
- Is there any further lead remediation work planned at this school?

- At Yarralumla Primary School, how much was spent on environmental cleaning?

- Have any other ACT public schools had lead dust tests conducted since July, excluding Yarralumla PS, North Ainslie PS and Alfred Deakin High School? If so, what were the lead readings in these spaces?

I would appreciate a response by 4pm.

Kind regards,



White, Kelly

From: Matthews, David
Sent: Monday, 14 September 2020 5:30 PM
To: Sloane, Brenton
Cc: EDU Media; Short, Paul; McKinnon, Margaret; Gange, Carly; Parkinson, Andrew; DDGEDUoffice
Subject: RE: Questions regarding hazardous materials

OFFICIAL

Approved, with the minor change below (in yellow)

Thanks again team.

Regards
David Matthews

From: Sloane, Brenton <Brenton.Sloane@act.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 14 September 2020 5:07 PM
To: Matthews, David <David.Matthews@act.gov.au>
Cc: EDU Media <EDU.Media@act.gov.au>; Short, Paul <Paul.Short@act.gov.au>; McKinnon, Margaret <Margaret.McKinnon@act.gov.au>; Gange, Carly <Carly.Gange@act.gov.au>; Parkinson, Andrew <Andrew.Parkinson@act.gov.au>; DDGEDUoffice <DDGEDUoffice@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Questions regarding hazardous materials

OFFICIAL

Hello David,

Following our discussion and some further discussions with Andrew, suggest proceeding with the below response:

At North Ainslie Primary School, have all of the five rooms which had high lead levels been reopened after cleaning?

Last week a letter was sent to parents advising them that two of the spaces at the school impacted by the discovery of lead paint dust have been reopened. Those reopened areas are the staff office and the breakout 'sensory' room. It is important to note that all student areas are now open.

The Building Service Officer's suite (which includes the storeroom and toilet), as well as the art storeroom, remain closed while further assessment occurs. These areas are not regularly accessible by students. The safety of students, staff and the community remains the highest priority and as such these rooms remain closed until we receive confirmation they are safe to occupy.

Have any further test results been returned for other areas of the school and were the levels above the threshold?

No. Further lead paint assessment will be conducted across the school during the upcoming school holidays.

Have the items that were taken off-site for cleaning been returned?

Some items taken off-site for cleaning have been returned.

Why was lead paint work carried out at the school without controlling lead dust?

Following recent Directorate communications to all schools regarding lead paint management, North Ainslie Primary School informed the Directorate of painting work that had been carried out across the school over a period of time that could have created lead paint dust at the school. This included recent work in non-teaching areas of the school. The Directorate had not previously been made aware of these works.

Following receipt of this advice, the Directorate arranged for lead dust testing at the school to be carried out.

Will any processes be reviewed as a result of this situation?

In recent weeks, the Education Directorate has updated policies for building management and communicated this with the schools. This policy included advice to schools that schools do not engage contractors to do any building or maintenance works in their school without first contacting the Infrastructure and Capital Works team within the Directorate. This team will work directly with schools to ensure all potential hazards and health and safety risks are addressed prior to the commencement of any school maintenance works.

Is there any further lead remediation work planned at this school?

There is no further lead remediation work currently planned at North Ainslie Primary School, beyond the current work being undertaken on the three spaces that have not yet been reopened. Further lead paint assessment will be conducted across the school during the upcoming school holidays.

At Yarralumla Primary School, how much was spent on environmental cleaning?

The total cost of the environmental cleaning is not yet finalised. Once the final cost of the environmental cleaning conducted at Yarralumla Primary School is known we will provide that figure to you.

Have any other ACT public schools had lead dust tests conducted since July, excluding Yarralumla PS, North Ainslie PS and Alfred Deakin High School? If so, what were the lead readings in these spaces?

The Education Directorate routinely monitors hazardous materials within ACT public schools, including through regular contact with schools. The Education Directorate is continuing a process of engaging with schools to identify testing requirements and will keep relevant school communities informed.

Where additional works are required in schools as a result of the hazardous materials within them, school communities are informed of these matters as quickly as possible before the information is made public.

Cheers,

Brenton Sloane | Director

Media and Communications | Education | ACT Government

P: (02) 6205 4196 | M: 0431 252 698 | E: brenton.sloane@act.gov.au

Level 6, 220 Northbourne Avenue | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601

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From: Matthews, David <David.Matthews@act.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 14 September 2020 4:14 PM

To: Sloane, Brenton <Brenton.Sloane@act.gov.au>

Cc: EDU Media <EDU.Media@act.gov.au>; Short, Paul <Paul.Short@act.gov.au>; McKinnon, Margaret

<Margaret.McKinnon@act.gov.au>; Gange, Carly <Carly.Gange@act.gov.au>; Parkinson, Andrew <Andrew.Parkinson@act.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Questions regarding hazardous materials

OFFICIAL

Brenton,

As discussed on the phone, please revise the response and resubmit.

Thank you
David Matthews

From: Sloane, Brenton <Brenton.Sloane@act.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, 14 September 2020 2:49 PM

To: Matthews, David <David.Matthews@act.gov.au>

Cc: EDU Media <EDU.Media@act.gov.au>; Short, Paul <Paul.Short@act.gov.au>; McKinnon, Margaret <Margaret.McKinnon@act.gov.au>; Gange, Carly <Carly.Gange@act.gov.au>; Parkinson, Andrew <Andrew.Parkinson@act.gov.au>

Subject: FW: Questions regarding hazardous materials

OFFICIAL

Hello David,

Further to our phone discussion, please see below the suggested responses to the following questions for your approval.

These have been cleared by Andrew Parkinson, and are coming to you via suggestion of Margaret McKinnon (CC'd). Please advise if you approve – if so I would progress to Katy for final approval:

At North Ainslie Primary School, have all of the five rooms which had high lead levels been reopened after cleaning?

Last week a letter was sent to parents advising them that two of the spaces at the school impacted by the discovery of lead paint dust have been reopened. Those reopened areas are the staff office and the breakout 'sensory' room. The Building Service Officer's suite (which includes the storeroom and toilet), as well as the art storeroom, remain closed while further assessment occurs. The safety of students, staff and the community remains the highest priority and as such these rooms remain closed until we receive confirmation they are safe to occupy.

Have any further test results been returned for other areas of the school and were the levels above the threshold?

No. Further lead paint assessment will be conducted across the school during the upcoming school holidays.

Have the items that were taken off-site for cleaning been returned?

Some items taken off-site for cleaning from the BSO suite have been returned.

Why was lead paint work carried out at the school without controlling lead dust?

Following recent Directorate communications to all schools regarding lead paint management, North Ainslie Primary School identified to the Directorate painting work carried out across the school over a period of time that could have created lead paint dust at the school. This included recent work in non-teaching areas of the school.

Will any processes be reviewed as a result of this situation?

In recent weeks, the Education Directorate has updated policies for building management and communicated this with the schools.

Is there any further lead remediation work planned at this school?

There is no further lead remediation work currently planned at North Ainslie Primary School, beyond the current work being undertaken on the three spaces that have not yet been reopened. Further lead paint assessment will be conducted across the school during the upcoming school holidays.

At Yarralumla Primary School, how much was spent on environmental cleaning?

The total cost of the environmental cleaning is not yet finalised and thus is unknown at this stage. In line with our commitment to openness and transparency, as well as our previous commitment to you, once the final cost of the environmental cleaning conducted at Yarralumla Primary School is known we will provide that figure to you.

Have any other ACT public schools had lead dust tests conducted since July, excluding Yarralumla PS, North Ainslie PS and Alfred Deakin High School? If so, what were the lead readings in these spaces?

The Education Directorate routinely monitors hazardous materials within ACT public schools. Where additional works are required in schools as a result of the hazardous materials within them, school communities are informed of these matters as quickly as possible before the information is made public.

Please note – an alternate approach to the above highlighted section is for me to inform [redacted] that we won't be able to answer all of [redacted] questions today, and then omit that one from the final response. This would give us more time to resolve the previously discussed matters.

Please advise which approach you would prefer us to take to the final question.

Cheers,

Brenton Sloane | Director

Media and Communications | Education | ACT Government

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From: Sloane, Brenton

Sent: Monday, 14 September 2020 10:02 AM

To: Parkinson, Andrew <Andrew.Parkinson@act.gov.au>

Cc: EDU Media <EDU.Media@act.gov.au>; Gange, Carly <Carly.Gange@act.gov.au>; Short, Paul <Paul.Short@act.gov.au>

Subject: FW: Questions regarding hazardous materials

OFFICIAL

Hello Andrew,

As discussed, please see below questions from [redacted] at [redacted] regarding lead paint management in ACT public schools.

Suggest the following response (as well as input from you on a number of questions). Please confirm accuracy / amend where necessary these responses:

At North Ainslie Primary School, have all of the five rooms which had high lead levels been reopened after cleaning?

Last week a letter was sent to parents advising them that two of the spaces at the school impacted by the discovery of lead paint dust have been reopened. Those reopened areas are the staff office and the breakout 'sensory' room. The Building Service Officer's suite (which includes the storeroom and toilet), as well as the art storeroom, remain closed while further assessment occurs. The safety of students, staff and the community remains the highest priority and as such these rooms remain closed until we receive confirmation they are safe to occupy.

Have any further test results been returned for other areas of the school and were the levels above the threshold?

No. Further lead paint assessment will be conducted across the school during the upcoming school holidays.

Have the items that were taken off-site for cleaning been returned?

(Input required)

Why was lead paint work carried out at the school without controlling lead dust?

Following recent Directorate communications to all schools regarding lead paint management, North Ainslie Primary School identified to the Directorate painting work carried out across the school over a period of time that could have created lead paint dust at the school. This included recent work in non-teaching areas of the school.

Will any processes be reviewed as a result of this situation?

In recent weeks, the Education Directorate has updated policies for building management and communicated this with the schools.

Is there any further lead remediation work planned at this school?

There is no further lead remediation work currently planned at North Ainslie Primary School, beyond the current work being undertaken on the three spaces that have not yet been reopened. Further lead paint assessment will be conducted across the school during the upcoming school holidays.

At Yarralumla Primary School, how much was spent on environmental cleaning?

The total cost of the environmental cleaning is not yet finalised and thus is unknown at this stage. In line with our commitment to openness and transparency, as well as our previous commitment to you, once the final cost of the environmental cleaning conducted at Yarralumla Primary School is known we will provide that figure to you.

Have any other ACT public schools had lead dust tests conducted since July, excluding Yarralumla PS, North Ainslie PS and Alfred Deakin High School? If so, what were the lead readings in these spaces?

(Input required)

As flagged, once approved by you this will require clearance through the DG.

Cheers,

Brenton Sloane | Director

Media and Communications | Education | ACT Government

P: (02) 6205 4196 | M: 0431 252 698 | E: brenton.sloane@act.gov.au

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From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, 14 September 2020 9:35 AM

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

Subject: Questions regarding hazardous materials

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Good morning,

I have some questions regarding hazardous materials in schools.

- At North Ainslie Primary School, have all of the five rooms which had high lead levels been reopened after cleaning?
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- Why was lead paint work carried out at the school without controlling lead dust?
- Will any processes be reviewed as a result of this situation?
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- At Yarralumla Primary School, how much was spent on environmental cleaning?

- Have any other ACT public schools had lead dust tests conducted since July, excluding Yarralumla PS, North Ainslie PS and Alfred Deakin High School? If so, what were the lead readings in these spaces?

I would appreciate a response by 4pm.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]



White, Kelly

From: Sloane, Brenton
Sent: Monday, 14 September 2020 5:36 PM
To: Haire, Katy
Cc: EDU Media; Short, Paul; McKinnon, Margaret; Gange, Carly; Parkinson, Andrew; DDGEDUoffice; Matthews, David; DGEDUoffice
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL: Questions regarding hazardous materials

OFFICIAL

Thanks Katy!

From: Haire, Katy <Katy.Haire@act.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 14 September 2020 5:35 PM
To: Sloane, Brenton <Brenton.Sloane@act.gov.au>
Cc: EDU Media <EDU.Media@act.gov.au>; Short, Paul <Paul.Short@act.gov.au>; McKinnon, Margaret <Margaret.McKinnon@act.gov.au>; Gange, Carly <Carly.Gange@act.gov.au>; Parkinson, Andrew <Andrew.Parkinson@act.gov.au>; DDGEDUoffice <DDGEDUoffice@act.gov.au>; Matthews, David <David.Matthews@act.gov.au>; DGEDUoffice <DGEDUoffice@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL: Questions regarding hazardous materials

OFFICIAL

Approved

Thanks Brenton

Katy Haire | Director-General **Education Directorate** | ACT Government
T: +61 2 6205 9158 | E: katy.haire@act.gov.au
Level 6, 220 Northbourne Ave Braddon | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601 | www.education.act.gov.au

From: Sloane, Brenton <Brenton.Sloane@act.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 14 September 2020 5:33 PM
To: Haire, Katy <Katy.Haire@act.gov.au>
Cc: EDU Media <EDU.Media@act.gov.au>; Short, Paul <Paul.Short@act.gov.au>; McKinnon, Margaret <Margaret.McKinnon@act.gov.au>; Gange, Carly <Carly.Gange@act.gov.au>; Parkinson, Andrew <Andrew.Parkinson@act.gov.au>; DDGEDUoffice <DDGEDUoffice@act.gov.au>; Matthews, David <David.Matthews@act.gov.au>; DGEDUoffice <DGEDUoffice@act.gov.au>
Subject: FOR APPROVAL: Questions regarding hazardous materials

OFFICIAL

Hello Katy,

Please find below a suggested media response for your clearance.

The below has been approved by David Matthews. If you approve, I will respond to the journalist accordingly:

At North Ainslie Primary School, have all of the five rooms which had high lead levels been reopened after cleaning?

Last week a letter was sent to parents advising them that two of the spaces at the school impacted by the discovery of lead paint dust have been reopened. Those reopened areas are the staff office and the breakout 'sensory' room. It is important to note that all student areas are now open.

The Building Service Officer's suite (which includes the storeroom and toilet), as well as the art storeroom, remain closed while further assessment occurs. These areas are not regularly accessible by students. The safety of students, staff and the community remains the highest priority and as such these rooms remain closed until we receive confirmation they are safe to occupy.

Have any further test results been returned for other areas of the school and were the levels above the threshold?

No. Further lead paint assessment will be conducted across the school during the upcoming school holidays.

Have the items that were taken off-site for cleaning been returned?

Some items taken off-site for cleaning have been returned.

Why was lead paint work carried out at the school without controlling lead dust?

Following recent Directorate communications to all schools regarding lead paint management, North Ainslie Primary School informed the Directorate of painting work that had been carried out across the school over a period of time that could have created lead paint dust at the school. This included recent work in non-teaching areas of the school. The Directorate had not previously been made aware of these works.

Following receipt of this advice, the Directorate arranged for lead dust testing at the school to be carried out.

Will any processes be reviewed as a result of this situation?

In recent weeks, the Education Directorate has updated policies for building management and communicated this with the schools. This policy included advice to schools that schools do not engage contractors to do any building or maintenance works in their school without first contacting the Infrastructure and Capital Works team within the Directorate. This team will work directly with schools to ensure all potential hazards and health and safety risks are addressed prior to the commencement of any school maintenance works.

Is there any further lead remediation work planned at this school?

There is no further lead remediation work currently planned at North Ainslie Primary School, beyond the current work being undertaken on the three spaces that have not yet been reopened. Further lead paint assessment will be conducted across the school during the upcoming school holidays.

At Yarralumla Primary School, how much was spent on environmental cleaning?

The total cost of the environmental cleaning is not yet finalised. Once the final cost of the environmental cleaning conducted at Yarralumla Primary School is known we will provide that figure to you.

Have any other ACT public schools had lead dust tests conducted since July, excluding Yarralumla PS, North Ainslie PS and Alfred Deakin High School? If so, what were the lead readings in these spaces?

The Education Directorate routinely monitors hazardous materials within ACT public schools, including through regular contact with schools. The Education Directorate is continuing a process of engaging with schools to identify testing requirements and will keep relevant school communities informed.

Where additional works are required in schools as a result of the hazardous materials within them, school communities are informed of these matters as quickly as possible before the information is made public.

Cheers,

Brenton Sloane | Director

Media and Communications | Education | ACT Government

P: (02) 6205 4196 | M: 0431 252 698 | E: brenton.sloane@act.gov.au

Level 6, 220 Northbourne Avenue | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601

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From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, 14 September 2020 9:35 AM

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

Subject: Questions regarding hazardous materials

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 morning,

I have some questions regarding hazardous materials in schools.

- At North Ainslie Primary School, have all of the five rooms which had high lead levels been reopened after cleaning?
- Have any further test results been returned for other areas of the school and were the levels above the threshold?
- Have the items that were taken off-site for cleaning been returned?
- Why was lead paint work carried out at the school without controlling lead dust?
- Will any processes be reviewed as a result of this situation?
- Is there any further lead remediation work planned at this school?

- At Yarralumla Primary School, how much was spent on environmental cleaning?

- Have any other ACT public schools had lead dust tests conducted since July, excluding Yarralumla PS, North Ainslie PS and Alfred Deakin High School? If so, what were the lead readings in these spaces?

I would appreciate a response by 4pm.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



White, Kelly

From: Sloane, Brenton
Sent: Tuesday, 15 September 2020 4:25 PM
To: Benson, Andrew (Health)
Cc: Health Media; Short, Paul; Southwell, Hoami (Health); Jelbart, Merryn (Health); EDU Media; Gange, Carly
Subject: RE: Lead paint management at Curtin Primary School - public communication advice
Attachments: Curtin Primary School Lead Paint letter 15092020_FINAL.pdf

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hello Andrew,

Further to this, please be advised that a copy of the letter referred to this morning (as attached) has been provided to [REDACTED]

Cheers,

Brenton Sloane | Director

Media and Communications | Education | ACT Government

P: (02) 6205 4196 | M: 0431 252 698 | E: brenton.sloane@act.gov.au

Level 6, 220 Northbourne Avenue | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601

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From: Sloane, Brenton
Sent: Tuesday, 15 September 2020 9:42 AM
To: Benson, Andrew (Health) <Andrew.Benson@act.gov.au>
Cc: Health Media <HealthMedia@act.gov.au>; Short, Paul <Paul.Short@act.gov.au>; Southwell, Hoami (Health) <Hoami.Southwell@act.gov.au>; Jelbart, Merryn (Health) <Merryn.Jelbart@act.gov.au>; EDU Media <EDU.Media@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Lead paint management at Curtin Primary School - public communication advice

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hi Andrew,

Figured I would just shoot all this through in one go.

Attached is the letter that will be sent out by Curtin Primary School to their school community this morning.

Below is a media response provided to the [REDACTED] late last night regarding lead paint management more generally, including at North Ainslie and Yarralumla:

At North Ainslie Primary School, have all of the five rooms which had high lead levels been reopened after cleaning?

Last week a letter was sent to parents advising them that two of the spaces at the school impacted by the discovery of lead paint dust have been reopened. Those reopened areas are the staff office and the breakout 'sensory' room. It is important to note that all student areas are now open.

The Building Service Officer's suite (which includes the storeroom and toilet), as well as the art storeroom, remain closed while further assessment occurs. These areas are not regularly accessible by students. The safety of students, staff and the community remains the highest priority and as such these rooms remain closed until we receive confirmation they are safe to occupy.

Have any further test results been returned for other areas of the school and were the levels above the threshold?

No. Further lead paint assessment will be conducted across the school during the upcoming school holidays.

Have the items that were taken off-site for cleaning been returned?

Some items taken off-site for cleaning have been returned.

Why was lead paint work carried out at the school without controlling lead dust?

Following recent Directorate communications to all schools regarding lead paint management, North Ainslie Primary School informed the Directorate of painting work that had been carried out across the school over a period of time that could have created lead paint dust at the school. This included recent work in non-teaching areas of the school. The Directorate had not previously been made aware of these works.

Following receipt of this advice, the Directorate arranged for lead dust testing at the school to be carried out.

Will any processes be reviewed as a result of this situation?

In recent weeks, the Education Directorate has updated policies for building management and communicated this with the schools. This policy included advice to schools that schools do not engage contractors to do any building or maintenance works in their school without first contacting the Infrastructure and Capital Works team within the Directorate. This team will work directly with schools to ensure all potential hazards and health and safety risks are addressed prior to the commencement of any school maintenance works.

Is there any further lead remediation work planned at this school?

There is no further lead remediation work currently planned at North Ainslie Primary School, beyond the current work being undertaken on the three spaces that have not yet been reopened. Further lead paint assessment will be conducted across the school during the upcoming school holidays.

At Yarralumla Primary School, how much was spent on environmental cleaning?

The total cost of the environmental cleaning is not yet finalised. Once the final cost of the environmental cleaning conducted at Yarralumla Primary School is known we will provide that figure to you.

Have any other ACT public schools had lead dust tests conducted since July, excluding Yarralumla PS, North Ainslie PS and Alfred Deakin High School? If so, what were the lead readings in these spaces?

The Education Directorate routinely monitors hazardous materials within ACT public schools, including through regular contact with schools. The Education Directorate is continuing a process of engaging with schools to identify testing requirements and will keep relevant school communities informed.

Where additional works are required in schools as a result of the hazardous materials within them, school communities are informed of these matters as quickly as possible before the information is made public.

Please feel free to contact me to discuss in more detail if required.

Cheers,

Brenton Sloane | Director

Media and Communications | Education | ACT Government

P: (02) 6205 4196 | M: 0431 252 698 | E: brenton.sloane@act.gov.au

Level 6, 220 Northbourne Avenue | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601

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From: Sloane, Brenton

Sent: Tuesday, 15 September 2020 9:13 AM

To: Benson, Andrew (Health) <Andrew.Benson@act.gov.au>

Cc: Health Media <HealthMedia@act.gov.au>; Short, Paul <Paul.Short@act.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Lead paint management at Curtin Primary School - public communication advice

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hi Andrew,

Thanks for reaching out. At this point I don't believe we need any additional comms support, but should that change I will let you know.

FYI – late last night we provided a media response to the [redacted] regarding lead paint management generally, and we also have a letter on Curtin in the final stages of approval at this end (to go out today).

Are you the best person to provide these to, or should I be sending this stuff as we do it to Merryn/Hoami? Or all of you?

Keen to keep you in the loop.

Cheers,

Brenton Sloane | Director

Media and Communications | Education | ACT Government

P: (02) 6205 4196 | M: 0431 252 698 | E: brenton.sloane@act.gov.au

Level 6, 220 Northbourne Avenue | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601

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From: Benson, Andrew (Health) <Andrew.Benson@act.gov.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 15 September 2020 8:51 AM

To: Sloane, Brenton <Brenton.Sloane@act.gov.au>

Cc: Health Media <HealthMedia@act.gov.au>

Subject: FW: Lead paint management at Curtin Primary School - public communication advice

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hi Brenton,

Just checking in to see if you need anything from me at the moment?

Feel free to shout out if and when you do.

Happy to discuss.

Benno

From: Coleman, Kerry (Health) <Kerry.Coleman@act.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 14 September 2020 9:44 PM
To: Matthews, David <David.Matthews@act.gov.au>; ACT Health Office of the Chief Health Officer <ACTHealthOCHO@act.gov.au>; Barr, Conrad (Health) <Conrad.Barr@act.gov.au>
Cc: Haire, Katy <Katy.Haire@act.gov.au>; DGEDUoffice <DGEDUoffice@act.gov.au>; McKinnon, Margaret <Margaret.McKinnon@act.gov.au>; Parkinson, Andrew <Andrew.Parkinson@act.gov.au>; DDGEDUoffice <DDGEDUoffice@act.gov.au>; Short, Paul <Paul.Short@act.gov.au>; Sloane, Brenton <Brenton.Sloane@act.gov.au>; Kneipp, Jason (Health) <Jason.Kneipp@act.gov.au>; Johnston, Vanessa (Health) <Vanessa.Johnston@act.gov.au>; Benson, Andrew (Health) <Andrew.Benson@act.gov.au>; Health Media <HealthMedia@act.gov.au>
Subject: Re: Lead paint management at Curtin Primary School - public communication advice

Thank you David

Jason and Andrew (health) - if you could please connect with relevant contacts in EDU to provide necessary support for risk assessment and comms if needed.

Thanks all, Kerry

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Matthews, David <David.Matthews@act.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, September 14, 2020 5:24 pm
To: Coleman, Kerry (Health); ACT Health Office of the Chief Health Officer
Cc: Haire, Katy; DGEDUoffice; McKinnon, Margaret; Parkinson, Andrew; DDGEDUoffice; Short, Paul; Sloane, Brenton
Subject: Lead paint management at Curtin Primary School - public communication advice

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Kerry, please find below some information on lead paint management at Curtin Primary School:

1. A [REDACTED] at Curtin Primary School wrote in early August 2020 requesting information on lead levels at Curtin Primary School.
2. The Directorate is currently developing a lead paint management plan for the school in consultation with the licensed assessor. A licensed assessor attended the site and identified 6 areas that require some remediation. The report was received 3 September and included 5 external areas and 1 internal area.
3. Additional testing has also been arranged to determine the existing background lead levels, particularly in areas adjacent to the identified lead paint.
4. One sample has returned an above threshold level. The sample was on the tread of an external door sill in the Junior courtyard. The reading of 0.93mg/m² exceeded the relevant acceptance threshold of 0.43mg/m². This sliding door is not an egress point and is normally kept closed. On the advice of the assessor, the area within 1m of the door has been barricaded. As this space is behind raised planter beds this will not impact on the use of the courtyard.
5. The area will be cleaned using the same environmental cleaning method as at Yarralumla and North Ainslie.
6. Communications for the school to send to the community are being prepared for distribution as soon as possible.

Please let me know if you want to further discuss.

Regards

David Matthews
Deputy Director General
Education Directorate, ACT Government
Office: 6207 0384 | Email: david.matthews@act.gov.au

While I'm sending this message now I encourage you to read, respond or action at a time that best works for you.



Curtin Primary School Update on Lead Paint

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to advise you that a licenced assessor recently attended the school and identified six areas that needed lead paint remediation work.

All six of these areas were then tested for traces of lead. One of these - the tread of an external door sill in the Junior courtyard – returned a reading above the relevant acceptance threshold for external surfaces of 0.43mg/m². The reading was 0.93mg/m².

This sliding door is not used as an exit and is normally kept closed. On the advice of the assessor, the area within one metre of the door has been blocked off. This will not impact on the use of the courtyard.

No classrooms or learning spaces are impacted.

The impacted area of the Junior courtyard will undergo environmental cleaning and be re-tested before the area is reopened.

Further lead paint assessment will be conducted across the school moving forward to determine if any further action is required.

The safety of our students, staff and the community remains our top priority and we will communicate regularly with the you on this matter as required.

If you have concerns about potential health impacts relating to your own child, you should speak with your doctor. You can find more information about lead and health on the National Health and Medical Research Council website:

<https://www.nhmrc.gov.au/health-advice/environmental-health/lead-blood-levels>

Please feel free to contact the school should you wish to discuss this matter further.

Yours sincerely

Merryn O'Dea
Principal

15 September 2020

White, Kelly

From: Short, Paul
Sent: Thursday, 19 November 2020 5:34 PM
To: Matthews, David; Sloane, Brenton
Cc: DDGEDUoffice; EDU Media; Larkin, Lyn; Martinez, Catherine
Subject: RE: FOR URGENT CLEARANCE: [REDACTED] Media query - School maintenance
Deadline: Thursday morning

Categories: Brenton - FOR ACTION

OFFICIAL

Hi David

Following your feedback we've re-worked to points below, which line up with talking points for the [REDACTED] and our draft hazmat comms plan.

A reminder, though we've missed the window to respond to the [REDACTED] initial query, the MO has asked us to provide this info as back-pocket.

Seeking your clearance before we provide back to Megan (fyi Margaret has cleared).

P

Question 1: Does the program of (school) maintenance work lack a long term vision?

- The Education Directorate manages a range of public school buildings of varying age and condition.
- This is a significant asset portfolio to manage, including 88 schools across 119 sites.
- We have a responsibility to make sure every school is a great school, and all of our buildings are safe and fit for learning.
- The government is committed to ensuring that every public school has the infrastructure to support high-quality education
- Significant resources are invested to maintain public schools across Canberra and there are range of ways in which we keep our schools safe and in good condition. This includes through public school infrastructure upgrades, regular maintenance works, heating and cooling and sustainability initiatives.
- Over the past 4 years, the Government spent \$115 million performing upgrades to public schools, which has included the ongoing management of hazardous materials, and has committed to spend a further \$99 million to continue these upgrades over the next 4 years.
- These upgrades provide the best learning environment and amenities for students in our ACT public schools.

Question 2: Is \$15 million enough to carry out the work in identifying and remediating hazardous materials in ACT schools to get ahead of the issue?

- The safety of students, staff and school communities is our highest priority.
- Lead paint and asbestos was commonly used in many Canberra buildings, including schools and houses built before 1970.
- At least 73 of the 88 public schools are known or presumed to contain asbestos or asbestos containing material and/or lead-based paint given widespread use of both in commercial and residential construction industry up until the 1980s
- Hazardous materials plans have been developed for schools built prior to 2003 to assist them to manage hazardous materials present in their buildings.

- Hazardous Materials Survey and Management Plans are specific to each school site with copies available for review by staff, tradespeople, parents and other visitors.
- These management plans detail the types of materials located in schools and the steps being taken to make sure school buildings are safe.
- In the last year alone, at least \$2 million was spent specifically to manage the presence of hazardous materials in public schools.
- Improvement and repair jobs in a school also take the opportunity to address hazardous materials while undertaking the scheduled job. For example, upgrading school windows to improve comfort for students may include the removal of lead painted windows.
- The ACT Government is committing \$15 million to accelerate the existing program of work with \$2m being spent last year in specifically managing hazardous material.
- An updated assessment of hazardous materials at each school is being undertaken and an accelerated program for the management of the hazardous materials will be implemented.

Question 3 - Is the Arawang Primary School library being downsized in the process of moving it to the ground floor?

- The existing library is being relocated to ensure it is a physical accessible for all students by day 1 term 1, 2021.
- The current library area on level 1 will be reconfigured to provide two learning spaces previously located on the ground floor.
- The new library space has been designed to provide a range of contemporary, flexible and adaptable learning spaces.
- Elements include new external doors to connect with the outdoor learning area and a retractable wall which can be used to create smaller group learning areas.

Cheers,
Paul

From: Matthews, David <David.Matthews@act.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 19 November 2020 9:31 AM
To: Sloane, Brenton <Brenton.Sloane@act.gov.au>
Cc: DDGEDUoffice <DDGEDUoffice@act.gov.au>; EDU Media <EDU.Media@act.gov.au>; Larkin, Lyn <Lyn.Larkin@act.gov.au>; Short, Paul <Paul.Short@act.gov.au>; Martinez, Catherine <Catherine.Martinez@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: FOR URGENT CLEARANCE: [REDACTED] Media query - School maintenance Deadline: Thursday morning

OFFICIAL

Not approved, these require significant work to be a general narrative on school upgrades, safety and maintenance.

I'll organise a quick teams meeting to flesh out.

David Matthews

From: Sloane, Brenton <Brenton.Sloane@act.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 19 November 2020 9:18 AM
To: Matthews, David <David.Matthews@act.gov.au>
Cc: DDGEDUoffice <DDGEDUoffice@act.gov.au>; EDU Media <EDU.Media@act.gov.au>; Larkin, Lyn <Lyn.Larkin@act.gov.au>; Short, Paul <Paul.Short@act.gov.au>; Martinez, Catherine

<Catherine.Martinez@act.gov.au>

Subject: FOR URGENT CLEARANCE: [REDACTED] Media query - School maintenance Deadline: Thursday morning

OFFICIAL

Hello David,

Please see below a request from the Minister's Office for assistance with a media enquiry from [REDACTED] at [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] has already run [REDACTED] story this morning, but Megan in the MO was quite happy to receive this from us this morning with a view to using this wording moving forward.

The below wording has been approved by Margaret McKinnon. Can you please advise if you approve?:

Question 1: Does the program of (school) maintenance work lack a long term vision?

The Directorate invests significant resources in maintaining the 88 schools across Canberra. Over \$20 million will be spent in 2020 on maintenance where items are fixed on failure, planned and preventative maintenance programs, which consider the life and condition of the assets, any statutory or compliance maintenance requirements, such as boiler inspections or switchboard inspections etc and undertake works to maintain the useful life of the asset. The planned and preventative maintenance programs ensure that the assets continue to function in line with the manufacturers specifications and maintain the life of the asset; and school specific works requested by schools and/or undertaken by the schools based upon their priorities and needs.

In addition, the Directorate also undertakes a program of capital upgrades, under the Public School Infrastructure Upgrade Program/Infrastructure renewal program (\$85 million was spent over the last four years). This program refurbishes, upgrades or replaces assets that are near the end of their useful life or where significant improvement to the functioning and amenity of the school can be achieved. For example, by installing works to improve disability access, by installing better roof and/or wall insulation, double glazing or energy efficient lighting or replacing the roof cladding and roofing systems to improve the thermal comfort of the school.

These upgrades provide the best learning environment and amenities for students in our ACT public schools.

Question 2: Is \$15 million enough to carry out the work in identifying and remediating hazardous materials in ACT schools to get ahead of the issue?

At least 70 of the 88 public schools are known or presumed to contain asbestos or asbestos containing material and/or lead-based paint given widespread use of both in commercial and residential construction industry up until the 1980s. A similar situation exists with the presence of lead-based paint.

The ACT Government is committing to manage hazardous materials to ensure ACT public schools to remain safe. The \$15 million is to accelerate the existing program of work with \$2m being spent last year in specifically managing hazardous material. PSIUP and repair jobs in a school also take the opportunity to address hazardous materials while undertaking the scheduled job, for example including the removal of lead based window frames when installing double glazed windows to improve thermal comfort. An updated assessment of hazardous materials at each school is being undertaken and accelerated program for the management of the hazardous materials will be implemented.

Question 3 - Is the Arawang Primary School library being downsized in the process of moving it to the ground floor?

The existing library is being relocated to ensure it is a physical accessible for all students by day 1 term 12021. The current library area on level 1 will be reconfigured to provide two learning spaces previously located on the ground floor.

The new library space has been designed to provide a range of contemporary, flexible and adaptable learning spaces. Elements include new external doors to connect with the outdoor learning area and a retractable wall which can be used to create smaller group learning areas.

Can you advise if you approve of the above? If so, I will send on to the MO for future use re: these issues.

Cheers,

Brenton Sloane | Director
Media and Communications | Education | ACT Government
P: (02) 6205 4196 | M: 0431 252 698 | E: brenton.sloane@act.gov.au
Level 6, 220 Northbourne Avenue | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601
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From: Cursley, Megan <Megan.Cursley@act.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 18 November 2020 11:34 AM
To: EDU Media <EDU.Media@act.gov.au>; Larkin, Lyn <Lyn.Larkin@act.gov.au>
Cc: Hobbs, Rebecca <Rebecca.Hobbs@act.gov.au>
Subject: FW: School maintenance

Hey Lyn

Could you please help provide some information to respond to [REDACTED] questions below?

[REDACTED] Response below, we tried to contact them to give extra context (such as these items aren't from the election commitments but rather from the \$85m bucket from last election and that this list is not exhaustive) but it seems they'd already sent the response on.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, 17 November 2020 4:02 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: School maintenance

H [REDACTED]

As discussed, I got some info on when the funding to fast track the removal of hazardous materials in schools will flow and also on some of the planned work at schools over the summer holidays.

Here's the maintenance info:

Arawang Primary School library will be relocated to the ground floor and a classroom will replace the existing space.

Calwell Primary School's administration area will be upgraded and new disability toilet will be constructed.

Alfred Deakin will have a refurbishment of their stair balustrades and access door at the bottom of the stairs.

Margaret Hendry School will receive upgrades to their outdoor sensory playground area.

Monash Primary's small group unit will get an automatic access door and internal view windows.

Torrens Primary will see upgrades to an existing room to allow disability access and converted into a small group unit area.

Hawker College will see significant upgrade to their lift to enable greater weight capacity and they will see a new classroom.

Weetangera Primary School will see an existing space refurbished to create two learning spaces, including a quiet space and an upgrade of the attached courtyard.

UC Kaleen High School will have a new learning space for small groups, a new outdoor courtyard, fencing, new ground surface, a vertical garden, sensory stimulus areas as well as climbing rocks.

Majura Primary School is receiving two double transportable buildings, providing an additional 4 learning spaces.

Environment and Sustainability

Several schools will be receiving lighting upgrades with LED's being installed to improve energy efficiency. Schools include Canberra College, Caroline Chisholm Senior campus, Franklin School, Lanyon High, Miles Franklin, Monash, The Woden School and North Curtin preschool.

Calwell preschool and Calwell PS Hall having heating system upgrade to electric system.

Several schools will receive upgrades to switch boards and general maintenance will as well be undertaken over the holidays.

Would the [REDACTED] be able to make a comment on this? Is the delay to hazardous materials removal acceptable? Is it good to see some work being done over the holidays?

Let me know how you go with a response tomorrow.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

--

[REDACTED]

-

Thanks
Megan

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Wednesday, 18 November 2020 11:27 AM

To: Cursley, Megan <Megan.Cursley@act.gov.au>

Subject: School maintenance

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.

Hi Megan,

I asked the ACT Council of Parents and Citizens Associations for a response regarding the \$15 million funding for remediating hazardous materials and the plans for summer maintenance. I believe you have been sent a copy of [REDACTED] response to that.

I'd like to give Ms Berry an opportunity to reply to the criticisms. My questions are:

- Does the program of maintenance work lack a long term vision?
- Is \$15 million enough to carry out the work in identifying and remediating hazardous materials in ACT schools to get ahead of the issue?
- Is the Arawang Primary School library being downsized in the process of moving it to the ground floor?

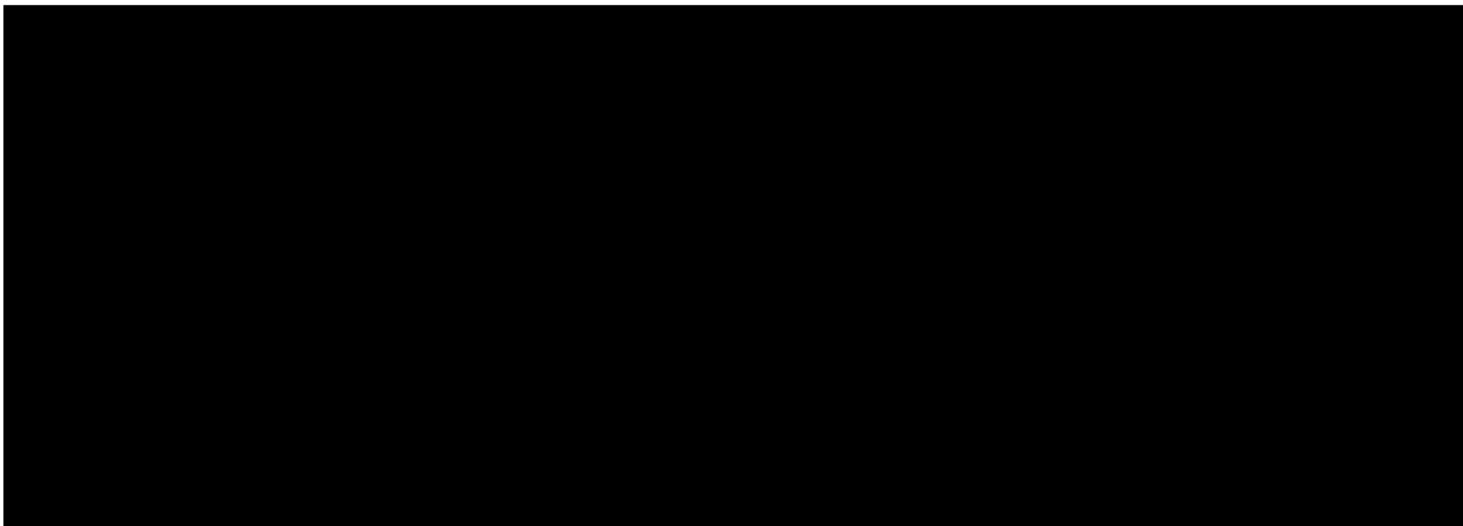
I'd appreciate a response by 4.30pm today.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

--

[REDACTED]



White, Kelly

From: Sloane, Brenton
Sent: Friday, 20 November 2020 9:28 AM
To: Cursley, Megan
Cc: EDU Media; Larkin, Lyn; Hobbs, Rebecca; Craig, Alexandra; Short, Paul
Subject: FW: FOR URGENT CLEARANCE: [REDACTED] Media query - School maintenance
Deadline: Thursday morning

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: Brenton - FOR ACTION

OFFICIAL

Hello Megan (CC Alex as acting),

As per your earlier request to Lyn re: [REDACTED] questions around school maintenance, and then further discussions with Lyn about having this information as lines on this issue moving forward, please see the below.

The below lines have been cleared by DDG David Matthews.

Question 1: Does the program of (school) maintenance work lack a long term vision?

- The Education Directorate manages a range of public school buildings of varying age and condition.
- This is a significant asset portfolio to manage, including 88 schools across 119 sites.
- We have a responsibility to make sure every school is a great school, and all of our buildings are safe and fit for learning.
- The government is committed to ensuring that every public school has the infrastructure to support high-quality education
- Significant resources are invested to maintain public schools across Canberra and there are range of ways in which we keep our schools safe and in good condition. This includes through public school infrastructure upgrades, regular maintenance works, heating and cooling and sustainability initiatives.
- Over the past 4 years, the Government spent \$115 million performing upgrades to public schools, which has included the ongoing management of hazardous materials, and has committed to spend a further \$99 million to continue these upgrades over the next 4 years.
- These upgrades provide the best learning environment and amenities for students in our ACT public schools.

Question 2: Is \$15 million enough to carry out the work in identifying and remediating hazardous materials in ACT schools to get ahead of the issue?

- The safety of students, staff and school communities is our highest priority.
- Lead paint and asbestos was commonly used in many Canberra buildings, including schools and houses built before 1970.
- At least 73 of the 88 public schools are known or presumed to contain asbestos or asbestos containing material and/or lead-based paint given widespread use of both in commercial and residential construction industry up until the 1980s
- Hazardous materials plans have been developed for schools built prior to 2003 to assist them to manage hazardous materials present in their buildings.
- Hazardous Materials Survey and Management Plans are specific to each school site with copies available for review by staff, tradespeople, parents and other visitors.

- These management plans detail the types of materials located in schools and the steps being taken to make sure school buildings are safe.
- In the last year alone, at least \$2 million was spent specifically to manage the presence of hazardous materials in public schools.
- Improvement and repair jobs in a school also take the opportunity to address hazardous materials while undertaking the scheduled job. For example, upgrading school windows to improve comfort for students may include the removal of lead painted windows.
- The ACT Government is committing \$15 million to accelerate the existing program of work with \$2m being spent last year in specifically managing hazardous material.
- An updated assessment of hazardous materials at each school is being undertaken and an accelerated program for the management of the hazardous materials will be implemented.

Question 3 - Is the Arawang Primary School library being downsized in the process of moving it to the ground floor?

- The existing library is being relocated to ensure it is a physical accessible for all students by day 1 term 1, 2021.
- The current library area on level 1 will be reconfigured to provide two learning spaces previously located on the ground floor.
- The new library space has been designed to provide a range of contemporary, flexible and adaptable learning spaces.
- Elements include new external doors to connect with the outdoor learning area and a retractable wall which can be used to create smaller group learning areas.

Let us know if you need anything more on this.

Cheers,

Brenton Sloane | Director

Media and Communications | Education | ACT Government

P: (02) 6205 4196 | M: 0431 252 698 | E: brenton.sloane@act.gov.au

Level 6, 220 Northbourne Avenue | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601

www.education.act.gov.au | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

From: Cursley, Megan <Megan.Cursley@act.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 18 November 2020 11:34 AM

To: EDU Media <EDU.Media@act.gov.au>; Larkin, Lyn <Lyn.Larkin@act.gov.au>

Cc: Hobbs, Rebecca <Rebecca.Hobbs@act.gov.au>

Subject: FW: School maintenance

Hey Lyn

Could you please help provide some information to respond to [REDACTED] questions below?

[REDACTED] Response below, we tried to contact them to give extra context (such as these items aren't from the election commitments but rather from the \$85m bucket from last election and that this list is not exhaustive) but it seems they'd already sent the response on.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 17 November 2020 4:02 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: School maintenance

Hi [REDACTED]

As discussed, I got some info on when the funding to fast track the removal of hazardous materials in schools will flow and also on some of the planned work at schools over the summer holidays.

Here's the maintenance info:

Arawang Primary School library will be relocated to the ground floor and a classroom will replace the existing space.

Calwell Primary School's administration area will be upgraded and new disability toilet will be constructed.

Alfred Deakin will have a refurbishment of their stair balustrades and access door at the bottom of the stairs.

Margaret Hendry School will receive upgrades to their outdoor sensory playground area.

Monash Primary's small group unit will get an automatic access door and internal view windows.

Torrens Primary will see upgrades to an existing room to allow disability access and converted into a small group unit area.

Hawker College will see significant upgrade to their lift to enable greater weight capacity and they will see a new classroom.

Weetangera Primary School will see an existing space refurbished to create two learning spaces, including a quiet space and an upgrade of the attached courtyard.

UC Kaleen High School will have a new learning space for small groups, a new outdoor courtyard, fencing, new ground surface, a vertical garden, sensory stimulus areas as well as climbing rocks.

Majura Primary School is receiving two double transportable buildings, providing an additional 4 learning spaces.

Environment and Sustainability

Several schools will be receiving lighting upgrades with LED's being installed to improve energy efficiency. Schools include Canberra College, Caroline Chisholm Senior campus, Franklin School, Lanyon High, Miles Franklin, Monash, The Woden School and North Curtin preschool.

Calwell preschool and Calwell PS Hall having heating system upgrade to electric system.

Several schools will receive upgrades to switch boards and general maintenance will as well be undertaken over the holidays.

Would the [REDACTED] be able to make a comment on this? Is the delay to hazardous materials removal acceptable? Is it good to see some work being done over the holidays?

Let me know how you go with a response tomorrow.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

--

[REDACTED]

-

Thanks
Megan

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Wednesday, 18 November 2020 11:27 AM

To: Cursley, Megan <Megan.Cursley@act.gov.au>

Subject: School maintenance

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.

Hi Megan,

I asked the ACT Council of Parents and Citizens Associations for a response regarding the \$15 million funding for remediating hazardous materials and the plans for summer maintenance. I believe you have been sent a copy of [REDACTED] response to that.

I'd like to give Ms Berry an opportunity to reply to the criticisms. My questions are:

- Does the program of maintenance work lack a long term vision?

- Is \$15 million enough to carry out the work in identifying and remediating hazardous materials in ACT schools to get ahead of the issue?

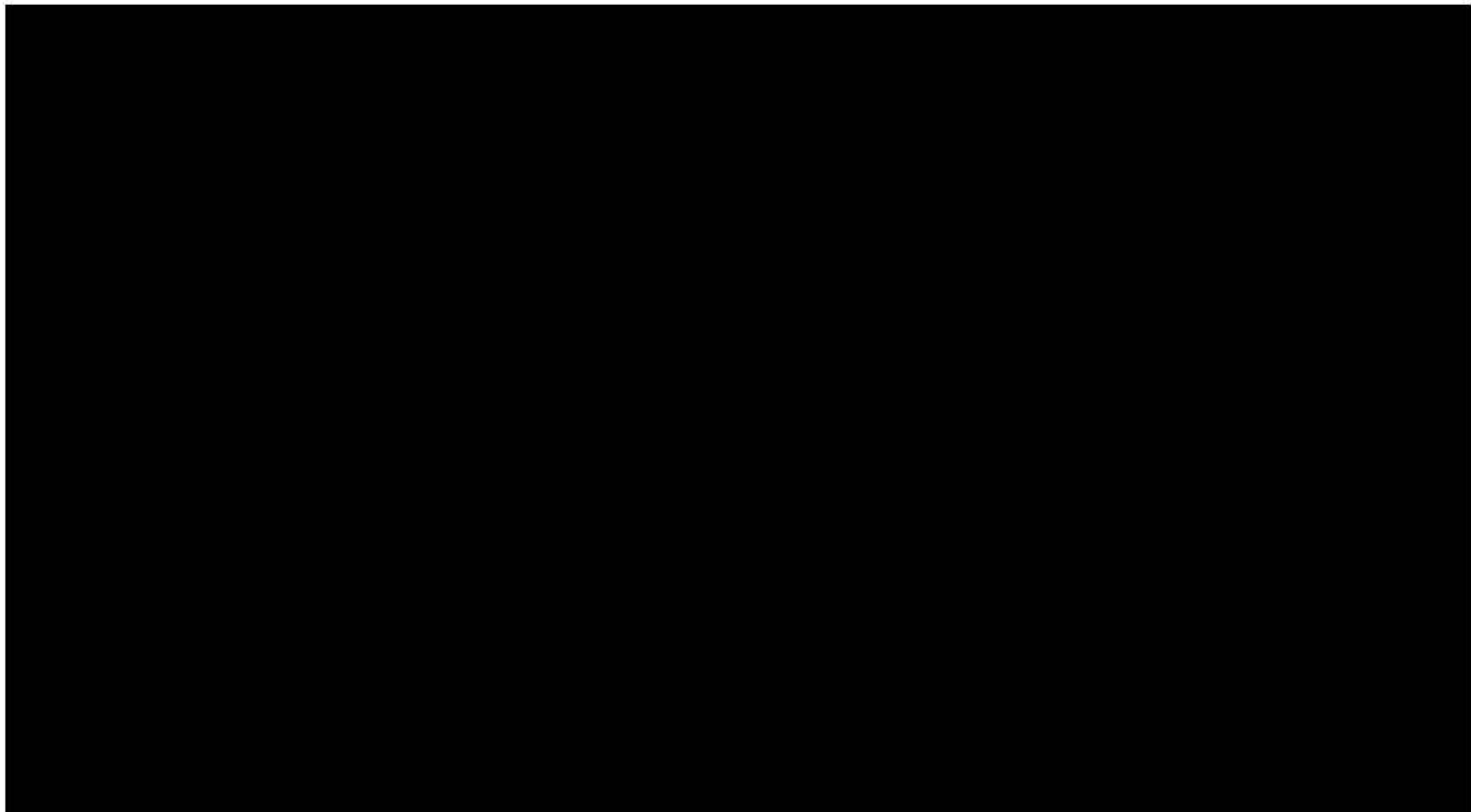
- Is the Arawang Primary School library being downsized in the process of moving it to the ground floor?

I'd appreciate a response by 4.30pm today.

Kind regards,



--



Bowden, Julia

From: Steele, Peter
Sent: Friday, 4 December 2020 7:02 PM
To: Matthews David; Matthews David; McKinnon Margaret; Parkinson, Andrew; Short, Paul; [REDACTED] Agius, Jacqueline; Coleman, Kerryn (Health); Alford, Robert; Kneipp, Jason (Health); Stedman, Andrew (Health)
Subject: MEETING PAPERS - Hazardous Materials Expert Panel meeting #1 - Tuesday 8th December
Attachments: ITEM 5 - Lead Paint Management Communications Strategy 20112020.docx; ITEM 5 - North Ainslie Primary School Lead Paint FAQs 02092020.docx; ITEM 5 - North Ainslie Primary School Lead Paint letter 02092020.docx; AGENDA - 20201208 - Expert Panel Meeting 1.docx; ITEM 2 - TOR - Independent Expert Panel.DOC; ITEM 4 - Ranking Methodology - DRAFT 0.1.docx; ITEM 4 - Ranking Tool - Version 0.2 20201204.xls; ITEM 3 - ICW - Haz Mat in ACT public schools.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

OFFICIAL

Colleagues and Panel Members,

Attached is the agenda and papers for the first meeting of the Hazardous Materials Expert Panel on Tuesday the 8th of December at 1:30pm via Microsoft Teams.

If there are any questions about the meeting or papers, please contact me on either 0423390998 or via email at peter.steele@act.gov.au

I look forward to speaking with you all on Tuesday. Have a great weekend.

Pete

Peter Steele | Senior Director
P 02 62052179 | M 0423 390 998 | E peter.steele@act.gov.au
Education Directorate - ACT Government

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+61 2 8318 0090,,234997252#](tel:+61283180090,234997252#) Australia, Sydney

Phone Conference ID 234 997 252#

[Find a local number](#) | [Reset PIN](#)

What is the issue?	Lead paint management in ACT public schools		
Why are we communicating on this issue?	<p>There is strong public interest in lead paint management in ACT public schools. The ACT Government has committed to accelerating works to control the risk of lead paint in ACT public schools. To complement this works program, this communication and engagement plan will help to increase community confidence that ACT public schools are providing a safe environment for students and staff.</p> <p>A new project to accelerate lead paint management in public schools has been developed by the Education Directorate to identify and manage the presence of lead paint in 70 ACT public schools.</p> <p>A series of rapid assessment of lead paint within public schools has been undertaken, with further testing confirming that there are 70 public schools impacted. This work is now informing the development of a priority list for the future management of lead paint within the ACT public school system.</p> <p>This project will also grow jobs in the ACT public service, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • establishing a dedicated team in the Directorate to work with schools and provide confidence that school facilities remain safe. • creating jobs for Canberra's economic recovery by prioritising and fast-tracking capital works for the removal and remediation of lead paint in public schools. • delivering an ACT Government election commitment. 		
Does it cross over other Directorates/ agencies?	Yes ACT Health CMTEDD	Spokesperson	Minister for Education and Youth Affairs Education Directorate Deputy Director General David Matthews Chief Health Officer Expert panel members
Communications project tier	3		
Target audience	<i>Internal</i> Staff of impacted schools Education Directorate staff <i>External</i> Communities of impacted schools ACT community		
Stakeholders	Australian Education Union ACTPA CMTEDD Treasury ACT Property Group		

	<p>Independent Environmental Assessors</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>Worksafe ACT</p> <p>ACT Health</p>	
<p>Risks</p>	<p>Potential Issues</p>	<p>Mitigation Strategy</p>
	<p>Potential general perception that ACT public schools are unsafe due to hazardous materials and/or lead paint</p>	<p>Proactive, open and transparent communications process with both schools and the general public regarding hazardous materials management.</p> <p>Development of high-level communications products, including updated web content, fact sheets, direct communications with school communities impacted proactive and responsive media, to address these concerns.</p>
	<p>Potential perception within specific impacted schools that they are unsafe due to hazardous materials and/or lead paint</p>	<p>Proactive, open and transparent communications process with both schools and the general public regarding hazardous materials management.</p> <p>Introduction of a tiered communication approach for dealing with a variety of lead paint scenarios in schools.</p> <p>A one-stop shop of information on lead paint and its management in ACT public schools on the Education Directorate website.</p> <p>This website information will involve collaborating with ACT Health to build health-related messaging and information products.</p> <p>Templates for targeted school communication, including school newsletter items and emails to families.</p> <p>Potential independent endorsement of the directorate's hazardous materials management strategy and assessment of risk from an independent panel.</p> <p>Scope for face-to-face ICW communication, where deemed necessary, to provide further information and support.</p>
<p>Misunderstanding, or lack of understanding, among parents/families of the risk associated with of lead remediation works and environmental cleaning procedures in schools.</p>	<p>Proactive and transparent communications process with both schools and the general public regarding hazardous materials management.</p>	

		A mix of high-level and targeted communications products and third-party information and endorsements, as outlined above.
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Communications Approach

This strategy is designed to provide communication support and solutions for lead paint management in ACT public schools. It includes messaging and communication plans. It will be updated as required to respond to developments and announcements.

The strategy is informed by advice from subject-matter experts and the Directorate's experience in managing hazardous materials in ACT public schools. The Directorate will also explore opportunities to engage external views to inform our communication messaging and approach. This could include, for example, consultation with the expert panel, P&C association, and the broader Canberra community via CMTEDD's 'YourSay' panel.

This strategy supports the three workstreams identified for hazardous material management:

- Operational (school-level engagement on local issues and actions)
- Independent technical and expert advice
- Public education

The strategy sets out a plan to educate the ACT community on lead paint management in ACT public schools. It includes key messages, proposes the development of a range of new communication materials and strategic approaches to ongoing media management.

Communication on this topic will also be supported by an overarching campaign providing information to the Canberra community about infrastructure investments being made in ACT public schools.

Key messages

- The safety of students, staff and school communities is our highest priority.
- Lead paint was commonly used in many Canberra buildings, including schools and houses built before 1970.
- Hazardous materials, including lead paint and asbestos, can be found in 73 of our 88 ACT public schools.
- Hazardous materials plans have been developed for schools built prior to 2003 to assist them to manage hazardous materials present in their buildings.
- Hazardous Materials Survey and Management Plans are specific to each school site with copies available for review by staff, tradespeople, parents and other visitors.
- These management plans detail the types of materials located in schools and the steps being taken to make sure school buildings are safe.
- Reports and maps are displayed in prominent locations in the school entry.

- In August 2020, the Directorate revised its policies to introduce a centralised approval process prior to schools engaging contractors to carry out building or maintenance works in ACT public schools.

Infrastructure and maintenance investments

- The Education Directorate manages a range of public school buildings of varying age and condition.
- This is a significant asset portfolio to manage, including 88 schools across 119 sites.
- We have a responsibility to make sure every school is a great school, and all of our buildings are safe and fit for learning.
- We are committed to ensuring that every public school has the infrastructure to support high-quality education
- Significant resources are invested to maintain public schools across Canberra and there are range of ways in which we keep our schools safe and in good condition. This includes through public school infrastructure upgrades, regular maintenance works, heating and cooling and sustainability initiatives.
- Over the past 4 years, the Government spent \$115 million on upgrades to public schools and has committed to spend a further \$99 million to continue these upgrades over the next 4 years.
- Upgrades and repairs in a school also create the opportunity for us to address hazardous materials while undertaking the scheduled job. For example, upgrading school windows to improve comfort for students may include the removal of lead painted windows.
- In the last year alone, more than \$2 million was also spent specifically to manage the presence of hazardous materials in public schools.
- The ACT Government has committed an additional \$15 million to accelerate the existing program of work.

Lead paint management

- The ACT Government has undertaken a rapid assessment process to prioritise the remediation and effective management of lead paint across schools.
- A dedicated team within the Education Directorate will deliver on the ACT Government's commitment to accelerate the removal and remediation of lead paint in public schools.
- The team is already undertaking paint condition assessments across 70 schools, collecting documenting and improving data, knowledge, and awareness of the presence of lead paint across ACT public schools.
- Following these assessments, a priority list of works will be created.
- Priority works will be delivered through a fast-tracked \$15 million election commitment to remove and remediate lead paint in public schools announced by the ACT Government.
- The ACT Government will keep school communities informed about what is happening in their schools via new communication channels and direct communication with families.

Health and safety

- The safety of students, staff and the community remains our highest priority.
- Staff and families are advised that if they have any health concerns, they should consult their doctor. (Links to information on the ACT Health and NHMRC websites.)

Date	Communications material	Responsibility
TBC	<p>Update web page containing information about the management of hazardous materials in schools. Include specific information about the new assessment and remediation process for lead paint management, the timetable for remediation works, and health information.</p> <p>School newsletter items and parent/carer letters to link to this website.</p>	Communications team/ICW
TBC	<p>Fact sheets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead paint management in ACT public schools (detailing our approach to lead management, testing and cleaning). • Lead paint and your health (developed with CHO office) <p>Fact sheets to be included on updated web page and sent with parent/carer letters, where appropriate.</p>	Communications team/ICW/Health/CHO
TBC	<p>Video – Video to capture lead paint management remediation works, demystifying the process and increase transparency for school communities.</p>	
TBC	<p>Web story – announcing fast-track lead paint management project pointing to the updated website page. This will include messaging about BAU management of older buildings.</p>	Communications team/ICW
TBC	<p>Social media – to share the above web story.</p>	Communications team/ICW
TBC	<p>ConnectED page – story on lead paint management project outlining what staff need to know with link to the website.</p>	Communications team/ICW
TBC	<p>EGM School Improvement principal teleconference message to school leaders, business managers and building service officers to provide an update on the roll out of the project and reinforce the need to consult with ICW on lead paint management, as well as provide information on new Directorate approach to lead paint management.</p>	Communications team/ICW
TBC	<p>Spokespeople Identify health and industry experts who can independently endorse our approach to hazardous materials management in schools in media and communication products.</p>	ICW/ Communications team
TBC	<p>Stakeholder communication Targeted engagements with key sector stakeholders, including AEU, P&C council, ACTPA.</p>	ICW/ Exec leads

TBC	Lead paint template school newsletter item (review being/has been conducted) – school newsletter item informing the school community that a review of the condition and management of lead paint is being/has been conducted at the school and that the community will be kept informed of remediation works where they need to be carried out. Newsletter item to link to website. Template attached.	Communications team/ICW
TBC	Lead paint template school newsletter item (remediation works planned) – school newsletter item informing the school community of the outcome of the review and remediation works to be carried out, including what and when. Newsletter item to link to website. Template attached.	Communications team/ICW
TBC	Lead Paint template parent/carer email – email to school community only where immediate action needs to be taken to remove students from learning areas due to above acceptance threshold levels of lead paint dust. Template attached.	Communications team/ICW
TBC	Lead Paint parent/carer email (works complete) – email to school community after remediation work spelled out in previous letter is completed and impacted areas are reopened. Template attached	Communications team/ICW
Media background briefing	Briefing for media on lead paint management sprint strategy in ACT Government schools, including explanation of health risks and the abundance of caution taken by Directorate in its management practices.	Minister for Education and Youth Affairs/ Communications team/DDG, ICW

North Ainslie Primary School and Lead Paint

Frequently Asked Questions

2 September 2020

What are the health and safety implications for students and staff?

- Four of the affected areas are not used by students.
- In the breakout room (the 'sensory room'), lead dust was only detected on the windowsill. This room is currently not being used as a sensory room but as a breakout small group learning space and is only occupied sporadically for short periods of time.
- Further testing is occurring across the school to determine if the issue is more widespread.
- The safety of North Ainslie Primary School students, staff and the community is our highest priority.
- If you have concerns about potential health impacts relating to your own child, you should speak with your doctor.
- You can find more information about lead and health on the National Health and Medical Research Council website: <https://www.nhmrc.gov.au/health-advice/environmental-health/lead-blood-levels>

What do these lead levels mean?

- Australia has not set an industry standard "safe" lead threshold level. To ensure the safety of staff and students in ACT public schools, the Education Directorate has adopted the most relevant international threshold lead levels, those used by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Office of Lead Hazard Control and Health Homes (OLHCHH), Guidelines for the Evaluation and Control of Lead-Based Paint Hazards in Housing 2017.
- The lead dust clearance action levels set by the OLHCHH are intended to protect small children who are more likely to come in contact through crawling or putting things in their mouths.
- These guidelines give acceptable lead dust clearance action levels following lead dust removal as follows:
 - Interior floors: less than 0.11 mg/m²
 - Porch floors: less than 0.43 mg/m²
 - Windowsills: less than 1.08 mg/m²
 - Window troughs: less than 1.08 mg/m².
- Out of an abundance of caution, the Education Directorate uses the **lowest threshold level of less than 0.11mg/m²** as its accepted threshold for internal surfaces within the reach of students in ACT public schools. For any reading above this level, the Directorate will take action via environmental cleaning and remediation.

How will lead dust be removed?

- Where above threshold levels are detected, affected areas will be cleaned using an advanced environmental cleaning process by specialist cleaners. This is a thorough process where surfaces are first vacuumed with a HEPA filtered vacuum, the area is left for one hour to allow any dust to settle, all surfaces are then scrubbed vigorously with a sugar soap solution, a microfiber cloth and a three-bucket solution (one for detergent solution, one for dirty water and one for clean water), the surface is rinsed with clean water and wiped dry with clean cloths. Cleaning items are then disposed of in sealed plastic bags. Upon drying, a second HEPA filter vacuum is undertaken.



- Testing will then be conducted after each clean to ensure that the cleaning has been effective.
- Any affected rooms will remain closed until testing by the licenced assessor confirms lead levels are below the threshold.
- While these rooms are unavailable, we will use alternative spaces in our school to make sure students' learning can continue with minimum disruption.

Will the school community be kept informed of what is happening?

- Yes. The school will keep families and staff informed while the cleaning work is carried out.
- Students and staff will only be permitted back into the rooms once lead levels are below the threshold and safe to occupy.
- This is not an ideal arrangement, and it will hopefully only be for a short period of time.

I am concerned about the health of my child, what should I do?

- If you have any specific health concerns about your own child, you should speak with your doctor.

Who can parents and carers contact if they have further questions?

- If you have further technical questions you would like answered, the Directorate has set up an email address for you to send those through to so they can be answered by those with technical expertise. You can send emails through to: ACT.Education@act.gov.au
- You can also contact our Families and Students, Complaints and Feedback Unit online via the [ACT Education Directorate contact form](#) or by phone [\(02\) 6205 5429](tel:(02)62055429) between 9am-5pm, Monday to Friday.



North Ainslie Primary School and Lead Paint

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to inform you that a number of rooms at our school have been closed due to the discovery of lead dust contamination. We have temporarily closed five areas to undergo cleaning.

The areas affected are a storeroom, toilet, art storeroom, a breakout room (the 'sensory room') and staff office. It is important to note that no classrooms are affected. Students will not need to be relocated while cleaning occurs.

The school identified that paint management work carried out over a number of years may have created lead paint dust at the school. This included recent work in non-teaching areas of the school.

The Education Directorate visited the school on Friday 21 August to undertake an inspection and rooms were closed off pending testing by a licensed assessor which took place last week.

The storeroom, toilet and art storeroom near the Building Service Officer's room were tested and results were received late on Friday 28 August that showed above threshold levels of lead dust were present.

Following receipt of these results, the Education Directorate commissioned further testing of an additional seven rooms where paint work has taken place. These results were received on Monday and a further two areas— a breakout room (the 'sensory room') and a staff office—were closed. In these rooms, lead dust was discovered on top of cupboards and a windowsill.

Further testing is being conducted across the school to determine if the issue is more widespread.

I'd like to reassure families that the safety of our students, staff and the community are our priority.

All affected rooms will undergo an environmental clean this weekend. Testing will be conducted after each clean to ensure that it has been effective. The rooms will remain closed until testing by the licenced assessor confirms they are safe to occupy.

If you have concerns about potential health impacts relating to your own child, you should speak with your doctor. You can find more information about lead and health on the National Health and Medical Research Council website:

<https://www.nhmrc.gov.au/health-advice/environmental-health/lead-blood-levels>

I have attached a fact sheet with further information, including how the cleaning will be undertaken.



ACT

Government

Education

I will keep you updated as we work through this process with the assistance of the Education Directorate and third-party expertise. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the school.

Yours sincerely

<NAME>

Principal

2 September 2020

Hazardous Materials Management in ACT Public Schools



Andrew Parkinson – Executive Branch Manager, Infrastructure and Capital
Works

8 December 2020
Independent Expert Panel on Hazardous Materials – 8 December 2020

Overview

The ACT Education directorate is responsible for managing a large asset portfolio that consists of 88 schools (89th to open in 2021) that span across 119 specific sites.

Hazardous materials surveys have identified that 73 of these schools have a presence of Asbestos, Lead Paint or both.

The Infrastructure and Capital Works branch has primary responsibility for the ongoing management of Hazardous Materials in ACT public schools.

Understanding the Lead Paint problem

Aging Infrastructure

98 of the 122 public school sites in the ACT were opened prior to 1987.

Schools opened as recently as 1998 have had lead paint identified through testing.

We want to review and improve the way we manage our assets.

Thresholds and Prioritising works

ICW have been undertaking assessments based on AS4361:2017.

This leads to most schools being a high risk rating under the Australian Standard.

We want to have an endorsed position on thresholds and confidence in how we prioritise rectification works.

Community Concern

An incident in 2020 at a primary school where lead paint was disturbed has generated a high anxiety in the community about hazardous materials management.

We want to improve the way we educate and communicate the issues and approach to our community.

Project objective:

Improve the way that we identify, prioritise and communicate management of hazardous materials in ACT public schools.

Election Commitments

“A re-elected Labor government will accelerate the removal of hazardous materials from public school infrastructure through a dedicated \$15 million fund.”

Issues/ICW view

1 Poor internal paint condition

Issues:

Internal painting work undertaken by schools (not ICW) as ad-hoc activity rather than planned.

Limited knowledge of school-based staff

Issues/ICW view

2 Poor building element condition

Issues:

Some building elements (e.g. timber windows, eaves) reaching end of life and paint coming away from substrate.

Results in paint flaking & dust settlement in schools

Issues/ICW view

3 Removal vs management

Issues:

Much of the language around hazardous materials focuses on “removal”, which is consistent with asbestos management.

When in good condition, Lead Paint is a hazard rather than an immediate risk

For Lead Paint a range of actions (e.g. encapsulation, abatement) as well as removal that can effectively manage the risk in a school.

Issues/ICW view

4 Lead Dust levels

Issues:

Lead dust is being found in schools

There is no longer a limit set in AS.

Past practice has resulted in an “acceptance criteria” of $0.11\text{mg}/\text{m}^2$ for internal areas accessible by students.

Anecdotally - this is very conservative

Proposed deliverables

Deliverable 1

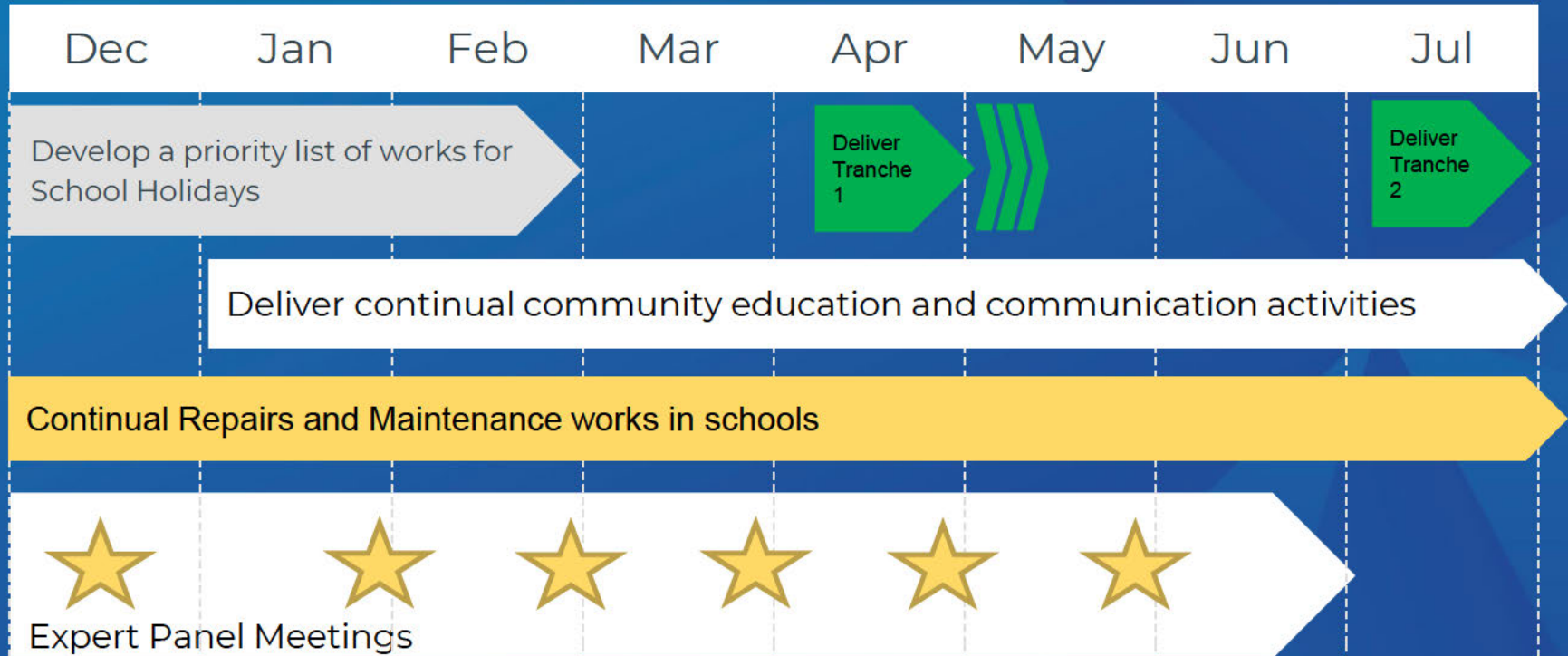
A tool to prioritise works to accelerate the hazardous materials response

Deliverable 2

A communications and engagement plan to educate the community

...

Timeline – 2020/2021





Rapid Assessment Ranking Methodology – November 2020

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to clarify the methodology used by the Infrastructure and Capital Works (ICW) Branch of the ACT Education Directorate to prioritise a program of capital works.

Background

The Rapid Assessments were undertaken by the ICW branch between 21 September and 23 October 2020. The resulting data has been used to inform a triage model designed to rank school sites by severity and provide a direction for the creation of a capital works program.

Methodology

Results recorded as part of the Rapid Assessment process form the basis of scores in the following categories:

Category	Reason
School Type Weighting 20%	The first measure is the school type, which provides guidance for the age of the students at the site. Pre-schools score the highest with younger students most likely to be at risk with exposure to lead paint. The sub-categories and scores are: Pre-school score 10 Primary School score 8 High School score 6 College score 4 Note: Pre-School is inclusive of Special School and Early Childhood sites.
School Age Weighting 10%	The second measure is the school age, which is used as a high level guide against the likelihood of the buildings containing higher concentrations of lead in paint. The sub-categories and scores are: 1900 - 1949 Up to 50% lead paint content score 10 1950 - 1969 Paint with more than 1% lead being used score 7 1970 - 1985 Paint limited to 1% lead content score 5 1986 - Present Assumed no lead paint present score 0

	<p>Notes: There is evidence of some sites newer than 1986 that have had lead paint detected. The background data in the scoring sheet lists school opening date. If school construction date data is available this will be updated. A school opened in 1970, may have had lead paint used in 1968.</p>
<p>Contact Points Weighting 20%</p>	<p>The third measure is the contact points, or areas where the lead paint has been identified during the assessment process. The score is increased if the area is likely to be touched by children e.g. handrails and is decreased if it is unlikely to be touched by children e.g. external guttering.</p> <p>The sub-categories and scores are:</p> <p>Areas accessed by children where surfaces frequently and easily touched (internal or external) score 10 Internal - Unlikely area to be accessed or touched by children score 5 External - Unlikely area to be access or touched by children score 2</p>
<p>Paint Condition Weighting 20%</p>	<p>The fourth measure is the condition of paint, as observed during the assessment process. The measure scores highest for paint that is in the worst condition and where accelerated measures are required and lowest for paint that does not need immediate treatment.</p> <p>The sub-categories and scores are:</p> <p>Very Poor - Obviously flaking and presenting a hazard score 10 Poor - Paint is starting to flake/turn into a hazard score 7 Reasonable - Paint is not an immediate hazard may need attention score 5 Sound - Paint is in good condition and does not need attention score 2</p>
<p>Percentage of Lead Content in Paint Weighting 30%</p>	<p>The fifth measure is the percentage of lead content in the paint. It is understood that paint with a lead content of less than 1% does not pose a risk to students. The greater the lead content found through paint samples scores higher due to the greater risk if the paint is disturbed or in poor condition.</p> <p>The sub-categories and scores are:</p> <p>16% plus score 10 11% - 15% score 8 6% - 10% score 6 1% to 5% score 4 zero to 0.99% score 0</p> <p>Note:</p>

	The score for this measure must come from a sample recorded by an independent environmental assessor and the highest result is used as default (e.g. a sample of 6% and 2% is recorded, us the 6% sample).
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Ranking

The weighted scores are totalled in the sheets to provide a ranking.

Next Steps

The ranking identified will be used to develop a series of capital works to be delivered in April 2021 and July 2021 school holidays.

Approval

This methodology has been approved by the following:

Hazardous Materials Management Taskforce – Date: / /2020

Independent Expert Panel – Date: / /2020

Document History

Version	Updated By	Comments
0.1	Peter Steele	First draft for discussion.

TRIM Information

<TBC>

Evaluation Worksheet Updated - 4/12/2020

Lead Paint Rapid Assessments Rankings

School Site Name	TOTAL WEIGHTED SCORE	RANKING
Reid Pre-School	88.0	1
Telopea Primary School	84.0	2
Lyons Pre-School	79.0	3
Hackett Pre-School	79.0	3
Malkara Special School	77.0	5
Wanniassa Hill Pre-School	77.0	5
Macquarie Primary School	75.0	7
North Ainslie School	75.0	7
Lyneham Primary School	75.0	7
Miles Franklin Primary School	73.0	10
Mawson Primary School	69.0	11
Melrose High	69.0	11
Torrens Pre-School	69.0	11
Red Hill Primary School	59.0	14
Erindale College	59.0	14
Canberra High School	55.0	16
Melba Copland College	55.0	16
Calwell High	54.0	18
Gowrie Primary School	51.0	19
Amaroo School	24.0	20

Hazardous Materials Management Expert Panel

Date Tuesday 8 December 2020
Time 1:30pm - 3:00pm
Venue MS Teams
Meeting number 1

Secretariat Contact Peter Steele, Senior Project Manager (PSt)

ACT Education Members David Matthews, Deputy Director-General (Chair/DDG)
 Margaret McKinnon, Executive Group Manager (EGM BS)
 Andrew Parkinson, Executive Branch Manager (EBM ICW)
 Paul Short, Executive Branch Manager (EBM M&C)

External Members Prof. Mark Taylor (MT) – Macquarie University
 Prof. Martyn Kirk (MK) – Australian National University
 Representative – ACT Worksafe
 Representative – ACT Chief Health Officer

Invited Participants Nil

Apologies Nil advised

"I wish to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land we are meeting on, the Ngunnawal people. I acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the connections to the land. I also acknowledge and welcome other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who may be meeting in this venue".

AGENDA

No	Item	Lead	Action	Paper	Time
1.	Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country	Chair			1:30 – 1:35 (5 minutes)
General Business					
2.	Introduction of membership and purpose	Chair	Discussion/ Acceptance	Y	1:35 – 1:45 (10 minutes)
3.	ACT Government position – update and questions	EBM ICW	Discussion	Y	1:45 – 2:10 (25 minutes)
For Discussion, actions and returned items					
4.	Education Directorate issues ranking model	Chair	Discussion	Y	2:10 – 2:30 (20 minutes)
5.	Media and Communications	EBM M&C	Discussion	Y	2:30 – 2:50 (25 minutes)
6.	Other business and meeting close	Chair		N	2:55 – 3:00 (5 minutes)

MEETING BUSINESS

- Next meeting – TBC

MEETING PAPERS

- ITEM 2 - TOR - Independent Expert Panel (word document)
- ITEM 3 - ICW - Haz Mat in ACT public schools (pp presentation)
- ITEM 4 - Ranking Tool - Version 0.2 30112020 (excel spreadsheet)
- ITEM 4 - Ranking Methodology (word document)

- ITEM 5 - Lead Paint Management Communications Strategy 20112020 (word document)
- ITEM 5 - North Ainslie Primary School Lead Paint FAQs 02092020 (word document)
- ITEM 5 - North Ainslie Primary School Lead Paint letter 02092020 (word document)

Bowden, Julia

From: Steele, Peter
Sent: Monday, 7 December 2020 11:49 AM
To: Matthews, David; McKinnon, Margaret; Short, Paul; Parkinson, Andrew
Cc: DDGEDUoffice; EDU, EDBSD
Subject: FOR REVIEW - Notes for Expert Panel Meeting Tuesday the 8th

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Colleagues,

Below is a list of notes and desired outcomes I've put together for the meeting tomorrow to assist all in preparation and to stay on track in the meeting.

These are the issues/outcomes as I see them, please let me know if you'd like to make any changes.

I have also nominated a lead for each item. Please let me know if you have any questions or updates and I'll share with the group.

I will also create a standing ITEM in the Taskforce meetings to discuss the outcomes/actions of the Panel meetings as appropriate.

Cheers

Pete

Item	Paper	Purpose and outcome
2. Introduction and purpose	Y - Terms of reference Lead - Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clarify government position and that the Directorate wants to ensure that the committed works deliver "bang for buck" and contribute to controlling the issue.• The TOR covers that the panel is to help provide advice and guidance to the delivery of Directorate response to hazardous materials.• The body is not decision making – a separate decision making taskforce exists within the Directorate.• TOR covers that any costs will be covered if incurred by members.• Meetings are nominally to be once a month until June 2021 when we will review. OUTCOME – TOR endorsed by membership and distributed.
3. ACT Gov position	Y – ICW presentation Lead - Andrew Parkinson	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation on hazardous materials management by ICW.• Page 3 covers key issues –<ul style="list-style-type: none">- improving how we manage our assets- having an endorsed position for thresholds- improving the way we educate and approach our community OUTCOME – <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Develop a short discussion paper on lead paint thresholds that can be discussed/lead to endorsement.- Community Education to be discussed in communications ITEM 5.
4. Ranking tool	Y – Version of ranking tool and methodology document	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide background – assessments were undertaken, and Australian Standards indicate that all schools are high.• Tool developed to provide a ranking of schools to develop a priority series of works to take to market and deliver in 2021.• Example covers 20 schools and provides a ranking.

	Lead – Andrew Parkinson	<p>DISCUSSION – Are the measures for rankings correct? Are the weightings correct? Should they be adjusted? Is there an alternative way to deliver this outcome?</p> <p>OUTCOME – Model endorsed OR feedback provided to update model for endorsement.</p>
5. Media and Communications	<p>Y – Draft comms strategy and previously provided info to schools/parents</p> <p>Lead – Paul Short</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide panel background on previously provided comms • Note concerns that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Letters were sent when it was not appropriate – e.g. a softer communication like a phone call would have sufficed. ○ Letters that were sent resulted in increased angst and concern in the community. <p>DISCUSSION – The Directorate is proposing a new communications plan (provided). What is the best way to educate communities on this issue and how it is being managed? Is there a recommended approach to educating the community on this issue?</p> <p>OUTCOME – Agreed outcome on products and level of information to be provided to school communities.</p>
6. Meeting close	<p>N –</p> <p>Lead – Chair</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirm that notes and actions will be distributed by the end of the week. • Note that next meeting will be for late January and invites will be arranged. • Other items may be discussed outside of these dates and will be arranged through secretariat.

Peter Steele | Senior Director
P 02 62052179 | M 0423 390 998 | E peter.steele@act.gov.au
ACT Government – Education Directorate

White, Kelly

From: Sloane, Brenton
Sent: Tuesday, 8 December 2020 4:05 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: EDU Media
Subject: RE: [REDACTED] query - school hazardous materials management plans

OFFICIAL

Hello [REDACTED]

Thanks for contacting me. As explained in my previous response, schools make their hazardous materials management plans (or equivalents) and supporting information available to school communities for viewing through their front office.

I'll get back to you on the list part of your question as soon as I can.

Cheers,

Brenton Sloane | Director

Media and Communications | Education | ACT Government

P: (02) 6205 4196 | M: 0431 252 698 | E: brenton.sloane@act.gov.au

Level 3, Nature Conservation House, 153 Emu Bank Belconnen | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601

www.education.act.gov.au | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 8 December 2020 3:52 PM
To: Sloane, Brenton <Brenton.Sloane@act.gov.au>
Subject: Re: [REDACTED] - school hazardous materials management plans

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.

Thanks for getting back to me Brenton, so does that mean you can't provide me with copies of them?

Can you provide me with a list of the 69 schools that have hazardous materials management plans?

Cheers
[REDACTED]

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Sloane, Brenton <Brenton.Sloane@act.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 3:31 pm
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: EDU Media
Subject: RE: [REDACTED] query - school hazardous materials management plans

OFFICIAL

Hello [REDACTED]

Thanks for contacting us about this matter.

Please attribute the following response to an Education Directorate spokesperson:

Each school with a hazardous materials management plan (or equivalent) in place makes that plan and supporting information available to school communities for viewing through their front office. This is standard practice.

The information is made available for viewing in this way because the reports are complex and need to be viewed in context, alongside additional reports about the works that have been carried out since the plan was developed.

Cheers,

Brenton Sloane | Director

Media and Communications | Education | ACT Government

P: (02) 6205 4196 | M: 0431 252 698 | E: brenton.sloane@act.gov.au

Level 3, Nature Conservation House, 153 Emu Bank Belconnen | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601

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From: EDU Media <EDU.Media@act.gov.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 8 December 2020 11:22 AM

To: Sloane, Brenton <Brenton.Sloane@act.gov.au>

Cc: Larkin, Lyn <Lyn.Larkin@act.gov.au>

Subject: FW: [REDACTED] query - school hazardous materials management plans

OFFICIAL

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, 8 December 2020 11:21 AM

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

Subject: [REDACTED] query - school hazardous materials management plans

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.

Hello media team,

Are the 69 hazardous management plans for ACT schools publicly available?

If not, are you able to provide me with a copy of all of them?

Happy to talk further – [REDACTED]

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

From: [McKinnon, Margaret](#)
To: [EDU, EDBSD](#)
Cc: [Steele, Peter](#)
Subject: FW: Hazardous Materials Expert Panel meeting - 8 December 2020
Date: Sunday, 13 December 2020 3:57:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

OFFICIAL

Also for discussion when Peter and I meet.
Margaret

Margaret McKinnon | Executive Group Manager Business Services | **Education Directorate** |
ACT Government
T: +61 2 6207 2790 | E: Margaret.Mckinnon@act.gov.au
Level 6, [220 Northbourne Ave](#) Braddon | GPO [Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601](#) |
www.education.act.gov.au



*The Education Directorate acknowledges the Ngunnawal Peoples as the
Traditional Custodians of the ACT and region upon which we live and work.*

From: Short, Paul <Paul.Short@act.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 11 December 2020 9:36 AM
To: Steele, Peter <Peter.Steele@act.gov.au>; McKinnon, Margaret
<Margaret.McKinnon@act.gov.au>; Parkinson, Andrew <Andrew.Parkinson@act.gov.au>
Cc: EDU, EDBSD <EDBSD.EDU@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Hazardous Materials Expert Panel meeting - 8 December 2020

OFFICIAL

On the comms front there are a couple of pre-requisites...
We need:

1. Policy/programme input, including clear health advice from CHO office, and agreed EDU lead paint management policies/programs of work.
2. Resourcing – I'm not confident our BAU comms team has capacity over the next 8 weeks to deliver, particularly given staff leave in Dec/Jan and loss of contract staff in early January.

Happy to discuss at taskforce this morning.
Cheers,
Paul

From: Steele, Peter <Peter.Steele@act.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 11 December 2020 9:24 AM
To: McKinnon, Margaret <Margaret.McKinnon@act.gov.au>; Parkinson, Andrew
<Andrew.Parkinson@act.gov.au>; Short, Paul <Paul.Short@act.gov.au>
Cc: EDU, EDBSD <EDBSD.EDU@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Hazardous Materials Expert Panel meeting - 8 December 2020

OFFICIAL

Marg – probably need to both happen as out of session this year, so that we can also progress through MO for Week 1 Term 1.
We can discuss in Taskforce today.
Peter Steele

ACT Government

0423390998

From: McKinnon, Margaret <Margaret.McKinnon@act.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 10 December 2020 8:29 PM
To: Steele, Peter <Peter.Steele@act.gov.au>; Parkinson, Andrew <Andrew.Parkinson@act.gov.au>; Short, Paul <Paul.Short@act.gov.au>
Cc: EDU, EDBSD <EDBSD.EDU@act.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Hazardous Materials Expert Panel meeting - 8 December 2020

OFFICIAL

What do we think about making the discussion of the next Expert Panel on two topics –
One – the standard(s) we use (out of session sortie....) which will enable
Two – draft comms material for term one, day one (also could do out-of-session

Margaret

Margaret McKinnon | Executive Group Manager Business Services | **Education Directorate** |
ACT Government
T: +61 2 6207 2790 | E: Margaret.McKinnon@act.gov.au
Level 6, 220 Northbourne Ave Braddon | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601 |
www.education.act.gov.au



The Education Directorate acknowledges the Ngunnawal Peoples as the Traditional Custodians of the ACT and region upon which we live and work.

From: Steele, Peter <Peter.Steele@act.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 10 December 2020 11:35 AM
To: Parkinson, Andrew <Andrew.Parkinson@act.gov.au>
Cc: McKinnon, Margaret <Margaret.McKinnon@act.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Hazardous Materials Expert Panel meeting - 8 December 2020

OFFICIAL

Hi Andrew,
Can you please confirm the response needed for Mark on the thresholds?
Would we be able to provide him with a copy of one of the environmental reports/hazard registers/lead paint management plans to review?
Might be a good idea to provide the info for Yarralumla?
Pete
Peter Steele

ACT Government

0423390998

From: Mark [REDACTED] Taylor [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 10 December 2020 7:34 AM
To: Steele, Peter <Peter.Steele@act.gov.au>
Cc: Matthews, David <David.Matthews@act.gov.au>; McKinnon, Margaret <Margaret.McKinnon@act.gov.au>; Parkinson, Andrew <Andrew.Parkinson@act.gov.au>; Short, Paul <Paul.Short@act.gov.au>; [REDACTED] Agius, Jacqueline <Jacqueline.Agius@act.gov.au>; Coleman, Kerryn (Health) <Kerryn.Coleman@act.gov.au>; Alford, Robert <Robert.Alford@act.gov.au>; Stedman, Andrew (Health) <Andrew.Stedman@act.gov.au>; Kneipp, Jason (Health) <Jason.Kneipp@act.gov.au>

Subject: Re: Hazardous Materials Expert Panel meeting - 8 December 2020

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.

Dear Peter:

Please see the attached PbB study from Geelong and the related editorial that I promised to circulate.

Can you please remind me of the $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^2$ you are using for ceiling dust (noting it is not in my view a major risk of exposure, but more a hazard) — was it $2500 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^2$.

If it is $2500 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^2$ this would match (approximately), taking into account the conversion from ft^2 to m^2) the US EPA standard for lead abatement measures on window sills. ($1 \text{ft}^2 = 0.09\text{m}^2$).

For distillation, the loading of $110 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^2$ being used in the ACT ~matches the recently revised US EPA **dust lead hazard standard** off $10 \mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$ ($\approx 100 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^2$) **BUT** not its **post abatement** floor standard of $40 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^2$.

Confused? If so, you would not be on your own, so here is my distillation / simple explanation (see also the Braun et al. 2020 article):

The US EPA has two sets of standards:

- (a) the new July 2019 dust lead hazard standard that is designed to identify lead dust loading levels that are hazardous to children;
- (b) its older clearance standards for floors and windowsills that must be attained after formal abatement of residential lead hazards.

Whatever we do moving forward, I would suggest we devise a set of standards and explain them and in technical layman's terms and benchmark them to international contemporary guidance so that every one is clear.

Happy to discuss.

Thanks

M

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~~~~~

Professor Mark Patrick Taylor FRSN
Dept of Earth and Environmental Sciences
Faculty of Science & Engineering
Macquarie University

T:

E:

E:

W:

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Professor Mark Patrick Taylor FRSN
Dept of Earth and Environmental Sciences
Faculty of Science & Engineering
Macquarie University

T:

E:

E:

W:

~~~~~

On 9 Dec 2020, at 4:40 pm, Steele, Peter <[Peter.Steele@act.gov.au](mailto:Peter.Steele@act.gov.au)> wrote:

OFFICIAL

All,

I would like to again extend our thanks for offering your valuable time yesterday to discuss the ACT Education Directorate challenges around hazardous materials management.

I will send out minutes and updates from the meeting this week, if there is any questions or additional information you'd like to discuss or provide please reach out to me.

My contact details are below.

Regards,

Pete

**Peter Steele | Senior Director**

**P** 02 62052179 | **M** 0423 390 998 | **E** [peter.steele@act.gov.au](mailto:peter.steele@act.gov.au)

**ACT Government – Education Directorate**

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## Bowden, Julia

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**From:** Steele, Peter  
**Sent:** Friday, 18 December 2020 10:12 AM  
**To:** Matthews David; Matthews David; McKinnon Margaret; Parkinson, Andrew; Short, Paul; [REDACTED]; Agius, Jacqueline; Coleman, Kerryn (Health); Alford, Robert; Stedman, Andrew (Health)  
**Cc:** Kneipp, Jason (Health)  
**Subject:** Hazardous Materials Expert Panel meeting #1 - 8 December 2020 - Minutes and ACTIONS  
**Attachments:** 20201208 - Panel Meeting 1 - Minutes and ACTIONS.docx; TOR - Independent Expert Panel - Adopted 20201208.PDF

OFFICIAL

All,

Please find attached the minutes and actions from our 1<sup>st</sup> expert panel meeting from the 8<sup>th</sup> of December.

If you have any amendments please let me know – the panel had a very robust discussion and I want to ensure any technical points are correct for our records.

At the bottom of the document is a list of ACTIONS that have come from the meeting, including distribution of the Terms of Reference which is also attached.

Other items will be followed up out of session.

Thank you all for your time and support, have a safe xmas and new year's period and we will be in touch in the new year to reconvene.

Please contact me if there is any further questions or changes required,

Regards,

Pete

**Peter Steele | Senior Director**  
P 02 62052179 | M 0423 390 998 | E [peter.steele@act.gov.au](mailto:peter.steele@act.gov.au)  
ACT Government – Education Directorate

# Hazardous Materials Management Expert Panel MINUTES and ACTIONS

|                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Date</b>                  | Tuesday 8 December 2020                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Time</b>                  | 1:30pm - 3:00pm                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Venue</b>                 | MS Teams                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Meeting number</b>        | 1                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Secretariat Contact</b>   | Peter Steele, Senior Project Manager (PSt)                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>ACT Education Members</b> | David Matthews, Deputy Director-General (Chair/DDG)<br>Margaret McKinnon, Executive Group Manager (EGM BS)<br>Andrew Parkinson, Executive Branch Manager (EBM ICW)<br>Paul Short, Executive Branch Manager (EBM M&C) |
| <b>External Members</b>      | Prof. Mark Taylor (PT) – Macquarie University<br>Prof. Martyn Kirk (PK) – Australian National University<br>Robert Alford – ACT Worksafe (RA)<br>Andrew Stedman – Office of ACT Chief Health Officer (AS)            |
| <b>Invited Participants</b>  | Nil                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Apologies</b>             | Nil advised                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

## MINUTES and ACTIONS

| Item No | Agenda Item                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1       | <p><b>Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country</b></p> <p>The Chair acknowledged country and introduced attendees to provide background for the membership:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Professor Kirk joins us from the National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health at the Australian National University.</li> <li>• Professor Taylor joins us from the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences at Macquarie University.</li> <li>• The office of the ACT Chief Health Officer is represented by Andrew Stedman.</li> <li>• The office of the ACT Work Health and Safety Commissioner is represented by Robert Alford.</li> <li>• Margaret McKinnon is the Executive General Manager of Business Services and responsible for oversight of the Directorate Infrastructure and Capital Works Branch.</li> <li>• Andrew Parkinson is the Executive Branch Manager of the Infrastructure and Capital Works Branch. Background includes working on ACT Government Mr Fluffy asbestos program. Andrew's area is responsible for oversight of Hazardous Materials Management in ACT Public Schools.</li> <li>• Paul Short is the Executive Branch Manager of Media and Communications Branch. Paul's area is looking to bring the community on the complex journey of hazardous materials management.</li> <li>• Peter Steele is the Secretariat and Directorate contact for this Panel.</li> </ul> |
| 2       | <p><b>Introduction of membership and purpose</b></p> <p>DDG covered key points for panel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Frank and fearless advice is welcomed</li> <li>• Robust and open exchange of ideas is welcomed in the forum.</li> <li>• Any costs incurred by panel members will be covered by the Directorate.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |



# Hazardous Materials Management Expert Panel MINUTES and ACTIONS

- This panel is not a decision making body, that will sit with the Directorate.

Terms of Reference (TOR) were tabled to be adopted and will be a living document as the Panel establishes (refer: *ITEM 2 - TOR - Independent Expert Panel*).

**ACTION #1** – TOR to be distributed with meeting minutes and actions as adopted.

### 3 ACT Government position – update and questions

**EMB ICW** presented on the ACT Government position (refer: *ITEM 3 - ICW - Haz Mat in ACT public schools*).

Key issues noted included:

- Poor internal paint condition
- Poor building element condition
- Removal vs management
- Lead dust levels (threshold levels)

**PK** noted the focus on lead and queried the position of loose fill asbestos.

**EBM ICW** noted that there has not been any found in public school sites.

**DDG** noted that there needs to be an integrated framework for all types of materials, with the immediate focus on lead paint.

**PT** queried the current testing levels being used for dust swipes (TBC with distribution of paper – see ACTION #2).

Also noted that Micrograms is the best measure to use – this will be consistent in research documents.

Standard being used by NSW for housing is a higher level (than 110 micrograms).

Question if there is a standardised protocol for testing schools? For example, are teams going to schools and finding issues where they aren't a risk?

**EBM ICW** – Some issues are identified through other works (example removing a roof exposed lead dust).

**ACTION #2** – Directorate to distribute recent environmental reports that includes standards used for testing.

### 4 Education Directorate issues ranking model

**EBM ICW** presented the ranking model and methodology used to Panel (refer: *ITEM 4 - Ranking Tool - Version 0.2 30112020* and *ITEM 4 - Ranking Methodology* ok team through the triage model) which has been developed to help separate the schools which would otherwise all rank as HIGH under the Australian Standards.

Noted that milligram (mg.) is being used and note microgram (mcg.) as previously discussed.

**Chair** confirmed that this model is to help triage and help provide guidance on works to be delivered.

**PT** noted that the model includes a sensible matrix and the scores appear to split out seemingly well.

# Hazardous Materials Management Expert Panel MINUTES and ACTIONS

**Chair** confirmed this is to help triage and help provide a proxy work.

Question – Are special units within a school that are higher risk considered? E.g. Autism units.

**EMB ICW** – Most schools have special units/smaller programs, and this is most regularly found in primary schools, which are ranked higher in the model.

Question – Will areas within schools be prioritised higher than others?

**EBM ICW** – This is the first level of assessment and more detail will come from further assessments.

**Chair** asked the views on the weightings being used

**PT** – It is appropriate that the Directorate has a risk based strategy. There will always be discussion about why funds should be spent at one school over another. This approach makes sense because not all schools can get resolved at once.

Question – Is there concurrent work happening at multiple schools?

**Chair** – School holidays is used as windows to deliver works – unless it is critical. There is work happening concurrently across multiple sites.

**EBM ICW** – The branch is preparing to deliver works across 50+ sites in upcoming school holiday period. Works will include addressing asbestos and lead paint as part of broader works.

Question – Does the weighting work for school and area? E.g. poor condition in a preschool room is worse than poor condition in a hallway?

**EBM ICW** – Yes - model covers this (via contact point rating)

**ACTION #3** – Directorate to use ranking tool for first level of triaging and come back to panel with reflection and feedback on how it served for identifying future priorities.

## 5. Media and Communications

**EBM M&C** introduced to Panel on how communications on the issues has been challenging and the desire to improve communications around hazardous materials management with the community.

Noted – Issue needs to be contextualised. Lead paint is in many public and private dwellings. Public Schools are not the single source of this risk.

Paul gave intro into issues about how comms may have escalated to getting to a better level of communications around the issues.

**PT** – Suggested contacting Broken Hill lead group for insight into good community messaging on the issue.

It is key to separate hazard from risk and having language that helps explain the difference.

# Hazardous Materials Management Expert Panel MINUTES and ACTIONS

|    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|    | <p>There should also be continued communications on hygiene standards e.g. washing hands before eating.</p> <p><b>Noted</b> - Messaging from panel should be helpful to help calm inflammatory rhetoric from the community.</p> <p><b>PT</b> – Noted one further piece of evidence from Geelong, an editorial on kids aged 4 and not one of them exceeded certain threshold. PT will provide paper to group.</p> <p><b>PK</b> – risk communication must tie back to risk matrix and prioritisation being used by the Directorate.</p> <p><b>PT</b> – Ingestion of lead paint is the biggest issue. Not contact or other means. This should be pressed forward and control how people misunderstand the difference between hazard and risk and what lead paint means.</p> <p><b>Chair</b> – Welcome any further comments including out of session.</p> <p><b>ACTION #4</b> – Directorate to provide example of products for Term 1 2021 (e.g. Factsheet) to be provided to stakeholders for Panel to review.</p> |
| 6. | <p><b>Other business and meeting close</b></p> <p><b>Chair</b> reiterated appreciation to all for their time and involvement in the Panel in relative short notice. Minutes and ACTIONS will be distributed shortly.</p> <p>Next meeting proposed for January 2021 – to be confirmed.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

## PANEL ACTIONS

| ACTION Number | Responsible Member  | ACTION                                                                                                                                                              | Status | Notes/Updates                                        |
|---------------|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|------------------------------------------------------|
| 1.            | PSt/<br>Secretariat | TOR to be distributed with meeting minutes and actions as adopted.                                                                                                  | Closed | Distributed with minutes and actions from Meeting #1 |
| 2.            | PSt/<br>Secretariat | Directorate to distribute recent environmental reports that includes standards used for testing.                                                                    | Open   |                                                      |
| 3.            | EBM ICW             | Directorate to use ranking tool for first level of triaging and come back to panel with reflection and feedback on how it served for identifying future priorities. | Open   |                                                      |
| 4.            | EBM M&C             | Provide example of products for Term 1 2021 (e.g. Factsheet) for panel to review                                                                                    | Open   |                                                      |

# Hazardous Materials Management Taskforce Independent Expert Panel Terms of Reference

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**Document Number: DOC20/36900 (TRIM)**

**Date Published: 8/12/2020**

**Review Date: 1/7/2021**

**Approved by: David Matthews, DDG (Chair)**

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## 1. Authority and Accountability

- 1.1. The Independent Expert Panel (the Panel) on Hazardous Materials Management in ACT public schools has been established to provide expertise and advice to the Hazardous Materials Management Taskforce (the Taskforce) that can be used to inform decisions and ongoing updates to the Education Directorate's (the Directorate's) response to the ongoing management of hazardous materials in ACT Government schools.

## 2. Purpose

- 2.1. The role of the Panel is to provide expert advice and guidance on the Directorate's response to incidents involving hazardous materials and the ongoing management of hazardous materials in public schools.
- 2.2. The Panel is not a decision-making body. The Panel may be consulted on decisions, however, the responsibility for decision making sits with the Taskforce who is responsible for providing advice through to the Director General, the Minister and Government.
- 2.3. The establishment of the Panel reflects the urgency and priority for the Directorate to provide transparent, documented, and accountable management of hazardous materials in ACT public schools to our workforce, the community and Government.
- 2.4. The Panel will also provide advice and guidance on communications and education materials around the Directorate activities related to hazardous materials management.

## 3. Role and Responsibility

- 3.1. The Panel will provide expert advice and guidance on the following, but not limited to:
  - a. Directorate activities underway relating to the management of hazardous materials within ACT Government school sites, including standard operating procedures, project plans and documented processes;
  - b. advice and briefings that are provided through to the Director-General or Minister on the management of hazardous materials in ACT Government school sites; and,
  - c. communications and education materials that will be provided to students, staff and

the broader community. This may include requests from media outlets.

## 4. Membership

4.1 Membership of the Panel includes:

- David Matthews, Deputy Director-General ACT Education (Chair)

ACT Education Members

- Margaret McKinnon, Executive Group Manager, Business Services Division (EGM BS)
- Andrew Parkinson, Executive Branch Manager, Infrastructure and Capital Works (EBM ICW)
- Paul Short, Executive Branch Manager, Media and Communications (EBM M&C)

Membership external to ACT Education

- Prof. Mark Taylor (MT) – Macquarie University
- Prof. Martyn Kirk (MK) – Australian National University
- Representative – ACT Worksafe
- Representative – ACT Chief Health Officer

4.2 The Chair may also invite external people to join the Panel, as required.

4.3 Any members unable to attend meetings will notify the secretariat prior to the meeting.

## 5. Secretariat

5.1 Secretariat for Panel meetings will be provided by the Senior Project Officer, working from the office of the Executive Group Manager, Business Services Division.

5.2 The Secretariat will coordinate agenda items from members and present to the Chair for approval.

5.3 Meeting papers must be circulated to members **one week** before the agreed meeting.

5.4 Minutes are to be approved by the Chair and circulated by the Secretariat within **3 working days** of each meeting.

5.5 Minutes and action items will be monitored and maintained by the Secretariat as a complete record as required under the provisions of the *Territory Records Act 2002*.

## 6. Meetings

6.1 The Panel will meet monthly from commencement on Tuesday the 8<sup>th</sup> of December 2020.

6.2 A quorum for the meeting is three (3) members, including the Chair or their nominee.

6.3 Additional and special meetings may be called by the Chair, as required.

- 6.4 Additional and special meetings may be held out-of-session and papers circulated for out-of-session decisions.

## **7. Reporting**

- 7.1 The Panel will provide a formal report to the Director-General (DG) after each meeting on the matters discussed and actions agreed to at meetings.
- 7.2 This report may also be submitted to the Minister for Education and Youth Affairs at the discretion of the DG.

## **8. Conflicts of Interest**

- 8.1 Panel members must declare any conflicts of interest at the start of each meeting or before discussion of the relevant agenda item or topic.
- 8.2 Where members or observers at a panel meeting are deemed to have a real, or perceived conflict of interest it may be appropriate that they are excused from panel deliberations on the issue where a conflict of interest exists.

## **9. Induction**

- 9.1 New or temporary members will be provided with a copy of these terms of reference and briefed by the Secretariat to assist them to understand their obligations as a member of the committee.

## **10. Review of the TOR**

- 10.1 The Panel will conduct a full review of the TOR by July 2021.

This document is not released as it is publicly available on the Education Directorate's Disclosure Log  
ref: EDU2021\_04

**From:** [Steele, Peter](#)  
**To:** [Hooper, Richard](#)  
**Cc:** [McKinnon, Margaret](#); [Parkinson, Andrew](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Hazardous Materials Management Taskforce Meeting #6  
**Date:** Wednesday, 13 January 2021 10:30:35 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Thanks Richard, that's correct.

It sounds like that is progressing as required. I'll give you a call today to confirm.

Pete

Peter Steele

**ACT Government**

0423390998

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**From:** Hooper, Richard <[Richard.Hooper@act.gov.au](mailto:Richard.Hooper@act.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 12 January 2021 4:31 PM  
**To:** Steele, Peter <[Peter.Steele@act.gov.au](mailto:Peter.Steele@act.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** McKinnon, Margaret <[Margaret.McKinnon@act.gov.au](mailto:Margaret.McKinnon@act.gov.au)>; Parkinson, Andrew <[Andrew.Parkinson@act.gov.au](mailto:Andrew.Parkinson@act.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Hazardous Materials Management Taskforce Meeting #6

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hi Peter,

My understanding is that we agreed to use the Rapid Assessment Ranking Tool – Version 0.2 30112020. for the triage assessments based on the Rapid Assessment Ranking Methodology – DRAFT 0.1. reference your email 30 November 2020.

The ranking tool is currently being used by the hazardous material team to prioritise remediation work from the rapid assessment reports, which were completed last year.

Kind regards,

**Richard Hooper | Senior Director**

Infrastructure & Capital Works | Education | ACT Government

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**From:** Steele, Peter <[Peter.Steele@act.gov.au](mailto:Peter.Steele@act.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 12 January 2021 2:17 PM  
**To:** McKinnon, Margaret <[Margaret.McKinnon@act.gov.au](mailto:Margaret.McKinnon@act.gov.au)>; Parkinson, Andrew <[Andrew.Parkinson@act.gov.au](mailto:Andrew.Parkinson@act.gov.au)>; Short, Paul <[Paul.Short@act.gov.au](mailto:Paul.Short@act.gov.au)>; Allars, Alex <[Alex.Allars@act.gov.au](mailto:Alex.Allars@act.gov.au)>; Hooper, Richard <[Richard.Hooper@act.gov.au](mailto:Richard.Hooper@act.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** DDGEDUoffice <[DDGEDUoffice@act.gov.au](mailto:DDGEDUoffice@act.gov.au)>; EDU, EDBSD <[EDBSD.EDU@act.gov.au](mailto:EDBSD.EDU@act.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Hazardous Materials Management Taskforce Meeting #6

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Good afternoon all,

You will see shortly an invite coming out for Tuesday the 19<sup>th</sup> of January for our first Taskforce meeting of 2021 (meeting #6 overall).

A reminder that a key ACTION (Number 24) was to finalise populating the triage model, in order to develop the series of works.

Appreciate if an update can be provided on the progress of this ACTION.

An agenda and updates for the meeting will be circulated this week.

Pete



Peter Steele

**ACT Government**

0423390998

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**From:** Steele, Peter

**Sent:** Monday, 21 December 2020 12:36 PM

**To:** McKinnon, Margaret <[Margaret.McKinnon@act.gov.au](mailto:Margaret.McKinnon@act.gov.au)>; Parkinson, Andrew <[Andrew.Parkinson@act.gov.au](mailto:Andrew.Parkinson@act.gov.au)>; Short, Paul <[Paul.Short@act.gov.au](mailto:Paul.Short@act.gov.au)>; Allars, Alex <[Alex.Allars@act.gov.au](mailto:Alex.Allars@act.gov.au)>; Hooper, Richard <[Richard.Hooper@act.gov.au](mailto:Richard.Hooper@act.gov.au)>

**Cc:** DDGEDUoffice <[DDGEDUoffice@act.gov.au](mailto:DDGEDUoffice@act.gov.au)>; EDU, EDBSD <[EDBSD.EDU@act.gov.au](mailto:EDBSD.EDU@act.gov.au)>; Matthews, David <[David.Matthews@act.gov.au](mailto:David.Matthews@act.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Hazardous Materials Management Taskforce Meeting #5 - Minutes and ACTIONS

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

Taskforce members,

Attached is the TRIM link (and documents for the TRIM-adverse) to the minutes and updated actions from the HMMT meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> of December, approved by the DDG.

I have also attached the Minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> expert panel meeting.

██████████ until Monday 11<sup>th</sup> of January and will be in touch from then with dates for our first 2021 meeting.

Hope you all have a safe and happy holiday period.

Please let me know if you would like to discuss further,

Pete

**Peter Steele | Senior Director**

**P** 02 62052179 | **M** 0423 390 998 | **E** [peter.steele@act.gov.au](mailto:peter.steele@act.gov.au)

**Education Directorate | ACT Government**

## White, Kelly

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**From:** Sloane, Brenton  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 2 February 2021 10:08 AM  
**To:** Matthews, David; Parkinson, Andrew  
**Cc:** EDU Media; Larkin, Lyn; Short, Paul; DDGEDUoffice; ICW EBM Office  
**Subject:** Lead Paint follow ups

### OFFICIAL

Hello David and Andrew,

Providing the below to you as an FYI. Following discussion with the MO about requests for statement from media outlets re: lead paint at Richardson story, the MO would like us to send the below information to the FM radio stations and [REDACTED]

Please note – the statement itself is the first answer from the already-approved response we gave to [REDACTED] last night. The background points are from the approved TPs.

Given this is an MO direction, I will be sending this on shortly:

During routine maintenance work on Richardson Primary School's heating system over the summer break, dust containing lead particles was found in the boiler room and in heating ducts near the school hall. The areas connected to this particular heating system are the hall, the library and five learning spaces.

Licensed assessors, Robsons, conducted tests to check if lead dust has flowed from the heating system to other areas in the school. These tests have confirmed that all the spaces are safe to occupy. Following these tests, the learning spaces and library were cleared for occupation. No classrooms at Richardson Primary School are closed due to lead dust.

The affected heating system has been sealed and will not be used until it is safe to do so.

#### Background:

- Over two-thirds of our public schools were built before 1992 – and just like houses built at this time, these schools were painted using lead paint.
- Lead paint isn't used any more, but we need to make sure these older buildings remain safe for students, staff and school communities – this is always the highest priority.
- Across our public schools, lead paint is most typically found on painted timber surfaces including window frames, eaves and handrails, but has also been found in storage and equipment rooms.
- Every public school with known hazardous materials has a Hazardous Materials Register, which is used by people doing maintenance or upgrades, so they know where any potentially hazardous materials are before they start work.
- The Education Directorate conducts regular reviews of all school buildings to make sure they remain safe.
- Any time maintenance or upgrade works are carried out, we use trained professionals to check if any hazardous materials could be disturbed and make sure they are handled safely.
- Any work that could disturb lead paint is done in the school holidays to allow extra time for cleaning and follow-up testing to ensure the area is safe for students and staff.
- Regular painting is also undertaken in public schools to make sure that existing lead paint is safely encapsulated.

Cheers,

**Brenton Sloane | Director**

**Media and Communications | Education | ACT Government**

P: (02) 6205 4196 | M: 0431 252 698 | E: [brenton.sloane@act.gov.au](mailto:brenton.sloane@act.gov.au)

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