

## **COMING SOON - HSE INSPECTIONS OF SCHOOLS TO ASSESS ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT PROCESSES**

The HSE has released an ebulletin that states they will be carrying out a programme of inspections of primary and secondary schools in England, Wales and Scotland to assess how schools are managing the risk from asbestos. The inspections will be commencing in September 2022. This will be in schools constructed prior to the year 2000.

The HSE inspectors will be contacting schools to arrange a visit. They will want to speak to the person at the school (Site Manager, Business Manager, Headteacher) who has the knowledge of how asbestos is managed and they may ask to see your Asbestos Register and Management plan prior to the visit.

In readiness for a visit, please can you review the current arrangements. You should have the following in place and/or in your white Asbestos Folder:

1. A 'sign in sheet' to record the names of those who have been shown the folder
2. Asbestos Permit to Work forms required for working on or near asbestos
3. The F21a local asbestos management plan document completed and reviewed (the link to the blank form is in Section 3.5 of HS021)
4. The RAMIS annual asbestos management arrangement review. This should include your documented Annual Visual Inspection of the condition records.
5. The most recent asbestos management survey report (this contains the asbestos register). Please check that you have the most up to date copy of the report. It should be dated in the last 5 years. If not then please contact Sharon Larkman (see contact details below)
6. SCC Asbestos Policy HS021 (link given below)
7. Any refurbishment demolition survey reports that have been completed.
8. Completed permits that are now closed
9. Any historical information relevant to asbestos in the building

Please take note of the following for further information

### **Asbestos Awareness Training**

As part of the asbestos management process for schools, at least 2 people from each school should have attended Asbestos Awareness Training. Please check that this is the case, if not then please get in touch with Sharon Larkman who will be running 2 sessions next term on 20<sup>th</sup> September and 6<sup>th</sup> October 2022. The training is completed via TEAMS and takes around 2 hours.

The 5 yearly Premises Manager Training provided by the Health and Safety Unit does provide some information on the SCC processes of asbestos management, however this is not a substitute for Asbestos Awareness Training. This training must be completed in addition to Premises Manager Training.

### **Asbestos Refurbishment and Demolition Surveys**

If your school is completing any works that disturb the fabric of the building then there may be a requirement to complete a further asbestos survey, specific to the proposed work. If the school is managing the project themselves (ie. not using the SSE building surveyor) then please contact Sharon Larkman who will be able to advise if a further survey is required.

### **Academies, Foundation and VA Schools**

As SCC has no responsibility in these schools for Asbestos Management, the schools are not part of the 5 yearly SCC re-survey programme. If you think that your school requires an up to date survey then please contact Sharon Larkman.

Contact details for Sharon Larkman –

email [sjlarkman@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:sjlarkman@somerset.gov.uk)

phone 01823 355195

The link to the SCC Asbestos Policy HS021 is

<http://extranet.somerset.gov.uk/EasySiteWeb/GatewayLink.aspx?alld=51182>