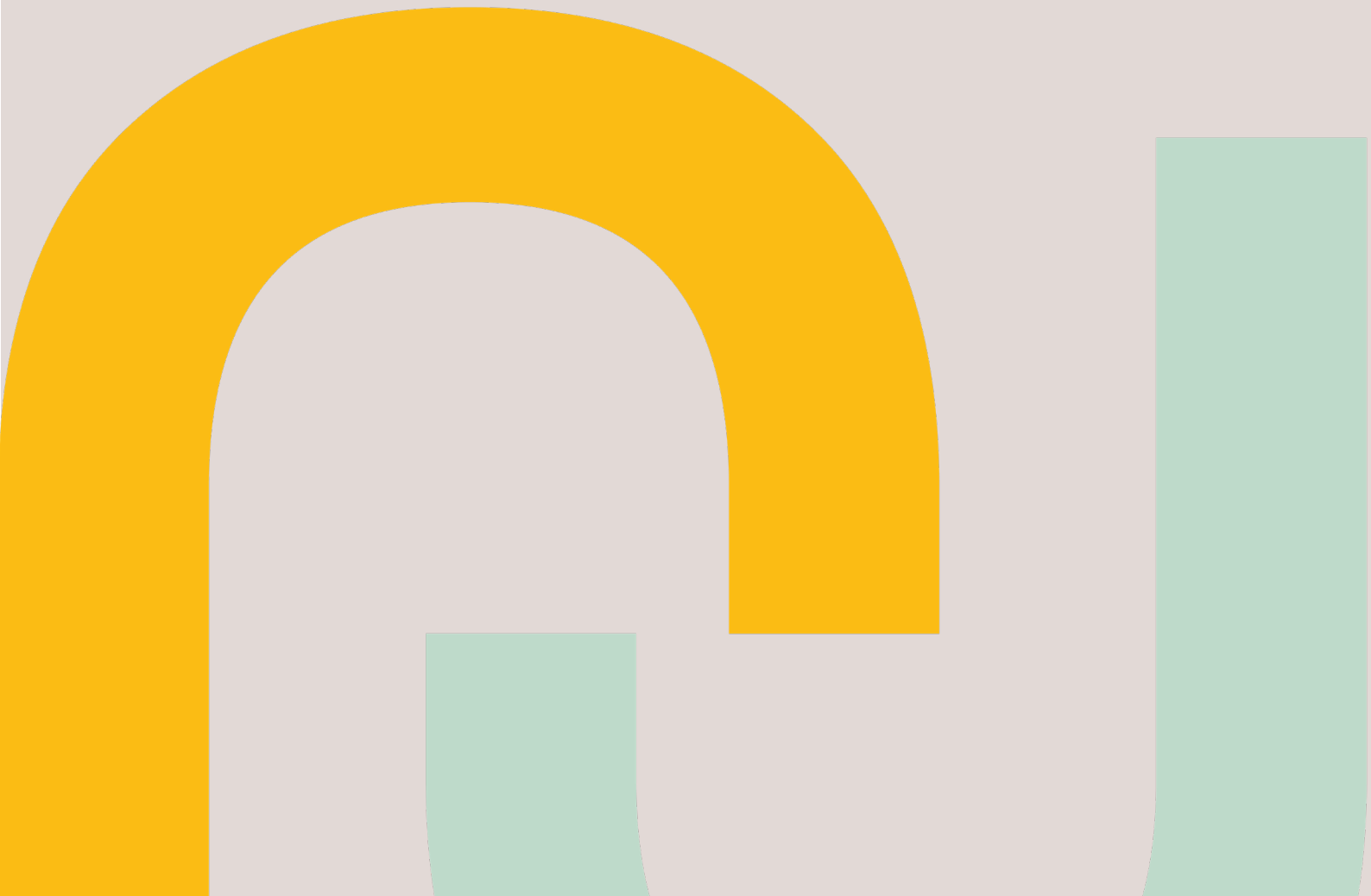


trust

Affordable homes.  
Exceptional care.

# Asbestos Advice Customer Information



# Asbestos Advice

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Asbestos is a material made up of strong fibres which are resistant to both heat and chemicals.

These qualities made asbestos a popular material in the building trade and led to its use in a wide range of building products, including fireproofing.

Asbestos is most likely to be found in homes built between the 1950s and the 1990s, the use of Asbestos was banned in 1999 because it can be a danger to health.

Asbestos fibres can only be seen under a microscope. These fibres can penetrate deep into the lung and stay there. This can cause respiratory disease or some types of cancer.

It is very unlikely that the levels of asbestos fibres found in buildings will be harmful, but if you have damaged asbestos materials in your home, you should contact us immediately.

# Where you might find asbestos products

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## Asbestos is most commonly found:

### Outside:

- Roof eaves and soffit boards
- Gutters and downpipes
- Flues and terminals
- Roof tiles
- Corrugated cement sheets (usually garage roofs)

### Inside:

- Vinyl floor tiles and their adhesive
- Artex type finishes (Prior to 1990)
- Old lagging around pipe work and hot water cylinders
- Water storage tanks
- Lining boards at the back of boilers and gas/electric fires
- Lining boards at the back of Electrical Distribution Boards (Fuse boxes)
- Bath panels

Asbestos products may also be found elsewhere in your home. This booklet is only a guide to some of the most common types.

**Contact us if you are in any doubt about asbestos in your home.**

If the asbestos containing material is sealed safely and is in good condition then it will not be a problem unless it becomes damaged. This is because asbestos is only dangerous when fibres can be released into the air.

# Careful Handling

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If there are any asbestos products in your home, it's important that you don't damage or disturb them in any way. If you carry out DIY on asbestos products, you are putting yourself in danger.

It is important that you DO NOT:

- Drill a hole into any asbestos boards
- Cut or break off any parts of asbestos products
- Rub down asbestos panels or artex with sandpaper
- Use wallpaper scrapers on asbestos products
- Remove asbestos panels to gain access to services.

If you are not sure whether a product contains asbestos, it is safest not to do anything that may damage or disturb it.

It is very unlikely that the levels of asbestos fibres found in buildings will be harmful, but if you have damaged asbestos materials in your home, you should contact us immediately.

## What if I want to carry out works to my home?

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You must not carry out structural alterations or improvements to your home unless Trust has given you permission. Please contact your Customer Experience Partner for the appropriate application and guidance.



# What is Trust doing about asbestos?

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As part of our commitment to you, we aim to ensure that all materials containing asbestos are effectively managed, and risk to our tenants is reduced to its lowest practical level.

If necessary, we will carry out a survey to find out whether there are any materials that contain asbestos in your home and, if so, what condition they are in. If any are in a dangerous condition, we will arrange for them to be encapsulated or removed as soon as possible.

However, materials that are not in a dangerous condition will not always be removed. This is because it is very disruptive and is not a risk. We will therefore endeavour to do any required work on asbestos when properties are empty or at the same time as other major works are being carried out.

