

ASBESTOS — WEMBLEY DOWNS PRIMARY SCHOOL SITE

5159. Mr S.K. L'Estrange to the minister representing the Minister for Education and Training:

I refer to possible asbestos-containing material (PACM) identified at the Wembley Downs Primary School site (39 Bournemouth Crescent, Wembley Downs), and I ask:

- (a) (a) Has a site-specific management plan been developed to address the risks to the health of any workers undertaking intrusive works and to site occupiers in the event that further PACM is unearthed:
 - (i) If yes to (a), who is responsible for monitoring the site;
 - (ii) If yes to (a), how often is the site reviewed;
 - (iii) If yes to (a), is training provided to school staff on minimising contamination risk;
 - (iv) If yes to (a), what is the risk assessment of the site and when will this assessment next be reviewed; and
 - (v) If no to (a), why not; and
- (b) (b) Are there currently any plans to remove the PACM:
 - (i) If yes to (b), when will works begin;
 - (ii) If yes to (b), who is performing the removal; and
 - (iii) If no to (b), why not?

Mr P. Papalia replied:

- (a) Yes. A site-specific management plan has been prepared and sent to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation for its consideration and comment.
 - (i) The school principal.
 - (ii) There is no program of review scheduled for this site.
 - (iii) The Department has developed an online Asbestos Awareness Training module that all school principals and at least one other staff member must complete for each school. This covers all the broader aspects of managing asbestos-containing materials in schools. The Department has also published an Asbestos Awareness fact sheet for all school staff.
 - (iv) A risk assessment was carried out at Wembley Downs Primary School as part of the preliminary site investigation. The risk to human health is considered low and within Department of Health guidelines for the management of asbestos in soils.
 - (v) Not applicable.
- (b) (i)–(iii) No. In 2007, two kilograms of possible asbestos-containing material (PACM) was found in the soil during major renovations of the school oval. The PACM was removed from the site, the oval covered with 20–30 centimetres of clean fill and returfed. In 2014, PACM was found dumped on the oval embankment. This was collected and disposed of. The school has advised that, since then, only two very small pieces of PACM have been found. These were removed by a licensed contractor. The risk to human health is considered low and within Department of Health guidelines for the management of asbestos in soils.