



# Asbestos

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A guide for tenants

## What is asbestos?

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Asbestos was a very popular building materials in homes for many years. It used in construction as it was durable, helped to reduce noise and insulated buildings. In the UK Asbestos was banned in construction in 2000.

## Why was asbestos banned ?

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Asbestos was banned in the UK after medical studies showed that it can be hazardous to human health if not treated and handled correctly.

Although it is now a banned material, there is no legal requirement for all asbestos to have been removed from homes.

## Will Taff remove asbestos from my home?

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Taff has a management plan for all properties that contain asbestos. This is so we can keep you safe.

Our policy is to risk assess for every known case. Our surveyors will decide whether to

- Leave the asbestos in place and make a record of its condition and location
- Seal the asbestos to stop it breaking down
- Cover the asbestos with timber, PVC or other materials; or remove it and replace it with a material that doesn't contain asbestos.

## **Will asbestos affect my health?**

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Asbestos is not a danger to your health if it is in good condition and is not disturbed. For example, you disturb asbestos by drilling or sawing in to it

In our homes, most materials containing asbestos are in good condition and only contain low amounts. We have record of every known case of asbestos in our properties.

If you breathe in asbestos dust, tiny fibres can reach your lungs. This can cause diseases. However, for this to happen you must have breathed in large number of fibres over a prolonged period of time. How much the fibred affect you also depends on the type of asbestos.

If you are concerned that your property may contain asbestos please contact us for your property report.

## **What can I do to minimise risk ?**

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Do not repair or remove any material that you think may contain asbestos.

If you are unsure what material something is made of, assume it is made from asbestos. You should contact us so we can check our register and come out if needed.

To find out more information about asbestos, please go to the Health and Safety Executive website at [www.hse.gov.uk/asbestos](http://www.hse.gov.uk/asbestos) or contact us using the details below:

[www.taffhousing.co.uk](http://www.taffhousing.co.uk)  
@taffhousing

This leaflet is available in large print and in community languages please visit our website to request this.



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