



LISBURN  
CITY COUNCIL

# Building Workers

## Act now to prevent Mesothelioma



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### Contact Information

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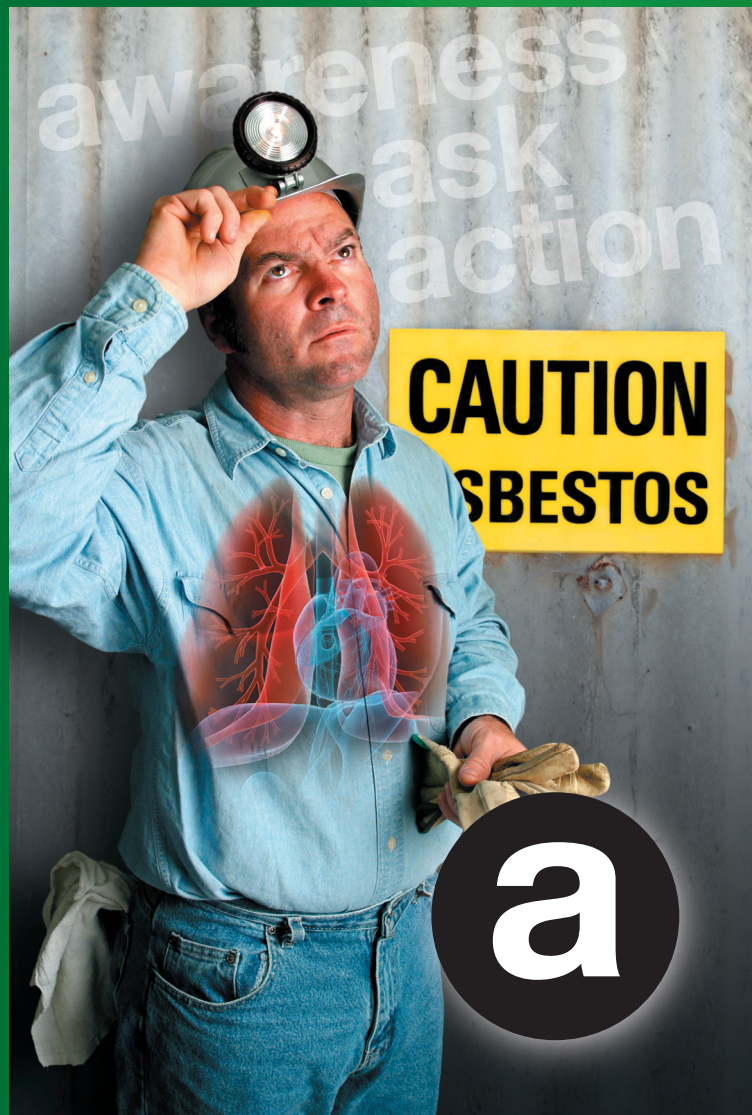
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The City for You!



# What is Mesothelioma?

Mesothelioma is a rare form of cancer which affects the lining of the lungs (pleura) or of the abdominal cavity (peritoneum). In adults most cases are caused by inhaling dust which contains asbestos fibres.

Mesothelioma generally develops after a long period of time since first exposure typically 15-60 years. An estimated 25% of people dying from mesothelioma have worked in the building or building maintenance industry.

- Construction-related trades may still expose workers to asbestos due to the presence of this fibre in a range of building materials.
- By the time it is diagnosed mesothelioma is almost always fatal. Prevention of exposure is the only defence.

**If you are concerned or require advice contact either:**

**Asbestos Advisory Service**

Tel: 0800 0320 121

Email: [asbestos@detini.gov.uk](mailto:asbestos@detini.gov.uk)

**Employment Medical Advisory Service**

Tel: 028 9040 8004

Email: [emasmail@detini.gov.uk](mailto:emasmail@detini.gov.uk)

**Environmental Health Service**

Health and Safety Section

Lisburn City Council

Tel: 028 9250 9394

Email: [ehealth@lisburn.gov.uk](mailto:ehealth@lisburn.gov.uk)

Other sources of information

[www.hseni.gov.uk](http://www.hseni.gov.uk) and [www.hse.gov.uk/asbestos](http://www.hse.gov.uk/asbestos)

**If you are an electrician, plumber, heating and ventilation engineer or joiner, or you work in a similar trade within the building industry then following the three **a**s will help to reduce your risk of developing mesothelioma and other diseases caused by asbestos.**

## **a** Awareness

of the potential of asbestos-containing materials being present where you are working - asbestos awareness training is required to be given to employees whose work could foreseeably expose them to asbestos.

## **a** Ask

if asbestos is present before you start work - you can consult the asbestos register for the premises you are working in and plan your work accordingly to avoid disturbing any asbestos-containing materials.

## **a** Action

appropriate to the situation must be taken to protect yourself and others - if you discover or damage materials that could contain asbestos stop work immediately and report the problem to the person in charge as soon as possible.