



Australian Government

Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency

ASBESTOS SAFETY

CREATING AN ASBESTOS-FREE AUSTRALIA

ANNUAL REPORT

2017/18



**CREATING AN
ASBESTOS-FREE
AUSTRALIA**

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2017|18

ISSN 2204-1419 [print]
ISSN 2204-1427 [online]



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The Hon Kelly O'Dwyer MP
Minister for Jobs, Industrial Relations and Women
PO Box 6100, House of Representatives
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister

It is my pleasure to present to you the annual report of the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency for the 2017–18 year.

The report has been prepared in accordance with section 70 of the Public Service Act 1999 and section 46 of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*, which requires the agency to submit a report to the Minister on its operations for the year ending 30 June 2018. The report must be given to the responsible Minister by the 15th day of the fourth month after the end of the reporting period for the entity.

The report contains the financial statements for the year ending 30 June 2018. These statements were prepared in accordance with the Finance Minister's orders and as required by section 46 of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*. The financial statements also accord with applicable accounting standards.

I certify that the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency has a fraud control plan in place which complies with the Commonwealth Fraud Control Guidelines.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Justine Ross'.

Justine Ross
Chief Executive Officer
19 September 2018

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Agency overview

Chief executive officer – year in review

The 2017–18 year has been another significant year of operations for the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency with the completion of a number of major projects, the review of the National Strategic Plan for Asbestos Management and Awareness 2014–18 and commencing the development of the second iteration of the national strategic plan.

Through 2017–18, the agency continued to work diligently in building the evidence, practical information and processes to support the objectives of the *Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency Act 2013* (ASEA Act) and the goals, deliverables and outcomes in the National Strategic Plan. I would like to thank agency staff and the members of the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Council for their hard work and commitment in the successful delivery of the plan over the year.

The key achievements of the agency for 2017–18 include:

- continuing to build a significant body of evidence and research that will provide a solid base to guide the review of the National Strategic Plan for Asbestos Management and Awareness 2014–18 and commencing development of the second national strategic plan for 2019 and beyond
- successful delivery of the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Summit in November 2017 in Canberra to commence stakeholder engagement in developing the second iteration of the national strategic plan
- working closely with asbestos-related disease organisations through providing secretariat and other assistance to the Asbestos Support Group Network
- international leadership in assisting Vietnam, Cambodia and Lao Peoples Democratic Republic with developing or updating their National Asbestos Profiles and commencing development of roadmaps towards national bans on the production and use of asbestos-containing products. This included visiting those countries in July 2017 to engage directly with government officials and Australian foreign affairs and trade missions.

The Australian Government has continued to express the importance of dealing with the legacy issues relating to asbestos and its impact on the community. I am grateful for the support of the Australian Government and departments, the states, territories and local governments in helping to deliver on the objectives of the ASEA Act and the national strategic plan to reduce the impact of asbestos-related diseases in Australia.

This will be my last year in review for the agency annual report, as I will be retiring in August 2018. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff of the agency and Australian Government for the appointment over the past five years and allowing me to work on such an important issue.

Peter Tighe
Chief Executive Officer

The agency

The Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency (the agency) is a statutory authority established to provide a national focus on asbestos issues that go beyond workplace safety to encompass environmental and public health issues.

The agency came into existence on 1 July 2013 through the enactment of the *Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency Act 2013* (ASEA Act). Section 8 of the ASEA Act sets out the following functions of the agency:

- a) to encourage, coordinate, monitor and report on the implementation of the National Strategic Plan;
- b) to review and amend the National Strategic Plan as required by the National Strategic Plan or at the request of the Minister;
- c) to publish and promote the National Strategic Plan;
- d) to provide advice to the Minister about asbestos safety, if requested to do so by the Minister;
- e) to liaise with Commonwealth, State, Territory, local and other governments, agencies or bodies about:
 - i. the implementation, review or amendment of the National Strategic Plan; or
 - ii. asbestos safety;
- f) to commission, monitor and promote research about asbestos safety;
- g) such other functions as are conferred on the Agency by or under this Act, the rules or any other law of the Commonwealth;
- h) to do anything incidental or conducive to the performance of any of the above functions.

The agency is responsible through its Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to the Minister for Employment and for financial purposes, operated under the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act) for the 2017–18 year and the *Public Service Act 1999* (PS Act) for staffing purposes.

The chief executive officer

Mr Peter Tighe is the chief executive officer of the Australian Government Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency – a position he has held since August 2013.

Mr Tighe has had extensive history working in the area of asbestos management. Prior to joining the agency, he was National Secretary of the Communications, Electrical, Plumbing Union, a position he held from 1995 to 2013. Peter was also on the board of the National Occupational Health and Safety Commission.

Mr Tighe's term as CEO expires in August 2018.



History

In 2010, a wide-ranging review was established by the Australian Government to make recommendations for the development of a national strategic plan to improve asbestos management in Australia.

The Asbestos Management Review Report released in August 2012 recommended the development of a national strategic plan to improve asbestos awareness and management in the broader community. The review also recommended that an independent national agency be established to guide the implementation of the plan, which resulted initially in the creation of the Office of Asbestos Safety (the office) in September 2012 to start this work.

In June 2013, the Australian Parliament enacted the *Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency Act 2013*, which established the agency and the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Council and also prescribed the functions and objectives of these two bodies. The agency and council came into existence on 1 July 2013.

The agency and council are tasked with implementing the National Strategic Plan for Asbestos Management and Awareness 2014–2018 (national strategic plan), which was released to the public on 19 June 2015 and publicly launched by the Minister for Employment on 28 August 2015.

National Asbestos Exposure Register

Also in June 2013, the Australian Government established the National Asbestos Exposure Register to record the details of members of the community who believe they have been exposed to asbestos, either in the workplace or in the general community. The agency was given the responsibility to manage the register for the Australian Government and to ensure data collected was stored correctly under the *Archives Act 1983* and statistical analysis was produced to identify potential risks through registration trends.

National Strategic Plan for Asbestos Management and Awareness

The *National Strategic Plan for Asbestos Management and Awareness 2014–18* was launched on 28 August 2015 by the Minister for Employment. This was the culmination of a national planning process that was endorsed by all Australian jurisdictions.

Since the formation of the nationally agreed plan, the agency has been coordinating quarterly national reporting to the Minister for Employment, and Asbestos Safety and Eradication Council as well as annual progress reports published in hard copy and on the agency website. This has highlighted extensive action being delivered in all jurisdictions that has contributed to preventing asbestos-related diseases.

During 2017–18 the agency undertook a process evaluation of the national strategic plan to identify what areas have worked well, what can be improved and how this will contribute to more effective coordination regarding the plan and prevention of asbestos-related diseases in Australia.

The finding of this review and a broader review of the implementation of the plan will feed into the development of second iteration of the plan in the first half of the 2018–19 reporting year and in time for final stakeholder consultation at the agency's conference in November 2018.

Stakeholder engagement and coordination

The agency has a strong focus on consultation and coordination to support diverse stakeholder groups involved in asbestos issues. Figure 1 indicates some of the primary stakeholder groups that the agency works with in delivering its functions under section 8 of the ASEA Act to provide advice to the Minister about asbestos safety and the implementation of the plan.

Figure 1: Stakeholder engagement and coordination map



Table 1: 2017–18 at a glance

9 June 2018	Ninth Technical Research Advisory Committee meeting is held in Sydney
6 June 2018	Twenty-seventh Asbestos Safety and Eradication Council meeting held in Sydney
1–10 May 2018	Agency chief executive officer delivers presentation to the International Mesothelioma Interest Group (iMig 2018) conference in Ottawa, Canada
30 April 2018	Seminar 'Raising awareness about the risk of Imported products containing asbestos' held in Brisbane
18 April 2018	Building, Construction and Demolition Sectors Committee meeting is held in Sydney
29 March 2018	Asbestos Support Group Network teleconference is held
15 March 2018	Twenty-sixth Asbestos Safety and Eradication Council meeting is held in Sydney
6 February 2018	Asbestos Support Group Network teleconference is held
29 January 2018	Agency received a delegation from Japan to find out about the implementation of the National Strategic Plan for Asbestos Management and Awareness
26–28 November 2017	Asbestos Safety and Eradication Summit is held in Canberra with over 270 delegates in attendance
27 November 2017	Special Asbestos Safety and Eradication Council meeting is held in Canberra in conjunction with the agency's summit event
8 November 2017	Asbestos Support Group Network teleconference is held
2 November 2017	Twenty-fifth Asbestos Safety and Eradication Council meeting is held in Sydney
27 October 2017	Agency chief executive officer appears at Senates Estimates hearings
26 September 2017	Building, Construction and Demolition Sectors Committee meeting is held in Sydney
22 August 2017	Technical Research Advisory Committee meeting is held in Sydney
8 August 2017	Twenty-fourth Asbestos Safety and Eradication Council meeting is held in Sydney

28 July 2017

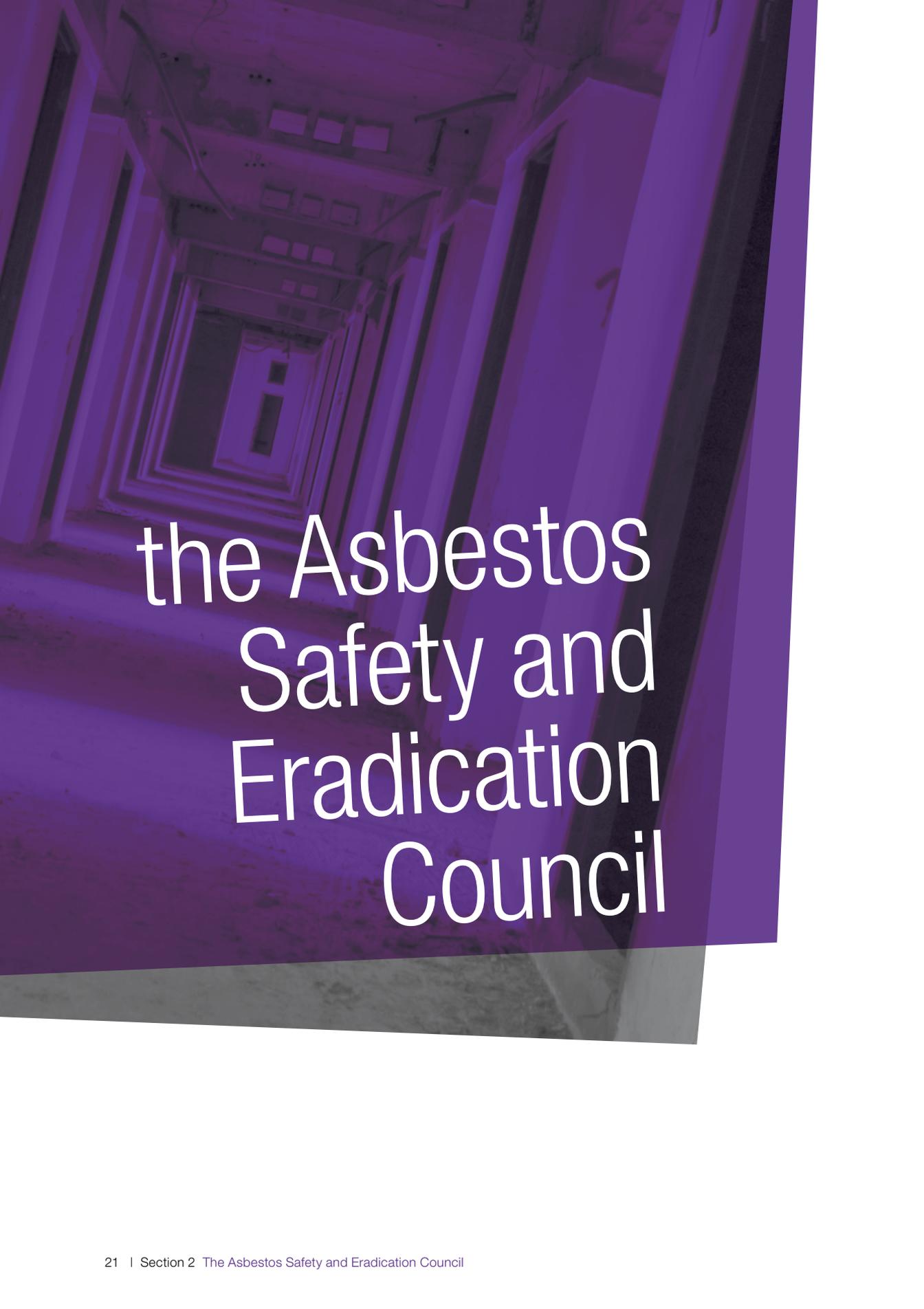
Asbestos Support Group Network teleconference is held

8–24 July 2017

Agency representatives visit Vietnam, Cambodia and Lao Peoples Democratic Republic to participate in meetings and workshops in the development of National Asbestos Profiles and roadmaps towards national bans on asbestos in those countries







the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Council

Message from the chair of the council

The 2017–18 reporting year was the first full year of operation for the current Asbestos Safety and Eradication Council and again, I was honoured to be chair of this committed group of people.

Members of the council are selected in accordance with the *Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency Act 2013* for their experience and expertise in asbestos safety, public health, corporate governance or community advocacy. The 2017–18 reporting year saw some changes of members representing the jurisdictions and the appointment of more observers to support the successful operation of the council and its members.

The council met five times during the 2017–18 year and worked through important issues including ongoing development and implementation of the national strategic plan. I see a clear commitment and work towards improving asbestos awareness and management from council and thank them for their efforts.

The success of the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Summit in Canberra in November 2017 reflects the commitment of the council and agency to strong stakeholder engagement in reviewing the current national strategic plan and commencing development of a new plan for 2019 and beyond.

Peter Tighe, CEO of the agency, and his team can rightly be pleased with this and their other achievements over the 2017–18 year. Council very much appreciates their assistance.

Council and management also acknowledge the Australian Government's ongoing support of them as independent bodies. Continued constructive working relationships with all levels of government and stakeholders are essential in developing a new national strategic plan in the years beyond 2018.

Australia is widely recognised for its international leadership on asbestos management. The work the agency is doing to support the development of roadmaps towards national bans on asbestos production and use in South East Asia is very important in reducing reliance on the substance in our region and the potential for importation into Australia.

I look forward to working with the members of the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Council over the coming year in delivering on the commitment towards a country that is free of asbestos-related diseases. During this year, we will farewell Peter Tighe as his terms ends and he heads to well-earned retirement. Peter's expertise, passion and commitment have left a legacy acknowledged by all who work in the field of asbestos management. His contribution will be missed and I wish him well for the future.

Diane Smith-Gander

Chair, Asbestos Safety and Eradication Council

Functions of Council

The Asbestos Safety and Eradication Council (the council), like the agency, was established by the assent of the ASEA Act.

The council is made up of a Chair and nine members who have been selected for their experience and expertise with asbestos safety, public health, corporate governance or the representation of people with asbestos-related diseases (ARDs) and their families. One position is reserved for an Australian Government representative and four positions are reserved for state, territory and local government representatives.

Section 29(1) of the ASEA Act sets out the functions of the council in providing guidance to the agency through the CEO. These functions include:

- (a) to provide advice, and make recommendations, to the CEO about the performance of the Agency's functions, on its own initiative or at the request of the CEO; and
- (b) to provide advice to the Minister about asbestos safety; and
- (c) to monitor the implementation of the National Strategic Plan by Commonwealth, State, Territory and local governments; and
- (d) to provide advice, and make recommendations, about the National Strategic Plan and annual operational plans.

The council may issue written guidelines to the CEO about the performance of the agency's functions but these must not be inconsistent with any directions given under section 14 of the ASEA Act governing ministerial directions to the CEO.

The Minister may give written directions to the council about the performance of the council's functions and the council must comply with these directions.

Council members

Chair

Diane Smith-Gander is non-executive director of AGL Energy Limited, Wesfarmers Limited, Chair of Safe Work Australia, a board member of Keystart Loans, Henry Davis York, Committee for Economic Development of Australia and immediate past President of Chief Executive Women. Ms Smith-Gander has held a wide range of non-executive roles in the past including chairman of Broadspectrum, deputy chair of NBN Co, non-executive director of the CBH Group and commissioner of Tourism WA. Ms Smith-Gander's last executive role was as a group executive at Westpac Banking Corporation. Prior to re-joining Westpac Ms Smith-Gander was a partner of McKinsey & Company in the United States serving clients in diverse industries globally. Ms Smith-Gander became a senior advisor to McKinsey in Australia in 2016. Ms Smith-Gander is a fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and Governance Institute of Australia and adjunct professor of Corporate Governance at University of Western Australia where she serves on the advisory board of the Business School.



Diane Smith-Gander

Members – Commonwealth representative

Michelle Baxter has been the chief executive officer of Safe Work Australia since November 2014. Before her appointment Ms Baxter held senior roles across the Australian Public Service including as group manager in the former Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR), group manager responsible for agency change with the Fair Work Ombudsman and group manager, Council of Australian Governments (COAG) Taskforce with DEEWR. Ms Baxter is also a Commissioner of the Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Council. Ms Baxter has a bachelor of Laws and a Bachelor of Arts from the Australian National University and is admitted as a Barrister and Solicitor in the Australian Capital Territory.



Michelle Baxter

Members – state and territory representatives

Jim Dodds (WA) is the Director of Environmental Health at the Department of Health Western Australia in the Public Health Division. He is also a member of the Food Regulatory Standing Committee and a council member and executive member of the Environmental Health Standing Committee (enHealth). Mr Dodds is undertaking a Master of Health Science and holds a number of qualifications including a Graduate Diploma in Occupational Health and Safety and a Master of Engineering Science – Waste Management. Mr Dodds' previous roles include project lead of a reform program in the Department of Health, Director of Strategy and Environment, chair of the enHealth Council and various roles in Shire Councils. Mr Dodds was previously the chair of the enHealth Council and has co-authored nine journal articles in the last 16 years.



Jim Dodds

Andrew Kefford (ACT) (01 July to 8 August 2017) is the Head of the Asbestos Response Taskforce for the Australian Capital Territory Government, which is responsible for the design and implementation of the ACT Government's Loose Fill Asbestos Insulation Eradication Scheme. Mr Kefford's previous roles include Deputy Director-General Workforce Capability and Governance in the Chief Minister and Treasury Directorate and the Australian Capital Territory Commissioner for Public Administration. Mr Kefford has also worked for the Commonwealth Government as a senior adviser (Cabinet) in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and as a senior adviser (government) to the Hon John Howard OM, AC in the Office of the Prime Minister.



Andrew Kefford

Chris Reynolds (ACT) (31 October 2017 to 12 April 2018) has held a number of senior executive roles since joining the ACT Government in 2006. Mr Reynolds has had a range of responsibilities associated with the delivery of policy objectives associated with land release, sustainability and housing affordability. While Mr Reynolds was a member of Council, his role was within Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate to establish the business, governance and capability branch.



Chris Reynolds

Julie Nielsen (Qld) is the executive director of Compliance and Business Engagement in the Office of Industrial Relations, Queensland Treasury. Ms Nielsen's previous roles include Brisbane North Sunshine Coast regional director, Workplace Health and Safety Queensland, in the Department of Justice and Attorney General. Before joining the Queensland public service, Ms Nielsen worked at the Queensland Chamber of Commerce and Industry.



Julie Nielsen

Marnie Williams (Vic) is the executive director of Health and Safety at the Victorian WorkCover Authority. Ms Williams' previous roles include chief executive officer of the Taxi Services Commission; general manager of the Department of Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure and various roles at the Victorian WorkCover Authority and Worksafe Victoria, including as general manager of the Strategic Programs Division and as a chemical technologist.



Marnie Williams

Member – employee representative

Michael Borowick was elected as Assistant Secretary of the Australian Council of Trade Unions in 2010. Between 1990 and 2010 he held various elected and other positions in The Australian Workers' Union and its predecessor organisations. Mr Borowick is on a number of boards including Safe Work Australia; the Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission; the National Workplace Relations Consultative Council and the Defence Reserves Support Council. Mr Borowick is also a Director of HESTA, the industry superannuation fund for the health and community sector. HESTA has 834,000 members and \$40 billion of funds under management.



Member – employer representative

Tracey Browne has been manager, National Safety and Workers Compensation Policy and Membership Services, Australian Industry Group (Ai Group) since 2007. Between 2006 and 2007, Ms Browne was Ai Group's national program manager, Small Business Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Advisers Program, and from 2001 to 2007 she was a principal adviser, Workers Compensation and OHS. Ms Browne's former positions also include group manager, Health Safety and Environment, Bendix Mintex Pty Ltd; coordinator, Occupational Health and Safety/Personnel, ACI Glass Packaging; and senior consultant, Occupational Health and Safety, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu.



Other members

Carolyn Davis is an independent consultant and a former director of the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI). Before joining ACCI, Ms Davis was a senior manager in various organisations and a consultant on occupational health and safety and workers' compensation matters. Ms Davis has also lectured in occupational health and safety in chemistry. Ms Davis is a former member of Safe Work Australia and has been an 'observer' at council meetings since 2013. Ms Davis has a Bachelor of Science (Hons), an Education Diploma, a Graduate Diploma in Occupational Hygiene and is a member of Resolution Institute (alternative dispute resolution).



Nancy Milne OAM has extensive business experience as a non-executive director and lawyer and expertise in risk management. Ms Milne was a lawyer for over 30 years specialising in insurance, corporate governance, risk management and commercial dispute resolution. Ms Milne acted for the underfunded trust created by James Hardie before and during the Jackson Special Commission of Enquiry, acted in disputes involving asbestos claims and has advised on matters relating to insurance arrangements for asbestos liability coverage. Ms Milne is currently a director of ALC Property Group Limited, Securities Exchange Guarantee Corporation Limited (chair since 2012), Superannuation Administration Corporation and the State Insurance Regulatory Authority. Ms Milne was awarded the Order of Australia Medal for services to the legal sector (particularly in insurance law) and to the community.



Observers

Dr Robert Walters is a general medical practitioner, part-time member of the Administrative Appeals Tribunal and Colonel in the Royal Australian Army Medical Corps. Dr Walters has been a general practice consultant to the Surgeon General, Australian Defence Force (ADF) since 1995 and has held positions in the ADF as a senior medical officer, director of medical services (Tasmania Region) and military compensation adviser for Tasmania. Dr Walters' board memberships include chair, Ministerial Asbestos Steering Committee; medical member of WorkSafe Tasmania Board, Headspace; and chair of the General Practice Consultative Group, ADF. Dr Walters was also a state and territory representative on the first Asbestos Safety and Eradication Council, 2013 to 2016.



Vicki Hamilton OAM is the CEO and secretary of Asbestos Council of Victoria/Gippsland Asbestos Related Disease Support Inc. and has been an executive Member of the organisation since 2000. Ms Hamilton is the support group co-ordinator for asbestos sufferers and their families, which involves monthly meetings, home & hospital visits & provision of medical equipment as needed. Ms Hamilton conducts asbestos awareness sessions for medical students, TAFE students in trades, community organisations & work places. Ms Hamilton was awarded Citizen of the Year for Latrobe City in 2005 and an Order of Australia Medal (OAM) in 2014 for her service to the community through support for people with asbestos-related disease. Ms Hamilton has had two family members pass away from asbestos-related disease.



Simone Stevenson was appointed as Executive Director of the Victorian Asbestos Eradication Agency in December 2016 bringing extensive experience in public policy, program implementation and stakeholder engagement in government, not-for-profit and private sectors. Ms Stevenson worked as Policy Adviser to a former Federal Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations including providing advice on the Federal Government response to the Asbestos Management Review 2012, the establishment of the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency and the development of the National Strategic Plan for Asbestos Management and Awareness. Ms Stevenson also worked in Global Partnerships and Advocacy for The Fred Hollows Foundation, as Chief of Staff to the Victorian Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Industrial Relations and Local Government, and Worksafe Victoria.



Table 2: Council meetings and attendance – 01 July 2017 to 30 June 2018

	08/08/17	02/11/17	27/11/17n	15/03/18	06/06/18
Diane Smith-Gander	P	P	P	P	P
Michelle Baxter	P	P	P	P	P
Jim Dodds	P	P	P	P	T
Andrew Kefford^	P				
Chris Reynolds*		P	P	P	
Julie Nielsen	P	P	P	P	T
Marnie Williams	P	P	P	P	P
Michael Borowick	P	P	P	P	T
Tracey Browne	P	P	P	P	P
Carolyn Davis	P	P	P	P	P
Nancy Milne	P	P	P	P	P
Robert Walters	OP	OP	OP	OP	A
Vicki Hamilton	OP	OP	OP	OP	OP
Simone Stevenson**					OP

P – Present, A – Apologies, T – Telephone, O – Observer, OP – Observer present, n – 2017 Summit council meeting

^ resigned from ASEC on 8 August 2017

* appointed to ASEC on 31 October 2017 and resigned on 12 April 2018

** Appointed as observers to ASEC on 15 March 2018



From left to right: Vicki Hamilton, Diane Smith-Gander (Chair), Peter Tighe (CEO), Nancy Milne, Tracey Browne, Michelle Baxter, Marnie Williams, Simone Stevenson, Carolyn Davis.

Absent: Jim Dodds, Julie Nielsen, Michael Borowick, Robert Walters.

Secretariat and committees

Agency committees

Under section 24(1) of the ASEA Act, the CEO may establish committees to assist in the performance of his or her functions and the functions of the council. To support the coordination and operation of the national strategic plan, four committees and working groups were operating in 2016–17: the Building, Construction and Demolition Sectors Committee; the Technical Research Advisory Committee; the Asbestos Waste Working Group and the Asbestos Communications Working Group.

Building, Construction and Demolition Sectors Committee

The Building Construction and Demolition Sectors Committee (BCDS) is the agency's primary industry consultation forum. The committee includes employer and employee representatives from industries impacted by Australia's asbestos legacy. The BCDS provides advice to the agency on issues relating to the management of asbestos in the building, construction and demolition sectors and the implementation of the national strategic plan.

BCDS achievements during 2017–18 included:

- providing advice in the development of the Recognising and Responding to Asbestos: Assessment of training course application and opportunities in multiple sectors draft research report
- endorsing the development of specific asbestos awareness brochures for the automotive, general construction and fire safety installation industries
- providing advice on specific issues identified in research projects and consultation activities for the review of the model WHS laws
- contributing to information fact sheets for those arranging an asbestos assessment and those undertaking an asbestos assessment.

The BCDS met twice during the 2017–18 year.

Technical Research Advisory Committee

The Technical Research Advisory Committee (TRAC) provides advice to the agency on technical research projects. The membership of the committee includes experts in public health, epidemiology, work health and safety and economic analysis.

Key activities included a revision of ASEA's research governance, formulation of direction for research project on exposure during Do-it-yourself (DIY) renovation activities, and advice and guidance on Australia's National Asbestos Profile and the economic and social Impact of asbestos in Australia.

Key activities during 2017–18 included:

- a review of ASEA's past and current research to identify research gaps for the development of a research strategy and roadmap
- consultation on building the business case for the safe management and removal of asbestos
- consultation on development of an Return-on-investment (ROI) calculator specific for asbestos scenarios in the local government setting
- contributed ideas towards development of the next phase of the national strategic plan as key stakeholders.

The committee met three times during the 2017–18 year.

Working groups

Asbestos Waste Working Group

The Asbestos Waste Working Group (AWWG) consists of representatives from the environmental protection authorities and agencies across Australia including the Commonwealth Department of the Environment as well as state and territory bodies. The group has been convened to identify best practice for transport, storage and disposal of asbestos-containing materials, in line with deliverable 2.4 of the national strategic plan.

The AWWG did not meet in the 2017–18 year but activity for this working group is planned in the 2018–19 year.

Asbestos Communications Working Group

The Asbestos Communications Working Group (ACWG) held its inaugural teleconference meeting in April 2017 and was established to share information about communications campaigns in the states and territories and collaborate on national asbestos awareness campaigns being developed by the agency.

The membership of the ACWG includes media and communications representatives for the state and territory workplace health and safety regulators, Safe Work Australia, Department of Health as well as employer and employee representatives and other members as required.

The ACWG met once in the 2017–18 year.

Secretariat support

Heads of Workplace Safety Authorities Imported Materials with Asbestos Working Group

The agency is the secretariat for the Heads of Workplace Safety Authorities (HWSA) Imported Materials With Asbestos Working Group, which was established to deal with incidences of asbestos-containing materials being imported into Australia in contravention of the Customs (Prohibited Imports) Regulations 1956.

The working group meets on an ad hoc basis to determine a course of action when asbestos-containing materials have been imported into Australia and detected in more than one jurisdiction, as outlined in the rapid response protocol. The working group reports back to HWSA on the outcomes of discussions, through the secretariat following these instances and on a periodical basis.

The HWSA Working Group met nine times in the 2017–18 year (also refer Section 5).

Asbestos Support Group Network

The Asbestos Support Group Network (ASGN) is a coalition of all community-based asbestos-related disease support groups across Australia who are mainly funded by charitable donations, grant funding and fundraising events. These groups provide assistance and support to members of the community who have been diagnosed with an asbestos-related disease and their families and friends, which can be a traumatic time for all involved.

The network holds meetings to be kept informed about decisions made at the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Council meetings and other asbestos-related issues that arise from time to time. The agency provides secretariat support for meetings including preparation and minute taking and teleconference facilities.

The ASGN met six times in the 2017–18 year.







Report on performance

Annual performance statement

Introductory statement

I, as the accountable authority of the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency, present 2017–18 annual performance statement of the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency, as required under paragraph 39(1)(a) of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act). In my opinion, these annual performance statements are based on properly maintained records, accurately reflect the performance of the entity, and comply with subsection 39(2) of the PGPA Act.

Purpose

Outcome one: Assist in the prevention of exposure to asbestos fibres and the elimination of asbestos-related disease in Australia through implementing the National Strategic Plan for Asbestos Management and Awareness in Australia.

Results against performance criteria

Criterion one	Increase public awareness about asbestos safety		
Source	National Strategic Plan for Asbestos Management and Awareness 2014–18 2017–18 Portfolio Budget Statement (page 45) ASEA Operational Plan 2017–18 (page 7)		
	2017–18 targets	How was this measured?	Results against criterion
Results against performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Increase trend in asbestos awareness through national awareness survey ➤ Increase trend in utilisation of agency information and resources 	Demonstrated positive increase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The agency maintained strong attendance of 270 and participation at the agency summit in November 2017, although attendance was down from 360 in 2016 ➤ A key highlight of the 2017 summit was the intensive stakeholder engagement in the workshops to start the process of drafting the new national strategic plan ➤ The agency continued to provide effective secretariat support for the Asbestos Support Group Network and asbestos-related disease support groups ➤ Presentations were delivered and the agency represented at external events and meetings across Australia, including a seminar in Brisbane to raise awareness about the risks of imported products containing asbestos

Criterion one	Increase public awareness about asbestos safety		
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Developed a new accessible, user centred agency website, improving the 'one-stop-shop' online resource with new printed materials and social media collateral ➤ During 2017–18, the agency provided advice to the Minister on 33 applications for permits to import asbestos into Australia for the purposes of research, analysis or display, 27 of which were approved and six refused. The number of approved permits was up from 23 in 2016–17.
Assessment: exceeded target (100% agreement)			

Criterion two	Effectively coordinate national issues that relate to the plan and asbestos issues		
Source	National Strategic Plan for Asbestos Management and Awareness 2014–18 2017–18 Portfolio Budget Statement (page 45) ASEA Operational Plan 2017–18 (page 7)		
	2017–18 targets	How was this measured?	Results against criterion
Results against performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Survey of Asbestos Safety and Eradication Council, and committees agree the agency effectively engages with stakeholders ➤ Progress report on the National Strategic Plan demonstrates coordination of national initiatives 	More than 75% of council members agree	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Survey of council members showed 100% agreement that the agency effectively engaged with stakeholders during 2017–18 ➤ Successful coordination and secretariat support for the council, agency committees, working groups and other forums ➤ Release of the second national strategic plan progress report on 27 November, 2017 at the summit ➤ The agency provided information, reporting and sought the feedback of senior officials from the work health and safety portfolio at least once per quarter during 2017–18 and wrote to senior officials six times with information updates, demonstrating effective reporting and sharing of information about asbestos safety and research, and the implementation of the national strategic plan
Assessment: exceeded target (100% agreement)			

Criterion three	Identify targeted and practical initiatives to reduce the risks of asbestos-related disease in Australia		
Source	National Strategic Plan for Asbestos Management and Awareness 2014–18 2017–18 Portfolio Budget Statement (page 45) ASEA Operational Plan 2017–18 (page 7)		
	2017–18 targets	How was this measured?	Results against criterion
Results against performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Project initiatives demonstrate a reduction in asbestos exposure risks through delivering evidence to support: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Increased local and international coordination ➤ Reduced exposure risks for workers ➤ Increased asbestos awareness and support for preventing asbestos-related disease ➤ Improved practices for waste management and land contamination ➤ Informing the practicality of areas defined under Section 5A of the ASEA Act 	Project evaluations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Agency research highlights for 2017–18 includes the release of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Australia's first National Asbestos Profile in line with World Health Organization template ➤ The economic burden of asbestos-related diseases report ➤ Review of asbestos management in disaster planning research report ➤ Case studies of asbestos water pipe management practices report ➤ Barriers, motivations and options for increasing asbestos removal in residential and commercial buildings report ➤ Review of asbestos stabilisation and containment practices final report ➤ Delivery of the raising awareness about the risk of imported products containing asbestos seminar in Brisbane, April 2018
Assessment: on track			

Analysis of performance against purpose

The evidence demonstrates that ASEA continues to support effective national coordination and sharing of information about asbestos risks and the national strategic plan.

Overall, in 2017–18 the agency's council and committee secretariat support has been consistent with 2016–17. The agency has increased focus on asbestos communications with the Asbestos Communications Working Group (ACWG), and possible development of a national asbestos awareness campaign. The agency has also done extensive work to support the coordination of information and awareness of the risks of imported products containing asbestos via the Heads of Workplace Safety Authorities Working Group and a targeted asbestos imports information event in Brisbane in April 2018.

This information reflects the agency's Portfolio Budget Statement and is consistent with the evaluation plan for the national strategic plan (referenced in the image page 38). The alignment of the agency's program with the national strategic plan evaluation model shows how the short-term outcomes to increase national coordination and evidence will influence the medium–and long-term outcomes of the national strategic plan, which are to reduce exposure to fibres in order to eliminate asbestos-related disease.

Coordination of the national strategic plan

The agency administers the national strategic plan by coordinating the activities, research and consultation that is undertaken in line with the plan and asbestos issues nationally across public health, environment and work health and safety.

This is achieved by working with the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Council under a tripartite framework: working with all levels of government, and employer and employee representatives, with the support of independent experts.

The agency has increased focus on asbestos communications with the work of the ACWG, and has done extensive work to support the coordination of information and awareness of the risks of imported products containing asbestos.

Council members have provided feedback on the work of the agency during 2017–18, and commented on their positive impression of the agency, general effectiveness, commitment to work and overall level of output produced by the agency. Additionally, members have highlighted the agency's international engagement and leadership as a key point of impact that should receive continued focus in 2018–19.

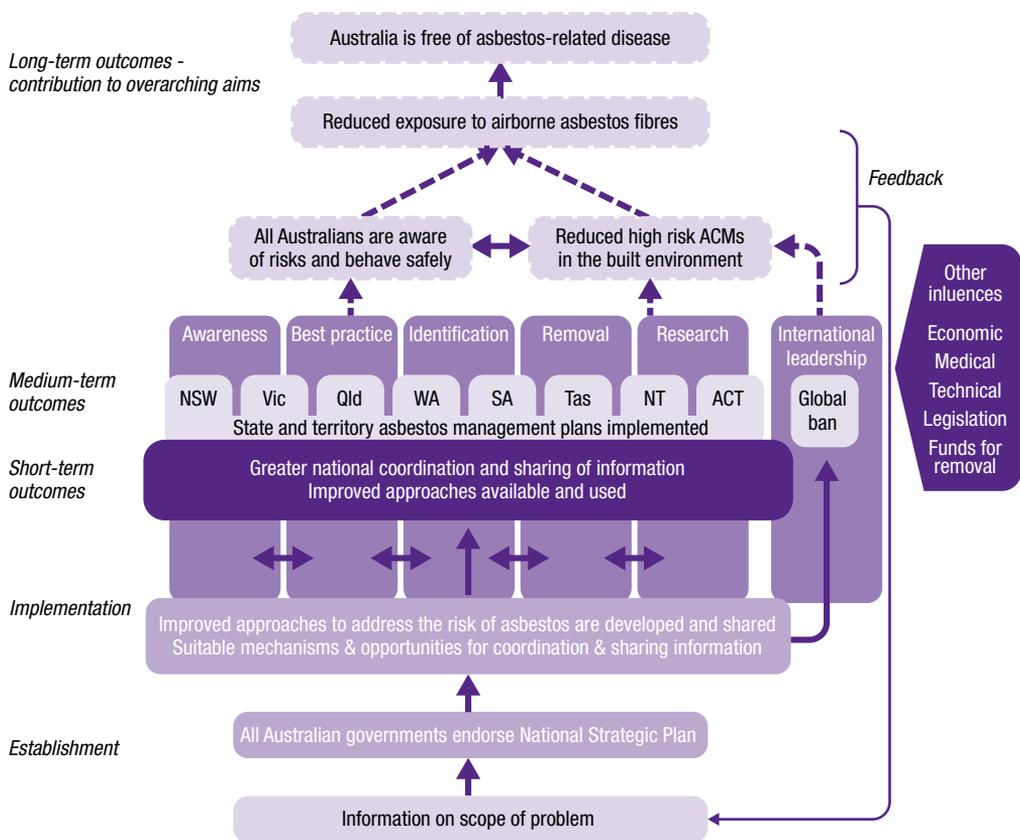
Outlook for 2018–19

During 2018–19, the agency will complete a process evaluation of the national strategic plan to identify what areas have worked well, what can be improved and how this will contribute to more effective coordination regarding the plan and prevention of asbestos-related diseases in Australia.

Since the formation of the nationally agreed plan, the agency has been coordinating quarterly national reporting and annual progress reports. This has highlighted extensive action being delivered in all jurisdictions that contribute to preventing asbestos-related diseases. In order to continue to build on this success, it is now time to review the agency’s coordination activities in order to identify areas to refine and improve.

This will be used to inform the next phase of the plan, which will be developed in the first half of the 2018–19 reporting year and endorsed by the Australian Government and states and territories for implementation from 2019 onwards.

Agency program model demonstrating the contribution of short-term outcomes to the elimination of asbestos-related disease in Australia:



Source: National strategic plan evaluation framework (2015)

Asbestos Safety and Eradication Summit 2017

26–28 November 2017

The Asbestos Safety and Eradication Summit was held on 26–28 November 2017 at the historic Old Parliament House in Canberra. This event was the fourth major event the agency had organised and the most important in starting the process towards the development of a new national strategic plan for 2019 and beyond.

Building on the agency annual international conferences in 2014 in Melbourne, 2015 in Brisbane and 2016 in Adelaide; the event was a great success in drawing 280 attendees to participate in facilitated workshops on the six goals of the existing national plan and outline what they wanted to see in the second national strategic plan the agency develop in 2018.

There was also a mobile asbestos museum with a wide range of examples of asbestos products from Australia and internationally to show delegates how big a problem it has been in the past and how much work needs to be done to eradicate it from the community.

The agency is currently organising the next event, Asbestos: the next national plan – Proactivity, prevention, planning, which will take place in Sydney on 18–20 November 2018.



Trends in asbestos awareness and management

The 2017–18 year was the fifth year of full operation for the agency and another significant year in delivering the work required by the ASEA Act and the review of the national strategic plan as the plan comes to an end and the agency began to develop a new plan for future years.

Awareness

Awareness levels of the agency and its activities have been slowly building since its establishment in 2013. However, more work needs to be done to further improve awareness, according to the results of the third national survey of asbestos awareness and attitudes run in 2017–18.

In 2014, the agency commissioned the first ever national survey of awareness of and attitudes towards asbestos and the risks of exposure to asbestos, creating a baseline of statistics on which the agency could test awareness levels and attitudes at biennial intervals into the future. The agency conducted a benchmark national survey in May 2016 and April 2018, which continues to highlight that more work needs to be done in raising levels of awareness in certain sectors like the young DIY home renovators, young tradespeople and non-English-speaking communities.

The results of the 2018 national survey and comparisons to the 2014 baseline and 2016 benchmark surveys will be published on the agency website and presented to the agency's 2018 headline event Asbestos: the next national plan – Proactivity, prevention, planning being held in Sydney in November 2018. The agency conducts these benchmark national surveys on a biennial basis to determine ongoing attitudes and awareness levels, as well as to focus awareness activities.

Trends in National Asbestos Exposure Register

The second national strategic plan is under development and depending on the focus of this next phase of the agency could see a change in the trends of the National Asbestos Exposure Register (NAER).

The loose-fill asbestos programs in the ACT and NSW are winding down and how this impacts the figures on this aspect of reporting will be interesting. Table A10 shows the overall number of loose-fill asbestos exposures has declined from 199 to 125. The awareness of people visiting homes has increased, with only the ACT and Qld having entries and this year they are spread over six of the eight states or territories that data is collected in. As the DIY sector is a concern of being the third wave of asbestos exposure it is encouraging that this area has reduced by nearly 50 per cent.

Since the 2015–16 year participants on the register have been asked whether they have been diagnosed with an asbestos-related disease, when that diagnosis was and how old they were at the first expose. Given that research is showing that there are 4,000 deaths from asbestos-related diseases in Australia every year there is only a small percentage of people that have recorded this information on the NAER (1 per cent). This year's results are shown in table A11 in the appendix.

When analysing this year's results the average time from exposure to diagnosis was calculated to be as follows; asbestosis – 48 years, cancer – 10 years, mesothelioma – 42.5 years, pleural plaques 41 years and one participant listed all diseases and the period was 47 years.

The difference between cancer and other asbestos-related diseases in the period from exposure to diagnosis is that it can take up to 45 years for doctors to diagnose asbestos-related diseases. It could be argued that those exposed to asbestos have a good 40 years before diagnosis, however, it shows that if Australia gets to the stage of eliminating asbestos-related material, the health burden will span over the next two generations. The longer it takes to eliminate asbestos, the more generations will be impacted by its deadly legacy.

National Asbestos Exposure Register

Data Analysis Report

1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018

The National Asbestos Exposure Register (NAER) captures details of exposure, including where and when potential exposure occurred, and details of any diagnosis of asbestos-related disease. The register provides the agency with a statistical analysis of potential or actual exposure events across Australia and allows the agency to remain informed about potential risks identified through registration trends. As the NAER is a voluntary process it cannot purport to be an exact figure of all potential exposures or asbestos-related disease in Australia. This report provides a snapshot of registrations from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018.

The data provided by registrants to the NAER allows the agency to analyse trends and themes in potential asbestos exposure based on age, gender, location and type of potential exposure, frequency of potential exposure, when potential exposure first occurred and the types of jobs or industries where the greatest potential risk may be. If people have been diagnosed with an asbestos-related disease it also allows the agency to estimate the time between the first exposure and when the disease was diagnosed.

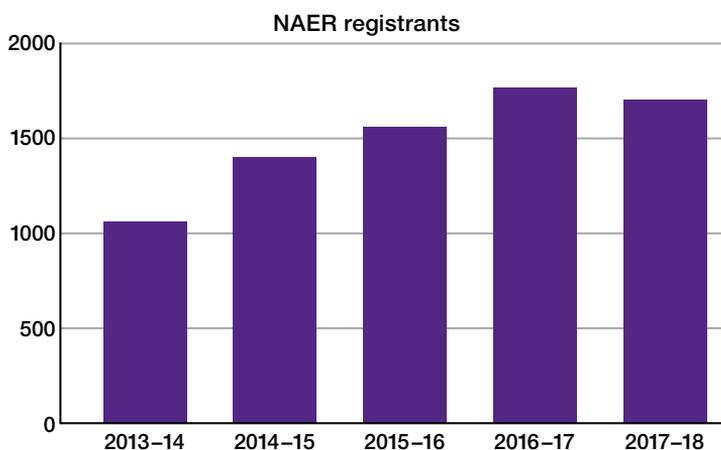
Analysis of data in the NAER is based on information limited to the NAER and is general in nature. The NAER is recording where someone believes they have been exposed to asbestos fibres and the information given is taken in good faith and does not confirm exposure. This provides a view of perceived individual risk and general awareness can be inferred from what is recorded.

Of note is that the agency changed its data capture method on 1 April 2018 and now uses the Qualtrics system to record answers by registrants.

Registrations

Since its inception in June 2013, there have been 7,482 registrations up until 30 June 2018. As the agency has been collecting data for five years, Figure 1 below shows how the registrations have been increasing over the years and have plateaued in this financial year. It will be interesting to see if this trend continues or if it was an anomaly for this financial year. It could be indicative of the raised awareness on asbestos containing material in the community and as it is a change of the pattern, it will be clearer in the next financial year registrations.

Figure 1 : Annual registrants for five years

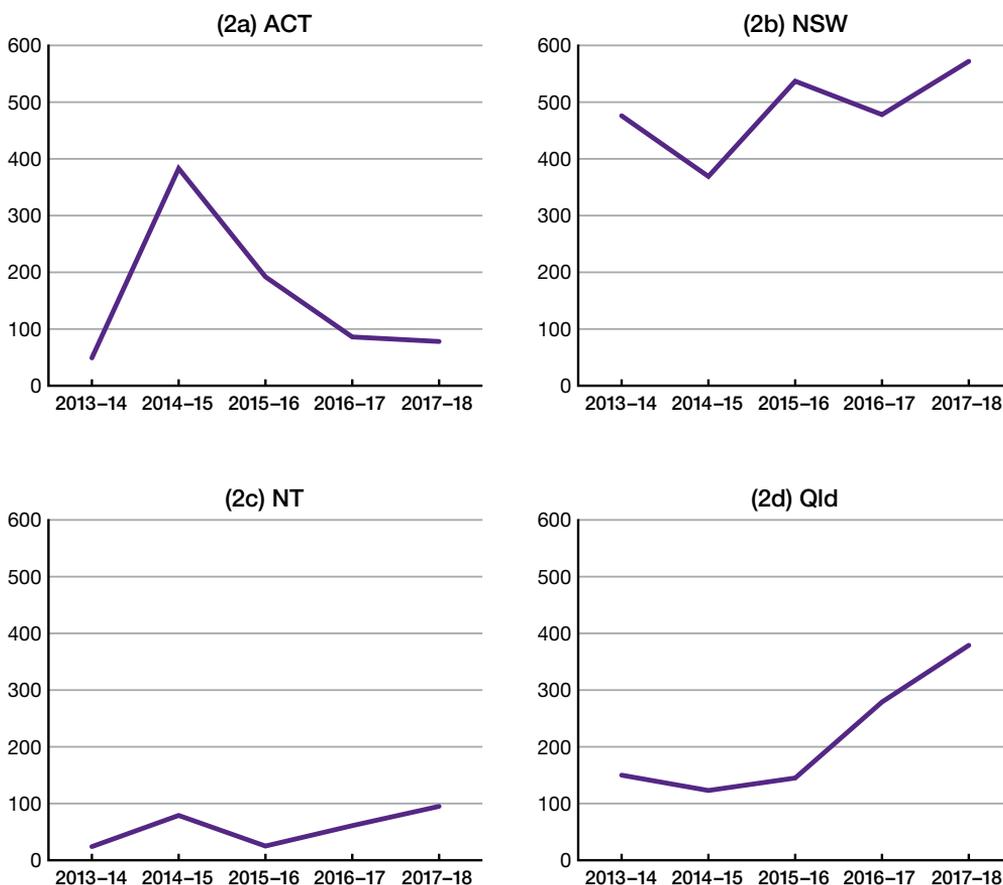


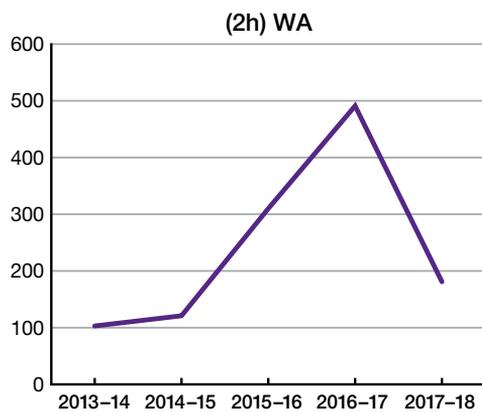
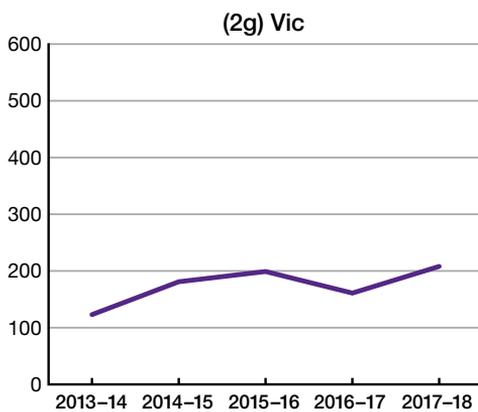
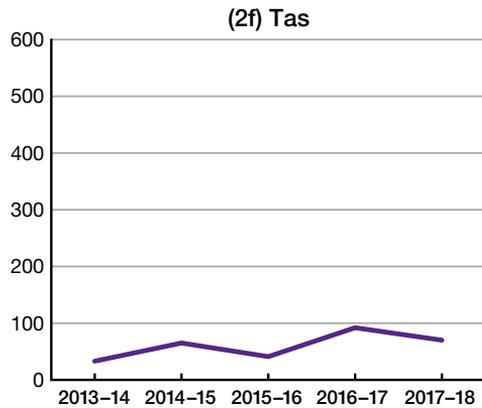
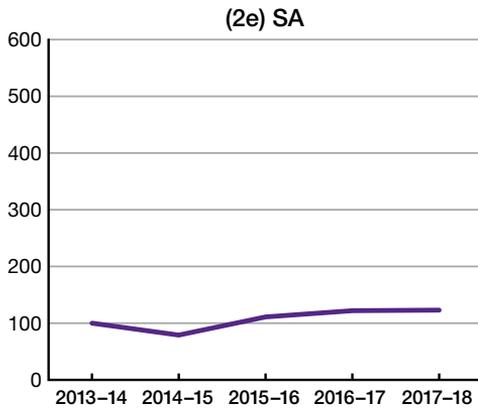
In the 2017–18 financial year, NSW residents registered the highest number being 572 and Tasmanian residents were the lowest at 70 registrations. There was an increase in Qld from 279 in 2016–17 to 369 in 2017–18 and a decrease in WA from 491 to 181, respectively. Please refer to Table A1 in the appendix to show the breakdown of the registrations by state and month.

The 5 years of data in figures 2a-h below shows the fluctuations in the registrations from each state over this period. The purpose of these charts is to show the state trends over the 5 years of data we have rather than compare each state and they are not on the same scaling.

The ACT (2a) is seeing a downward trend from 2014–15, and WA (2h) has had a spike in 2016–17 and has started to trend down. Qld (2d) is seeing an upward trend in the past 2 years and although NSW (2b), SA (2e) and Vic (2g) have had fluctuations the trend is still upward. The NT (2c) and Tas (2f) are deceptive given the small yearly registration numbers from this territory and state. This could indicate that more resources need to be directed to education and raising awareness in those states. Although the ACT has a small percentage per population there has been a lot of information in that territory about asbestos related to the Mr Fluffy scheme and this may indicate that due to a higher awareness exposure is being avoided.

Figure 2 : Registrants by state of residence for five years





Exposure type and gender

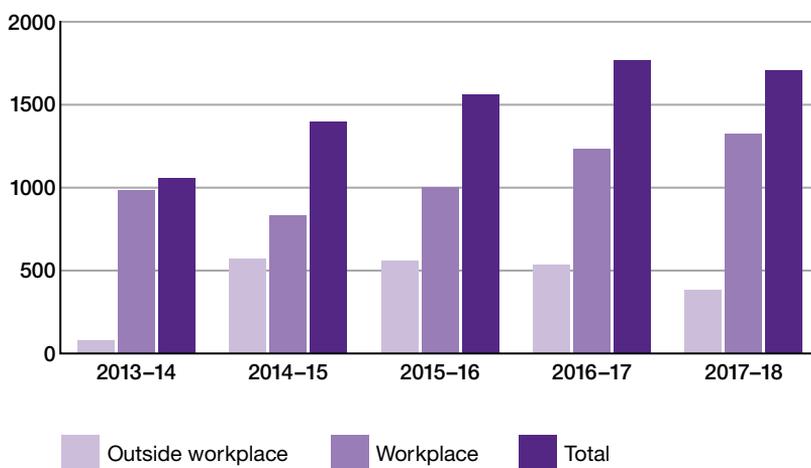
The ratio of male to female exposure was approximately 78 per cent to 22 per cent which is steady from last financial year of 77 per cent to 23 per cent. Table A2 gives a breakdown by state for registrations by gender. The NT has the smallest ratio of male to females at approximately 54 per cent to 46 per cent and NSW and SA being the largest with approximately 85 per cent to 15 per cent males to female's exposure.

The ratio of occupational exposure to non-occupational exposure was approximately 78 per cent to 22 per cent for 2017-18 financial year. The breakdown for the genders and exposure type can be seen in Table A3 for the financial year. It also shows that female occupational to non-occupational exposure is fairly even, and with both genders the non-occupational exposure was the same. However, males have six times the exposure in occupational settings, possibly due to traditional male workplaces precipitating potential exposure.

The registrants that listed an occupation category gave 'other' as the highest response (446) which had a variety of situations and the biggest trade areas were building and construction (292) and electrician (205). Of concern is that asbestos removal/disposal increased by 50 per cent although the numbers were small from 16 in 2016-17 to 25 in 2017-18. The breakdown of the occupation categories can be seen in Table A4.

In the 2013-14 financial year the ratio of occupational to non-occupational was approximately 80 per cent to 20 per cent and 3 years up until this financial year have been steady around the 70-30 ratio and now it is trending towards the 80-20 ratio. Figure 3 below shows the five years of data representing exposure type.

Figure 3 : Breakdown of exposure setting for five year period



The incidents of higher numbers of occupational potential exposures could be correlated with how the registrant found out about the NAER. Table A5 gives a breakdown of the options and corresponding numbers and percentages by state. Over 30 per cent of registrants were advised about the NAER by their employer, with 'other', friends/family and unions being the next highest. Of interest was that 16 of the 78 participants in the ACT were advised by friends or family, which is a good indicator of the level of awareness in that territory.

The location of exposure has been broken down further in the NAER into 'Work' and for other non-work related categories of Environmental/Domestic, Other, Residential and School/Educational. When referring to table A6 there is a decrease in all factors except for work exposure compared to the 2016-17 financial year figures – almost half for all but residential.

Age at exposure and frequency

The age range of first exposure is slightly different for females to males. The reported exposure in females was highest in the 30-39 age range at 26.81 per cent, 20-29 (22.78 per cent), 40-49 (16.89 per cent) then under 20 and 50-59 were equal (14.75 per cent) and over 60 years the lowest being 4.02 per cent of female registrants. Males had a highest age range for first exposure at 20-29 being 31.43 per cent, then 30-39 (25.43 per cent), under 20 (18.45 per cent), 40-49 (15.08 per cent), 50-59 (7.73 per cent) and the lowest being over 60 years of 1.88 per cent of male registrants.

The most significant increase was in the under 20 year's workplace exposures from the 2016-17 year of approximately 22 per cent to approximately 63 per cent in the 2017-18 year. Table A8 gives a breakdown of the age range and first exposure location. Further evaluation of these figures show that 47 per cent of these people were over 50 when they contacted the NAER meaning that they were exposed prior to a lot of safeguards that are now in place.

The trend for workplace exposures is trending up over the years in the under 40's age range from 2014-15 at 42 per cent outside work to 58 per cent at work, in 2015-16 there was 38 per cent outside of work and 62 per cent at work exposures, in 2016-17 there were 40 per cent outside work to 60 per cent at work and in this reporting year there were 23.5 per cent outside work compared to 76.5 per cent at work for this age range. Table A8 shows the breakdown of ages of first exposure by gender.

When it comes to the length of exposure, the percentage for workplace exposure went down from the previous year by 50 per cent with only a few exceptions. The once only period was reported as having a movement last year of a five per cent increase, however, this year there were larger increases in some periods. Greater than five years increased by 25 per cent, greater than two years and less than five years increased by 16 per cent, greater than six months and less than two years reduced by three per cent, zero to six – months increased by 21 per cent and once only went down by three per cent compared to last year. Table A9 shows the breakdown of frequency of exposure by the individual categories of Environmental/Domestic, Other, Residential, School/Educational and Work.

Factors influencing registration numbers

Once again there are fluctuations from month to month and not consistently over time to be able to pin point a single or seasonal event. As in the past, the usual triggers appear to be as follows:

- reports of illegal dumping
- large employer or union related registrations
- reports generated by state governments in relation to building products

Trends

The second national strategic plan is under development and depending on the focus of this next phase and direction of the agency there could be a change in the trends of the NAER.

The loose-fill asbestos programs in the ACT and NSW are winding down and how this impacts the figures on this aspect of reporting will be interesting. Table A10 shows the overall number of loose-fill asbestos exposures has declined from 199 to 125. The awareness of people visiting homes has increased with only the ACT and Qld having entries in the last financial year and this year they are spread over six of the eight states or territories that data is collected. As the DIY sector is a concern of being the third wave of asbestos exposure it is encouraging that this area has reduced by nearly 50 per cent.

Since the 2015–16 year participants on the register have been asked whether they have been diagnosed with an asbestos-related disease and when that diagnosis was and how old they were at the first exposure. Given the research is showing that there are 4,000 deaths from asbestos-related diseases in Australia every year, there is only a small percentage of people that have recorded this information on the NAER (1 per cent). This year's results are shown in table A11 in the appendix.

When analysing this year's results the average time from exposure to diagnosis was calculated to be as follows; asbestosis – 48 years, cancer – 10 years, mesothelioma – 42.5 years, pleural plaques 41 years and one participant listed all diseases and the period was 47 years.

Figure 4 : Age from asbestos exposure to disease diagnosis

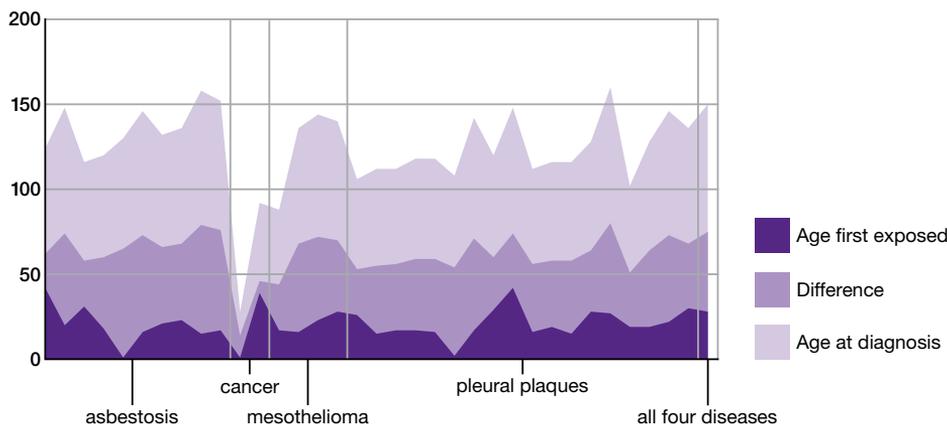


Figure 4 shows the difference in exposure to diagnosis and how cancer is the shortest period and the other asbestos-related diseases are around 45 years from first exposure to diagnosis. It could be argued that those exposed to asbestos have a good 40 years before diagnosis, however, it shows that if Australia gets to a stage of eliminating asbestos-related material that the health burden will span over the next two generations. Asbestos related-diseases can be prevented so there is a strong argument to remove asbestos-containing material as soon as possible.

2018 National Benchmark Survey of Awareness of and Attitudes to Asbestos

The 2018 national benchmark survey of and attitudes to asbestos has found that fewer than one third of DIY home renovators would hire a licensed asbestos assessor to establish if asbestos was present during a renovation, and two in every ten people would remove the asbestos themselves.

The agency conducted this third biennial national survey to determine whether community awareness of and attitudes to asbestos have changed over time and what work the agency needs to do to improve awareness levels and achieve important behaviour change in the community. It measures responses from the general public, tradespeople, DIY home renovators, and real estate agents.

The survey results show an overall positive improvement in awareness of the dangers of asbestos, how informed people feel about asbestos, and their ability to identify asbestos in the home.

The results of this survey also shows that more work needs to be done to educate DIY home renovators, who feel more informed about the dangers of asbestos than they did in 2016, but below what was measured in 2014.

Key findings from the report include:

- 59 per cent of general public consider being knowledgeable about asbestos and its related dangers as 'very important' – up from 52 per cent in 2016 and 43 per cent in 2014.
- The proportion of tradespeople who felt poorly informed or worse about asbestos halved.
- More than one in five tradespeople indicated a desire for more training on asbestos and its related dangers.
- There was an increase in the proportion of real estate agents and private landlords who have had formal asbestos training (24 per cent in 2018, up from 20 per cent in 2016 and 19 per cent in 2014).
- However 47 per cent of real estate agents and private landlords indicated they felt they needed more training.
- DIY home renovators aged 30–39 are more likely to undertake a renovation or demolition.
- Where an asbestos assessment was undertaken, 22 per cent of DIY home renovators said they did it themselves.
- Where asbestos was identified, 20 per cent of home renovators removed it themselves.
- Of those who removed themselves, 46 per cent said it was because they knew how to do it, 39 per cent said it was to save money.
- 21 per cent didn't seek any information and relied on their own 'common sense/judgment'.





4



Additional work or ministerial directions

Section 4: Additional work or ministerial directions

The agency was not required to do additional work and did not receive any ministerial directions during the 2017–18 year.





See Above

5

A photograph of a dilapidated room, possibly a school classroom, with peeling paint on the walls and a window with graffiti that says "See Boys". The room is viewed through a large, purple, triangular overlay that is tilted. The floor is made of grey tiles.

Asbestos in the news

Asbestos continues to be an emotive issue that will generate attention in the community and in the media. The prevalence of asbestos-containing materials in the domestic built environment will continue to cause significant problems in the Australian community while it remains in place.

Importation of asbestos-containing materials into Australia

The 2017–18 reporting year saw more detections of asbestos-containing materials at the Australian customs border and in the community resulting in action by the Heads of Workplace Safety Authorities (HWSA) Imported Materials with Asbestos Working Group and the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC).

In August 2017, the HWSA Working Group issued a consumer and retailer alert regarding the sale of Yamaha childrens and juveniles quad bikes in Australia that were suspected to contain asbestos in the front and rear brake shoes and other spare parts. This followed on from reports of illegal importation of asbestos parts found in Polaris youth quad bikes resulting in a nationwide recall of several models in the 2016–17 year.

The HWSA Working Group also issued a safety alert relating to acetylene gas cylinders containing asbestos materials that have been imported into Australia. The manufacturer of the cylinders described the internal asbestos-containing materials as calcium silicate and the Australian importing company was advised the cylinders were asbestos-free. These types of cylinders are used widely throughout Australia in the manufacturing, electrical and plumbing trades for welding, plastics and acrylic acid derivatives and portable lighting.

The agency has been working with stakeholders, notably the Department of Home Affairs, Australian Border Force, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission and customs brokers, to promote sample testing prior to the full importation of materials to ensure these events are prevented. The agency provides advice to the relevant Minister as per the Customs (Prohibited Imports) Regulations 1956, who is responsible for granting permission to parties that want to import asbestos-containing samples or goods into Australia for the purposes of research, analysis or display.

Asbestos in the community – natural disasters and infrastructure

The Australian community experienced a number of natural disasters in the 2017–18 year, one particular event in south coast NSW showing that continual improvements to disaster action plans and strategies are being made in order to protect the community from exposure to asbestos fibres when managing damaged property.

In March 2018, a severe bushfire caused widespread damage and destruction in the small coastal town on Tathra, NSW with 65 homes, 70 caravans and 1,250 hectares of bushland surrounding the town destroyed. Information from the Bega Valley Shire Council estimated about 6,000 tonnes of asbestos waste would be removed from the town.

To prevent exposure to asbestos, NSW emergency services agencies cordoned off the entire area damaged by fire, preventing residents from returning to their properties for many days and the NSW Government announced a \$10 million clean-up assistance package to help dispose of the asbestos-containing waste materials appropriately.

A significant number of properties in coastal towns along the east coast of Australia were built using asbestos-cement 'fibro' sheeting so every natural disaster that occurs brings a new set of challenges in preventing exposure to that damaged asbestos.

Illegal dumping of asbestos material in the community

The media reporting of instances of illegal asbestos materials dumping in the community continued to be of concern to the agency, with a number of high-profile dumping events occurring across the country.

The ongoing activities of a serial illegal asbestos dumping offender in NSW were again highlighted in the media during the 2017–18 year, with this person finally being arrested and charged for serial offences and non-payment of hundreds of thousands of dollars in fines over many years. Also in NSW, two men were arrested following an incident where eight tonnes of asbestos-filled waste was discovered dumped in a suburban Sydney street.

The agency will continue to monitor illegal dumping events to assist in the development of policy, with the assistance of the Asbestos Waste Working Group, regarding effective removal and disposal of asbestos-containing materials.

International asbestos issues – Canada and Brazil

During the 2017–18 year, the agency welcomed the announcement from the Canadian federal government on the announcement of a national ban on asbestos and the Brazilian Supreme Federal Court decision banning the use of asbestos in Brazil, finding there are no safe levels for the use of asbestos.

Until 2011, Canada was one of the biggest miners and exporters of raw asbestos but changed its position on the risks posed by exposure to asbestos in a matter of years to introducing a national ban on asbestos. The Prohibitions of Asbestos and Asbestos Products Regulations were gazetted on 6 January 2018 prohibiting the importation, sale and use as well as the manufacturing of goods containing asbestos; with some exclusions.

Brazil is one of the top five asbestos consuming countries in the world, and it will now join more than 70 other countries, including Australia, to ban use of the deadly substance. Russia, China and Kazakhstan are now the only commercial producers of asbestos in the world with consumption continuing to rise in Asia, particularly South-east Asia.

Australia plays an international leadership role in curtailing the deadly asbestos trade, by leading the push to stand up to the global asbestos industry, helping Southeast Asian countries confront the problem and supporting the global campaign to list chrysotile asbestos on Annex III of the Rotterdam Convention for the trade of hazardous chemicals.







*Management and
accountability*

Corporate governance

The agency's governance framework has its foundation in the ASEA Act, which established the agency and its functions, and the appointment of a CEO to ensure the agency performs these functions. The functions of the agency are set out in section 1 (Agency Overview) of this report.

The CEO is appointed by the Minister by written instrument for a period not exceeding five years and is responsible for the day-to-day administration of the agency. The CEO ensures the agency achieves its performance objectives in accordance with the *National Strategic Plan for Asbestos Management and Awareness 2014–18* and the policies, programs and performance requirements set out for internal governance purposes.

Agency staff members are responsible for ensuring that the CEO is provided with all necessary information to perform their management responsibilities and to keep the council briefed on agency operations.

The CEO is accountable to the Minister for Employment through the ASEA Act and the Minister for Finance in relation to the PGPA Act, which was the relevant legislation during the 2017–18 year.

The ASEA Act also established the council to provide guidance to the CEO about the performance of the agency's functions and provide advice to the Minister regarding asbestos safety. The functions of the council are set out in section 2 (Asbestos Safety and Eradication Council) of this report.

External scrutiny

The Audit Committee held four meetings in the 2017–18 year, providing independent assurance and advice to the CEO on agency financial matters, including risk management. The Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) was again appointed to audit the agency's 2017–18 financial statements.

No judicial or tribunal decisions that could have a significant impact on agency operations have been made or are pending.

No reports on the operations of the agency by the Auditor-General, a parliamentary committee or the Commonwealth Ombudsman have been released.

Management of human resources

On 30 June 2018, 12 people worked with the agency at various grade levels, nine covering full-time ongoing, non-ongoing and three temporary employment arrangements, all based in Sydney, NSW. The agency did not have staff who identified as Indigenous during the year, but will seek opportunities to address the Australian Government Indigenous employment policy in the 2018–19 year and beyond where recruitment is required.

Table 6: Agency staff during the 2017–18 year

Class	Female	Male	Permanent FT/PT	Non-ongoing APS	Temp/Contract PT/FT	TOTAL
CEO		1	1			1
EL2	1	2	2		1	3
EL1	2	1	1	2		3
APS6						
APS5	2	0	1		1	2
APS4	1	2	1	1	1	3
TOTAL	6	6	6	3	3	12

Learning and development

The agency provided learning and development opportunities for staff to support the functions of the agency, with staff attending various conferences and training programs throughout the year to supplement already acquired skills and knowledge.

The goal of approved learning and development was to enhance the skills base of the existing staff to minimise the need for external assistance, ensure compliance with regulatory requirements and operate with maximum efficiency as an independent agency.

Collective determination

Formal separation of the agency from the Department of Employment came into effect on 17 November 2014 upon approval by the Minister for Employment of a collective determination under section 24(1) of the PS Act, which was signed by the agency Chief Executive Officer on 20 November 2017.

Performance pay

Agency staff do not receive performance bonuses or performance pay. Non-SES staff were covered by the s24(1) collective determination signed 10 November 2014 and the current s24(1) collective determination signed on 20 November 2017, which provided for pay increments as per the standard pay scale.

Work health and safety

The agency is committed to fostering a proactive and collaborative approach to the management of employee health, safety and wellbeing.

The agency had an elected health and safety representative who successfully completed the accredited training course, assuming the responsibilities of that position as set out in the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* (WHS Act).

The agency also had a trained first aid officer with access to a first aid facility and a trained floor warden for emergency evacuation procedures.

Employee assistance program

During part of the year, the agency had access to the services provided by Davidson Trahaire Corpsych then Benestar , which included providing staff with confidential and personalised counselling for personal and vocational/professional matters.

Ethical standards

The agency maintained its commitment to high ethical standards by reinforcing the Australian Public Service (APS) values and APS code of conduct.

Induction programs highlighted the importance of APS values and the code of conduct as a vehicle for instilling a positive, collaborative and professional workplace culture with the aim of establishing the agency as a leading APS employer.

During the 2017–18 year, there were no formal cases involving alleged breaches of the APS values or the APS code of conduct.

Mandatory reporting

Asset management

The agency's asset management strategy emphasises whole-of-life asset management and seeks to minimise holdings of surplus and under-performing assets.

The agency's stocktake of fixed and intangible assets in 2017–18 confirmed their location and condition, and emphasised to custodial officers their responsibility to ensure the safe-keeping of assets in their custody.

Details of the assets administered by the agency in 2017–18 can be found in section 7 (Financial statements).

Purchasing

In 2017–18, with the exception of those instances reported in its Certificate of Compliance, the agency complied with the Australian Government's purchasing policies. Its procurement and purchasing activities were conducted in accordance with the Commonwealth Procurement Rules to ensure value for money, and efficient, effective, economical and ethical procurement outcomes.

Consultants

Due to the size of the agency, it is necessary to engage consultants to provide specialist expertise or independent research and to provide value for money. The decision to engage a consultant is made in accordance with the PGPA Act and regulations, and relevant agency and departmental policies.

In the 2017–18 year, seven consultancy contracts were entered into. In addition, two ongoing consultancy contracts were active during 2017–18 year. The total actual expenditure related to these consultancy contracts was \$ 266,937.63 (GST exclusive).

Information on the value of contracts and consultancies is available on the AusTender website at www.tenders.gov.au.

Prior to engaging consultants, the agency takes into account the skills and resources required for the task, the skills available internally, and the cost-effectiveness of engaging external expertise. Legal advice on consultancy arrangements is sought where relevant.

Grant programmes

Information on grants awarded by the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency during the period 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 is now available at asbestosafety.gov.au/about-us.

Australian National Audit Office access clauses

All of the agency's awarded contracts or Deeds of Standing Offer valued at \$100,000 (GST inclusive) or greater, contain standard clauses granting the Auditor-General access to contractors' premises.

Exempt contracts

The agency did not enter into any contracts in 2017–18 that have been exempted under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act) from reporting on AusTender.

Advertising and market research

In accordance with section 311A of the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918*, the agency is required to report on all payments over a certain amount to advertising agencies, market research organisations, polling organisations, media advertising organisations, public relations organisations and direct mail organisations.

The total payment by the agency for market research during the 2017–18 reporting year was \$98,890.00 (GST inclusive) paid to Colmar Brunton Pty Ltd to conduct the biennial national benchmark survey on awareness levels and attitudes towards asbestos in quarter three and four of 2018 and quantitative analysis of the results.

Procurement initiatives to support small business

The agency supports small business participation in the Commonwealth Government procurements market. Small enterprise participation statistics are available on the Department of Finance's website (www.finance.gov.au/procurement/statistics-on-commonwealth-purchasing-contracts).

In supporting small business, the agency also uses the following:

- the Commonwealth Contracting Suite for low-risk procurements valued under \$200,000
- Australian Industry Participation Plans in whole-of-government procurement where applicable
- the Small Business Engagement Principles (outlined in the Government's Industry Innovation and Competitiveness Agenda), such as communicating in clear, simple language and presenting information in an accessible format
- electronic systems or other processes used to facilitate on-time payment performance, including the use of payment cards.

The agency also recognises the importance of ensuring that small businesses are paid on time. The results of the survey of Australian Government Payments to Small Business are available on the Treasury's website (www.treasury.gov.au).

Ecologically sustainable development and environmental performance

The agency has considered and applied the principles of ecological and environmental sustainability to all of its projects and operations during the reporting period.

Projects included adhering to already established departmental policies and specifications regarding sustainability and preference for dissemination of the agency's public reports through electronic media.

The agency accommodation is located in the NSW state office for a number of Australian Government departments and agencies, which enjoys a five-star NABERS rating on energy efficiency, water usage, waste management and indoor environment quality of a building or tenancy and its impact on the environment. More information regarding the NABERS rating system for buildings can be found on their website (www.nabers.gov.au).

Information publication scheme statement

Agencies subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act) are required to publish information to the public as part of the Information Publication Scheme (IPS). This requirement is in Part II of the FOI Act and has replaced the former requirement to publish a section 8 statement in an annual report. Each agency must display on its website a plan showing what information it publishes in accordance with the IPS requirements. The agency's current IPS information can be found at www.asbestossafety.gov.au/publications.

Changes to disability reporting in annual reports

Since 1994, Commonwealth non-corporate entities have reported on their performance as policy adviser, purchaser, employer, regulator and provider under the Commonwealth Disability Strategy. In 2007–08, reporting on the employer role was transferred to the Australian Public Service Commission's State of the Service Report and the APS Statistical Bulletin. These reports are available at www.apsc.gov.au. From 2010–11, entities have no longer been required to report on these functions.

The Commonwealth Disability Strategy has been replaced by the National Disability Strategy 2010–2020, which sets out a 10-year national policy framework to improve the lives of people with disability, promote participation and create a more inclusive society. A high-level two-yearly report will track progress against each of the six outcome areas of the strategy and present a picture of how people with disability are faring. The first of these reports was made available in late 2014 and can be found at www.dss.gov.au.





Financial statements

Overview of financial performance

The agency had an overspend of \$96,000 at the end of the 2017–18 financial year, which is 2.4 per cent of total appropriation (\$4,016,000) for the reporting year.

Independent auditor's report



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Minister for Jobs and Industrial Relations

Opinion

In my opinion, the financial statements of the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency for the year ended 30 June 2018:

- (a) comply with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability (Financial Reporting) Rule 2015*; and
- (b) present fairly the financial position of the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency as at 30 June 2018 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended.

The financial statements of the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency, which I have audited, comprise the following statements as at 30 June 2018 and for the year then ended:

- Statement by the Accountable Authority and Chief Financial Officer;
- Statement of Comprehensive Income;
- Statement of Financial Position;
- Statement of Changes in Equity;
- Cash Flow Statement; and
- Notes to the financial statements comprising an Overview and other explanatory information.

Basis for Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with the Australian National Audit Office Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of my report. I am independent of the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements for financial statement audits conducted by the Auditor-General and his delegates. These include the relevant independence requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) to the extent that they are not in conflict with the *Auditor-General Act 1997*. I have also fulfilled my other responsibilities in accordance with the Code. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Accountable Authority's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

As the Accountable Authority of the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency, the Chief Executive Officer is responsible under the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* for the preparation and fair presentation of annual financial statements that comply with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the rules made under that Act. The Chief Executive Officer is also responsible for such internal control as the Chief Executive Officer determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Chief Executive Officer is responsible for assessing the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency's ability to continue as a going concern, taking into account whether the entity's operations will cease as a result of an administrative restructure or for any other reason. The Chief Executive Officer is also responsible for disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the assessment indicates that it is not appropriate.

GPO Box 707 CANBERRA ACT 2601
19 National Circuit BARTON ACT
Phone (02) 6203 7300 Fax (02) 6203 7777

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

My objective is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian National Audit Office Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian National Audit Office Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control;
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control;
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Accountable Authority;
- conclude on the appropriateness of the Accountable Authority's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the entity to cease to continue as a going concern; and
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

Australian National Audit Office



Peter Kerr

Executive Director

Delegate of the Auditor-General

Canberra

19 September 2018

Financial statements

Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency

STATEMENT BY THE ACCOUNTABLE AUTHORITY AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

In our opinion, the attached financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2018 comply with subsection 42(2) of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013 (PGPA Act)*, and are based on properly maintained financial records as per subsection 41(2) of the PGPA Act.

In our opinion, at the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.



Signed.....

Justine Ross
Chief Executive Officer

19 September 2018



Signed.....

Nick Miller
Chief Financial Officer

19 September 2018

Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency

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Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency
Statement of Comprehensive Income
for the period ended 30 June 2018

	Notes	2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000	Original Budget \$'000
NET COST OF SERVICES				
Expenses				
Employee Benefits	1.1A	1,565	1,727	1,232
Suppliers	1.1B	2,775	3,261	3,097
Depreciation and amortisation	2.2A	39	20	35
Total expenses		4,379	5,008	4,364
Own-Source Income				
Own-source revenue				
Sale of Goods and Rendering of Services	1.2A	197	225	240
Other Revenue	1.2B	70	73	73
Total own-source revenue		267	298	313
Total own-source income		267	298	313
Net (cost of)/contribution by services		(4,112)	(4,710)	(4,051)
Revenue from Government	1.2C	4,016	4,603	4,016
Share of associates and joint ventures				
Surplus/(Deficit) on continuing operations		(96)	(107)	(35)
Total comprehensive income (loss)		(96)	(107)	(35)

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Budget Variances Commentary

Statement of Comprehensive Income for not-for-profit Reporting Entities

Variances are considered to be 'major' when the difference is greater than 10% or more than \$50,000 or a lesser amount if pertinent to the understanding of the financial statements.

1. Employee benefits - the variance reflects the adjustments to ASEA budget allocation between Employee costs and Supplier costs to correctly align the budget for staff costs. The reallocation of funds between the categories was updated in the PBS, in the MYEFO round.
2. Suppliers - the variance reflects the adjustments to ASEA budget allocation between Supplier costs and Employee costs, which effectively decreased supplier costs to align employee costs for the estimated staff numbers and their associated wages and benefits.
3. Depreciation - increased due to an unexpected purchase of a multifunctional device, which was previously leased through the Department of Jobs and Small Business, purchase of 2 laptops, and 1 desktop in the current year.
4. Rendering of services - Actual revenue raised from the industry registration and sponsorship of the ASEA organised annual Asbestos Safety conference was less than anticipated. The annual conference is budgeted for in a net fashion to expenses.

Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency

Statement of Financial Position

as at 30 June 2018

	Notes	2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000	Original Budget \$'000
ASSETS				
Financial assets				
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2.1A	64	66	128
Trade and Other Receivables	2.1B	4,193	4,362	4,353
Total financial assets		4,257	4,428	4,481
Non-financial assets				
Leasehold improvements	2.2A	40	57	-
Plant and equipment	2.2A	77	76	134
Prepayments		64	52	65
Total non-financial assets		181	185	199
Total assets		4,438	4,613	4,680
LIABILITIES				
Payables				
Suppliers	2.3A	503	593	573
Other Payables	2.3B	141	40	-
Total payables		644	633	573
Provisions				
Employee Provisions	4.1A	229	355	387
Total provisions		229	355	387
Total liabilities		873	988	960
Net assets		3,565	3,625	3,720
EQUITY				
Contributed equity		278	242	302
Retained surplus/(Accumulated deficit)		3,287	3,383	3,418
Total equity		3,565	3,625	3,720

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Budget Variances Commentary

Statement of Financial Position for not-for-profit Reporting Entities

Variances are considered to be 'major' when the difference is greater than 10% or more than \$50,000 or a lesser amount if pertinent to the understanding of the financial statements.

1. Financial assets - The 2017-18 budget estimate was created prior to closing the 2016-17 financial year, at a time when ASEA's projects had not been fully determined. The actual completion of projects during 2017-18 resulted in the reduction in Cash and Trade receivables.
2. Non-financial assets - The leasehold improvement and plant and equipment categories are not separated out in the PBS. The variance relates to these items - only minimal purchases of assets required during 2017-18 as most assets were relatively new.
3. Payables - Suppliers and other payables were not separated out in the 2017-18 PBS. This was changed in the MYEFO budget round. Suppliers in general was less resulting from prompt payment of services provided before year end. The main variance in total payables is "other payables" and relates to \$95k in unexpected leave liability for staff leaving and transferring out from the Agency, for which have not been invoiced before the year end, and unexpected prepaid income of \$3k. Also included in other payables are normal activities of accruing for 2 days wages and employees expenses, and the annual adjustment of straight lining the fixed lease increase.
4. Employee Provisions - reduction relates to then net balance of leave taken on termination when staff left the Agency, and corrections to employee leave entitlements for incorrect leave parameters and valuations against actual leave entitlements maintained in the HR leave reports and the end of year adjustment for the short hand method calculation of Leave provisions. Provisions are expected to increase when staff vacancies are filled in the next financial year.

Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency
Statement of Changes in Equity
for the period ended 30 June 2018

	2018	2017	Original Budget
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
CONTRIBUTED EQUITY			
Opening balance			
Balance carried forward from previous period	242	183	242
Adjusted opening balance	242	183	242
Transactions with owners			
Contributions by owners			
Departmental capital budget	60	59	60
Equity injection - appropriations	(24)	-	-
Total transactions with owners	36	59	60
Closing balance as at 30 June	278	242	302
RETAINED EARNINGS			
Opening balance			
Balance carried forward from previous period	3,383	3,490	3,453
Adjusted opening balance	3,383	3,490	3,453
Comprehensive income			
Surplus/(Deficit) for the period	(96)	(107)	(35)
Total comprehensive income	(96)	(107)	(35)
Closing balance as at 30 June	3,287	3,383	3,418
TOTAL EQUITY			
Opening balance			
Balance carried forward from previous period	3,625	3,673	3,695
Adjusted opening balance	3,625	3,673	3,695
Comprehensive income			
Surplus/(Deficit) for the period	(96)	(107)	(35)
Total comprehensive income	(96)	(107)	(35)
Transactions with owners			
Contributions by owners			
Departmental capital budget	60	59	60
Equity injection - appropriations	(24)	-	-
Total transactions with owners	36	59	60
Closing balance as at 30 June	3,565	3,625	3,720

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Accounting Policy**Equity Injections**

Amounts appropriated which are designated as 'equity injections' for a year (less any formal reductions) and Departmental Capital Budgets (DCBs) are recognised directly in contributed equity in that year.

Budget Variances Commentary**Statement of Changes in Equity for not-for-profit Reporting Entities**

Variances are considered to be 'major' when the difference is greater than 10% or more than \$50,000 or a lesser amount if pertinent to the understanding of the financial statements.

1. Equity injections were reduced as a result of the repeal of Appropriation Act (No. 4) 2013-14 in March 2018.
2. Opening balances carried forward for retained earnings and total equity reflect the budget being prepared before 2016-17 actual results were known.
3. Total comprehensive income (net deficit) - the budget was estimated to be cost neutral for 2017-18 however a loss was incurred. The main component for the deficit resulted from non-cash adjustments to leave entitlement provisions as a result of changes in parameters and valuations.

Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency
Cash Flow Statement

for the period ended 30 June 2018

	Notes	2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000	Budget \$'000
OPERATING ACTIVITIES				
Cash received				
Appropriations		4,204	4,490	3,996
Sale of goods and rendering of services		220	242	240
Net GST received		203	207	-
Other		17	12	-
Total cash received		4,644	4,951	4,236
Cash used				
Employees		1,558	1,662	1,212
Suppliers		3,088	3,351	3,024
Total cash used		4,646	5,013	4,236
Net cash from/(used by) operating activities		(2)	(62)	-
INVESTING ACTIVITIES				
Cash used				
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		24	80	60
Total cash used		24	80	60
Net cash from/(used by) investing activities		(24)	(80)	(60)
FINANCING ACTIVITIES				
Cash received				
Contributed Equity		24	80	60
Total cash received		24	80	60
Net cash from/(used by) financing activities		24	80	60
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held		(2)	(62)	-
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		66	128	128
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	2.1A	64	66	128

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Budget Variances Commentary

Cash Flow Statement for not-for-profit Reporting Entities

Appropriations and Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period variations relate to the PBS budget position being prepared prior to 2016-17 actual results being known.

Sale of goods and rendering of services - The PBS budget position was prepared prior to 2016-17 actual results being known for the estimated conference revenue, resulting in an overstated budget. The figures were revised in the 2018-19 PBS.

Cash received - GST and Other not included in budget estimation.

Cash used - the PBS budget figures did not reflect the correct allocation for employees, this was amended in the 2017-18 MYEFO round. The net increase reflects the employees and suppliers costs for staff leaving and associated temporary backfilling with contractors and replacement.

Cash used - purchase of Property plant and equip - decrease relates to only minimal purchases of assets during 2017-18 as most assets were relatively new.

Cash received - Contributed Equity - ASEA only draws down funds for actual purchase. Refer cash used - Property plant and equipment comment above.

Overview

Objectives of the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency

The Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency (ASEA) is established by the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency Act 2013 to provide a national focus on asbestos issues. ASEA is responsible through its Chief Executive Officer to the Minister of Jobs and Small Business.

ASEA has broad responsibilities including workplace health and safety, environmental and public health concerns. ASEA is not a regulator. Its key functions relate to administering the National Strategic Plan on Asbestos Awareness and Management (NSP) which aims to prevent exposure to asbestos fibres in order to eliminate asbestos-related diseases.

ASEA's other functions include liaising with Commonwealth, State, Territory, local and other governments, agencies or bodies about asbestos safety; commissioning, monitoring and promoting research about asbestos safety and providing advice to the Minister of Jobs and Small Business, about asbestos safety.

ASEA has a broad range of stakeholders including Commonwealth, state and territory agencies across all levels of government, industry, unions and organisations that advocate asbestos safety in the community.

The ASEA is structured to meet the following outcome:

Outcome 1: To Assist in the prevention of exposure to asbestos fibres and the elimination of asbestos-related disease in Australia through implementing the National Strategic Plan for Asbestos Awareness and Management in Australia.

The ASEA is a statutory authority established on 1 July 2013 by the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Act 2013 and is responsible through its Chief Executive Officer to the Australian Government Minister of Jobs and Small Business.

The continued existence of the ASEA in its present form and with its present programmes is dependent on Government policy and on continuing funding by Parliament for the ASEA's administration and programmes.

ASEA activities contributing toward these outcomes are classified as departmental. Departmental activities involve the use of assets, liabilities, income and expenses controlled or incurred by the ASEA in its own right.

The Basis of Preparation

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements and are required by section 42 of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- a) *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability (Financial Reporting) Rule 2015* (FRR) for reporting periods ending on or after 1 July 2015; and
- b) Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations – Reduced Disclosure Requirements issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) that apply for the reporting period.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis and in accordance with the historical cost convention, except for certain assets and liabilities at fair value. Except where stated, no allowance is made for the effect of changing prices on the results or the financial position. The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars and values are rounded to nearest thousand dollars unless otherwise specified.

New Accounting Standards

All new, revised, amending standards and/or interpretations that were issued prior to the sign-off date and are applicable to the current reporting period did not have a material effect on the ASEA's financial statements.

Future Australian Accounting Standard Requirements

ASEA has assessed AASB15 as a high probability of impacting future reporting requirements in 2018-19 financial year, but currently consider it would be immaterial in nature. ASEA will seek further advice before the end of 2018-19 financial year. ASEA has also assessed that AASB16 will apply to ASEA commencing from 2019-20 financial year. Materiality cannot be determined as yet due to the current sub lease arrangement expiring in December 2020 and future accommodation arrangements have yet to be discussed. All other new/revised/amending standards and/or interpretations that were issued prior to the sign-off date and are applicable to future reporting period(s) are not expected to have a future material impact on the ASEA's financial statements.

Taxation

The ASEA is exempt from all forms of taxation except Fringe Benefits Tax (FBT) and the Goods and Services Tax (GST).

Revenues, expenses and non-financial assets are recognised net of GST except:

- where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office; and
- for receivables and payables

Events After the Reporting Period

There have been no events after balance date that have the potential to significantly affect the ongoing structure and financial activities of the agency.

Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency

Financial Performance

This section analyses the financial performance of Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency for the year ended 2018.

1.1 Expenses

	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
1.1A: Employee Benefits		
Wages and salaries	1,220	1,316
Superannuation		
Defined contribution plans	121	141
Defined benefit plans	95	92
Leave and other entitlements	70	178
Separation and redundancies	59	-
Total employee benefits	1,565	1,727

Accounting Policy

Accounting policies for employee related expenses is contained in the People and relationships section.

1.1B: Suppliers

Goods and services supplied or rendered

Contractors	418	221
Consultants	928	1,611
Conferences	280	335
Travel	131	230
Marketing	105	123
Services Provided Free of Charge	70	73
Shared Services Centre charges	180	241
Printing/recruitment/training and Other administrative costs	378	140
Total goods and services supplied or rendered	2,490	2,974
Goods supplied	254	162
Services rendered	2,236	2,812
Total goods and services supplied or rendered	2,490	2,974

Other suppliers

Operating lease rentals		
Minimum lease payments	272	272
Workers compensation expenses	13	15
Total other suppliers	285	287
Total suppliers	2,775	3,261

Leasing commitments

Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency in its capacity as lessee of part Level 10, 255 Elizabeth Street, Sydney has entered into a 5 year Sub-lease arrangement ending 31 December 2020 with no option to extend. Lease payments are subject to an increase of 3.75% per annum as per the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) sub-lease agreement.

Commitments for minimum lease payments in relation to non-cancellable operating leases are payable as follows:

Within 1 year	263	254
Between 1 to 5 years	415	678
More than 5 years	-	-
Total operating lease commitments	678	932

Accounting Policy

Where an asset is acquired by means of a finance lease, the asset is capitalised at either the fair value of the lease property or, if lower, the present value of minimum lease payments at the inception of the contract and a liability is recognised at the same time and for the same amount.

The discount rate used is the interest rate implicit in the lease. Leased assets are amortised over the period of the lease. Lease payments are allocated between the principal component and the interest expense.

Operating lease payments are expensed on a straight-line basis which is representative of the pattern of benefits derived from the leased assets.

Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency

1.2 Own-Source Revenue and gains

2018	2017
\$'000	\$'000

Own-Source Revenue

1.2A: Sale of Goods and Rendering of Services

Rendering of services	197	225
Total sale of goods and rendering of services	197	225

Accounting Policy

Revenue from the rendering of services is recognised by:

Reference to the stage of completion of contracts at the reporting date. The revenue is recognised when:

- the amount of revenue, stage of completion and transactions costs incurred can be reliably measured; and
- the probable economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the entity.

The stage of completion of contracts at the reporting date is determined by reference to services performed to date as a percentage of total services to be performed.

Receivables for goods and services, which have 30 day terms, are recognised at the nominal amounts due less any impairment allowance account. Collectability of debts is reviewed at end of the reporting period. Allowances are made when collectability of the debt is no longer probable.

1.2B: Other Revenue

Resources received free of charge

External audit fee ANAO	70	73
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Total other revenue	70	73
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Accounting Policy

Resources Received Free of Charge

Resources received free of charge are recognised as revenue when, and only when, a fair value can be reliably determined and the services would have been purchased if they had not been donated. Use of those resources is recognised as an expense. Resources received free of charge are recorded as either revenue or gains depending on their nature.

Contributions of assets at no cost of acquisition or for nominal consideration are recognised as gains at their fair value when the asset qualifies for recognition, unless received from another Government entity as a consequence of a restructuring of administrative arrangements.

1.2C: Revenue from Government

Appropriations

Departmental appropriations	4,016	4,603
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Total revenue from Government	4,016	4,603
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Accounting Policy

Revenue from Government

Amounts appropriated for departmental appropriations for the year (adjusted for any formal additions and reductions) are recognised as Revenue from Government when the entity gains control of the appropriation, except for certain amounts that relate to activities that are reciprocal in nature, in which case revenue is recognised only when it has been earned. Appropriations receivable are recognised at their nominal amounts.

Funding received or receivable from non-corporate Commonwealth entities (appropriated to the non-corporate Commonwealth entity as a corporate Commonwealth entity payment item for payment to this entity) is recognised as Revenue from Government by the corporate Commonwealth entity unless the funding is in the nature of an equity injection or a loan.

Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency

Financial Position

This section analyses Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency's assets used to conduct its operations and the operating liabilities incurred as a result. Employee related information is disclosed in the People and Relationships section.

2.1 Financial Assets

	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000

2.1A: Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash on hand or on deposit	64	66
Total cash and cash equivalents	64	66

Accounting Policy

Cash is recognised at its nominal amount. Cash and cash equivalents includes:

- a) cash on hand; and
- b) demand deposits in bank accounts with an original maturity of 3 months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and subject to insignificant risk of changes in value.

2.1B: Trade and Other Receivables

Goods and services receivables

Goods and services	22	16
Total goods and services receivables	22	16

Appropriations receivables

Appropriation receivable	4,108	4,283
Total appropriations receivables	4,108	4,283

Other receivables

GST receivable from the Australian Taxation Office	63	63
Total other receivables	63	63
Total trade and other receivables (gross)	4,193	4,362
Total trade and other receivables (net)	4,193	4,362

Credit terms for goods and services were within 30 days (2017: 30 days).

Accounting Policy

Loans and Receivables

Trade receivables, loans and other receivables that have fixed or determinable payments and that are not quoted in an active market are classified as 'loans and receivables'. Loans and receivables are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method less impairment.

Appropriation Receivables

Appropriations receivable are undrawn appropriations controlled by the Agency but held in the Official Public Account under the Government's just in time drawdown arrangements.

Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency

2.2 Non-Financial Assets

2.2A: Reconciliation of the Opening and Closing Balances of Leasehold improvements and Plant and equipment

	Leasehold improvements \$'000	Plant and equipment \$'000	Total \$'000
As at 1 July 2017			
Gross book value	74	80	154
Accumulated depreciation, amortisation and impairment	(17)	(4)	(21)
Total as at 1 July 2017	57	76	133
Additions			
Purchase	-	23	23
Depreciation and amortisation	(17)	(22)	(39)
Total as at 30 June 2018	40	77	117
Total as at 30 June 2018 represented by			
Gross book value	74	103	177
Accumulated depreciation, amortisation and impairment	(34)	(26)	(60)
Total as at 30 June 2018	40	77	117

There were no indicators of impairment found for property, plant and equipment.

Property, plant and equipment are not expected to be sold or disposed of within the next 12 months.

Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency

Accounting Policy

Assets are recorded at cost on acquisition except as stated below. The cost of acquisition includes the fair value of assets transferred in exchange and liabilities undertaken. Financial assets are initially measured at their fair value plus transaction costs where appropriate.

Assets acquired at no cost, or for nominal consideration, are initially recognised as assets and income at their fair value at the date of acquisition, unless acquired as a consequence of restructuring of administrative arrangements. In the latter case, assets are initially recognised as contributions by owners at the amounts at which they were recognised in the transferor's accounts immediately prior to the restructuring.

Asset Recognition Threshold

Purchases of property, plant and equipment are initially recognised at cost in the statement of financial position, except for purchases costing less than \$2,000, which are expensed in the year of acquisition (other than where they form part of a group of similar items which are significant in total).

Revaluations

Following initial recognition at cost, property, plant and equipment are carried at fair value less subsequent accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Valuations are conducted with sufficient frequency to ensure that the carrying amounts of assets did not differ materially from the assets' fair values as at the reporting date. The regularity of independent valuations depended upon the volatility of movements in market values for the relevant assets.

Revaluation adjustments are made on a class basis. Any revaluation increment is credited to equity under the heading of asset revaluation reserve except to the extent that it reversed a previous revaluation decrement of the same asset class that was previously recognised in the surplus/deficit. Revaluation decrements for a class of assets are recognised directly in the surplus/deficit except to the extent that they reverse a previous revaluation increment for that class. Any accumulated depreciation as at the revaluation date is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the asset restated to the revalued amount.

Depreciation

Depreciable property, plant and equipment assets are written-off to their estimated residual values over their estimated useful lives to the entity using, in all cases, the straight-line method of depreciation.

Depreciation rates (useful lives), residual values and methods are reviewed at each reporting date and necessary adjustments are recognised in the current, or current and future reporting periods, as appropriate.

Depreciation rates applying to each class of depreciable asset are based on the following useful lives:

Class	2018	2017
Leasehold Improvements:	Lesser of 4 years or the lease term.	Lesser of 4 years or the lease term.
Plant and Equipment:	4 to 5 years	4 to 5 years

Impairment

All assets were assessed for impairment at 30 June 2018. Where indications of impairment exist, the asset's recoverable amount is estimated and an impairment adjustment made if the asset's recoverable amount is less than its carrying amount.

The recoverable amount of an asset is the higher of its fair value less costs of disposal and its value in use. Value in use is the present value of the future cash flows expected to be derived from the asset. Where the future economic benefit of an asset is not primarily dependent on the asset's ability to generate future cash flows, and the asset would be replaced if the entity were deprived of the asset, its value in use is taken to be its depreciated replacement cost.

Derecognition

An item of property, plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal or when no further future economic benefits are expected from its use or disposal.

Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency

2.3 Payables

	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
2.3A: Suppliers		
Trade creditors and accruals	503	593
Total suppliers	503	593

Settlement terms for suppliers is usually within 30 days

2.3B: Other Payables

Salaries and wages	10	13
Superannuation	2	2
Separations and redundancies	95	-
Fixed lease increase	31	25
Prepayments received/unearned income	3	-
Total other payables	141	40

Other payables to be settled

No more than 12 months	110	15
More than 12 months	31	25
Total other payables	141	40

Unearned revenues are payments for future services to be performed or goods to be delivered.

Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency

Funding

This section identifies Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency's funding structure.

3.1 Appropriations

3.1A: Annual Appropriations ('Recoverable GST exclusive')

Annual Appropriations for 2018

	Annual Appropriation \$'000	Adjustments to appropriation ² \$'000	Total appropriation \$'000	Appropriation applied in 2018 (current and prior years) \$'000	Variance ¹ \$'000
Departmental					
Ordinary annual services	4,016	215	4,231	4,424	(193)
Capital Budget ³	60	-	60	9	51
Other services					
Equity Injections ⁴	-	(24)	(24)	14	(38)
Total departmental	4,076	191	4,267	4,447	(180)

- The variance in the Departmental ordinary annual services relates to the settlement of 2016-17 supplier payables in the current financial year.
- Adjustments to Appropriations relate to S74 Receipts for ASEA's annual conference and leave liability for staff transferring into the Agency.
- Departmental Capital Budgets are appropriated through Appropriation Acts (No.1) and Supply Act (No.1). They form part of ordinary annual services, and are not separately identified in the Appropriation Acts.
- Equity injections were appropriated through Appropriation Act (No. 4) 2013-14. The Act was repealed in March 2018 resulting in \$23,771.20 being returned.

Annual Appropriations for 2017

	Annual Appropriation \$'000	Adjustments to appropriation ⁴ \$'000	Total appropriation \$'000	Appropriation applied in 2017 (current and prior years) \$'000	Variance ¹ \$'000
Departmental					
Ordinary annual services	4,603	225	4,828	4,772	56
Capital Budget ²	59	-	59	17	42
Other services					
Equity Injections ³	-	-	-	63	(63)
Total departmental	4,662	225	4,887	4,852	35

- The variance in the Departmental ordinary annual services relates to the settlement of 2015-16 supplier payables in the current financial year.
- Departmental Capital Budgets are appropriated through Appropriation Acts (No.1) and Supply Act (No.1). They form part of ordinary annual services, and are not separately identified in the Appropriation Acts.
- Equity injections were appropriated through Appropriation Act (No. 4) 2013-14 and the sunset clause was repealed in March 2018.
- This component has been retrospectively restated due to an unintentional omission under this section relating to S74 receipts for 2016-17. This did not have an impact on the financial results or position of the 2016-17 financial statements.

3.1B: Unspent Annual Appropriations ('Recoverable GST exclusive')

	2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000
Departmental		
Appropriation Act (No. 4) 2013-14 - Non Operating - Equity Injection	-	38
Supply Act 1 2016-17 - Capital Budget (DCB) - Non Operating	-	7
Appropriation Act (No. 1) 2016-17 - Capital Budget (DCB) - Non Operating	32	35
Appropriation Act (No. 1) 2017-18 - Capital Budget (DCB) - Non Operating	60	-
Appropriation Act (No. 1) 2016-17	-	3,518
Supply Act 1 2016-17	-	751
Appropriation Act (No. 1) 2017-18 ¹	4,080	-
Total departmental	4,172	4,349

- This amount includes cash at bank which is appropriation drawn down but unspent as at 30 June 2018.

People and relationships

This section describes a range of employment and post employment benefits provided to our people and our relationships with other key people.

4.1 Employee Provisions

	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000

4.1A: Employee Provisions

Leave	229	355
Total employee provisions	229	355

Accounting policy

Liabilities for 'short-term employee benefits and termination benefits expected within twelve months of the end of reporting period are measured at their nominal amounts.

Leave

The liability for employee benefits includes provision for annual leave and long service leave.

No provision has been made for sick leave as all sick leave in non-vesting and the average sick leave taken in future years by employees of the entity is estimated to be less than the annual entitlement for sick leave.

The leave liabilities are calculated on the basis of employees' remuneration at the estimated salary rates that will be applied at the time the leave is taken, including the entity's employer superannuation contribution rates to the extent that the leave is likely to be taken during service rather than paid out on termination.

The liability for long service leave has been determined by reference to the shorthand method as prescribed by the Department of Finance. The estimate of the present value of the liability takes into account attrition rates and pay increases through promotion and inflation.

Superannuation

Under the Superannuation Legislation Amendment (Choice of Funds) Act 2004, staff of the agency are able to become a member of any complying superannuation fund. A complying superannuation fund is one that meets the requirements under the Income Tax Assessment Act (1997) and the Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act 1993.

Staff are members of a scheme of their choice, the Public Sector Superannuation Scheme (PSS), or the PSS accumulation plan (PSSap), or other superannuation funds held outside the Australian Government.

The PSS is a defined benefit schemes for the Australian Government. The PSSap is a defined contribution scheme.

The liability for defined benefits is recognised in the financial statements of the Australian Government and is settled by the Australian Government in due course. This liability is reported in the Department of Finance's administered schedules and notes.

The entity makes employer contributions to the employees' superannuation scheme at rates determined by an actuary to be sufficient to meet the current cost to the Government. The entity accounts for the contributions as if they were contributions to defined contribution plans.

The liability for superannuation recognised as at 30 June represents outstanding contributions for the final day of the year.

Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency

4.2 Key Management Personnel Remuneration

Key management personnel are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the entity, directly or indirectly, including any director (whether executive or otherwise) of that entity. The entity has determined the key management personnel to be the Chief Executive. Key management personnel remuneration is reported in the table below:

	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
Short-term employee benefits	268	255
Post-employment benefits	32	32
Other long-term employee benefits	29	21
Total key management personnel remuneration expenses¹	329	308

The total number of key management personnel that are included in the above table is 1 individual (2017: 1).

1. The above key management personnel remuneration excludes the remuneration and other benefits of the Portfolio Minister. The Portfolio Minister's remuneration and other benefits are set by the Remuneration Tribunal and are not paid by the entity.

Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency

4.3 Related Party Disclosures

Related party relationships:

The entity is an Australian Government controlled entity. Related parties to this entity are Key Management Personnel including the Portfolio Minister.

Transactions with related parties:

Significant transactions with related parties can include:

- the payments of grants or loans;
- purchases of goods and services;
- asset purchases, sales transfers or leases;
- debts forgiven; and
- guarantees.

Giving consideration to relationships with related entities, and transactions entered into during the reporting period by the entity, it has been determined that the related party transactions to be separately disclosed in the 2017-18 Financial year are:

Related party transactions for 2018 is \$0 (2017: \$0).

Managing uncertainties

This section analyses how the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency manages financial risks within its operating environment.

5.1 Contingent Assets and Liabilities

The Agency does not have any contingent liabilities or contingent assets as at 30 June 2018. Therefore no schedule is required.

Accounting Policy

Contingent liabilities and contingent assets are not recognised in the statement of financial position but are reported in the notes. They may arise from uncertainty as to the existence of a liability or asset or represent an asset or liability in respect of which the amount cannot be reliably measured. Contingent assets are disclosed when settlement is probable but not virtually certain and contingent liabilities are disclosed when settlement is greater than remote.

Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency**5.2 Financial Instruments**

	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
5.2A: Categories of Financial Instruments		
Financial Assets		
Loans and receivables		
Cash and cash equivalents	64	66
Trade and other receivables	22	16
Total loans and receivables	86	82
Total financial assets	86	82
Financial Liabilities		
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost		
Trade creditors and accruals	503	593
Total financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	503	593
Total financial liabilities	503	593

Accounting Policy

Financial assets

The entity classifies its financial assets in the following categories:

a) loans and receivables.

The classification depends on the nature and purpose of the financial assets and is determined at the time of initial recognition. Financial assets are recognised and derecognised upon trade date.

Effective Interest Method

Income is recognised on an effective interest rate basis except for financial assets that are recognised at fair value through profit or loss.

Financial Assets at Fair Value Through Profit or Loss

Financial assets are classified as financial assets at fair value through profit or loss where the financial assets:

- a) have been acquired principally for the purpose of selling in the near future;
- b) are derivatives that are not designated and effective as a hedging instrument; or
- c) are parts of an identified portfolio of financial instruments that the entity manages together and has a recent actual pattern of short-term profit-taking.

Assets in this category are classified as current assets.

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss are stated at fair value, with any resultant gain or loss recognised in profit or loss. The net gain or loss recognised in profit or loss incorporates any interest earned on the financial asset.

Impairment of Financial Assets

Financial assets are assessed for impairment at the end of each reporting period.

Financial assets held at amortised cost - if there is objective evidence that an impairment loss has been incurred for loans and receivables or held to maturity investments held at amortised cost, the amount of the loss is measured as the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. The carrying amount is reduced by way of an allowance account. The loss is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

Financial assets held at cost - if there is objective evidence that an impairment loss has been incurred, the amount of the impairment loss is the difference between the carrying amount of the asset and the present value of the estimated future cash flows discounted at the current market rate for similar assets.

Financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are classified as either financial liabilities 'at fair value through profit or loss' or other financial liabilities. Financial liabilities are recognised and derecognised upon 'trade date'.

Financial Liabilities at Fair Value Through Profit or Loss

Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss are initially measured at fair value. Subsequent fair value adjustments are recognised in profit or loss. The net gain or loss recognised in profit or loss incorporates any interest paid on the financial liability.

Other Financial Liabilities

Other financial liabilities, including borrowings, are initially measured at fair value, net of transaction costs. These liabilities are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, with interest expense recognised on an effective interest basis.

Supplier and other payables are recognised at amortised cost. Liabilities are recognised to the extent that the goods or services have been received (and irrespective of having been invoiced).

Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency

5.3 Fair Value Measurement

The following tables provide an analysis of assets and liabilities that are measured at fair value. The remaining assets and liabilities disclosed in the statement of financial position do not apply the fair value hierarchy.

	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
5.3A: Fair Value Measurement		
Non-financial assets		
Leasehold improvements	40	57
Plant and equipment	77	76
Total Non-financial assets	117	133

Assets are still relatively new, as only purchased in the last 6 to 24 months. Our review of the assets have not identified any impairment, or need to be replaced. Therefore the measurement being depreciated replacement cost was used to represent fair value.







Appendices

Agency engagements and consultations

Date of event	Location	Organisation	Type
July 2017			
8–24 July 2017	Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia	South east Asian engagement on asbestos awareness and introduction of national bans	workshops and meetings
27 July 2017	Sydney	Afternoon tea with Asbestos Diseases Foundation of Australia and NSW Governor, His Excellency General the Hon. David Hurley	function
28 July 2017	Sydney	Asbestos Support Group network meeting	teleconference
August 2017			
2 Aug 2017	Sydney	Australian Government Leadership Network, NSW Connections	meeting
3 Aug 2017	Sydney	Discussion with Martin Bowles, former secretary, Department of Health	teleconference
4 Aug 2017	Sydney	Senior Officials for workplace health and safety meeting	teleconference
8 Aug 2017	Sydney	Asbestos Safety and Eradication Council meeting	meeting
14 Aug 2017	Sydney	World Health Organization – discussion regarding Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos visit	teleconference
22 Aug 2017	Sydney	Technical Research Advisory Committee	meeting
28 Aug 2017	Sydney	Guest speaker, APHEDA – Union Aid Abroad dinner	function
29 Aug 2017	Sydney	Paul Signorelli, Biaggio Signorelli Foundation	meeting
30 Aug 2017	Sydney	Department of Environment and Energy – Rotterdam Convention effectiveness survey	teleconference
September 2017			
8 Sep 2017	Canberra	Australian National Audit Office	meeting
14 Sep 2017	Canberra	National Association of Testing Authorities	meeting
26 Sep 2017	Sydney	Building, Construction and Demolition Sectors Committee	meeting
27 Sep 2017	Sydney	Asbestos Interdepartmental Committee meeting	teleconference
28 Sep 2017	Sydney	Asbestos Support Group Network meeting	teleconference
29 Sep 2017	Sydney	Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency Audit Committee	meeting
29 Sep 2017	Sydney	Discussion with World Health Organization regarding Asbestos Safety and Eradication Summit 2017	teleconference

Date of event	Location	Organisation	Type
October 2017			
13 Oct 2017	Sydney	Heads of Workplace Safety Authorities Imported Materials Containing Asbestos Working Group	teleconference
13 Oct 2017	Sydney	Government agencies meeting on Rotterdam Convention Survey of effectiveness	teleconference
17 Oct 2017	Sydney	Diane Smith-Gander - chair, Asbestos Safety and Eradication Council	meeting
19 Oct 2017	Canberra	Kerri Hartland - Secretary, Department of Jobs and Small Business	meeting
19 Oct 2017	Canberra	Senator the Honourable Lisa Singh – co-chair, Parliamentary Group on Asbestos-Related Disease	meeting
23 Oct 2017	Sydney	Safe Work Australia	meeting
23 Oct 2017	Sydney	Sandra Parker – deputy secretary, Department of Jobs and Small Business	meeting
24 Oct 2017	Sydney	Australian Skills Quality Authority – implementing asbestos training in the utilities sector	teleconference
26 Oct 2017	Canberra	Department of Jobs and Small Business Portfolio Agency Heads meeting	meeting
26 Oct 2017	Sydney	Diane Smith-Gander – chair, Asbestos Safety and Eradication Council	meeting
27 Oct 2017	Canberra	Senate Estimates	hearing
November 2017			
2 Nov 2017	Sydney	Asbestos Safety and Eradication Council meeting	meeting
8 Nov 2017	Sydney	Asbestos Support Group Network meeting	teleconference
9 Nov 2017	Sydney	AlertForce (Training stakeholder)	meeting
9 Nov 2017	Sydney	Department of Jobs and Small Business	teleconference
20 Nov 2017	Sydney	National Asbestos Awareness Week – Bernie Banton Foundation event	function
21 Nov 2017	Sydney	Asbestos Safety and Eradication Council forward planning group	teleconference
26-28 Nov 2017	Canberra	Asbestos Safety and Eradication Summit 2017	conference
27 Nov 2017	Canberra	Special Asbestos Safety and Eradication Council meeting held in Canberra in conjunction with agency summit	meeting
29 Nov 2017	Canberra	Commonwealth Ombudsman Office	meeting
December 2017			
5 Dec 2017	Sydney	APHEDA – Union Aid Abroad – project update and planning	meeting
6 Dec 2017	Sydney	Australian Ambassador-Designate to Laos PDR	meeting
6 Dec 2017	Sydney	Asbestos Disease Research Institute	teleconference
7 Dec 2017	Adelaide	Safe Work Australia Members meeting	meeting
11 Dec 2017	Canberra	Asbestos Interdepartmental Committee	meeting
11 Dec 2017	Sydney	University of Wollongong – residential asbestos-containing materials database	presentation

Date of event	Location	Organisation	Type
December 2017			
13 Dec 2017	Sydney	Standards Australia – meeting to discuss asbestos measurement	meeting
14 Dec 2017	Sydney	E-Oz Energy Skills Australia (training stakeholder)	meeting
18 Dec 2017	Sydney	Department of Jobs and Small Business	meeting
January 2018			
11 Jan 2018	Sydney	Energy Queensland – training in utilities sector	teleconference
11 Jan 2018	Sydney	AlertForce (training stakeholder)	meeting
11 Jan 2018	Sydney	Queensland Building and Construction Commission	teleconference
17 Jan 2018	Canberra	ACT Government – asbestos training for tradespeople	meeting
29 Jan 2018	Sydney	Delegation from Japan – National Strategic Plan for Asbestos Management and Awareness	meeting
31 Jan 2018	Sydney	Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency Audit Committee	meeting
February 2018			
2 Feb 2018	Sydney	Victorian Asbestos Eradication Agency	meeting
6 Feb 2018	Sydney	Diane Smith-Gander - chair, Asbestos Safety and Eradication Council	meeting
6 Feb 2018	Sydney	Asbestos Support Group Network	meeting
9 Feb 2018	Sydney	Asbestos Industry Association of Australia	teleconference
14 Feb 2018	Sydney	Demolition and Asbestos Consultative Committee	meeting
14 Feb 2018	Sydney	Asbestos Safety and Eradication Council forward planning group	teleconference
22 Feb 2018	Sydney	APHEDA – Union Aid Abroad – project update	meeting
22 Feb 2018	Sydney	Department of Jobs and Small Business	meeting
March 2018			
15 Mar 2018	Sydney	Asbestos Safety and Eradication Council meeting	meeting
15 Mar 2018	Sydney	Kerri Hartland – Secretary, Department of Jobs and Small Business	teleconference
26 Mar 2018	Sydney	Standards Australia – Asbestos forum two	meeting
28 Mar 2018	Sydney	Melita Markey – Asbestos Disease Society of Australia	meeting
29 Mar 2018	Canberra	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	meeting
29 Mar 2018	Sydney	Asbestos Support Group Network	teleconference

Date of event	Location	Organisation	Type
April 2018			
3 Apr 2018	Sydney	Safe Work Australia – discussion regarding inspectors power to remove asbestos	teleconference
5 Apr 2018	Sydney	World Health Organization	teleconference
9 Apr 2018	Sydney	The Honourable Craig Laundy MP, meeting with Diane Smith-Gander	meeting
18 Apr 2018	Sydney	Building, Construction and Demolition Sectors Committee	meeting
24 Apr 2018	Sydney	Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency Audit Committee	meeting
26 Apr 2018	Canberra	Asbestos Training and Register Programme	meeting
30 Apr 2018	Brisbane	Seminar 'Raising awareness about the risk of Imported products containing asbestos'	seminar
May 2018			
1-10 May 2018	Canada	International Mesothelioma Interest Group (iMig) conference 2018	conference
4 May 2018	Canada	Alec Farquhar – Office of the Worker Adviser, Canada	meeting
7 May 2018	Canada	Rodger Cuzner – Parliamentary Secretary, Canadian Government	meeting
22 May 2018	Sydney	Workplace Gender Equality Agency – Employer of Choice for Gender Equality Review Panel	meeting
June 2018			
1 Jun 2018	Canberra	Secretary meeting for Agency Heads	meeting
1 Jun 2018	Sydney	Heads of Workplace Safety Authorities Imported Materials with Asbestos Working Group)	teleconference
4 Jun 2018	Sydney	NSP 2 Inception meeting	meeting
5 Jun 2018	Canberra	Asbestos IDC meeting	meeting
6 Jun 2018	Sydney	Asbestos Safety and Eradication Council meeting	meeting
13 Jun 2018	Sydney	Technical Research Advisory Committee	teleconference
19 Jun 2018	Canberra	ETU Conference	conference
21 Jun 2018	Sydney	Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency and Water Services Association of Australia	meeting
21 Jun 2018	Sydney	2017/18 final budget meeting	meeting

National Asbestos Exposure Register

Statistics for 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018

Table A1: Monthly responses by jurisdiction of current residence

Month	Jurisdiction								TOTAL
	ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA	
2017	45	275	75	205	51	38	126	113	928
July	3	42	6	10	8	4	23	26	122
August	7	70	19	25	7	1	15	10	154
September	6	44	15	40	9	3	14	10	141
October	18	52	14	46	11	13	15	27	196
November	7	23	17	35	7	7	22	18	136
December	4	44	4	49	9	10	37	22	179
2018	33	297	20	174	72	32	82	68	778
January	13	17	1	35	5	2	6	12	91
February	6	82	4	18	10	2	14	8	144
March	7	24	3	29	8	12	21	4	108
April	2	105	4	21	14	6	15	9	176
May	2	40	5	30	20	5	8	12	122
June	3	29	3	41	15	5	18	23	137
TOTAL	78	572	95	379	123	70	208	181	1706
	4.57%	33.53%	5.57%	22.22%	7.21%	4.1%	12.19%	10.61%	
Population (2017 Census)	410,301	7,861,068	246,105	4,928,457	1,723,548	520,877	6,323,606	2,580,354	
Proportion of population	1.67%	31.96%	1.00%	20.04%	7.01%	2.12%	25.71%	10.49%	

Table A2: Gender breakdown by jurisdiction of exposure

Gender of registrant	Jurisdiction of exposure								Total	% Gender
	ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA		
Female	36	90	43	72	19	20	46	46	373	21.86%
Male	57	476	50	279	102	50	162	158	1333	78.14%
TOTAL	93	566	93	351	121	70	208	204	1706	
Female	38.71%	15.90%	46.24%	20.51%	15.70%	28.57%	22.12%	22.55%	21.86%	
Male	61.29%	84.10%	53.76%	79.49%	84.30%	71.43%	77.88%	77.45%	78.14%	

Table A3: Occupational to non-occupational exposure by gender

Gender	Exposure type			Total	Exposure type		
	Outside workplace	Workplace	Total		Outside workplace	Workplace	Total
Female	191	182	373	51.21%	48.79%	100.00%	
Male	191	1142	1333	14.33%	85.67%	100.00%	
TOTAL	382	1324	1706	22.39%	77.61%	100.00%	

Figure A4: Age range by gender at first exposure

Age range – 1st exposure	Gender			% of age group			% female total		% male total	
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	% of Total	Female	Male		
<20	55	246	301	18.27%	81.73%	17.64%	14.75%	18.45%		
20–29	85	419	504	16.87%	83.13%	29.54%	22.78%	31.43%		
30–39	100	339	439	22.78%	77.22%	25.73%	26.81%	25.43%		
40–49	63	201	264	23.86%	76.14%	15.48%	16.89%	15.08%		
50–59	55	103	158	34.81%	65.19%	9.26%	14.75%	7.73%		
60+	15	25	40	37.50%	62.50%	2.35%	4.02%	1.88%		
TOTAL	373	1333	1706			100%	100%	100%		

Table A5: Proportion of workplace exposure to not workplace exposure

Age Range	Exposure type		TOTAL	Exposure type	
	Not Workplace	Workplace		Not Workplace	Workplace
<20	112	189	301	37.21%	62.79%
20–29	73	431	504	14.48%	85.52%
30–39	83	356	439	18.91%	81.09%
40–49	61	203	264	23.11%	76.89%
50–59	34	124	158	21.52%	78.48%
60+	18	22	40	45.00%	55.00%
TOTAL	381	1325	1706	22.33%	77.67%

Table A6: Location of exposure

Location of exposure	Count	% of TOTAL
Environmental/domestic	36	2.11%
Other	47	2.75%
Residential	237	13.89%
School/educational	61	3.58%
Work	1325	77.67%
TOTAL	1706	100.00%

Table A7: Exposure by job category

Job category	TOTAL	% TOTAL
Asbestos removal/disposal	25	2.21%
Boilermaker	24	2.12%
Building/construction	292	25.80%
Electrician	205	18.11%
Fitter and machinist	40	3.53%
Mining/resources occupations	51	4.50%
Other	446	39.40%
Plumber	49	4.33%
TOTAL	1132	100.00%

Table A8: Loose-fill asbestos exposure by jurisdiction of residence at time of exposure

Jurisdiction	Loose-fill exposure type						total
	Owner – no work done on house	Owner having done DIY on house	Owner having had work done on house	Tenant	Trades-person worker	Visitor to residence of family friends	
ACT	1	6	3	5	1	3	19
NSW	5	9	7	11	2	5	39
NT				3	2		5
Qld	1	1	1	16	1	5	25
SA				4			4
Tas		2	2	3		1	8
Vic		5	4	4	2	3	18
WA	1	1		4		1	7
TOTAL	8	24	17	50	8	18	125

Table A9: Frequency of exposure

Frequency	Location of exposure					TOTAL
	Environmen- tal/domestic	Other	Residential	School/ educational	Work	
> 5 years	3	6	41	17	316	383
>2 years to 5 years	3	1	25	8	118	155
>6 months to 2 years	0	8	41	10	156	215
0–6 months	17	8	77	15	450	567
Once only	14	24	53	11	284	386
TOTAL	37	47	237	61	1324	1706

Frequency by exposure location

Frequency	Environmen- tal/domestic	Other	Residential	School/ educational	Work	TOTAL
> 5 years	8.11%	12.77%	17.30%	27.87%	23.87%	22.45%
>2 years to 5 years	8.11%	2.13%	10.55%	13.12%	8.91%	9.09%
>6 months to 2 years	0%	17.02%	17.30%	16.39%	11.78%	12.60%
0–6 months	45.94%	17.02%	32.49%	24.59%	33.99%	33.23%
Once only	37.84%	51.06%	22.36%	18.03%	21.45%	22.63%
% of TOTAL exposure types	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Frequency as % of location

Frequency	Environmen- tal/domestic	Other	Residential	School/ educational	Work	TOTAL
> 5 years	0.78%	1.57%	10.70%	4.44%	82.51%	22.45%
>2 years to 5 years	1.94%	0.65%	16.13%	5.15%	76.12%	9.09%
>6 months to 2 years	0%	3.72%	19.07%	4.65%	72.56%	12.60%
0–6 months	2.99%	1.41%	13.58%	2.65%	79.37%	33.23%
Once only	3.63%	6.22%	13.73%	2.85%	73.57%	22.63%
% OF TOTAL EXPOSURE TYPES	2.11%	2.75%	13.89%	3.58%	77.67%	100.00%

Table A10: Means of finding out about NAER

Means of finding out about register	Jurisdiction								TOTAL	% TOTAL
	ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA		
ASEA website	2	7	1	6	1		4	2	23	1.35%
Employer	29	212	43	113	45	26	31	42	541	31.71%
Friends/family	16	62	8	52	18	12	48	39	255	14.95%
Internet search	5	45	6	32	16	10	29	16	159	9.30%
Local council		4		7			1	2	14	0.82%
Medical practitioner	3	12		7	7		8	1	38	2.23%
Newspaper*		28		7	1	2	16	2	56	3.28%
Other	13	56	15	100	22	11	48	35	300	17.60%
Pamphlet/leaflet		1		1	1	1	2	2	8	0.47%
State/territory regulator	3	18	10	5	6	3	3	5	53	3.10%
Training course	5	11	2	5	4	2	3	2	34	1.99%
Union	2	124	1	46	2	3	14	33	225	13.20%
TOTAL	78	580	86	381	123	70	207	181	1706	100.00%

*no data on newspaper after 31/03/18

Table A11: Proportion of workplace to non-workplace disease diagnoses

Disease type	Work-place	Outside workplace	TOTAL
Asbestosis	8	3	11
Cancer	1	2	3
Mesothelioma	3	2	5
Pleural Plaques	18	2	20
TOTAL	30	9	39

Annual Report list of requirements

Section	Description	Requirement	Page
	Letter of transmittal	Mandatory	vi
	Table of contents	Mandatory	vii
8	Index	Mandatory	111-114
8	Glossary	Mandatory	110
	Contact officer(s)	Mandatory	v
	Internet home page address and Internet address for report	Mandatory	v
Review by Chief Executive Officer			
1	Review by Chief Executive Officer	Mandatory	12
1	Summary of significant issues and developments	Suggested	17-18
7	Overview of agency's performance and financial results	Suggested	70
3	Outlook for following year	Suggested	38
	Significant issues and developments – portfolio	Portfolio departments – suggested	NA
Agency overview			
1	Role and functions	Mandatory	13
1	Organisational structure	Mandatory	13, 29-30
3	Outcome and programme structure	Mandatory	34-36
3	Where outcome and programme structures differ from PB Statements/PAES or other portfolio statements accompanying any other additional appropriation bills (other portfolio statements), details of variation and reasons for change	Mandatory	34
	Portfolio structure	Portfolio departments - mandatory	NA
Report on performance			
3	Review of performance during the year in relation to programmes and contribution to outcomes	Mandatory	34-37
3	Actual performance in relation to deliverables and KPIs set out in PB Statements/PAES or other portfolio statements	Mandatory	34-36
	Where performance targets differ from the PBS/PAES, details of both former and new targets, and reasons for the change	Mandatory	NA
3	Narrative discussion and analysis of performance	Mandatory	37
3	Trend information	Mandatory	40
	Significant changes in nature of principal functions/services	Suggested	NA
	Performance of purchaser/provider arrangements	If applicable, suggested	NA
3	Factors, events or trends influencing departmental performance	Suggested	40

Section	Description	Requirement	Page
	Contribution of risk management in achieving objectives	Suggested	NA
	Performance against service charter customer service standards, complaints data, and the department's response to complaints	If applicable, mandatory	NA
7	Discussion and analysis of the department's financial performance	Mandatory	70
7	Discussion of any significant changes in financial results from the prior year, from budget or anticipated to have a significant impact on future operations.	Mandatory	74, 75, 77, 78
	Agency resource statement and summary resource tables by outcomes	Mandatory	NA
Management and accountability			
➤ Corporate governance			
	Agency heads are required to certify that their agency complies with the Commonwealth Fraud Control Guidelines	Mandatory	vi
6	Statement of the main corporate governance practices in place	Mandatory	60
1	Names of the senior executive and their responsibilities	Suggested	14, 24
	Senior management committees and their roles	Suggested	14, 24-27
1	Corporate and operational plans and associated performance reporting and review	Suggested	16
6	Internal audit arrangements including approach adopted to identifying areas of significant financial or operational risk and arrangements to manage those risks	Suggested	60
6	Policy and practices on the establishment and maintenance of appropriate ethical standards	Suggested	62
	How nature and amount of remuneration for SES officers is determined	Suggested	NA
➤ External scrutiny			
6	Significant developments in external scrutiny	Mandatory	60
6	Judicial decisions and decisions of administrative tribunals and by the Australian Information Commissioner	Mandatory	60
6	Reports by the Auditor-General, a Parliamentary Committee, the Commonwealth Ombudsman or an agency capability review	Mandatory	60
➤ Management of human resources			
6	Assessment of effectiveness in managing and developing human resources to achieve departmental objectives	Mandatory	61
6	Workforce planning, staff retention and turnover	Suggested	61
6	Impact and features of enterprise or collective agreements, individual flexibility arrangements (IFAs), determinations, common law contracts and Australian Workplace Agreements (AWAs)	Suggested	61
6	Training and development undertaken and its impact	Suggested	61
6	Work health and safety performance	Suggested	62
6	Productivity gains	Suggested	NA
6	Statistics on staffing	Mandatory	61
6	Indigenous employment statistics	Mandatory	61
6	Enterprise or collective agreements, IFAs, determinations, common law contracts and AWAs	Mandatory	61
6	Performance pay	Mandatory	62

Section	Description	Requirement	Page
Assets management			
6	Assessment of effectiveness of assets management	If applicable, mandatory	63
Purchasing			
6	Assessment of purchasing against core policies and principles	Mandatory	63
Consultants			
6	The annual report must include a summary statement detailing the number of new consultancy services contracts let during the year; the total actual expenditure on all new consultancy contracts let during the year (inclusive of GST); the number of ongoing consultancy contracts that were active in the reporting year; and the total actual expenditure in the reporting year on the ongoing consultancy contracts (inclusive of GST). The annual report must include a statement noting that information on contracts and consultancies is available through the AusTender website.	Mandatory	63
Australian National Audit Office access clauses			
6	Absence of provisions in contracts allowing access by the Auditor-General	Mandatory	64
Exempt contracts			
6	Contracts exempted from publication in AusTender	Mandatory	64
Financial statements			
7	Financial statements	Mandatory	70-94
OTHER MANDATORY INFORMATION			
6	Work health and safety (Schedule 2, Part 4 of the <i>Work Health and Safety Act 2011</i>)	Mandatory	62
6	Advertising and Market Research (Section 311A of the <i>Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918</i>) and statement on advertising campaigns	Mandatory	64
6	Procurement initiatives to support small business	Mandatory	64
6	Ecologically sustainable development and environmental performance (Section 516A of the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>)	Mandatory	65
6	Compliance with the agency's obligations under the <i>Carer Recognition Act 2010</i>	If applicable, mandatory	NA
6	Grant programmes	Mandatory	64
6	Disability reporting – explicit and transparent reference to agency level information available through other reporting mechanisms	Mandatory	65
6	Information Publication Scheme statement	Mandatory	65
6	Correction of material errors in previous annual report	If applicable, mandatory	NA
7	List of Requirements	Mandatory	107-109

Glossary

ABF	Australian Border Force
ACM	Asbestos-containing materials
agency	Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency
ASEC	Asbestos Safety and Eradication Council
AMR	Asbestos Management Review 2012
ANAO	Australian National Audit Office
APS	Australian Public Service
ARD	Asbestos-related disease
ASEA Act	<i>Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency Act 2013</i>
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
Council	Asbestos Safety and Eradication Council
Department	Department of Employment (unless otherwise stated)
DIBP	Department of Immigration and Border Protection
DIY	Do-it-yourself (renovators/renovations)
EL	Executive Level
FOI Act	<i>Freedom of Information Act 1982</i>
GST	Goods and Services Tax
HWSA	Heads of Workplace Safety Authorities
Minister	Minister for Employment (unless otherwise stated)
NAER	National Asbestos Exposure Register
NABERS	National Australian Built Environment Rating System
NSP/Plan	National Strategic Plan for Asbestos Awareness and Management 2014–18
PBS	Portfolio Budget Statement
PGPA Act	<i>Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013</i>
PS Act	<i>Public Service Act 1999</i>
WHS Act	<i>Work Health and Safety Act 2011</i>

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Note: figures are underlined, tables are in **bold** and photos in *italics*

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