



Group Policy: ASBESTOS POLICY

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Policy Manager	Asbestos Compliance Co-ordinator
Approval Body	Social Landlord Operations Committee
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This policy is available, on request, in different languages and in other formats such as large print, audio format and braille as required.

1. Scope

This is a Group policy and therefore applies to Staff, Board and Committee members of The RCH Group of companies. The RCH Group consists of River Clyde Homes and its subsidiary, Home Fix Scotland Ltd.

2. Introduction

This policy document is to ensure Riverclyde Homes (RCH) fully complies with all current Asbestos legislation including the Control of Asbestos Regulations (CAR) 2012.

RCH has also prepared relevant documents available to staff and / or the public to view:

- RCH Asbestos Management Plan:

<J:\Facilities Management\Public\Asbestos Management\RCH Asbestos Management Plan October 2019\Version 16 - 23.10.2019.pdf>

- Asbestos – YOUR GUIDE TO FINDING ASBESTOS IN YOUR HOME:

<J:\Asset Management\Public\FACILITIES MANAGEMENT\TENANT INFORMATION LEAFLETS\ASBESTOS\14233 RCH Your Guide To Asbestos June17 WEB.pdf>

River Clyde Homes recognises its responsibility to ensure that an effective Asbestos Management Plan is in place to promote the safety and security of tenants, owners, staff and users of its homes and buildings and to protect the asset value of those buildings it owns and manages. Operation of the Policy ensures RCH meets its legal requirements under the Asbestos Regulations.

The principle legislation and HSE guidance in this area is as follows:

- The Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012
- The Health & Safety at Work Act 1974
- The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999
- Construction Design and Management Regulations 2015
- Approved Codes of Practice (ACOP) I143 “Managing and working with Asbestos”
- Asbestos “The Survey Guide” – HSG 264
- Asbestos “The Analysts’ Guide for sampling, analysis and clearance procedures” – HSG 248

3. Definitions

HSG – Health and Safety Guidance.
ACOP- Approved Code of Practice

4. Policy Statement and Responsibilities

River Clyde Homes will ensure that all locations with asbestos containing materials are identified and recorded, and this information is available to all relevant persons. In properties where there is no asbestos information available, it will be presumed the materials within the property contain asbestos, until proven otherwise.

The Chief Executive, Directors and Head of Asset Management are responsible, so far as reasonably practicable, for ensuring the health and safety and welfare at work of all employees in their respective departments.

Specifically, where they are responsible for staff who may be required to deal with asbestos containing materials they will:

Ensure the adequate resources are made available to enable and ensure suitable arrangements for the management of asbestos are implemented. Arrangements will include requirements for asbestos surveys - River Clyde Homes Policy is to conduct Refurbishment surveys to all its domestic void properties. Other arrangements may be to arrange suitable analytical testing or where necessary, controlled asbestos removal works;

Ensure that where specialist technical expertise, in relation to asbestos, is not directly available within their department, suitable arrangements are in place to obtain any required information. This can be obtained from River Clyde Homes Compliance Co-ordinator (Asbestos) located within the Energy and Compliance Team.

Ensure that River Clyde Homes staff have been provided with the appropriate information and training on work being undertaken in areas containing asbestos. All new permanent members of staff dependant on their job role will be provided with Asbestos Awareness training and will attend regular refreshing training.

5. Equality Impact Assessment

RCH is committed to ensuring that no person or group of persons will be treated less favourably than another person or group of persons and will carry out duty with positive regard for the following core strands of equality: Age, Disability, Gender, Race, Gender Re-assignment, Sexual Orientation, Maternity, Pregnancy, Material Status and Religion and / or Belief.

RCH will also ensure that all services and actions are delivered within the context of current Human Rights Legislation. Staff and others with whom RCH works with will adhere to the central principles of the Human Rights Act (1998).

6. Review

This policy will be reviewed in its entirety every 3 years, unless an earlier review is required due to changes in legal, regulatory or best practice requirements, or because monitoring and reporting reveals that a change in policy is required sooner.