



## Keep people safe from future dangers of asbestos, regulator warns.

**15th January 2024**

- New HSE campaign emphasises legal duties to manage asbestos

[Asbestos: Your Duty](#) launching today, Monday 15 January, aims to improve understanding of **what the legal duty to manage asbestos involves**.

The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) wants anyone with responsibilities for buildings to do everything they must do to comply with the law and prevent exposure to this dangerous substance, which was widely used in post-war construction before it was completely banned in 1999.

The legal duty to manage asbestos covers a wide range of buildings. Businesses and organisations responsible for premises built before the turn of the century, and especially those between 1950 and 1980 when the use of asbestos in construction was at its peak, must carry out the necessary checks and understand their legal responsibilities.

HSE will check how asbestos is managed when visiting a range of buildings – like schools and hospitals – requiring those responsible for managing asbestos risks to ensure they have the right arrangements in place.

Sarah Albon, HSE's chief executive said: "To keep people safe from the harms of asbestos, a culture of safely managing asbestos is needed in our building industry and among those responsible for buildings."



## Director jailed for failing to protect workers from asbestos exposure

**27th March 2024**

A company director has been jailed for eight months after failing to protect workers from exposure to asbestos at a refurbishment project in Winchester.



Stephen Davies, 59, had set up Cavendish Winchester Ltd with the sole purpose of refurbishing the Winnall Close commercial unit into student rental accommodation. His co-director Neil Bolton, 56, was spared an immediate spell behind bars when he was handed a four-month suspended sentence at Southampton Crown Court on 27 March 2024. The company itself was fined £30,000 – with all three defendants pleading guilty.

An investigation by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) revealed the company removed an estimated **ten tonnes** of asbestos insulating board (AIB) during the refurbishment.



## Company fined £80,000 after director jailed for removing asbestos across Great Britain

13th April 2023

An unlicensed asbestos removal company has been fined £80k after its director was [jailed last month](#) after failing to ensure the safe removal of the dangerous product.



