



Media release

For immediate release

Date: 24 March 2014

Temporary closure of Lords recreation centre

Supplementary testing undertaken by an independent expert following some recent maintenance work in the roof space at Lords recreation centre has indicated the presence of asbestos fibres in other areas of Lords.

The City of Subiaco has temporarily closed the facility pending further test results.

CEO Stephen Tindale declared: "Our priority is the safety and wellbeing of our users, staff and tenants. On that basis, the city has closed the centre as a precautionary measure."

Mr Tindale provided an overview of the testing process: "Twenty surface sample tests were performed and the results of three samples in undisturbed areas indicated the presence of asbestos fibres.

"Results in main use areas indicated negative for asbestos fibres. Further testing by an independent expert, including airborne sampling, is underway and Lords will remain closed until such time as the city is assured that the centre is safe."

Mr Tindale committed to keeping the community informed about the temporary closure.

"The city values the dedication of Lords users. Information about memberships, court hire, sports competitions and other services will be provided as soon as possible.

"We will be keeping users up to date with email bulletins and an information desk will be set up in Subiaco Library from Tuesday 25 March."

The city took over the operation of Lords in 2009. Last month, council voted unanimously to continue to manage the popular recreation centre.

The asbestos roof, which covers three quarters of the centre, is recorded on the city's Asbestos Register. The city has committed to the replacement of the roof and other upgrades to the facility in the Corporate Business Plan.

For more information about asbestos, visit the public health section of the WA Department of Health's website.

For the latest information about the temporary closure, visit www.subiaco.wa.gov.au/lords or email lords@subiaco.wa.gov.au to be added to the email database.

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