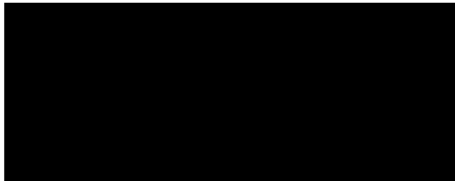


19 OCT 2018



Thank you for your phone call of 28 September 2018 to Housing New Zealand's Customer Support Centre, requesting information regarding lead contamination around houses, and whether Housing New Zealand has a testing regime in place. We have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982.

In response to your request, and following the conversation you have had with Renata Latimer, Market Delivery Manager, we are releasing to you Housing New Zealand's Paint Containing Lead Management and Control Policy (the Policy). We are also releasing our HS-314 Lead Identification Form. Please note that these documents should be read in conjunction with the Australian Standard AS 4361.2 Guide to Hazardous Paint Management.

Please also note that the Policy is a Housing New Zealand internal document. In addition to the Policy, Housing New Zealand communicates the following to its tenants:

- Paint containing lead in good condition, that remains undisturbed, presents little or no health risk. If the painted surfaces are in good condition, they're quite safe and tenants do not need to worry.
- Paint containing lead may present a health risk if it is removed by inappropriate methods, if the paintwork is in an advanced state of deterioration, or conditions are such that children or pets could ingest (eat or chew on) the paint.
- All paint on Housing New Zealand properties must be treated as containing lead if built prior to 1st January 1997 unless testing proves otherwise.
- As part of our inspections, we record the condition of paint, and if any is found in poor condition, we will take the necessary action.
- **Do not** try to deal with repairs or maintenance yourself. We have strict procedures for dealing with paint containing lead.
- All our repair and maintenance people know exactly what to do to make sure tenants' health and safety is not put at risk.
- If the paint is in a deteriorated state, this needs to be removed carefully to avoid any health risks.

This can also be found on the Housing New Zealand website at www.hnzc.co.nz/.

The brochure for tenants concerning lead paint and asbestos can be found at www.hnzc.co.nz/for-our-tenants-and-their-communities/our-tenants/health-and-safety/poisons-asbestos-and-lead-based-paint/.

If you have additional requests on behalf of the New Zealand Defence Force that you wish to make with Housing New Zealand, please send the request to GRU.Jobs@hnzc.co.nz.

I hope you find this helpful in forming your policies and risk assessment.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Travis', is written over the typed name.

Alex Travis
Senior Advisor, Government Relations