Asbestos is a hazardous material, which poses a health risk when airborne fibres are inhaled. Asbestos exposure is known to cause mesothelioma, asbestosis and lung cancer.

From 2006, Western Australian Government policy on Wittenoom requires that: 
*Pending the town’s closure, organisations with regulatory responsibilities should put in place a level of regulation which more appropriately balances their obligations for the health and safety of their staff and contractors with the significant health, safety and legal risks attendant upon their not discharging their regulatory responsibilities to residents of, and visitors to, the township”*

If for any reason a Council employee does enter or pass through Wittenoom or the areas of the mine sites, then protective clothing and apparatus is required (pursuant to the provisions of national standards for dealing with asbestos) to be provided by the Council and worn by the employee upon entering the site(s).

No Council employee shall go onto or pass through the areas to be avoided with Council vehicles or equipment unless on Council business with prior permission from the CEO. This specifically includes employees with personal use of a council vehicle on their own time.
In the event that a vehicle is taken into these sites, it shall be hosed down in an appropriate manner as soon as possible after leaving the site(s).

**Wittenoom Zones**

**Hot Zone**
The Hot Zone represents a danger to life or health to people and entry should only be by trained personnel with the appropriate levels of protective clothing. The boundary of the Hot Zone must be indicated with demarcation tape. Movement from a Hot Zone to a Warm or Cold Zone must be accompanied by decontamination.

**Warm Zone**
The Warm Zone is the area directly outside the Hot Zone where Hot Zone support takes place - Incident Control, personnel and equipment staging, BA Control and decontamination. It contains the entry points into the Hot Zone and optional exit points from the decontamination area. Entry to the Warm Zone is only for those involved in Hot Zone support and the boundary should be indicated with demarcation tape.

**Cold Zone**
The Cold Zone is the area outside the Warm Zone, and is a safe, exclusion area for the Incident Controller and all other agencies, either in a combat or support role, to
operate from safely with minimal PPE. The outer perimeter of the Cold Zone will be secured by police to exclude members of the public.

Signed

Shire President  COMMISSIONER

Monitor and Review:

Last Review Date

Next Review Date

This policy is to remain in force until otherwise determined by the Council or superseded.