



City of **HOBART**

MEDIA STATEMENT

27 February 2017

Unauthorised demolition of property at 55 Mount Stuart Road, Mount Stuart

The Council will serve an emergency order on the owner of the property at 55 Mt Stuart Road, Mt Stuart after the unauthorised demolition of heritage listed trees and a building.

The General Manager of the City of Hobart, Mr Nick Heath said the Council's immediate priority is to ensure that the site at 55 Mt Stuart Road is made safe.

"The owner demolished the building despite the presence of asbestos and it appears that no measures were taken to manage and control the asbestos nor were any measures taken to minimise and mitigate the risks associated with the disturbance of asbestos.

"To address the threat of asbestos and unsecured building debris at the site, we have served the owner of the property with an Emergency Order under the *Building Act 2016*. It requires the property owner to cease all work except work that is authorised by the Emergency Order," said Mr Heath.

The Lord Mayor said this was an act of blatant destruction and is unacceptable.

"Not only did the owner carry out this work without obtaining any approvals, he disregarded the cease work direction of a Council officer and despite being advised to cease the removal of a tree, he continued to remove the tree and subsequently demolished the building," said the Lord Mayor.

The Lord Mayor said while the Council's main priority was to ensure the site was made safe, she could assure the community that the Council intended to pursue all breaches of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993 and the Building Act 2016*.

Under the Emergency Order, the owner is required to:

1. Immediately stop work.
2. Within 24 hours of the date of the order, engage a licensed asbestos removalist and implement all measures recommended by the licensed asbestos removalist to control all asbestos on the property.
3. Within 24 hours erect appropriate signage restricting access to the property and not remove the signage unless and until certification in accordance with paragraph 10 has been issued.
4. Within 24 hours of the date of the order, take all reasonable actions to prevent material and debris escaping on to or into the road or neighbouring properties.
5. Within 24 hours of the date of the order, secure the damaged building and all loose building materials.
6. Within 24 hours of the date of the order, cap and seal all sewer and stormwater drains and water supply lines ensuring all capped and sealed drains and lines are clearly marked.
7. Within 3 days of the order, remove all asbestos contained on the property.
8. The works required by paragraph 7 must be undertaken by an licensed asbestos removalist and supervised by an accredited building surveyor
9. The works required by paragraph 7 must be carried out in accordance with Chapter 8 of the *Work Health and Safety Regulations 2012*
10. Within 48 hours of completion of the works required by paragraph 6, provide certification to the Council issued by the licensed asbestos removalist certifying that all asbestos has been removed from the property and that the property is safe.

ENDS

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