



Gabrielle Upton
Minister for Local Government

MEDIA RELEASE

Friday, 22 December 2017

MORE SCRUTINY FOR BLUE MOUNTAINS CITY COUNCIL

Minister for Local Government Gabrielle Upton has issued Blue Mountains City Council with a notice of intention to issue a Performance Improvement Order.

“I remain seriously concerned that the safety of its community and work force has been compromised by inadequate processes to deal with asbestos,” Ms Upton said.

“Councillors cannot wash their hands of the problems under their watch. Blue Mountains City Council is now facing extra oversight from the Office of Local Government as well as investigations from SafeWork and the NSW Environment Protection Authority.”

On Wednesday, 20 December council lodged a submission in response to Ms Upton’s notice of intention to suspend it that outlined the actions council is taking.

“As required by law, I have taken this submission into account. However, I still hold serious concerns about the council’s governance and management practices,” Ms Upton said.

“I am proposing to issue a Performance Improvement Order to hold the council to account and make sure it takes the necessary action to address its poor record on asbestos management.”

The council has an opportunity to make a further submission before the Performance Improvement Order can be issued. The council has until Friday, 19 January 2018 to respond to the notice.

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