

# KENSINGTON COMMUNITY AQUATIC AND RECREATION CENTRE REDEVELOPMENT

## Project update

March 2023

City of Melbourne notified the community of contaminated soil at the Kensington Community Aquatic and Recreation Centre redevelopment site in July 2022.

Since then, we have been working closely with our consultants and the contractor to determine a safe, efficient and cost-effective solution to remove the soil, with works starting late last year.

### Upcoming works and disruptions

Over the coming months, we will continue soil removal and pre-drilling works for the new foundations, which are on track to be complete by mid-2023.

We are also installing a separation layer between the existing soil and the new foundations using imported mudstone material. Due to trucks and equipment moving over this material, dust levels have increased around the site.

In line with OHS requirements, we are conducting daily air monitoring and can confirm the dust does not pose a health risk to the community, however we understand the inconvenience it causes for surrounding neighbours.

To keep dust levels as low as possible, we have brought in an additional water cart and increased watering and misting across the site. Despite these additional dust suppression methods, dust levels will unfortunately continue to fluctuate over the coming months while we complete groundworks.

### Revised completion date and budget

Council is committed to delivering the centre Kensington needs and deserves, however removing the contaminated soil has impacted the timeframe and budget of the project.

We anticipate the new centre will open in early 2025 with an additional \$17.2 million required to complete the project. This brings the total cost to \$68.2 million.

We apologise to the community for the delay – we know many of you are excited to walk in the doors of the new facility.

### Was the soil assessed prior to demolition?

Investigations of the soil were conducted in 2021 while the old centre remained open. This included drilling bore holes inside and around the pool hall and basketball court.

These initial investigations found that while some small amounts of asbestos were present, the amount would not significantly impact the project. However, further testing after demolition works revealed that there was more asbestos material underground.

### For more information

Scan the QR code, call 9658 9658 or email the project team at [KCARC@melbourne.vic.gov.au](mailto:KCARC@melbourne.vic.gov.au)



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