

15 November 2019

Chris Allan  
President  
Omaha Beach Community Inc  
PO Box 123  
MATAKANA 0948

**By email: [ChrisA@grovedarlow.co.nz](mailto:ChrisA@grovedarlow.co.nz)**

Dear Chris

**ASBESTOS CONTAINING MATERIAL, WHANGATEAU HARBOUR ESPLANADE RESERVE, OMAHA**

Thank-you for your letter dated 11 November 2019.

Since our initial verbal communication on 25 October 2019, I've been briefed on the ongoing communications between Auckland Council and the Omaha community for many years regarding this matter.

Auckland Council has been remiss in contacting Mr. Tant in a timely manner following his correspondence of 7 August 2019 for which we have apologised. On 10 November, council staff contacted Mr. Tant to provide a verbal update on the proceedings to date in relation to the clearance of visible surface asbestos containing material (ACM).

The rationale for commencing visible surface ACM clearance was identified to be of significant risk to the public. The key factors considered included:

- the well-being of the public;
- the recommendation by subject matter experts that visible surface ACM clearance works should be undertaken;
- that there would be an increase in public activity in the area over the Labour Weekend;
- that the grassed area immediately south of the dinghy storage had areas of bare sandy soil which was exposing potentially friable ACM at surface level and that this area was likely to have the greatest concentration of people in close proximity to it;

The methodology for undertaking visible surface ACM clearance works (fencing the area being cleared, signage, worker PPE etc.) has been in accordance with accepted best practice and WorkSafe New Zealand guidelines.

To date, the two areas closest to the south of the dinghy storage area have been cleared of visible surface ACM. We are currently awaiting the results of soil testing to guide next steps, but it is likely we will shortly proceed to clear visible surface ACM from the remainder of the grassed esplanade and foreshore and to have all, if not the majority completed before Christmas. Should this proceed, staff will communicate with you (in your capacity as President of Omaha Beach Community Inc.) and landowners directly adjoining the reserve.

Going forward, John Cranfield, Area Manager Operational Management & Maintenance ([John.Cranfield@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:John.Cranfield@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz) & 027 807 5793) will act as your first point of contact for staff at council. John is well placed to provide you and your organisation with regular updates. John can also organise for our staff to meet with you at your convenience and as early as next week. He'll be in contact to arrange this with you.

Yours faithfully



**Koro Dickinson**  
**Executive Officer**  
**Auckland Council**

**Copy by email:**

John Cranfield  
Area Manager Operational Management & Maintenance  
[John.Cranfield@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:John.Cranfield@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)

Phelan Pirrie  
Rodney Local Board Chair  
[Phelan.pirrie@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:Phelan.pirrie@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)

Beth Houlbrooke  
Rodney Local Board Deputy Chair  
[beth.houlbrooke@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:beth.houlbrooke@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)

Councillor Greg Sayers  
Rodney Ward  
[greg.sayers@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:greg.sayers@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)