

COUNCIL POLICY

TITLE:	Methamphetamine Building Contaminations
MEETING:	Council
EFFECTIVE DATE:	13 December 2016
REVIEW:	November 2021
FILE REFERENCE:	306000

1 Introduction

Methamphetamine or P is a powerful and highly addictive illegal drug which is manufactured in makeshift, clandestine laboratories. The manufacture of methamphetamine and high levels of use can leave unacceptable levels of residue, which in turn can cause harm to human health.

2 Background

In late 2016 Council sought to better understand what takes place when a building is identified as being potentially contaminated and what obligations and options it has in relation to such buildings. This resulted in a decision to adopt a policy setting out how it will deal with notified contaminations.

3 Policy Objectives

The objectives of this policy are:

- To set standards for how Council will deal with notified methamphetamine building contaminations, and
- To provide that information about methamphetamine contamination and remediation measures is recorded and available to the public.

4 Principles

Where Council is notified of a building in Kawerau that has been used as a clan lab or is suspected of being contaminated by high levels of P use, it has a responsibility to ensure that testing provides reliable results, that any decontamination is effective, reduces harm and enables the property to be safely

reoccupied and that any contaminated contents are treated and disposed of in accordance with good practice.

5 Definitions

Clan lab means a clandestine laboratory, or building where methamphetamine has been manufactured.

Contamination means a level of residue, from methamphetamine manufacture or use, above the level deemed safe under the Standard for testing and decontamination of methamphetamine-contaminated properties (NZS8510).

6 Policy Statement

- 6.1 When Council is notified of the possible contamination of a Kawerau property, it will ensure that the NZ Standard for Testing and decontamination of methamphetamine-contaminated properties (NZS 8510) is applied to the testing and decontamination of the property and the disposal of its contents as required.
- 6.2 Where a property has been contaminated by methamphetamine, Council will include information about the testing and remediation measures taken at that property on any Land Information Memorandum (LIM) issued in relation to that property and the public section of the relevant property file kept at Council.

7 Relevant Delegations

The Chief Executive Officer or his/her nominee has delegated authority for the implementation of this policy.

8 References and Relevant Legislation

The Health Act 1956

The Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987