

### **Notes on the Issue of Asbestos**

With the general information below, we hope to enlighten you on the issue of asbestos and thereby prevent potential uncertainty.

#### **What is asbestos?**

Asbestos is a fibrous mineral substance with a high level of resistance to heat and acid. Several decades ago, particularly in the 1960s and 1970s, it was therefore incorporated into various structural elements all over Germany in order to improve fire safety.

#### **Is the substance still incorporated today?**

No! It has since become known that the inhalation of released asbestos fibres can cause damage to health. The substance is therefore no longer incorporated. However, it can still be found in many old objects, for example in some wastewater pipes, corrugated roofing sheets, plastic floor tiles, manhole covers, balcony balustrades, flower boxes and even night storage heaters. These objects must therefore be treated with care in order to prevent the release of asbestos.

#### **No health hazard with undamaged, firmly-bound asbestos**

We specifically point out that asbestos in bound condition, for example as an element in old, undamaged floorings or floor adhesives, is harmless and need not be removed. However, work on structural elements and objects containing asbestos is prohibited by law and may only be undertaken by specialist companies!

#### **Please note therefore:**

Under no circumstances should you undertake work such as repairs, modifications, removal or other mechanical adaptations (including simple drilling) on any of the aforementioned objects, as these could contain asbestos. Do not move night storage heaters on your own and avoid any damage to floors and floorings. If you find damage to the aforementioned structural elements, please inform us immediately, keep away from the structural elements and do not remove or repair them yourself. We will immediately check whether asbestos is present, arrange safe removal of any asbestos by specialist companies and check that it has been properly removed in a way that is harmless for you. If you wish to remove your own carpets or other floorings under which there are plastic floor tiles, we would likewise ask you to contact your office beforehand for approval.

If you have any questions, please contact our Service Center.

These notes are an information service for our tenants. We accept no liability for translation errors, language-based shifts in meaning or vagueness in the translation.