

21 February 2025

TMR reinforces need for community safety during contamination investigations on Highgate Hill site

- **TMR is urging community members not to access or consume produce from the site at 1-3 Dudley Street, Highgate Hill due to possible contamination risk.**
- **TMR does not currently know the composition and content of the soil and fill on the property, which may contain contaminants presenting a risk to human health.**
- **The West End community's ongoing health, safety and wellbeing remains a priority for TMR.**

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR), who owns the land at 1-3 Dudley Street, Highgate Hill, is urging the community to not access the site.

This follows TMR being made aware that some of the fill that was historically placed at 1-3 Dudley Street, Highgate Hill (also referred to as 250 Boundary Road, Highgate Hill) may have been contaminated.

TMR does not currently know the composition and content of the soil and fill on the property. There is a risk the property that contaminants may be present.

TMR needs to investigate. Until these investigations are complete, the land should not be accessed without authorisation from TMR.

The unapproved garden may be contaminated and may present a risk to human health if people consume or disseminate produce from the property.

Quotes attributable to a Transport and Main Roads spokesperson:

"TMR holds concerns of potential contamination risks on this site at West End, and proactively implemented several protective actions as a part of our steadfast commitment to community safety.

"Recognising the health and safety of local residents and the wider community as the utmost priority, TMR sought to secure the land with a perimeter fence to limit access and ensure a safe workplace for necessary investigations to be undertaken

"While the current use of the land has been established without the proper permits or approvals, this closure is a necessary step to mitigate any potential safety risks associated with the property.

"We want to remind the community that entry to property owned by TMR without our consent is illegal.

"TMR is awaiting an initial update from the laboratory regarding samples already taken, however we have been advised that further sampling is required to complete investigations.

"We appreciate the patience and understanding of the community during this time. TMR is diligently working to investigate the situation as swiftly and safely as possible and will keep the community updated."

ENDS

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