



LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR MADDA FUNDING SUBMISSION TO THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

7 April 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

The Master Plumbers and Gasfitters Association of Western Australia is pleased to support the funding submission of Mesothelioma and Dust Diseases Australia (MADDA) to the Western Australian Department of Health.

Our members work daily in environments where exposure to asbestos and hazardous dusts remains a real and ongoing risk, particularly in renovation, maintenance, and demolition work. Despite increased awareness and regulation, asbestos continues to pose a significant threat across Western Australia's built environment. The state continues to experience one of the highest rates of mesothelioma in Australia, at 4.2 cases per 100,000 people—almost double the national average.

MADDA plays an important role in both supporting those affected and preventing future disease. Their nurse-led support service provides practical guidance, care navigation, and emotional support to individuals and families facing a mesothelioma diagnosis—ensuring they are not left to navigate a complex system alone. This is particularly important in Western Australia, where there are currently no dedicated mesothelioma support nurses within the public health system.

In addition, MADDA is leading important work in prevention. Through training, awareness campaigns, and advocacy across industry and government, they are helping to drive cultural change around asbestos and dust exposure. Their work embedding asbestos awareness into apprenticeship pathways is particularly important in protecting young workers entering the industry. Prevention is the only way we will stop future generations from suffering the same outcomes.

MADDA is seeking \$250,000 per annum in ongoing funding to expand its specialist nursing service and continue its advocacy and awareness programs. The Master Plumbers and Gasfitters Association of Western Australia supports this request and recognises the value of investing in services that protect workers and support those affected by asbestos-related disease.

Yours sincerely,

Murray Thomas
CEO

The Master Plumbers and Gasfitters Association of Western Australia (*Union of Employees*)

