

No. 168/2026

4th June 2026

To: All Branches

Dear Colleagues,

CWU AWARENESS OF RECALLED PRODUCTS DUE TO ASBESTOS HAZARD RISKS

In the last week, the UK office of Product Safety and Standards (OPSS) updated its recalled list of products due to asbestos related risks. In total, 127 toy items and play items have now been recalled since January 2026. Several major retailers including Tesco, Matalan, Asda, Hobbycraft, B&M, Argos, and Aldi have been involved in product recalls from August 2023 through to May 2026.

[Asbestos in consumer products - GOV.UK](#)

[Product Safety Alerts, Reports and Recalls - GOV.UK](#)

In December 2025, urgent recalls were issued in Australia & New Zealand after tremolite, and chrysotile asbestos contamination had been found in toys imported from China. The affected products were sensory play sand, craft sand and kinetic sand. In 2026 in the UK and other European countries product recalls included colored sand, sand pictures, sand playsets products, and stretchy figurines.

The CWU understands that the UK's Office of Product Safety and Standards (OPSS) have little or no testing capacity – recalls are based on self-reports from importing companies or manufacturers. There is currently no publicly available information about the percentage level of contamination in the products recalled in the UK.

The latest 'multiple items' OPSS recall from 7th May includes Novelty Doorstops

The latest OPSS product safety recall alert issued on the 7th of May indicated a list of thirty-five products presenting a risk to health, as the sand inside the doorstops may be contaminated with a quantity of asbestos. Corrective action being, that these products have now been withdrawn from the market and recalled from end users by Dunelm. Even though this latest recall is classified as 'Decorative articles/Homeware/Garden ware –

Ornaments' it has been noted that some of these items clearly **do resemble toys in appearance** and may attract child play activity.

The latest product recall sheet is attached with images alongside this LTB, with the aim being to assist CWU members in familiarising themselves with the latest recalled items. There are five other OPSS recalls for this month alone just for toy products.

CWU guidance going forward.

- It is advisable to check purchased items for CE/UKCA marking, manufacturer details and safety information.
- Be cautious of products with no traceability.
- Buy from reputable suppliers.
- Choose suppliers with clear safety information, established quality assurance processes, and transparent sourcing.
- Familiarise yourself with the latest OPSS product safety alerts (website link above)

If you have concerns about a product that you think might contain asbestos but has not been recalled:

In England and Wales: [contact the Citizens Advice consumer service.](#)

In Scotland: [contact the Advice Direct Scotland consumer helpline.](#)

In Northern Ireland: [Contact Us | Advice NI](#)

Guidance on how situations should be managed is available here; [GOV.UK.](#)
OPSS also provides information on [testing for asbestos in sand](#)

This LTB is shared on behalf of CWU Central Services.

If you have any questions or need any further information, please contact:

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Dunelm Novelty Doorstops	
Aspect	Details
Images	Please see Annex A.
PSD Number	2603-0019
Product Type	Decorative articles/Homeware/Gardenware - Ornaments (Non Powered)
Product Identifiers	Brand: Dunelm Sales period: January 2019 to February 2026 For a full list of product names and identifiers, please see Annex A.
Product Description	Range of novelty doorstops.
Country of Origin	China
Counterfeit	No
Risk Level	Not provided
Risk Type	Health risk
Risk Description	<p>The products present a risk to health as the sand inside the doorstop may be contaminated with a small quantity of asbestos. Asbestos is a banned substance because it poses a risk to health even at low levels of exposure.</p> <p>The products do not meet the requirements of the General Product Safety Regulations 2005.</p>
Corrective Measures	<p>The products have been withdrawn from the market and recalled from end users by Dunelm. We recommend owners stop using the products immediately and keep them out of the reach of children. Follow the below instructions for details on disposal and return of the products.</p> <p>For further information, please access: https://www.dunelm.com/info/help/product-safety-recalls or contact Dunelm via the Live Chat on the “contact us” page and 0333 234 0870.</p>
Online Marketplace	N/A
Notifier	Local Authority Trading Standards








Disposal instructions:





- Stop using the product immediately.
- If the product is undamaged, place it in a heavy-duty plastic bag, double tape it securely, label it clearly and store in a secure location out of the reach of children.
- If the product is damaged and the sand inside is accessible, gather the sand using wet cloths to avoid generating dust. Wear gloves and a mask. Double bag the sand, gloves, mask and cloths, and double tape it securely.
- Keep children and other people away from areas where the sand has been spilt until the area has been cleaned.
- Return the product to your nearest Dunelm store for a full refund.
- If you are unable to get to a Dunelm store, please follow the instructions above and dispose of the sand in your general household waste.



Annex A – Product Identifiers:






Product Name	Barcode	Article	Image
Albert Dog Doorstop	5054077316156	30198710	
Churchgate Swithland Doorstop	5056851419299	31000949	
Cockapoo Doorstop	5063003483060	30891356	
Cow Doorstop	5063003880548	30966707	
Darcy Duck Doorstop	5056851464251	31011438	



Elements Cord Ball Doorstop - Navy	5063003483077	30891357	
Elements Cord Ball Doorstop - Ochre	5063003483305	30891370	
Floral Jacquard Doorstop - Black	5063003483053	30891355	
Floral Jacquard Doorstop - Natural	5063003483022	30891352	



Product Recall

Fox Doorstop	5054077316187	30198713	
Frog Doorstop	5063003880296	30966669	
Geo Doorstop - Black	5063003483268	30891366	
Geo Doorstop - Natural	5063003483084	30891358	
Gilly the Giraffe Doorstop	5056851419404	31000940	








Product Recall

Giraffe Doorstop	5057722706111	30725675	
Hamish the Highland Cow Doorstop	5057722706128	30725676	
Hare Doorstop	5063003483213	30891361	
Hedgehog Doorstop	5063003483091	30891359	







Product Recall






Honeycomb Doorstop	5063003483046	30891354	
House Doorstop	5063003880180	30966712	
Lenny the Labrador Doorstop	5056851417301	31000649	
Llama Doorstop	5057722038144	30607179	
Mushroom Doorstop	5063003880197	30966713	



Product Recall



Owl Doorstop	5063003880555	30966708	
Pear Shaped Doorstop	5063003894712	30968990	
Pearl the Pig Doorstop	5056851419367	31000955	
Pom Pom Doorstop - Grey	5057722932497	30767112	



Pom Pom Doorstop - Natural	5057722933104	30767113	
Pug Doorstop	5063003483237	30891363	
Ralph the Schnauzer Doorstop	5054077870788	30453133	
Sam the Sausage Dog Doorstop	5056851419411	31000961	
Sandy the Boucle Sausage Dog Doorstop	5056851419183	31000928	



Product Recall

Stevie the Schnauzer Doorstop	5056851419374	31000956	
Velvet Cylinder Doorstop - Emerald	5057722932480	30767111	
Velvet Cylinder Doorstop - Grey	5057722932473	30767050	