



## Synod Wide Work Health and Safety

### Policy Statement D

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#### Statement

The Uniting Church in Australia, Queensland Synod through the Synod Standing Committee and, by virtue of the legislation, through the Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust (Q.) recognises its obligation to provide and maintain a safe and healthy environment for all who come into contact with the Church, its entities, facilities and their related activities. This includes, but not exclusively: workers (including contractors and volunteers), church members, students, clients, visitors and members of the public.

The objectives of the Synod's Work Health and Safety Policy and Framework are to:

- Promulgate health and safety as a value that underpins the way we work in order to operate without injuries, illnesses or incidents
- Provide a workplace where risks to health and safety are managed to protect workers' health, safety, psychological and social wellbeing
- Provide a culture of engagement, collaboration and consultation to ensure hazards are identified and the risks associated with them eliminated, if possible, or minimised as far as is reasonably practicable
- Comply with relevant WHS legislation and Australian Standards.

The above objectives will be achieved through the adoption of the Synod-wide Work Health and Safety Framework developed in alignment to AS/NZS 4801:2001 *Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems*. Individual entities are expected to:

- Provide leadership, support, direction and resources to establish a sustainable work health and safety management system
- Implement a WHS governance framework in a consistent and systematic manner, to deliver compliance with all relevant health and safety legislation, best practice standards and other requirements relevant to its activities
- Define and describe the health and safety expectations, accountabilities, responsibilities, obligations and culture to deliver a sustainable, safe and healthy environment
- Establish measurable objectives and targets to facilitate continual WHS improvement, in addition to periodical reviews and audits of the WHS management system
- Provide transparent monitoring, reporting and escalation of Work Health and Safety matters on a timely basis to the respective councils/boards and, if required, the Audit and Risk Committee (ARC), for further escalation to the Synod Standing Committee
- Demonstrate commitment to prompt rehabilitation of employees should a workplace injury or illness occur.



## Scope

This policy statement applies to all entities across the Uniting Church in Australia, Queensland Synod and their respective employees, ministry agents, volunteers and contractors.

## Revisions

Document number		Policy Statement D			
Version	Approval date	Approved by	Effective date	Policy owner	Policy contact
2.0	16.08.2021	Executive Leadership Team – minor changes (approval by Synod Standing Committee 01.11.2018)	16.08.2021	Executive Director Strategic Resources and Assurance	Manager, Risk and Compliance
Next scheduled review		16.08.2023			