



Workplace Health and Safety - Council Policy

Effective Date	17 August 2016 - Ordinary Meeting of Council
Policy Owner	Chief Human Resources Officer
Link to Corporate Plan	ST1: Effective and Inclusive Governance
Review Date	July 2020
Related Legislation	<i>Work Health & Safety Act 2011</i>
Related Documents	All sub documents in the Safety Management System

Policy Version	Approval Date	Adopted/Approved
1	15/04/2008	Ordinary Meeting of Council
2	19/05/2014	
3	17/08/2016	Ordinary Meeting of Council

This policy may not be current as Council regularly reviews and updates its policies. The latest controlled version can be found in the policies section of Council's intranet or Website. **A hard copy of this electronic document is uncontrolled.**



1. PURPOSE

The Western Downs Regional Council shall provide a safe and healthy environment for the persons at Council workplaces. Cost effective risk management practices shall be applied strategically to all parts of the organisation with an aim to maintain and improve workplace health and safety.

2. SCOPE

This policy applies to all employees, agents, volunteers and contractors of Western Downs Regional Council.

3. POLICY

Western Downs Regional Council is committed to providing a safe and healthy working environment for our employees and for contractors, volunteers and visitors to the workplace. Adopting and promoting the provisions of the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* and its associated Regulation, Codes and Standards, together with significant importance placed in the areas of hazard/risk management and injury prevention strategies, will achieve our WH&S Objectives.

Our primary WH&S objective is to eliminate or reduce risk by developing proactive strategies and adopting a risk management approach to WH&S in order to provide an injury/illness free workplace. We understand that creating and maintaining a safe and healthy working environment is a major part of our overall responsibilities, and that all employees with management or supervisory responsibilities are accountable for the health and safety of employees, contractors, volunteers and visitors in their respective work areas.

In conjunction with this policy, individual Safe Work Procedures, guidelines and standards will be prepared in consultation with relevant employees and issued.

We expect all councillors, employees, contractors, volunteers and visitors to our workplaces to follow safe work practices as prescribed under the legislation and in our Policies and Safe Work Procedures, and that they make every effort to reduce the risk of injury to themselves and others.

We will provide adequate resources to manage and maintain health and safety together with regular training on workplace health and safety, and expect our employees to attend.

Workplace Health and Safety is important and we all have an obligation to ensure that we have a safe and healthy working environment and we encourage you to actively participate so that we may achieve this goal.

