

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH POLICY



The Shire of Merredin provides roads, recreational facilities, funding for medical services, parks and gardens, street lighting, and waste collection amongst other community services and infrastructure. Our local government provides vital economic, social and environmental support for communities.

This Occupations Safety and Health Policy has been approved and endorsed by the Shire of Merredin Council and aims to establish and maintain, so far as practicable, the highest standard of occupational safety and health for all employees, contractors, visitors, volunteers and the public.

The Shire of Merredin recognises the importance of providing all employees, visitors and contractors with a safe and health work environment and is committed to the continuous improvement of occupations safety and health in the workplace.

Our goal is to prevent all occupational injuries and illness and we will seek to achieve this by:

- leading by example;
- conforming with the requirements of legislation and statutory authorities;
- providing and maintaining, so far as is practicable, workplaces, plant and systems of work so that employees, contractors and visitors are not exposed to hazards;
- provide adequate training, instruction and supervision to enable employees to perform their work safely and effectively;
- investigating all actual and potentially injurious occurrences in order to identify and control the cause to reduce the level of risk in the workplace;
- consultation and cooperation with all employees and health and safety representatives regarding occupational safety and health, including information about any changes which may affect the workplace
- providing appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) to protect all employees, visitors and volunteers, and ensure all contractors adhere to PPE requirements;
- protecting the public and the environment from potential adverse effects which may be associated with Shire operations; and
- assisting the Safety and Health Commission with the facilitation and communication between management and employees on safety and health matters.

The Shire of Merredin will implement and maintain an ongoing occupational safety and health program, including conducting regular inspections of the workplace, aimed at preventing accidents and incidents.

All Supervisory personnel are responsible and accountable for the safety of employees, contractors, visitors, volunteers and the public and Shire property under their control, as well as ensuring all applicable legislation, standards, procedures and safe work practices are followed at all times.

All employees and contractors are expected to:

- follow all organisational safety requirements and relevant legislation and supporting documentation;
- maintain a clean and orderly work area;
- report all injuries and safety incidents; and
- actively participate in safety improvement activities.

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This policy will be reviewed annually in accordance with the Shire of Merredin's commitment to continuous improvement in safety management.

A safe and efficient place of work is our goal, and we must be committed to reach this outcome.

Greg Powell
Chief Executive Officer
Shire of Merredin
19 December 2017

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