

Director General's Commitment to Safety, Health and Wellbeing in the Workplace

The Department of Training and Workforce Development recognises that safety, health and wellbeing is a shared responsibility between management, employees and contractors. This is achieved by ensuring compliance with relevant legislation, codes of practice and standards, as well as ensuring that all Department staff feel safe and supported at work.

In 2019, the Department's Corporate Executive commenced actions to support renewal of our commitment to ensuring safety, health and wellbeing in the workplace.

We firstly undertook a formal WorkSafe Plan Assessment of our occupational safety and health system at all Department metropolitan work locations, which resulted in a WorkSafe Plan Gold Certificate of Achievement.

The WorkSafe Plan Assessment highlighted that employees feel comfortable in reporting incidents and hazards to their Safety and Health Representatives or management. This is another vital element of keeping our workplace safe and I am committed to supporting everyone to maintain this strong safety culture.

The Department's OSH Committee is well established and reports to Corporate Executive on a regular basis. It is a vital link in our "safety chain".

Additional specific safety, health and wellbeing activities we will work towards are:

- Maintaining the gold standard under recent WorkSafe Plan Assessment and work to improve this over the next 5 years.
- Implementation of all actions arising from the 2016 safety audit of Muresk Institute.
- Ongoing provision of Resilience in the Workplace workshops.
- The development of programs focussed on wellbeing, which we are currently exploring through the 'Thrive at Work' framework.
- Participation in the public sector community of practice for senior OSH representatives.

I take this opportunity to thank all staff across the Department for their ongoing support and dedication to ensuring our shared safety, health and wellbeing continues to be nurtured, particularly through these Values from our Strategic Plan:

"We trust, encourage and look out for each other"

"We listen"

Anne Driscoll

Director General, Department of Training and Workforce Development

November 2019