

Occupational Health and Safety

Synod Policy Statement

The Uniting Church in Australia, Synod of Victoria and Tasmania (the Synod) is committed to providing a safe and healthy workplace for all people associated with its activities. These people may include for example be employees, Church members, ministers, members of the public, services users, contractors and volunteers.

Everyone is encouraged to support occupational health and safety through their actions and personal commitment.

The Synod actively encourages the following:

- timely and accurate reporting and incident investigations so that safety matters and risks can be managed and mitigated
- active participation in education and regulatory compliance awareness
- promotion of a culture of physical safety and psychological wellbeing for employees, Church members, volunteers, ministers, members of the public, and those providing services as contractors
- commitment to on-going improvement to support optimal workplace occupational health and safety
- commitment to regular workplace assessments and hazard identification and improvement measures to enable everyone's safe and inclusive engagement with the Synod
- provision of safety information, resources, instruction, training and supervision.

The Synod expects cooperation and collaboration across the councils of the Church to foster safety both physical and psychological and the safety of children.

The Synod Ministries and Operations (Synod staff) provide expert information, advice and resources to ensure compliance to legislative requirements and to mitigate risks of injury, harm or unlawful action.

Rev Dr Mark Lawrence
General Secretary

References & website resources:

Health and Safety Manual – Resource for Presbyteries and Congregations

Synod Volunteer Policy

Disability Action Plan 2023 – 2026

Compliance Code: Psychological health

WHS Codes of Practice - Tasmania

The Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004 (Victoria)

The Work Health and Safety Act 2012 (Tasmania)