

Safety for Small Business



Are you a small business owner? Are you unsure of your legal obligations to ensure the health and safety of works under the *Workplace Health and Safety (WHS) Act* and related Regulations 2012?

The new work health and safety laws commenced in Tasmania on 1 January 2012.

Council staff are often asked; “*what tools are available to assist us implement an effective safety management system in our small business*”?

Many small business owners don’t know where to start.

The Basics:

- You are defined as a PCBU – person conducting a business or undertaking - under the WHS legislation.
- You must provide a safe workplace for workers and visitors.
- Now is the time to review your policies and procedures. Involve your workers. Talking across organisations is a great way to share information and expectations. Further, getting your workers to contribute to improvements or new processes can get a better result than going it alone.
- As a business owner you want to create a positive health and safety culture. This means actively promoting 'health and safety first' attitudes.
- Familiarise yourself with your new requirements under the Work Health and Safety Legislation. Workplace Standards provide a number of guides and tools which can be found at: http://worksafe.tas.gov.au/whs_laws
- This link will also provide you with an example template of a safety manual; add your logo and begin work to implement it and communicate it in your workplace: http://worksafe.tas.gov.au/resources/information_kits/safety_in_construction_kit

If you’ve got any questions, call WorkSafe Tasmania on 1300 366 322 (within Tasmania)