



GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Section 16 of the *Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984* requires the Commission for Occupational Safety and Health to prepare a report for the Minister for Commerce and Industrial Relations on its activities during the financial year

Commission for Occupational Safety and Health

Annual Report 2017-18

CONTENTS	1
STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE	4
REPORT FROM THE CHAIRPERSON.....	5
SECTION ONE: ABOUT THE COMMISSION.....	7
Responsible Minister.....	7
Enabling Legislation.....	7
Commission Vision	7
Functions of the Commission	7
Composition of the Commission	8
SECTION TWO: GOVERNANCE DISCLOSURES	9
Commission’s Governance Framework.....	9
Compliance with Public Sector Standards and Ethical Codes	9
Recordkeeping.....	9
Public Interest Disclosure	9
Advertising and sponsorship.....	9
SECTION THREE: REPORT ON 2017/2018.....	10
National harmonisation of occupational health and safety legislation	10
Safe Work October 2017	10
Commission accredited introductory training courses for safety and health representatives	11
Publications	11
The National Arena.....	11
Strategic plan 2015-2018.....	14
SECTION FOUR: ADVISORY COMMITTEES TO THE COMMISSION.....	15
Construction Industry Safety Advisory Committee (CISAC)	15
Members of CISAC 2017-2018	15
Legislation Advisory Committee (LAC).....	16
Risk Advisory Committee (RAC).....	16
Members of RAC 2017-2018	16
SECTION FIVE: WORKING GROUPS 2017/2018.....	17

Slips, Trips & Falls.....	17
Outcome: The production and distribution of a suite of materials, available on the DMIRS website, to assist industry to minimise the occurrence of falls at the same level.....	17
Leadership / Chief Executive Officer Engagement	17
Diving Working Group.....	17
Electrical Safety	17
SECTION SIX: MINING INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE.....	18
Key Objectives	18
MEMBERSHIP.....	18
KEY ACHIEVEMENTS 2017-2018:.....	19
WORKING GROUPS.....	19
SECTION SEVEN: THE COMMISSION, COMMITTEES, WORKING PARTIES	21
CONTACT DETAILS	22

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

HON. BILL JOHNSTON MLA
MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

Dear Minister

In accordance with section 16 of the *Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984*, I submit for your information and presentation to Parliament, the Annual Report of the Commission for Occupational Safety and Health for the 12 months ending 30 June 2018.

Stephanie Mayman
Chairperson
Commission for Occupational Safety and Health

REPORT FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

As Chairperson of the Commission for Occupational Safety and Health (the Commission), I am pleased to present its Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2018.

The Commission is established under the *Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984* (the OSH Act) and is responsible to the relevant Minister, currently the Hon Bill Johnston MLA, Minister for Commerce and Industrial Relations. The Commission's functions include providing advice to the Minister on occupational safety and health (OSH) matters and promoting education and training in occupational safety and health as widely as possible.

The harmonisation of work health and safety laws under the auspices of the *Inter-Governmental Agreement for Regulatory and Operational Reform in Occupational Health and Safety* (the WHS IGA) continued to be a major focus for the work of the Commission in 2017- 2018.

At his meeting with the Commission on 7 June 2017, the Minister confirmed his intention to modernise Western Australia's work health and safety laws. Following Cabinet approval, the Minister requested that I chair a tri-partite Ministerial Advisory Panel (MAP) to provide him with advice on the terms of a single OSH, resources and petroleum harmonised Act, with MAP using the Commission and its advisory committee, the Mining Industry Advisory Committee (MIAC), to consult with industry more broadly. Throughout the 2017-2018 year, reports from the Chairperson on developments by MAP became a standing item of business at Commission and MIAC meetings.

On 27 June 2017, the Public Administration Committee commenced an Inquiry into WorkSafe, its terms of reference including an assessment of WorkSafe's performance against the objects of the OSH Act. On behalf of the Commission and with its endorsement, I made a submission to the Inquiry, focusing on the Commission's legislative structure and role.

The Commission's 2015-2018 business plan had as its objectives: to reduce the incidence of work-related death, injury and illness; to reduce exposure to hazards and risks; to improve hazard control; and to improve work health and safety infrastructure. To pursue the objectives of the business plan, the Commission formed a number of working groups and significant progress has been made in producing outcomes in the areas of occupational diving, electrical safety, slips, trips & falls at the same level, and safety leadership. This plan is due for renewal with the Commission's objectives for the coming triennial due to be inserted into its 2018-2021 business plan.

During the 2017-2018 year, the Commission, in accordance with its guidelines and criteria, approved introductory courses for safety and health representatives in response to applications received from Registered Training Organisations.

Two members of the Commission, together with the WorkSafe Western Australia Commissioner and a person nominated by the WorkSafe Inspectorate, formed the judging panel for the annual Work Safety WA Awards.

The award process invited participants in Western Australian workplaces to lodge an entry into one of four categories to achieve recognition in workplace safety and health.

The Commission:

- continued its active consideration of WorkSafe statistical data which reports work-related fatalities and regulatory activity;
- received reports of Safe Work Australia Council meetings and WorkCover WA issues and decisions; and
- updated its risk register to identify and classify current and emerging safety risks in workplaces.

OSH issues that were addressed by the Commission during the year included:

- increased penalty levels in the OSH Act and the *Mines Safety Inspection Act 1994* (MSI Act);
- development of a Code of Practice for Fly-In Fly-Out (FIFO) work arrangements and their impact on mental health;
- farm and agriculture workplace safety leading to the formation of an Agriculture Working Group at the request of the Minister;
- amendments to the OSH regulations to prohibit 'live electrical work'
- the Gig economy and rapidly evolving work relationships;
- electronic cigarettes with respect to the development of guidance materials;
- per-fluoroalkyl and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), fluorine-containing chemicals;
- regulations requiring lower blood lead levels;
- amendments to the dangerous goods regulations;
- photographs on high risk work licences; and
- an investigation by the Building Commission into flammable building cladding, noting that five hundred building needed closer examination.

The Commission received reports from members on the activities of their respective organisations as well as presentations on Australian Standards, the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Council and the structure of the newly-formed Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DMIRS), delivered by the department's Director General, Mr David Smith.

In conclusion, I would like to thank members of the Commission and members of all advisory committees and working parties for their efforts and dedication during the year, as well as thank all WorkSafe officers for their hard work and professionalism on behalf of the Commission.

Stephanie Mayman
Chairperson

SECTION ONE: ABOUT THE COMMISSION

Responsible Minister

The responsible Minister for the administration of the OSH Act is the Hon Bill Johnston MLA, Minister for Commerce and Industrial Relations.

Section 16 of the OSH Act requires the Commission, on or before 31 October in each year, to submit to the Minister a report of its operations and the operation of the OSH Act and any prescribed law during the year ending 30 June.

Enabling Legislation

The Commission was established in April 1985 (as the Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare Commission) under section 6 of the OSH Act.

Commission Vision

The Commission's vision is to foster continuous improvement in work health and safety.

As a tripartite and expert group, the Commission demonstrates strong leadership and engagement with the community and contributes to an environment where the OSH Act and its regulations support safety and health in Western Australian workplaces now and in the future.

Functions of the Commission

During the 2017-2018 year, the Commission was funded through the Safety Regulation Division of DMIRS.

The Commission's functions include:

- inquiring into and reporting to the Minister upon any matters referred to it by the Minister;
- advising and cooperating with Government departments, public authorities, unions, employer organisations and other interested parties;
- developing and reviewing OSH legislation and associated standards and making recommendations to the Minister;
- publishing information on OSH;
- promoting education and training in occupational safety and health; and
- formulating reporting procedures and monitoring arrangements for the identification of workplace hazards.

Composition of the Commission

In accordance with section 6 of the OSH Act, the Commission consists of:

- (a) an independent Chairperson, nominated by the Minister and appointed by the Governor;
- (b) the WorkSafe Western Australia Commissioner;
- (c) two officers of the Public Service nominated by the Minister, one of whom must be an officer from the department responsible for the administration of the MSI Act; and
- (d) nine persons appointed by the Governor, as follows:
 - two members nominated by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of WA (CCIWA);
 - one member nominated by the Chamber of Minerals and Energy of Western Australia (CMEWA);
 - three members nominated by UnionsWA, one of whom must have knowledge of and experience in the mining industry in Western Australia; and
 - three members nominated by the Minister, having knowledge of, or experience in OSH.

The following members held office during 2017-2018:

- independent Chairperson: Ms Stephanie Mayman;
- WorkSafe Western Australia Commissioner: Mr Lex McCulloch (until 31 December 2017), Mr Ian Munns (appointed 1 January 2018);
- officers of the Public Service: Ms Anne Driscoll, Deputy Chair, Director General, Department of Commerce (until 21 December 2017), vacant to 30 June 2018, and Mr Simon Ridge, Executive Director, Resources Safety Division, DMIRS (until 31 December 2017), and Mr Andrew Chaplyn, Director Mines Safety, DMIRS (appointed 2 February 2018);
- members nominated by the CCIWA: Ms Andrea Roelofs and Ms Rachael Lincoln (appointed 15 August 2017);
- member nominated by the CMEWA: Ms Nicole Roocke;
- members nominated by UnionsWA: Ms Joy Barrett, Mr Owen Whittle and Mr Mike Zoetbrood (until 7 September 2017), Mr Glenn McLaren (appointed 26 March 2018); and
- members with knowledge of, or experience in OSH, nominated by the Minister for Commerce: Dr Barry Chesson, Dr Matthew Davies and Dr Michael Lucas (until 3 April 2018), Professor Lin Fritschi (appointed 9 April 2018).

The Commission's Executive Officer is Mr Alan Layton, Policy Officer, DMIRS.

SECTION TWO: GOVERNANCE DISCLOSURES

Commission's Governance Framework

The Commission's Handbook and Code of Conduct 2015 sets out its governance principles, which include:

- values;
- accountability;
- role and operation;
- administration;
- record keeping; and
- coordination between WorkSafe and the Commission.

Compliance with Public Sector Standards and Ethical Codes

Under section 9 of the *Public Sector Management Act 1994*, the Commission is obliged to comply with any code of conduct applicable to the public sector body or employee concerned.

Recordkeeping

The Commission's record keeping and use of information policy is contained within its Handbook and Code of Conduct 2015. The handbook includes information on the documentation of decisions, use of confidential information, security of information and compliance with freedom of information legislation.

Public Interest Disclosure

The Commission maintains a Public Interest Disclosure Register. No matters were raised in 2017-2018 under the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2003*.

Advertising and sponsorship

In accordance with section 175ZE of the *Electoral Act 1907*, the Commission is required to report annually on any expenditure for advertising, market research, polling, direct mail or media advertising that was incurred by or on behalf of the Commission. Any such information is included in the annual report of the Department of Commerce for 2017-2018.

SECTION THREE: REPORT ON 2017/2018

National harmonisation of occupational health and safety legislation

Following the election of the McGowan Government on 11 March 2017, the Hon Bill Johnston MLA, Minister for Commerce and Industrial Relations, examined the OSH laws currently in force in Western Australia and the model Work Health and Safety (WHS) laws developed at the national level.

At his meeting with the Commission on 7 June 2017, the Minister confirmed his intention to modernise the state's laws and to create, as from 1 July 2017, a new department, the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety

In this regard, the Minister established the tri-partite MAP, chaired by the Commission Chairperson, to provide him with advice on the terms of a single (OSH, Resources and Petroleum) harmonised Act, with MAP using the Commission and its advisory committee, MIAC, to consult with industry more broadly. Throughout the 2017-18 year, reports from the MAP Chairperson on the development of modernised occupational safety laws for Western Australia were a standing item of business at Commission and MIAC meetings.

Safe Work October 2017

In 2017 Worksafe, with the Commission's support, continued with its annual month-long focus on workplace safety and health – Safe Work October 2017. This month-long focus is a national event, supported by Safe Work Australia and is also conducted in other jurisdictions. The month features a number of activities commencing with the presentation of the 2017 Work Safety Western Australia Awards, followed by a series of targeted workshops during the month.

Workshops were held 10-19 October 2017 at Technology Park Function Centre in Bentley. There were 305 attendees across nine workshops in 2017. The attendees were a mix of elected safety and health representatives, general management and safety and health professionals. The key objective of these workshops was to provide hands-on information and skills experiences. They also provided the OSH community with networking opportunities. A further 46 people attended a safety and health forum in Geraldton on 25 October 2017.

The workshops featured a range of speakers with a wealth of knowledge and expertise in OSH. The program featured a mixture of sessions including topics such as fatigue management and the science of sleep, human factors and human reliability, asbestos in the workplace, plant safety, slips, trips and falls and a forum for safety and health representatives amongst others.

Two Commission members contributed as judges for the 2017 Work Safety Awards Western Australia. The winners of the awards were announced at the Work Safety Awards Breakfast on 6 October 2017.

The awards recognise outstanding OSH management, solutions and innovation in Western Australian workplaces that reduce the risk of work-related injury and disease.

Commission accredited introductory training courses for safety and health representatives

Under section 14(1)(h) of the OSH Act, the Commission may accredit training courses in OSH.

Details of the accreditation process for introductory courses for safety and health representatives are provided in the publication *Guidelines and criteria for accreditation of introductory training courses for safety and health representatives* (the accreditation guidelines), available on the WorkSafe website at www.dmirs.wa.gov.au/worksafe.

In 2017-18, the Commission accredited six registered training organisations (RTOs) to conduct the introductory safety and health representative training course. During this period, WorkSafe granted a twelve month interim accreditation to two RTOs. As at 30 June 2018, there were 23 RTOs accredited to deliver the training course in Western Australia.

The RTOs providing Commission accredited training courses for safety and health representatives are listed on the DMIRS website. An annual report of participation in training courses for safety and health representatives will be published later in the year on the website.

Publications

The Commission endorsed an amended Code of Practice: Concrete and masonry cutting and drilling, 2018, for the Minister's approval to publish.

Changes to legislation

The Occupational Safety and Health Regulations 1996 were amended to include in Division 6 – Electricity new requirements concerning electrical installation and working in roof spaces.

The National Arena

During the 2017-2018 year, the Commission received reports from the WorkSafe Western Australia Commissioner of Safe Work Australia Council meetings.

Significant among the issues reported were:

- Model Work Health and Safety (WHS) Regulations for Diving;
- 2018 Review of Model WHS Laws;
- Mid-term Review of the Australian WHS Strategy 2012-2022;
- Quad Bikes in Rural Workplaces;
- Review of Workplace Exposure Standards – Genotoxic Carcinogens;
- Review of Model Codes of Practice;

- Guidance Material:
 - Managing Risk in Building Construction: Prefabricated Concrete

- Working in Heat
- Supply Chains
- Power to Direct Removal of Illegally Installed Asbestos; and
- Psychosocial Health and Safety and Bullying in Australian Workplaces.

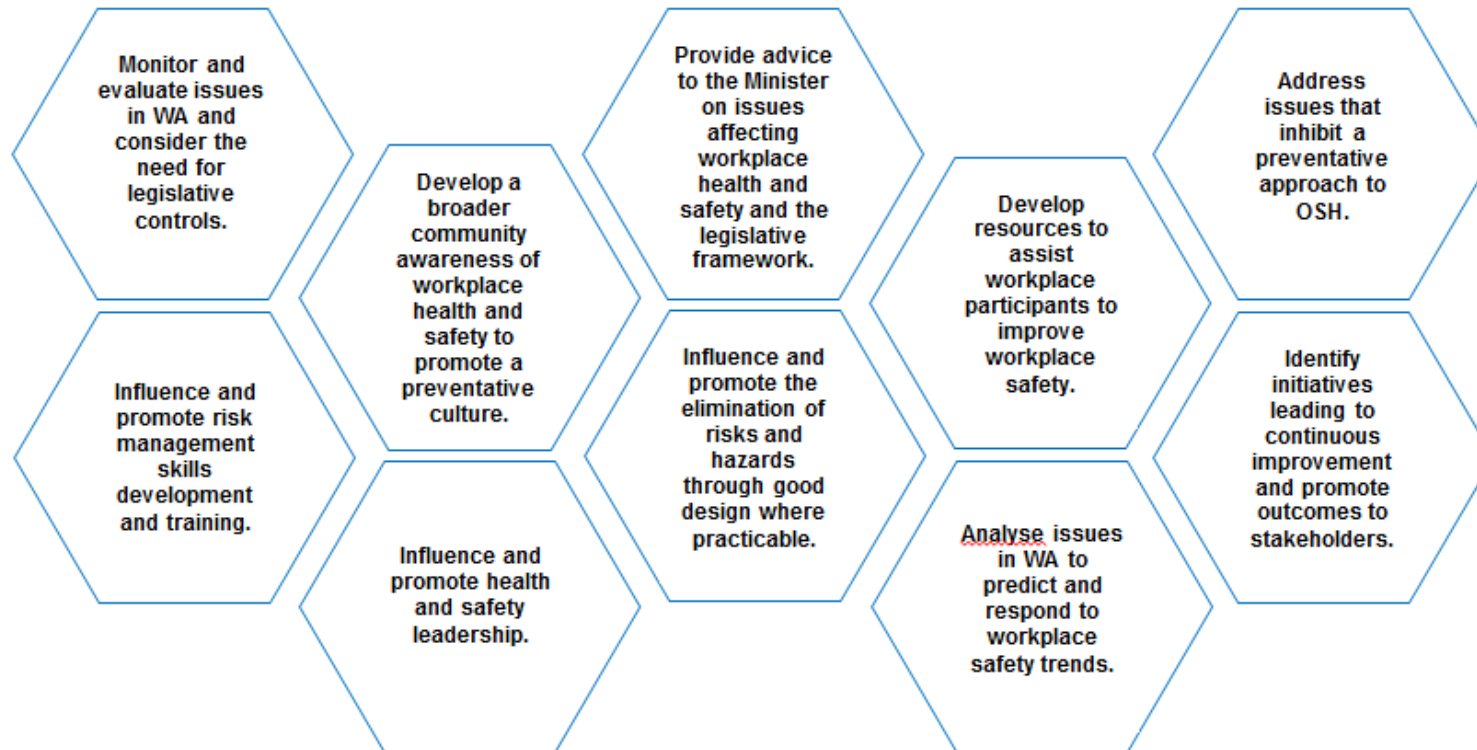
COMMISSION FOR OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH – STRATEGIC PLAN 2015 - 2018

VISION: HEALTHY AND SAFE WORKING LIVES WITHIN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

MISSION: CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT IN WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY

Objective 1 : Reduce the incidence of work-related death, injury, and illness.

Objective 4 : Improved work health and safety infrastructure.



Objective 2 : Reduce exposure to hazards and risks.

Objective 3 : Improved hazard control.

Strategic plan 2015-2018

Objective 1: Reduce the incidence of work-related death, injury and illness

Strategies

- Maintain and support effective tripartite relationships and decision-making on safety and health in the workplace.
- Enhance the capacity of business operators and workers to manage OSH effectively.
- Monitor and evaluate issues by collecting, analysing and utilising data and information to predict and respond to OSH trends.
- Educate and develop broader community awareness to promote a preventative culture.

Objective 2: Reduce exposure to hazards and risks

Strategies

- Collect, analyse and utilise data and information to develop strategies to respond to high incidence and severity of risks.
- Develop and communicate targeted education and guidance materials and programs that address identified risks.
- Monitor the legislative framework to ensure evidence-based risk management.
- Monitor and evaluate issues leading to continuous improvements and promote the outcomes to stakeholders.

Objective 3: Improved hazard control

Strategies

- Enhance the capacity of workplaces to eliminate hazards and control risks through good design where practicable.
- Influence and promote OSH skills development and training.
- Monitor and evaluate issues and consider need for legislative controls.
- Address issues that inhibit a preventative approach to OSH.

Objective 4: Improved work health and safety infrastructure

Strategies

- Provide timely and comprehensive advice to Minister on policy and legislative change.
- Monitor developments in the national arena with relevance to Western Australian OSH law.
- Influence and promote OSH skills development, communication, training and leadership.
- Maintain and develop a robust evidence base through data collection and analysis, monitoring emerging issues and evaluating the effectiveness of legislative controls.
- Engage with other agencies and enterprises to promote and undertake research relevant to Western Australia's OHS priorities.

SECTION FOUR: ADVISORY COMMITTEES TO THE COMMISSION

Under section 15 of the OSH Act, the Commission may appoint advisory committees made up of employer and employee representatives and people with specialist knowledge or experience in OSH to assist in the performance of its functions and duties.

Advisory committees consider matters referred to them by the Commission and make recommendations on aspects of OSH specific to their area of expertise. Each committee and working party is chaired by a member of the Commission.

Construction Industry Safety Advisory Committee (CISAC)

The key objectives of the CISAC are to:

- identify the major health and safety issues in the construction industry and develop an OSH profile of the construction industry;
- identify determinants of good safety and health performance in the construction industry; and
- identify appropriate short and long term goals for the construction industry.

Members of CISAC 2017-2018

- Mr Lex McCulloch, Chairperson (WorkSafe Western Australia Commissioner), until 31 December 2017, Mr Ian Munns (WorkSafe Western Australia Commissioner)
- Mr Mike Fitzgerald, until 25 May 2018, Mr Kim Richardson, from 26 June 2018 (Master Builders Association WA)
- Ms Andrea Roelofs, Mr Kim Drew (CCIWA)
- Mr Rachelle Gill (Housing Industry Association WA)
- Mr Bob Benkesser (Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union WA Branch)
- Mr Steve McCartney (Australian Manufacturing Workers' Union WA), proxy Mr Glenn McLaren
- Mr Owen Whittle (UnionsWA)
- Mr Chris Kirwin (DMIRS)

Legislation Advisory Committee (LAC)

The key objectives of the LAC are to assist the Commission in:

- ensuring a relevant and effective legislative framework by contributing to a review of monitoring and recommending changes to existing regulations;
- influencing state and federal governments on OSH issues by contributing to the development of national standards and codes of practice;
- promoting and delivering effective OSH programs, and in maintaining and promoting effective tripartite relationships and decision making on safety and health in the workplace; and
- providing information and guidance on safety and health that is relevant, credible and accessible.

On 7 June 2017 at a Commission meeting, the Minister for Commerce and Industrial Relations formally advised Commission members of the Government's immediate intention to reform Western Australia's current OSH legislation. The Minister advised that the current legislation covering various industry sectors would be amalgamated and streamlined into one new Act, supported by regulations covering each of those amalgamated industries.

To effect these changes, the Minister established MAP to effect these changes. The Minister advised that Ms Stephanie Mayman, the newly appointed Chairperson of the Commission would chair MAP, whose membership was to consist of various members of the Commission and MIAC. The Legislative Advisory Committee, effective 1 July 2017, was temporarily suspended and replaced by MAP.

Risk Advisory Committee (RAC)

The key objectives of the Risk Advisory Committee (RAC) are to assist the Commission in:

- providing relevant, credible and accessible information and guidance on safety and health, with a specific focus on new and emerging issues;
- improving its capacity to predict future trends in OSH;
- identifying occupational diseases, their causes and how to address them, with specific reference to new and emerging issues; and
- analysing the work environment.

Members of RAC 2017-2018

- Ms Andrea Roelofs (Chair) (CCIWA)
- Ms Nicole Roocke (CMEWA)
- Dr Matthew Davies (Commission Expert member)
- Ms Joy Barrett (UnionsWA)

Members of the RAC met during the year to update the Commission's Risk Register of current and emerging occupational safety and health issues.

SECTION FIVE: WORKING GROUPS 2017/2018

To pursue the objectives of its Strategic Plan, and to comply with the directives of the Minister, the Commission formed the following working groups during the 2017/2018 and achieved the following outcomes:

Slips, Trips & Falls

Objective: To increase awareness of falls at the same level and target specific industry sectors based on injury statistics.

Commission Members: Lex McCulloch (until 31 December 2017), Joy Barrett, Andrea Roelofs, Nicole Roocke and Matthew Davies.

Outcome: The production and distribution of a suite of materials, available on the DMIRS website, to assist industry to minimise the occurrence of falls at the same level.

Leadership / Chief Executive Officer Engagement

Objective: To facilitate industry leaders engaging in a safety conversation.

Commission Members: Joy Barrett, Andrea Roelofs, Nicole Roocke, Barry Chesson and Matthew Davies.

Outcome: Progress made towards the conduct of a leadership breakfast meeting involving invited participants from the CMEWA and CCIWA.

Diving Working Group

Objective: To draft a code of practice for occupational diving in Western Australia for all aspects of diving, under existing State occupational safety and health legislation.

Members: Two industry members, two union members, two independent experts, plus additional experts as necessary.

Outcome: Terms of Reference agreed and progress made towards the establishment of the working group.

Electrical Safety

Objective: To implement a regulatory ban on 'live' electrical work.

Commission Members: Lex McCulloch (until 31 December 2017), Ian Munns, Nicole Roocke and Owen Whittle.

Outcome: Requisite amendments made to the Occupational Safety and Health Regulations 1996.

SECTION SIX: MINING INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MIAC was established in April 2005 under section 14A of the OSH Act. It is a statutory body advising the mining industry on matters relating to OSH. MIAC met six times during the 2017-18 reporting period.

Key Objectives

- advise and make recommendations to the Ministers and the Commission on OSH matters concerning the mining industry;
- liaise with the Commission to coordinate activities and to maintain parallel standards;
- make recommendations to the Minister for Mines and Petroleum regarding the formulation, amendment, or repeal of laws relating to OSH for which that Minister is responsible;
- prepare or recommend the adoption of codes of practice, guidance material, standards and specifications; and
- provide advice on education and training matters in the mining industry.

Membership

Membership of MIAC is determined by the Ministers responsible for the administration of the OSH Act and the MSI Act.

MIAC normally consists of 12 members; two from Government, three from industry, three from the union movement and four independent expert members. However, during the reporting period, chairperson and government member Mr Simon Ridge retired, industry members Mr Simon Bennison and Mr Adrian Vujcic, and union member Mr Mike Zoetbrood resigned. Mr Bennison's position was filled by Mr Robert Watson, but other positions were left vacant as all current membership expired on 30 July 2018.

Listed below are the names of MIAC members at the end of the reporting period:

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| ▪ Mr Andrew Chaplyn (Government member)
(Acting Chairperson) | ▪ Mr Greg Stagbouer (Expert member) |
| ▪ Mr Chris Davis (Expert member) | ▪ Ms Peta Libby (Expert member) |
| ▪ Ms Adrienne LaBombard (Industry member) | ▪ Mr Rob Watson (Industry member) |
| ▪ Mr Glenn McLaren (Union member) | ▪ Mr Gary Wood (Union member) |

Key achievements 2017-2018:

- Initiated DMIRS providing Mine Safety Statistics in the form of trend data.
- Arranged for DMIRS to provide a presentation on the assigned resources based on risk (ARBOR) workforce planning system.
- Reviewed and provided feedback to planned and prioritised projects initiated by both DMIRS and this committee.
- Provided feedback on:
 - The Health and Hygiene Management Plan module in the Department's Safety Regulation System;
 - Emergency preparedness guidance material;
 - Emergency Management Code of Practice;
 - Proposed increases to penalties under the MSI Act;
 - Mines Safety and Inspection Levy;
 - Proposed changes that the Department plans to implement for the Statutory Position Examinations; and
 - The Department's concerns regarding scarcity of data on non-medically related chronic exposure to lithium carbonate.

In addition to the above key achievements, MIAC established the following two working groups.

Working Groups

MIAC Mental Health Strategies Working Group

To assist in identifying a framework to support good practice for positive mental health wellbeing in the resources sector workplace, MIAC established the Mental Health Strategies Working Group (MHSWG) in June 2016, comprising representatives from industry, unions, mental health organisations and government agencies.

The MHSWG met seven times during the reporting period. A final achievements report was produced detailing the MHSWG's achievements in identifying and progressing projects that support good practice for positive mental health wellbeing in the resources sector workplace since its establishment by MIAC in 2016.

The report includes recommendations setting out a possible future role and an associated scope of work for the Working Group extending beyond the cessation date of 30 July 2018 that is provided under Item 3 of the Terms of Reference.

One key achievement during this reporting period has been the development of the draft Code of Practice on ***Mental Health for FIFO Workers in the Resources and Construction Sectors*** (the Code). The first round of public consultation on the Code, ending 19 April 2018, attracted significant interest with numerous submissions received. The Code was open for a second round of public consultation, ending 21 September 2018, with the final Code anticipated to be concluded in early 2019.

MIAC Nano Diesel Particulate Matter Working Group

To gain a better understanding of the exposure effects of nano diesel particulate matter (nDPM) on workers, MIAC established the Nano Diesel Particulate Matter Working Group (NDPMWG) in March 2016, comprising experts from Government, universities and industry.

Following meetings to scope the Working Group and prepare its Terms of Reference, worldwide research was reviewed, which confirmed that the characteristics, behaviour and health impacts of nDPM in underground mines is unknown.

Two research projects were concurrently planned for the second half of 2017, using funding from DMIRS and the Minerals Research Institute of Western Australia (MRIWA), with advice from MIAC's nDPM Working Group. The research was conducted at AngloGold Ashanti's Sunrise Dam mine in Laverton.

The first project, ***A Study of Diesel Exhaust Behaviour in Underground Hard-Rock Mines – Using Tracer Gas Technology***, aims to: study diesel exhaust flow behaviour; study the dispersal of gaseous and ultrafine particulate emissions from diesel exhaust; understand the impact of nDPM on air quality; and, use the data to inform mine ventilation assessments and improve engineering controls.

The second project, ***Exposure to Nano Diesel Particulate Matter (nDPM) and health impacts in Underground Hard Rock Miners in Western Australia***, aims to: ascertain the health effects of exposure to diesel particulate emissions on underground and above ground miners of Western Australia.

The final research reports should be available toward the end of 2018.

SECTION SEVEN: THE COMMISSION, COMMITTEES, WORKING PARTIES



Statutory committee established under the *Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984*. MIAC advises the Minister on matters concerning the *Mines Safety and Inspection Act 1994*



Advisory Committees established for the duration of the *Strategic Plan*



Working Parties are established to provide an expert or technical focus

CONTACT DETAILS

COMMISSION FOR OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH

In Person: Mason Bird, level 1, 303 Sevenoaks St, Cannington

Postal: Locked Bag 14, Cloisters Square, Perth WA 6850

Telephone: (08) 6251 2200 or 1300 307 877

Email: safety@dmirs.wa.gov.au

Internet: www.dmirs.wa.gov.au