DRAFT CODE OF PRACTICE

Work health and safety management systems for the Western Australian public sector

# Public consultation

This Code provides guidance to assist public sector entities to establish and implement a work health and safety management system (SMS).

An SMS is a framework that brings together an organisation’s policies, systems, procedures and plans to enable all workers to follow a systematic approach to achieving, improving and monitoring health and safety management.

The public sector includes government departments and Senior Executive Service (SES) organisations, non-SES organisations and ministerial offices. This Code is written to accommodate a diverse range of public sector organisations, from small agencies through to large departments with multiple worksites.

For most public sector entities, an SMS will be an effective mechanism to manage health and safety risk and meet the primary duty of care requirements of the work health and safety laws.

The *Work Health and Safety Act 2020* (WHS Act) provides for the approval, variation, and revocation of codes of practice by the Minister for Industrial Relations. Under section 275 of the WHS Act, the Minister may only approve a code of practice if it was developed by a process that involves consultation between the unions and employer organisations.

The Work Health and Safety Commission is now inviting public submissions on the draft Code of practice: *Work health and safety management systems in the Western Australian public sector*.

Unless advised by the submitter, all submissions may be collectively made available to the public in a consultation summary. Published submissions will be verbatim with the submitter listed.

**Submissions close: 5.00 pm WST, Friday 31 January 2025.**

*Please use this cover sheet and feedback template to submit your comments to* [*safetycomms@demirs.wa.gov.au*](mailto:safetycomms@dmirs.wa.gov.au)*.*

# Section 1: Submission details

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| Position: |  | | | |
| Organisation: |  | | | |
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| **Internet publication** | | | | |
| Public submissions may be published in full on the website, including any personal information of authors and/or other third parties **contained in the submission.**  Please tick this box if you wish for your input to remain confidential (that is, you **do not consent** to having your input published on the internet) | |  | | |
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| **Word document** | | | |
| Please tick this box if you have provided tracked changes on the Word version of the draft Code. |  | | |
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# Section 2: Feedback

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| 1. **Does the draft code sufficiently cover the controls required for the diverse nature of public sector entities?** |
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| 1. **Are there any additional ‘good practice’ controls that could be included in the draft code for specific hazards?** |
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| 1. **General comments** |
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