AMENDMENTS TO CODE OF PRACTICE

Managing the risk of falls in housing construction

# Public consultation

The *Work Health and Safety Act 2020* (WHS Act) provides for the approval, variation, and revocation of codes of practice by the Minister. 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 proposed amendments to the Code of practice: *Managing the risk of falls in housing construction*.

This Code is intended to be read by a person conducting a business or undertaking (PCBU) and provides practical guidance on how to eliminate, or if that is not possible, minimise the risk of falls from height in housing construction.

**Summary of proposed amendments**

This Code has been revised to provide clarity on control measures that can be used in housing construction to meet requirements of the Work Health and Safety (General) Regulations 2022 in minimising the risk of a fall.

Amendments to the Code have been made to include further information on:

* planning and sequencing of framing work for fixing ceiling joints and upper level floor joists
* constructing conventional or stick roofing and the order in which framing work is done, including:
  + using working decks
  + working within reach
  + detailing methods workers can use to complete tasks not within reach but where additional height is still required
  + working above 4 metres from floor level, including the use of scaffolds, trestles, or ladders
* managing effective edge protection across various roofing tasks.

**Submissions close: 5.00 pm WST, 18 October 2024.**

*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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| Full name: |  | | | |
| Organisation and position (if applicable): |  | | | |
| Email: |  | | | |
| Telephone: |  | | | |
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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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| **Anonymity** | | | | |
| Please tick this box if you wish for your input to be treated as anonymous (that is, you **do not consent** to having your name, or the name of your organisation, published on the internet with your input) | |  | | |
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| Please tick this box **if your input contains personal information of third party individuals,** and strike out the statement that is not applicable in the following sentence:  The third party **consents / does not consent to** the publication of their information. | |  | | |
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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. **You are invited to review the proposed amendments to the Code, which are detailed under sections 9.2, 9.6 (including 9.6.1 to 9.6.6) and 10.1. Do you support these additions to the Code.** |
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| 1. **Do the proposed amendments improve your understanding of controls required for the construction of stick roofs? How could these be improved?** |
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| 1. **Does Figure A *Catch platforms for roofing work* (section 9.6.6, p. 57)assist with providing an example of a control measure for working above 4 metres from floor level?** |
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| 1. **Would section 9.2 *Fixing ceiling joists and upper level floor joists* benefit from having an image depicting an alternate order of operations?** |
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| 1. **Would section 9.6 *Constructing conventional or stick roof* benefit from having an image depicting an alternate order of operations?** |
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| 1. **General comments** |
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