

Safe Buildings for Mission



Mission Resourcing

Property Services

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A Commitment to Safe Buildings

Commonwealth & State Legislation

Safe Use of Buildings

Protections for Persons

Inclusion & Accessibility

Key Aspects of Legislation Applicable to Church & Hall Buildings

- Buildings must be fit for purpose.
- A building may be closed by an authority.
- New work must be undertaken to new standards.
- Existing buildings require upgrades to remain fit for purpose.
- Essential Safety Measures are mandatory.
- Emergency Management is essential.
- Everyone has a Duty of Care.
- Hazards must be removed or reduced as far as reasonably practicable.
- Control measures must be implemented.
- Consultation must occur to maintain a safe work environment.
- Communication must be in all forms necessary to ensure understanding by all persons.
- A public building must be accessible by law to persons with disability.
- Emergency processes must consider the needs of all persons.
- It is not possible to certify against possible areas of liability.

Physical Environment - Checklist for Church Councils



Church and Hall buildings require an Essential Safety Measures Schedule. A Log Book records all maintenance attendance. An Annual ESM Report is required by law in Victoria.



Preparation for a new building project requires the investigation and assessment of all existing physical and statutory conditions before commencing a design.



Church and Hall buildings require an Emergency Management Plan and the display of compliant Emergency Evacuation Diagrams. The diagram is required to be reviewed every 5 years.



All Church property including commercial tenancy must hold a current Asbestos Register. The register is required to be reviewed every 5 years.



Engage a qualified Disability Access Consultant to identify what is needed to comply with equitable access obligations.



Consult with the Synod Safety Officer for an OHS Safety Audit for all Church property - respond to the Risk Report and remedy Hazards.



Implement an Asset Management Plan including planned upgrades and a cyclic maintenance program to ensure ongoing safety of all Church buildings.

*For advice on preparing and maintaining Safe Building for Mission contact Property Services.

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