

Affected Families and Workers Advisory Committee 2025–2028



VISION: Safe and healthy Western Australian workplaces.



PURPOSE: Provide a forum for bereaved families and seriously injured workers to provide feedback to government through the Work Health and Safety Commission (WHS Commission), and advocate for change and reform, to prevent workplace harm and support for affected families and workers.

Support

What it means

Advising relevant state government agencies, through the WHS Commission, on how to support and communicate with affected families and workers who have experienced the loss of a loved one through a work-related fatality or suffered a serious injury.

Why it matters

Supporting families and workers during grief and trauma helps them understand the investigation process and what outcomes to expect after a serious work-related incident.

Goals

To reduce uncertainty experienced by affected families and workers by providing information about investigation processes and outcomes and access to practical supports.

Justice

What it means

The justice system investigates how a work-related fatality, serious incident or serious injury occurred, holds those responsible accountable and identifies measures to prevent similar incidents in the future.

Why it matters

Affected families and workers are supported in attending proceedings and observing accountability as incidents move through the justice system. They are also given the opportunity to have their voices heard throughout these processes.

Goals

Affected families and persons can participate to the greatest extent possible in justice processes related to work-related fatalities and serious injuries.

Prevention

What it means

Preventing work-related incidents resulting in loss of life, serious injury or illness.

Why it matters

Everyone has the right to come home safe and healthy at the end of each working day.

Goals

Reducing loss of life and serious injury through awareness.

Reform

What it means

Bringing a 'lived' experience perspective to the Western Australian Government through active engagement on reviews of policies, procedures and legislation impacting workers and affected families.

Why it matters

Ensuring affected families and workers have a voice and an opportunity to actively engage on safety and the impact of trauma, grief and loss.

Goals

Making positive changes in the policy and legislation framework for workers, affected persons and families.

Adapted with permission from the Consultative Committee for Work-Related Fatalities and Serious Incidents, Queensland