

# Safe Buildings for Mission



Mission Resourcing

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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.
- To avoid a claim against discrimination a public building requires access to persons with a 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 & Tasmania.



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. (Required in Tasmania if the occupancy is capable of being > 200 persons)



All Church property including commercial tenancy built prior to 2003 must hold a current Asbestos Register. The register is required to be reviewed every 5 years.



Engage a qualified Building Surveyor, Architect or 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 a budgeted 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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