

Workplace Health and Safety Queensland

Traffic Management for Construction or Maintenance Work Code of Practice 2008

The purpose of this code is to assist people to manage health and safety risks posed by traffic to workers and other people while construction or maintenance work is occurring on, or adjacent to roads. The code commenced on 1 September 2008.

What the code is about?

As a result of concerns raised by stakeholders relating to road worker safety, in particular the safety of traffic controllers, Workplace Health and Safety Queensland (WHSQ) has developed a code of practice to enhance the safety of these workers. The code was developed with input from members of a reference group comprising stakeholder representatives of unions, training providers, employer organisations and government departments.

A key component of the code is the referencing of the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices Part 3 (MUTCD Part 3) as a source document for the planning, design, installation, operation and removal of traffic guidance schemes. The Queensland Department of Main Roads administers the MUTCD Part 3 and has provided ongoing support and assistance in compiling the code.

The code also assists obligation holders by:

- providing information about some of the hazards and risks associated with traffic management for construction or maintenance work.
- providing information on traffic control measures

- clarifying the roles and responsibilities of traffic controllers and associated people
- providing recommendations for training people in the application of the MUTCD Part 3 for people associated with construction or maintenance work on or adjacent to a road.

Workplace health and safety obligations and the law

The [Workplace Health and Safety Act 1995](#) (Act) is about making workplaces and work practices healthier and safer for everyone. The Act sets out the laws about health and safety requirements affecting most workplaces, work activities and specified high risk plant in Queensland. It seeks to protect the health and safety of everyone at a workplace, while undertaking any work activity.

Ensuring workplace health and safety involves identifying and managing exposure to the risks at your workplace.

Obligations of a person who conducts a business or undertaking (a relevant person)

The Act places obligations on a person who conducts a business or undertaking, referred to as a *relevant person*. The obligations apply whether or not:

- the relevant person conducts the business or undertaking as an employer, self-employed person or otherwise
- the business or undertaking is conducted for gain or reward a person works on a voluntary basis.

Relevant persons have an obligation to ensure:

- the workplace health and safety of their workers and any other people is not affected by the conduct of the relevant person's business or undertaking, and
- their own workplace health and safety.

Where this code of practice provides advice to employers and self-employed people on managing exposure to risks, other people who conduct a business or undertaking may also find this advice applicable depending on their circumstances.

How does a relevant person meet their obligations?

All obligation holders under the Act must comply with all regulations and ministerial notices about a risk, and if there is a code of practice about a risk, must either:

- do what the code says, or
- do all of the following:
 - adopt and follow another way that gives the same level of protection against the risk
 - take reasonable precautions, and
 - exercise proper diligence.

If there is no regulation, ministerial notice or code of practice about a risk, obligation holders must choose any appropriate way to manage exposure to the risk, and take reasonable precautions and exercise proper diligence to ensure the obligations are met.

Note

There may be additional risks at your workplace which have not been specifically addressed in this code of practice. You are still required under the Act to identify and assess these risks and ensure that control measures are implemented and reviewed to eliminate or minimise exposure to these risks.

Further information

For further information is available from www.worksafe.qld.gov.au or call the Workplace Health and Safety Infoline on 1300 369 915.

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