



## Triple Bottom Line (TBL) Assessment Summary

*The Triple Bottom Line Assessment is required to be published in accordance with Part 4, section 23 (1)(b) of the Freedom of Information Act 2016*

**19/460 ACT Government Response to Standing Committee on Public Accounts – Report 7 Inquiry into Auditor-Generals Report 1: WorkSafe ACT’s Management of its Regulatory Responsibilities for the Demolition of Loose-Filled Asbestos Contaminated Houses.**

### Summary of impacts:

An independent review of the ACT’s work safety compliance infrastructure, policies, and procedures was conducted in 2018 which identified a suite of legislative, governance and administrative changes necessary to enable WorkSafe ACT to be a more effective and efficient WHS regulator. The outcomes of the review, and the proposed changes that are being implemented, are directly relevant to the recommendations/findings made by the Committee and will have a positive social and economic impact with enhanced regulatory capability in administering the work health and safety legislation in the ACT.

### Level of impact

Level of impact	Positive	Negative	Neutral
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### Social

<b>Gender Equality</b>	The proposed changes to improve WorkSafe’s governance model will have an equal impact on men, women and gender diverse people.
<b>Health (Community and Mental Health)</b>	The development of a governance framework will include comprehensive intelligence led and evidence-based strategic planning to target the areas of greatest risk and harm to ensure workers get home safely. This will result in positive outcomes by enforcing the legislative requirement that workplaces across the ACT provide a healthy and safe environment for all workers.
<b>Impacts on different age groups</b>	The proposed changes will result in positive impact on all workers and workplaces across the ACT.
<b>Justice and Crime</b>	The development of the new compliance and enforcement policy will provide enhanced guidance to WorkSafe ACT inspectors on how to exercise their discretion in the use of available regulatory tools to address non-compliance. The policy will ensure consistency in relation to which regulatory tools to use depending on the circumstances of an alleged breach. Serious breaches may result in regulatory action being taken. This will have a positive outcome for all workers with enhanced work health and safety regulation to deter non-compliance.

### Economic

<b>Productivity</b>	Nationally work-related injury and disease cost the Australian community \$61.8 billion a year. Poor work health and safety costs \$5000 per worker each year and equates to 4.1 per cent of Australia's gross domestic product. Enhanced work health and safety regulation will have a positive impact on workplace productivity reducing the number of lost time injuries and absenteeism. Also reducing workers compensation premiums and rehabilitation expenses.
<b>Employment and labour force</b>	Compliant workplaces will be more attractive to workers increasing the level of worker satisfaction. Keeps people in the workforces for longer. Positively impacts all workers with enhanced work health and safety regulation.
<b>Small business impact</b>	Enhanced work health and safety regulation will have a positive impact on small businesses by potentially reducing workers compensation premiums and rehabilitation costs. A preventative approach by WorkSafe providing information and advice to small businesses on how to build capabilities to achieve compliance and make their workplaces healthier will also result in the significant reduce injuries and injury related expenses.

## Environmental

Nil impact