

Membership Inquiry Information

Make a difference. Join CCWRFSI – Where your voice matters, and your experience counts.

The Office of Industrial Relations (OIR) is proud to introduce the Consultative Committee for Work-related Fatalities and Serious Incidents (CCWRFSI) membership information pack that invites you to consider becoming a vital force in shaping positive change for families affected by **work-related fatalities and work-related serious injuries or work-related serious illness** in Queensland. Appointments to the committee are for terms of up to three years.

What you will find in this membership information pack:

Role of a Member:

- Dive into the heart of our committee – understand the pivotal role you can play in making a real impact on the lives of those affected by work-related fatalities and serious incidents
- A glimpse into the responsibilities, expectations, and rewards of being a committee member.

Prospective Member Reflection Guide:

- Reflective questions that guide you towards a deeper understanding of your potential role.

Role of the Office of Industrial Relations and the Principal Advisor:

- Uncover the support provided to the committee by the Principal Advisor
- See how the OIR supports the committee's seamless operations.

A Letter from the Committee's Chair:

- A message from the current Chair, sharing a personal insight into the work of the committee.

How to make inquiries about membership:

- a simple pathway to express your interest in becoming a committee member.

Ready to Make a Difference?

The Consultative Committee for Work-Related Fatalities and Serious Incidents awaits individuals just like you who are not just seeking membership but a chance to make a lasting impact. Join us in championing the information and support needs of families and seriously injured people affected by work-related incidents in Queensland.

Championing Diversity

The Queensland Government recognises that contemporary government bodies benefit from having diverse representation as it helps to bring different perspectives and experiences to processes and decision making. The OIR encourages and supports diverse representation on the CCWRFSI.



The Role of a Member

Your Voice Matters, Your Experience Counts

Have you been directly impacted by a work-related fatality or serious injury? Do you think you may be ready to be a force for positive change? We invite you to consider becoming a prospective member where you have the chance to be part of a pioneering initiative, shaping government procedures and providing a crucial link between affected individuals and government agencies.

About the CCWRFSI

The voluntary committee was established by legislation in 2017 and has become a vital platform for incorporating the voice of those with lived experience into government services in Queensland. The committee serves as a bridge, ensuring the needs of families and seriously injured workers affected by work-related incidents are at the forefront of how government responds to the people directly impacted.

Your Role in Shaping the Future

As a committee member, you will play a pivotal role in providing advice and making recommendations about the information and support needs of affected people. Your commitment will involve attending quarterly meetings, with the flexibility of virtual attendance from your home or office, actively engaging in committee business, and contributing to assigned tasks. We value diverse perspectives and experience, and whether you attend in person or virtually, your broad and global thinking is essential to our purpose.

CCWRFSI Impact: Making a Difference

The committee has already achieved significant milestones, positively influencing government policies and procedures. The committee has influenced access to freely available grief and trauma counselling, a comprehensive guide for families dealing with workplace fatalities, and pro-bono legal support for coronial processes. The committee actively contributed to legislative reforms including those that led to the creation of an industrial manslaughter offence, and the establishment of the independent Work Health and Safety Prosecutor.

Your journey with CCWRFSI: A Catalyst for Positive Change

By joining the committee, you become a catalyst for positive change. Your broad and global perspective and commitment to the committee's objectives will ensure that lived experiences are not only heard but actively shape the direction of government services.

Prospective Member Reflection Guide:

Joining the CCWRFSI is a commitment:

As you consider your interest in joining the committee, we invite you to reflect on some key considerations that may influence your journey with us. As you ponder these reflection points also envision the positive impact you can make on the lives of those affected by work-related incidents.

Honouring your own grief journey

We understand that loss and grief is a complex, difficult, and tender journey, unique to each person. Joining the committee might add layers to your grief and complicate this journey, depending on your circumstances. To minimise any unhelpful impacts, we ask you to consider how much time has passed since your loss, how well supported you are and what else has transpired in your life. Importantly, we also recognise the healing aspects of finding meaning after loss and having an avenue to channel energy and create legacies. Please take a moment to reflect on your own circumstances, readiness, motivations and supports as you consider applying.

Contribution to Function and Purpose:

- *Question:* Can I meaningfully contribute my skills, knowledge, and experience to the committee in providing advice and making recommendations on the information and support needs of affected people?
- *Consideration:* Reflect on your own experience as well as your other unique abilities and how they align with the committee function and purpose.

Impartiality and Representation:

- *Question:* Can I remain impartial while representing the collective interests of affected persons on varying topics and emerging issues?
- *Consideration:* Evaluate your ability to advocate for diverse experiences and perspectives while maintaining impartiality.

Positive Engagement:

- *Question:* Can I engage positively, respectfully, and constructively with government and non-government stakeholders to represent the collective interests of affected persons and the committee?
- *Consideration:* Reflect on your ability to think strategically, collaborate on solutions, and communicate with influence.

Commitment of Time:

- *Question:* Do I have the capacity to sustain a three-year membership commitment?
- *Consideration:* Assess your availability and commitment to prepare for and attend quarterly meetings, engage in out-of-session consultations, and submit feedback.

Team Collaboration:

- *Question:* Can I work collaboratively as part of a diverse and potentially remote team making use of technology such as email access and virtual attendance?
- *Consideration:* Evaluate your interpersonal skills, technological access, experience working in groups and your ability to work collectively and in creative ways.

If you think you are ready to apply for membership, make enquiries today for an opportunity to become an integral part of a committee dedicated to positive change.

Role of the Office of Industrial Relations and Principal Advisor

Who is the Office of Industrial Relations?

- The Office of Industrial Relations (OIR) encompasses Workplace Health and Safety Queensland (WHSQ), the Electrical Safety Office (ESO), Workers' Compensation Regulatory Services (WCRS) and Industrial Relations (IR). Through the WHSQ and the ESO, OIR shapes the landscape for work and electrical safety in Queensland.
- OIR provides the necessary guidance and support to the committee, ensuring the committee performs its functions efficiently and effectively.

How does OIR provide guidance, advice, and other support?

OIR has a full-time dedicated role of the **Principal Advisor to the Committee** who offers consistent and comprehensive advice and assistance dedicated to the business of the committee and supporting its members.

The Principal Advisor has in depth knowledge of the regulator, historical context, and government processes. They provide oversight, help focus the committee strategically, think creatively about key areas of influence and assist in planning committee business to be in alignment with its legislative responsibilities. This support function also includes:

- Providing advice to the committee on the timing of reviews of key pieces of legislation, policy, and procedures
- Identifying and coordinating engagement and consultation opportunities with key and relevant stakeholders
- Maintaining accurate records of committee activity and communications
- Providing invaluable guidance and support to members in developing submissions, contributing to parliamentary and public inquiries and other high-level correspondence
- Offering reminders and resources for committee members in relation to wellbeing and self-care.

The Principal Advisor role assists in ensuring the committee's seamless operation as well as acknowledging and meeting the needs of the group and its individual members.

The OIR also provides a comprehensive on-boarding process for committee members which includes training on undertaking key committee roles as well as reflection activities that consider the impact of vicarious trauma, maintaining boundaries, promoting wellbeing and taking responsibility for self-care.

In recognition of the impact that committee business may have on some members given the nature of the group, the shared, but unique experiences of loss and trauma and the, at times, confronting nature of engaging in work that is focused on experiences grief, the OIR offers committee members access to counselling and other wellbeing supports should participation on the committee give rise to personal challenges.

Invitation from the current Chair, Dan Kennedy of the Consultative Committee for Work-Related Fatalities and Serious Incidents.

On behalf of the Consultative Committee for Work-related Fatalities and Serious Incidents ('The Committee'), I invite you to consider expressing interest in becoming a member of a change affecting group of individuals whose collective beating heart works to promote the support needs of families in Queensland who have been tragically impacted by fatalities and serious injuries or illnesses following work-related activity.

My son Dale's life was tragically cut short while working. This experience has forever changed me and has driven my dedication to being a member and chair of the committee and supporting families who have experienced similar tragedy across Queensland.

Sadly, work-related fatalities and serious injuries in Queensland are shared by too many within our community. As a committee, all members have been affected by a work-related fatality, serious injury, or illness. Our function as a committee is to give advice on the best way to support and inform persons affected by a traumatic and devastating work-related incident. The collective lived experience of the committee members is critical for governments to understand our needs.

Some of our proudest achievements include creating an enduring yearly workers' memorial event and Honour Roll for families to memorialise their loved ones, our influence in OIR developing a supportive liaison service for family members who are grieving while navigating complex investigation and legal processes, championing access to free counselling for those affected by grief and loss, contributing to law reforms such as the creation of an industrial manslaughter offence charge as well as embedding and formalising a strategic plan and vision for the committee.

More information about the committee is available through this link [Consultative Committee for Work-related Fatalities and Serious Incidents members | WorkSafe.qld.gov.au](https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/consultative-committee-for-work-related-fatalities-and-serious-incidents-members).

Whether or not you continue to consider an expression of interest in being a committee member, if you have been impacted by a work-related death, you may want to know more about the memorial day event and honour roll: [Queensland Workers Memorial | WorkSafe.qld.gov.au](https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/queensland-workers-memorial) and you may want to connect with other families with similar experiences through our closed Facebook page. Facebook group, "Consultative Committee for Work-Related Fatalities and Serious Incidents" ([Consultative Committee for Work-Related Fatalities and Serious Incidents | Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/consultative-committee-for-work-related-fatalities-and-serious-incidents)). This closed group serves as a community of understanding, finding solace, and able to seek support from others who are walking a similar path.

I genuinely encourage you to seriously consider the valuable contribution you might make as well as consider the important meaning that can be made for you from loss and tragedy, including the legacy you can contribute to ensuring the voices of those most directly impacted by work-related deaths, injuries and illnesses are forefront with government.

With heartfelt sincerity,

Dan Kennedy
Committee Chair

Consultative Committee for Work-related Fatalities and Serious Incidents

How to make inquiries about committee membership?

Join us in making a difference: express your interest.

Thank you for your interest in the Consultative Committee for Work-Related Fatalities and Serious Incidents. Your commitment to making a positive impact on the lives of families and individuals affected by work-related incidents is commendable, and we invite you to embark on this meaningful journey and to be at the forefront of positive change by applying for membership appointment to the committee today.

Where to from here?

For all membership enquiries, please contact Virginia Richardson, Principal Advisor of the Coronial and Family Liaison Services at OHSConsultativeCommittee@oir.qld.gov.au. Please note in the subject line "CCWRFSI Enquiry".

Virginia will contact you to discuss your enquiry, talk more about the committee, answer any questions you might have and take you through the next phase of the process.

The process will include verification for membership eligibility, consider readiness and motivations, review any potential conflicts of interest, and undertake necessary checks such as criminal history background check.

Privacy

The Office of Industrial Relations (OIR) is collecting the personal information you provide on the online form for the recruitment and appointment process for applicants for the Consultative Committee for Work-related Fatalities and Serious Incidents (the Consultative Committee) established under Part 2A of Schedule 2 of the Work Health and Safety Act 2011 (WHS Act). The personal information provided by you in your application will be used for the purpose of the recruitment and appointment process for Consultative Committee and in accordance with the Information Privacy Act 2009 (Qld). Your personal information and the information of any third parties provided by you in your application may be disclosed to the Office of the Minister for Industrial Relations and Department of Premier and Cabinet for the purposes of the appointment process of the Consultative Committee in accordance with the Information Privacy Act 2009 (Qld).

If you have any questions or concerns about the collection, storage, use or disclosure of your personal information or the personal information of any nominated third parties, please contact OIR at OHSConsultativeCommittee@oir.qld.gov.au.

Make a difference. Join CCWRFSI – Where your voice matters, and your experience counts.

Apply now

If you are ready to apply for nomination for membership to the committee, please access the online application form here <https://fswqap.worksafe.qld.gov.au/whsq-forms>.

Please note that when accessing the online application, you will need to register using an email and password.

Applications close Friday 6 December 2024.