



Safety & Compliance – Improvement Initiatives 2026

Safety and Compliance on Department of Housing and Works Maintenance Contracts

The Department of Housing and Works' Buildings and Contracts Division plays a key role in building and maintaining non-residential public infrastructure. We value opportunities to engage with local contractors to deliver maintenance and minor works on a range of sites that benefit our community including schools, police and fire stations, court houses, recreation facilities and health centres.

In delivering this important work, we recognise safety is vital and there are a multitude of risks and hazards that need to be managed. Management of these risks is a shared duty and it is important that all parties understand their obligations.

No job is too small for safety

The Department of Housing and Works has been reviewing its maintenance frameworks to identify opportunities to strengthen our approach to safety and compliance, this includes our Low Value Maintenance Panel (LVMP), Service Alliance 2012 (SA12) and routine maintenance contracts.

Commencing 2026, we will be implementing a range of initiatives to improve oversight of contractual compliance and on-site risk management by our maintenance contractors. These initiatives will assist both the Department of Housing and Works as well as your business, to support workers to remain safe on sites and ensure contractual and work health and safety obligations are met.

Safety and Compliance Initiatives

Tranche 1 – Proposed commencement from February 2026

- Audits of National Police Clearances (NPCs)
 - Contractors are required to hold an NPC for all Contractor Personnel that attend a site on behalf of DHW.
 - These should be obtained prior to contractor personnel attending site, be no older than two (2) years and contain no adverse criminal history.
- A change of practice with respect to removal of asbestos containing materials (ACM) focusing on less than 10m² of non-friable ACM.

- A new process to ensure the delivery of Breakdown Repair work is completed and invoiced in accordance with contractual timeframes.

Tranche 2 - Proposed commencement from April 2026

- Launch of new Maintenance Advice Forms (MAFs) incorporating the need to capture onsite risk assessments.
- Audits of Safe Work Method Statements (SWMS), Job Safety Analyses (JSAs) and other risk management tools
- Clarity on the role of the Site Representative and site arrival tasks to be completed before work can commence.

What do I need to do?

This notice is to inform you of our upcoming intentions only, so you know what to expect and to be prepared. You will receive further communications and requests for information as the above initiatives are rolled out.

The Department of Housing and Works thanks you for your continued support and we look forward to working with you to strengthen safety and compliance procedures and awareness.

Acknowledgement of Country

The Department of Housing and Works acknowledges the traditional custodians throughout Western Australia and their continuing connection to the land, waters and community. We pay our respects to all members of the Aboriginal communities and their cultures; and to Elders both past and present.

