

**COUNCIL OF MINISTERS**  
**GOVERNMENT HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY**  
**STATEMENT OF INTENT**

The Council of Ministers recognises and accepts that the Isle of Man Government, through its Departments, Offices and Statutory Boards, has a legal and moral duty to carry out its activities in a manner that will ensure the health, safety and welfare of its employees and those that may be affected by those activities, so far as reasonably practicable.

To contribute to Council of Ministers requirements Departments, Offices and Statutory Boards must put arrangements in place to ensure that they can deliver their services while complying with their legal duties as well as best practice drawn from other jurisdictions, specialist organisations and industry standards. Departments, Offices and Statutory Boards will achieve this by ensuring a safety policy is in place which allocates health and safety management responsibilities that reflect the level of risk within the organisation and their operational arrangements.

The responsibilities and operational arrangements will need to cover mechanisms for controlling health and safety related matters including enabling co-operation between individuals and groups, communication across the organisation and the competence of those involved.

Key areas that need to be addressed through assessment and appropriate procedures that reflect the level of risk include:-

- Safe systems of work, plant and equipment.
- Safe use, handling, storage and transport of articles and substances.
- A safe place of work with a healthy working environment that has adequate access, egress and welfare facilities.
- Appropriate information, instruction, training and supervision relevant to the skills, knowledge and experience of employees and those that may be affected by the activities.

To assist Departments, Offices and Statutory Boards and to ensure consistent standards are achieved and maintained guidance on areas of safety management will be produced on behalf of Council of Ministers by specialist advisers, co-ordinated by the Principal Health & Safety Adviser. These documents will be endorsed and distributed through the corporate governance mechanisms, as appropriate.

The Council of Ministers will require annual reports on the management of Health, Safety and Welfare across Government unless there is reason to report matters more frequently. These reports will be produced by the Principal Health & Safety Adviser through the corporate governance route.