



## Asbestos Safety and Eradication Council

The work of the agency is supported by the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Council.

The Council is made up of a Chairperson and nine members who have been selected for their experience and expertise with asbestos safety, public health, corporate governance or the representation of people with asbestos-related diseases (ARDs) and their families. One position is reserved for a Commonwealth representative and four positions reserved for a state, territory or local government representative.

The Council will provide advice to the CEO and the Minister on the [National Strategic Plan for Asbestos Management and Awareness](#) (NSP) and other asbestos safety matters.

The Chair and council members below were appointed by the Minister for Employment on 14 December 2016 for a period of three years.

### Chair



**Diane Smith-Gander** is non-executive director AGL Energy Limited, Wesfarmers Limited, Chair of Safe Work Australia, a board member of Keystart Loans, Henry Davis York, CEDA and immediate past President of Chief Executive Women. Ms Smith-Gander has held a wide range of non-executive roles in the past including Chairman of Broadspectrum, Deputy Chair of NBNCo, non-executive director of the CBH Group and commissioner of Tourism WA. Ms Smith-Gander's last executive role was as a group executive at Westpac banking Corporation. Prior to re-joining Westpac Ms Smith-Gander was a partner of McKinsey & Company in the United States serving clients in diverse industries globally. Ms Smith-Gander became a senior advisor to McKinsey in Australia in 2016. Ms Smith-Gander is a fellow of the AICD and Governance Institute of Australia and adjunct professor of Corporate Governance at UWA where she serves on the advisory board of the Business School.

### Council Members





#### Commonwealth



**Michelle Baxter** has been the Chief Executive Officer of Safe Work Australia since 2014 having acted in the position for 12 months before that. Before her appointment Ms Baxter held Senior Executive roles including in the Department of Employment and the Office of the Fair Work Ombudsman. Ms Baxter is a member of Safe Work Australia and the Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission. She holds bachelor degrees in Arts and Laws from the Australian National University and was admitted as a Barrister and Solicitor in the Supreme Court of the Australian Capital Territory in 1988.



## State, Territory and Local Government

	<p><b>Jim Dodds</b> (Western Australia) is the Director of Environmental Health at the Department of Health Western Australia in the Public Health Division. He is also a member of the Food Regulatory Standing Committee and a Council Member and Executive Member of the enHealth Council. Mr Dodds is undertaking a Master of Health Science and holds a number of qualifications including a Graduate Diploma in Occupational Health and Safety and a Master of Engineering Science – Waste Management. Mr Dodds' previous roles include Project Lead of a Reform Program in the Department of Health, Director of Strategy and Environment, Chair of the enHealth Council and various roles in Shire Councils. Mr Dodds was previously the Chair of the enHealth Council and has co-authored nine journal articles in the last 16 years.</p>
	<p><b>Julie Nielsen</b> (Queensland) is the Executive Director of Compliance and Business Engagement in the Office of Industrial Relations, Queensland Treasury. Ms Nielsen's previous roles include Regional Director for the Brisbane North Sunshine Coast at Workplace Health and Safety Queensland in the Department of Justice and Attorney General. Before joining the Queensland Public Service, Ms Nielsen worked at the Queensland Chamber of Commerce and Industry.</p>
	<p><b>Marnie Williams</b> (Victoria) is the Executive Director of Health and Safety at WorkSafe Victoria. Ms Williams' previous roles include Chief Executive Officer of the Taxi Services Commission; General Manager of the Victorian Taxi Directorate, Department of Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure and various roles at the Victorian WorkCover Authority and WorkSafe Victoria, including as General Manager of the Strategic Programs Division and as a Chemical Technologist.</p>
	<p><b>Tony Circelli</b> (South Australia) has held a variety of senior executive leadership positions with the EPA and was appointed Chief Executive in 2014. He has led national and state policy and strategy development, and held executive roles in regulatory operations, strategy and corporate governance functions. Over the last 10 years Mr Circelli has led a number of waste and resource recovery related reforms in SA including, assisting government to introduce nation leading provisions under the State's Waste to Resources Policy to establish the operating framework and conditions that underpin SA's billion dollar resource recovery sector. Mr Circelli is a member of the EPA Board, the national research group CRC CARE, and Presiding Member of the SA Radiation Protection Committee. He is also a member of the State Government's Senior Management Council, Australian Institute of Company Directors, and Fellow of the SA's Governor's Leadership Foundation.</p>



### Employee representative



**Michael Borowick** was elected as Assistant Secretary of the Australian Council of Trade Unions in 2010. Between 1990 and 2010 he held various elected and other positions in The Australian Workers' Union and its predecessor organisations. Mr Borowick is on a number of boards including Safe Work Australia; the Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission; the National Workplace Relations Consultative Council and the Defence Reserves Support Council. Mr Borowick is also a Director of HESTA, the industry superannuation fund for the health and community sector. HESTA has 834,000 members and \$40B of funds under management.

### Employer representative



**Tracey Browne** is the Manager of National Safety and Workers' Compensation Policy and Membership Services at the Australian Industry Group (Ai Group). Ms Browne has held a number of roles at Ai Group since 2001. Before joining Ai Group, Ms Browne was the Group Manager for Health Safety and Environment at Bendix Mintex and an Occupational Health and Safety Coordinator for ACI Glass Packaging. She has also held academic, consulting and human resources roles. Ms Browne is qualified with a Bachelor of Business, a Graduate Diploma in Occupational Hazard Management and is a Master of Applied Science (Occupational Health and Safety). She is a former President and Treasurer of the Rotary Club of South Bank.



## Other members






**Carolyn Davis** is an independent consultant and a former director of the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI). Before joining ACCI, Ms Davis was a senior manager in various organisations and a consultant on occupational health and safety and workers' compensation matters. Ms Davis has also lectured in occupational health and safety in Chemistry. She is a former Member of Safe Work Australia and has been an 'observer' at Council meetings since 2013. Ms Davis has a Bachelor of Science (Hons), an Education Diploma, and a Graduate Diploma in Occupational Hygiene and is a member of Resolution Institute (alternative dispute resolution).



**Nancy Milne OAM** has extensive business experience as a non-executive director and lawyer and expertise in risk management. She was a lawyer for over 30 years specialising in insurance, corporate governance, risk management and commercial dispute resolution. Ms Milne acted for the underfunded trust created by James Hardie before and during the Jackson Special Commission of Enquiry, acted in disputes involving asbestos claims and has advised on matters relating to insurance arrangements for asbestos liability coverage. Ms Milne retired from her partnership at Clayton Utz in 2003 and continued to work as a consultant to Clayton Utz until 2014. Ms Milne is currently a director of ALC Property Group Limited, Securities Exchange Guarantee Corporation Limited (chair since 2012), Superannuation Administration Corporation and the State Insurance Regulatory Authority. Previous directorships include State Super Financial Services Australian Limited, Greenstone Limited and Novion Property Group. Ms Milne was awarded the Order of Australia Medal for services to the legal sector (particularly in insurance law) and to the community.



## Observers

	<p><b>Dr Robert Walters</b> is a General Medical Practitioner, part-time member of the Administrative Appeals Tribunal and Colonel in the Royal Australian Army Medical Corps. Dr Walters has been a General Practice Consultant to the Surgeon General, Australian Defence Force (ADF) since 1995 and has held positions in the ADF as a Senior Medical Officer, Director of Medical Services (Tasmania Region) and Military Compensation Adviser for Tasmania. His board memberships include Chair, Ministerial Asbestos Steering Committee; Medical Member of WorkSafe Tasmania Board, Headspace; and Chair of the General Practice Consultative Group, ADF. Dr Walters was also a state and territory representative on the first Asbestos Safety and Eradication Council, 2013 to 2016.</p>
	<p><b>Vicki Hamilton OAM</b> is the Chief Executive Officer and Secretary of Asbestos Council of Victoria/GARDS and has been an Executive Member of the organisation since 2000. Ms Hamilton has had two of her family members pass away from asbestos-related disease - her father with asbestos lung cancer and her grandfather with asbestosis. Ms Hamilton is the support group co-ordinator for asbestos sufferers and their families which involves monthly meetings, home and hospital visits and provision of medical equipment as needed. Ms Hamilton conducts asbestos awareness sessions for Medical students, Nursing students, Allied health students, TAFE students in trades such as Painting and Decorating, plumbing, carpentry etc. Community groups &amp; work places. Current Chair of the Gippsland Regional Integrated Cancer Service Consumer Reference Group and current member of the Community Advisory Committee at Latrobe Regional Hospital since the group's inception in 2005. Ms Hamilton was awarded the Citizen of the Year for Latrobe City in 2005 and an Order of Australia Medal (OAM) in the Australia Day Awards 2014 for her service to the community through support for people with asbestos related disease.</p>
	<p><b>Simone Stevenson</b> was appointed as Executive Director of the Victorian Asbestos Eradication Agency in December 2016 bringing extensive experience in public policy, program implementation and stakeholder engagement in government, not-for-profit and private sectors. Ms Stevenson worked as Policy Adviser to the Federal Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations including providing advice on the Federal Government response to the Asbestos Management Review 2012, the establishment of the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency and the development of the National Strategic Plan for Asbestos Management and Awareness. Ms Stevenson also worked in Global Partnerships and Advocacy for The Fred Hollows Foundation, as Chief of Staff to the Victorian Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Industrial Relations and Local Government, and Worksafe Victoria.</p>



## Chief Executive Officer



**Justine Ross** was appointed Chief Executive Officer of the agency in August 2018 for a period of five years. Prior to this, Ms Ross was Acting Group Manager of the WHS Policy Group in the Department of Jobs and Small Business, responsible for policy development and advice on Commonwealth WHS and workers' compensation, maritime workers' compensation and WHS matters, asbestos matters and workplace relations issues concerning the building industry (including on the reestablishment of the Australian Building and Construction Commission and Building Code). Ms Ross has a Bachelor of Laws and a Bachelor of Arts from Macquarie University and has completed a Master in OHS at the International Training Centre of the International Labour Organisation at Turin University. Ms Ross is admitted to practice as a Barrister and Solicitor in the ACT.

The position of Chief Executive Officer is a statutory appointment and is made following a merit based selection process.