OHS Review FAQs

Q. **The OHS review is confirming UQ’s formal, professional OHS resources. What does this mean?**

A. The review team is meeting with a range of UQ personnel to discover the number of people providing formal OHS professional services across the University - as distinct from UQ staff performing their OHS duties and responsibilities within their day to day role.

All workers at UQ have OHS responsibilities. For example, many roles at UQ have assigned to them a range of occupational health and safety related duties that are integrated into or a part of their primary function; e.g., conducting inductions, inputting incidents and hazards into the corporate systems, workplace inspections, checking local resources such as first aid kits. Roles that often have strong OHS components are laboratory managers and floor managers. The safety duties of these roles are essential to the OHS system at UQ, however as in other universities, are not included in UQ’s formal professional OHS complement.

Dedicated OHS positions formally manage the development, implementation and monitoring of the occupational health and safety management system and related compliance systems across one or more UQ organisation units. These positions typically have OHS recognised in their position title and are included in UQ’s formal professional OHS complement.

Q. **How is the review team consulting with staff and updating staff on progress?**

A. Staff will be consulted and updated in a range of ways.
One on one interviews are occurring with a sample of staff.
A web based on-line survey for UQ Managers and another for the OHS network.
A number of Q and A sessions will be arranged.
A small number of ‘scope of service’ workshops will be arranged.
Review team members are available at any time on email.

Q. **Will position descriptions of existing safety personnel be changed?**

A. It is likely there may be some realignment of existing position descriptions to enhance consistency across UQ.

Q. **Will academics be involved in the feedback?**

A. Yes, along with other clients of OHS professional services, most probably by on-line survey. Academics are also represented on the review reference group.

Q. **Will School WHSCs be reviewed?**

A. Yes, the scope of the review is to review all OHS professional services across UQ.

Q. **Are there any thoughts on standardising GO8 OHS reporting?**

A. This has been discussed amongst the GO8 OHS Directors. Some metrics are already reported on annually. However, it is problematic to make direct comparisons as all jurisdictions are in different workers’ compensation jurisdictions with differing legislative arrangements. Some Universities have funded “early intervention” programs (which reduces the number of lodged claims). All these issues have the potential to skew comparative data.

Q. **Will findings be reported at the next Q&A session?**

A. Interested people will be kept up to date as much as possible through updates and other means, such as Q&A sessions.