

Changing the safety culture

J Menzies¹, T Anderson¹

¹Clarence Valley Council, Grafton, NSW

In 2016 a project was developed to improve the safety culture at Clarence Valley Council with the goal to improve safety systems, reduce incidents, increase Work Health Safety compliance and reduce injuries.

The project focused on changing workers mindset to think more about safer systems of work and involved:

- Simplification and improvements to safety procedures
- Safety Awareness programs such as:
 - Motivational speakers
 - Mental Health Awareness
 - Safety Slogan Campaign
 - Safety Text Messages
- Supervisor Training
- Internal Safety Grant
- Safety moments
- Worker training on the PerFORM program – a system to reduce musculoskeletal injuries
- Targeting areas of high incidents and injury claims

The 2017 Calendar year saw a 25% reduction in injury claims compared with the previous 3 years and a reduction in Council's workers compensation premium in 2017/2018 of \$594,000.