



# POLICY

**Policy Title:** Noise Management

**Policy Owner:** Director Human Resources Service Centre

**Keywords:** 1) Noise      2) Noise Management      3) Hearing Loss

**Policy Code:** PL153 [hr102]

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## 1. INTENT

This policy aims to achieve the University's goal in providing and maintaining, so far as is reasonably practicable, a safe and healthy work environment for its workers, students and visitors.

The University will ensure that, so far as is reasonably practicable workers, students and visitors at a University workplace are not exposed to noise above the exposure standard as set out in the Occupational Safety and Health and Regulations 1996.

This policy is to be read in conjunction with the University's Noise Management Plan and Section 2.4 of the Facilities and Services Planning and Design Guidelines: Building and Design.

## 2. ORGANISATIONAL SCOPE

All ECU workers, students and visitors

### 3. DEFINITIONS

TERM	DEFINITION
Australian Standard	Refers to the Australian Standard published by the Standards Association of Australia.
Code of Practice	A code of practice approved by the Minister under Part VIII of the Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984.
ECU	Edith Cowan University
Exposure Standard	A noise exposure of LAeq,8h of 85 dB(A) or an LC,peak of 140 dB(C)
Guidance Note	A Guidance Note issued by the Commission under Part II of the Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984.
Hazard	In relation to a person, anything that may result in injury to the person; or harm to the health of a person.
Noise	Any unwanted or damaging sound.
Noise level	The A-weighted sound pressure level in decibels as read from approved sound measurement equipment.
Risk	The likelihood that a substance will cause harm in the circumstances of its use.
Workplace	A place where employees work or are likely to be in the course of their work.
Worker	A person is a worker if the person carries out work in any capacity for ECU, including work as: a) an employee; or b) a contractor or subcontractor; or c) an employee of a contractor or subcontractor; or d) an employee of a labour hire company who has been assigned to work in the person's business or undertaking; or e) an apprentice or trainee; or f) a student gaining work experience; or g) a volunteer.

### 4. POLICY CONTENT

#### 4.1 Noise Control Budgeting

- A Service Centre or Faculty that introduces a noise hazard into the University shall be responsible for funding the noise controls to reduce noise levels to the University standards. For methods of achieving this, reference should be made to the Noise Management Plan.
- The cost of providing Personal Hearing Protection to employees and visitors of the University remains the responsibility of the Service Centre or Faculty with management or control of such persons.
- Contractors are required to provide their own Personal Hearing Protection.

#### **4.2 Noise Exposure to Workers**

- A Service Centre or Faculty who engages a worker must ensure that the worker is advised of any noise hazards, or potential hazards, arising from activities undertaken by the University.
- The Noise Management Plan facilitates the University and its workers to meet the standards specified in this Policy and the requirements of the plan should be followed.

#### **4.3 Noise Management and Control by Contractors**

- Contractors engaged by the University must comply with Regulations 3.46 and 3.47 of the Occupational Safety and Health Regulations 1996.
- Contractors should also meet the requirements of the Noise Management Plan.

#### **4.4 Noise Controls in Building and Design**

- The requirements of the Asset Delivery Group Building and Design Guidelines section 2.4 Acoustic Requirements should be met Consultants and Contractors undertaking projects for the University.

### **5. ACCOUNTABILITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

In relation to this policy, the following positions are responsible for the following

#### *Policy Owner*

The Policy Owner the Director Human Resources Service Centre has overall responsibility for the content of this policy and its operation in ECU.

#### *Staff/students/contractors*

Staff/students/contractors are required to comply with the content of this policy and to seek guidance in the event of uncertainty as to its application.

### **6. RELATED DOCUMENTS:**

6.1 The policy is supported by the following Guidelines:

- Facilities and Services Planning and Design Guidelines. Available online from the Facilities and Services webpage.

6.2 Other documents which are relevant to the operation of this policy are as follows:

Available from the Health and Safety page of the HR Service Centre Website:

- Noise Management Plan
- Occupational Safety and Health Policy [HR081]
- Personal Protective Equipment Policy [HR101]
- Contractor's Policy [FS032], available from the Facilities and Services webpage

Available via the Standards Australia webpage:

- Australian Standard AS/NZS 1269 Occupational Noise Management Set.
- Australian Standard AS/NZS 1270 Acoustics Hearing Protectors.

Available online via the WorkSafe Western Australia webpage:

- Occupational Safety and Health and Act 1984
- Occupational Safety and Health Regulations 1996
- National Code of Practice for Noise Management and Protection of Hearing at Work. [NOHSC:2009 (1993)]

## 7. CONTACT INFORMATION

For queries relating to this document please contact:

Policy Owner	Director Human Resources Service Centre
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## 8. APPROVAL HISTORY

Policy Approved by:	Vice-Chancellor
Date Policy First Approved:	1996 February 2010
Date last modified:	November 2013
Revision History:	August 1999: Policy reformatted to meet University Policy guide lines and amended to meet regulatory noise level changes effective from  March 2010: Policy amended to comply with University Guidelines re Drafting of Policy Documents  November 2013: Policy amended to align with new policy template
Next Revision Due:	November 2016
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