

# Annual checks for legally required Fire Safety Equipment

## Does your workplace have annual checks for legally required Fire Safety Equipment?

Fire safety measures (exit signs, emergency lighting, hose reels, portable fire extinguishers etc.) have been required in class 2-9 buildings (offices, factories, shops, hotels, motels etc.) since approximately 1973. Council originally identified the measures required in Building Approvals and more recently has included them in Development Consents and fire safety schedules.

It is the legal responsibility of the owner (or their agent on their behalf) to:

- install the measures to the relevant Australian Standards and certify the installation to Council
- provide a safe work place and a safe environment for the public.

This legal obligation is automatically inherited upon purchase and new owners are required to make themselves aware of the measures installed in the building.

**The owner (or an agent on the owner's behalf) is legally responsible to maintain the fire safety measures and to annually certify the measures are being maintained (some measures may require maintenance on shorter time periods e.g. portable fire extinguishers etc.).**

A copy of the annual FIRE SAFETY STATEMENT must be displayed in the foyer of the premises or on the workplace's notice board with other WHS issues. A copy must also be sent to Council and the Commissioner of Fire and Rescue New South Wales.

Should an employee or member of the public be injured or killed due to neglect to maintain the measures, the owner could be subjected to charges of neglect or even manslaughter being laid against them.

## Does your home have smoke detectors?

As a result of the introduction of Building Legislation Amendment (Smoke Alarms) Act 2006, smoke detectors are now required in all buildings where people sleep.

Building Certificates, and or Occupation Certificates will **NOT** be issued until these are installed.

**Council encourages you to install a smoke detector today!**

**Failure to maintain the measures and provide the statements could result in heavy penalties being issued.**

For more information call Council on (02) 4560 4444.



This document contains important information. If you do not understand it, contact the Telephone Interpreter Service on 131 450.



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