



Preparing for stage 3: Changes in terminology

Public Health Act 2016

The purpose of this document is to provide advice to local government enforcement agencies that must be prepared to update outdated *Health Act 1911* terminology at stage 3 to ensure documentation is consistent with new terminology provided under the *Public Health Act 2016*.

Terminology changes

At the time of stage 3 of implementation of the new Act, the following terminology changes will be made to the *Health Act 1911*:

- The *Health Act 1911* will be renamed the *Health Act (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1911*
- References to the Executive Director, Public health will be amended to the references to the Chief Health Officer
- References to Environmental Health Officers will be amended to be references to authorised officers and
- References to medical officers will be amended to be references to medical practitioners.

Regulations and prescribed forms

- Terminology changes required to all regulations that sit under the *Health Act 1911* will be automatically amended on the date stage 3 comes into effect. This is achieved through the *Health (Consequential Provisions) Act 2016*.
- The Department of Health is also arranging for amendments to be made to other Western Australian legislation that makes reference to the *Health Act 1911*.
- These amendments will also include updates to the terminology of any prescribed statutory forms made under regulations.
- Following stage 3 coming into effect, it is important that local government refer to the State Law Publisher website www.slp.wa.gov.au for the amended copies of regulations and prescribed forms.

Council correspondence

Any council correspondence will need to be updated with the new terminology such as:

- Standard letters that may reference the *Health Act 1911*, Executive Director of Public Health, or specific provisions of a regulation should be updated to reflect the new terminology changes
- Council website
- Information resources, brochures and guidelines
- Standard inspection forms

Further information

Refer to the Department of Health's website ww2.health.wa.gov.au/Improving-WA-Health/Public-health/Public-Health-Act or email specific queries to PublicHealthAct@health.wa.gov.au