

Safety Alert

23 February 2024

Let's work together to keep ourselves and our workers safe.

Worker fatigue needs to be managed

A quarry worker was fatigued due to the arrival of a new baby in his family. He was making a lot of mistakes from being inattentive.

The quarry company gave the worker a flexible work schedule for a period of time so he could adjust to having a new baby.

He was advised not to feel pressured to arrive at work by 6.30am each day, particularly if he had not had sufficient sleep.



[MinEx statistics](#) on incidents with the potential to cause harm over the past 5 years show 15% of incidents (941 incidents) result from breach of procedure.

You need to ensure that:

1. You monitor worker fitness for work including that they are getting sufficient sleep between shifts.
2. Workers are encouraged to report fatigue and other conditions that may affect their ability to concentrate and work safely.
3. Where practical, you provide flexible work arrangements to cater for situations where workers' rest periods are affected by pressures outside of work.

Know of an incident or near miss? Please share the learnings with us.