

Getting involved

Comcare is interested in hearing about potential applied research opportunities that can deliver practical outcomes for healthy and safe workplaces across our Scheme.

Projects that support our research themes will be assessed and prioritised according to three key factors: potential impact, innovation and importance.

Research of national and international importance will also be considered.

More information

If you are interested in learning more about Comcare, its research themes, project updates or outcomes, please contact research@comcare.gov.au.



Research Plan towards 2022

Australia's workplaces are changing.

New applied research that helps us navigate current and emerging disruptors is critical to understanding the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead.

For Comcare, these changes raise some important questions.

Questions we will explore as part of our Research Plan.

How do we keep employees healthy and safe at work?

New skills and capabilities need to be developed to accommodate and assess the risks of changing physical hazards and psychosocial issues in the modern workplace.

How do we help support mentally healthy workplaces?

New strategies to prevent and reduce the risk of mental ill health and illness is a critical focus for workplaces.

What can we do to further improve recovery and return to work outcomes?

Helping injured and ill employees to recover and return to work, aids recovery and reduces the risk of long-term disability.

What impact will artificial intelligence and robotics have in the workplace?

It's important to explore the human impact of automation such as organisational development, upskilling, transitioning and safety.

Will changing work design increase factors such as isolation and mental stress?

Technology is blurring the boundaries between work and home with more Australians having greater flexibility over their working hours, patterns and location.

How do we best engage and support older workers?

Australians are likely to retire later and older employees will want access to greater flexibility and part-time work arrangements.

It has never been more important to forge powerful partnerships across schemes and sectors to invest in research and new opportunities to inform future policy and practice.

After extensive stakeholder engagement and consultation, Comcare has identified five research themes that will be used to drive innovation and better practice across our Scheme.

01

Enabling Healthy and Safe Workplaces

– preventing harm in our workplaces



02

Building Employer Capability

– helping organisations meet their Work, Health, and Safety duties and obligations, and their ability to implement better-practice models to support employees



03

Guiding and Supporting Mental Health and Wellbeing

– building mentally healthy workplaces



04

Fostering Work Participation and Recovery

– maximising prevention, retention, recovery at and return to work



05

Adapting to the Future of Work

– responding to future work practices and environments

