

Hearing Conservation Policy

1.0 Policy Statement

The City of Mount Pearl is committed to protect and promote the health and safety of its employees through a Hearing Conservation Program that effectively manages or eliminates hazardous work-related noise exposures.

2.0 Background

When an employee is required to work in an area in which noise levels exceed the criteria for permissible noise exposure established by the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH) Noise Threshold Limit Values, an employer shall establish and maintain a Hearing Conservation Program as per Section 68 of the *Occupational Health and Safety Regulations*.

3.0 Purpose

To establish a policy for the City of Mount Pearl that implements the procedures and standards to protect employees from noise induced hearing impairment. To identify work environments where exposure to noise could be harmful to employees and to ensure preventive measures are implemented to minimize damage to hearing.

4.0 Hearing Conservation Program Requirements

The City's hearing conservation program shall comply with the following minimum requirements:

- A noise survey of the workplace to identify high noise areas shall be performed in accordance with CSA Z107.56 "Procedures for Measurement of Occupational Noise Exposure";
- Hearing tests for every worker exposed to noise levels in excess of permissible levels to be conducted on an annual basis or where recommended by an audiologist or occupational physician;
- A hearing test, within 3 months of commencement of employment, for each new worker who is exposed to noise in excess of the permissible levels;


- Training and education for all workers in the health hazards of noise and the fitting, maintenance, care and use of hearing protection;
- Posting of signs at entrances to or on the periphery of areas where persons are exposed to high noise levels in excess of threshold limit, stating a noise hazard exists and showing the Personal Protective Equipment required;
- Upon termination of employment, a worker may request from the employer a record of noise exposure during their term of employment.

5.0 Related Procedures

Please refer to the City's companion documents:

- FORM-OHS-34 Employee Notification for Hearing Test
- OP-OHS-75 Hearing Conservation Program

6.0 Approvals



Steve Kent, Chief Administrative Officer
August 21, 2018

Date