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Working together to offer extra help to South Australian businesses

SafeWork SA has entered into a partnership with the Small Business Commissioner to offer its free work health and safety advisory service through the Small Business Centre shopfront located in the Adelaide CBD.

SafeWork SA Acting Executive Director Dini Soulio said the mobile WHS advisory service, introduced in July 2016, had been hugely successful.

“Nearly 800 businesses have taken advantage of the free service since it started, asking for a WHS advisor to help them to understand their legal responsibilities and to implement practical systems and solutions to manage their hazards,” he said.

Ninety-eight per cent of the customers of the new service have rated it as very useful.

“Partnering with the Commissioner is another way we are making it easier and more convenient for businesses to seek advice from us on their work health and safety,” Mr Soulio said.

The Small Business Commissioner, Mr John Chapman said: “The initiative with SafeWork SA will provide small businesses with a centrally located place they can go to seek advice and support about safety within the workplace.

“The recently opened Small Business Centre shopfront provides an opportunity for government agencies to have a place where they can meet with small businesses and I hope that other agencies will utilise the space in the future.”

The co-located SafeWork SA service will operate from 12pm to 5pm every Wednesday. It is an addition to the team’s mobile service of advisors who can visit the workplace to provide tailored and practical support.

The Office of the Small Business Commissioner, at 99 Gawler Place, offers a range of services, including education and free information sessions on a variety of topics. It also offers an alternative dispute resolution service for business in dealing with other businesses and local or state government bodies.

People can either drop in to speak one-on-one with an advisor or book online at https://www.sasbc.sa.gov.au/events/202_safework_sa_advisory_service.

For information about SafeWork SA’s free work health and safety advisory service, contact 1300 365 255 or visit safework.sa.gov.au/freeadvice.