

Application ID

Application lodged

SAET case number (if blank, quote Application ID)

ET-26-04504**About this form**

This contains the details of a Notice of WHS Dispute under section 102B of the Work Health and Safety Act 2012, prepared in the same field structure as SAET's online Form A54 for lodgement.

APPLICATION SUMMARY**Application type**

A Notice of WHS Dispute (section 102B of the Work Health and Safety Act 2012)
(WHS-09)

Applicant(s)**Ms Tahlia Dunne (Worker)**

Represented by

Not represented

Respondent(s)**THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA PROPERTY TRUST (S.A.) (Not specified)**

Nominated contact: Mr Andrew Robertson

Application Details

Are there any other proceedings before SAET involving the same parties to this application?

Yes - ET-26-04392 (related s 112 WHS proceeding).

Is this matter urgent?

Yes

Please provide reasons for why the matter is urgent

The WHS and safeguarding issues remain unresolved. They concern ongoing psychosocial risks, treatment of girls and young women, reporting safety concerns without detriment, and risks affecting volunteers and young people.

Earliest preference date for SAET to schedule a listing

12/10/2026



DETAILS OF THE DISPUTE

WHS matter subject of the dispute

This dispute (as defined in s 102A of the Work Health and Safety Act 2012) is in relation to: [Please pick one or more of the options below]

A matter about work health and safety that is an issue to which division 5 of the Work Health and Safety Act 2012 applies.

Summary of Dispute

Please outline the issues in dispute between the parties: [Please note that any details you provide will be published on the SAET website and will be viewed publicly.]

I am a volunteer worker who performed organised unpaid work in church ministries and activities. My dispute concerns unresolved physical and psychosocial safety, safeguarding, treatment of girls and young women, complaint handling, alleged detriment after reporting, and risks affecting volunteers and young people.

2021 - I was injured and hospitalised after a church-organised mudslide activity. I say leadership knew of the incident, I received no meaningful safety or pastoral follow-up, and the activity continued in later years. I raise this as an unresolved concern about hazard identification, incident review, corrective action and organisational learning.

2 Oct 2022 - At age 17 I was rostered to serve at Living Waters Men's Camp at Halbury. Female volunteers, including minors, were instructed to dress modestly while serving men; my 13-year-old sister was also on the roster. I raise the safeguarding and psychosocial risk of placing responsibility on girls and young women for men's responses or behaviour.

2022 Men's Camp - During that same event another young female volunteer disclosed to me a serious historical allegation of sexual abuse at the same campsite when she was a child and the alleged perpetrator was an adult. I do not ask SAET to determine that allegation here; I raise its safeguarding significance, the handling of disclosures and the need for independent complaint systems.

2024-2026 - I continued organised unpaid volunteer work including Men's Camp service, Bean Team coffee service, sound-system preparation and United in Faith hospitality/ministry work.

11 Dec 2025 - At a prayer meeting I was caught in an intense exchange lasting about 45 minutes involving a women's safety concern. I was sweating, overwhelmed and extremely uncomfortable. About a week later Errol told me it had been the worst pastoral-care meeting of his career and that I should not have had to witness it.

Dec 2025-Apr 2026 - I experienced further conversations that made me uncomfortable, including intimate relationship matters and age differences involving young women. While rostered on coffee service, an adult male stayed near us and continued similar conversations; I felt uncomfortable and unable to leave because I was serving.

20 Apr 2026 - I sent a detailed written safety report to Safe Church and Parish Elders raising psychosocial safety, pastoral boundaries, women and young people, and the earlier disclosure. I sought a protective and independent safety response. I received no substantive elder response.

14 May 2026 and after - I say the response became punitive rather than protective: United in Faith was cancelled, further Council correspondence was closed, I was blocked or removed from communication channels and later lost Bean Team access. I raise the psychosocial risk of detriment for speaking up and a reporting culture that may deter others from raising safety concerns.

9 Sep 2026 - The first captured Safe Church response came 142 days after my 20 April report. It did not identify to me a completed independent investigation, findings, protective action or effective resolution.

18 Sep 2026 - I followed up again asking what action would be taken and recorded the elder silence, blocking and ministry cancellation.

Sep 2026 - I filed a separate application under s 112 concerning alleged conduct under ss 104-108. That proceeding does not resolve the underlying safety issues: failure to learn from injury; safeguarding of girls and young women; possible normalisation or minimisation of women's safety concerns; alleged detriment for reporting; whether leadership responses protected male leaders or participants from scrutiny rather than women and girls; conflict-of-interest controls; and organisational learning.

Sep 2026 - s 82 - I requested that SafeWork SA appoint an inspector under s 82 to assist in resolving the safety issue. The issue remains unresolved. I will provide the sent email separately to establish the transmission date and time.

Worksite(s) where dispute exists. (Please add address details)

Balaklava Uniting Church - 27 Edith Terrace, Balaklava SA 5461

Living Waters Men's Camp / Halbury church campsite - Halbury SA

The Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust (S.A.) / Safe Church - Level 2, 212 Pirie Street, Adelaide SA 5000

What is the outcome you seek at the Tribunal?

Please outline the outcome you seek from the Tribunal. [Please note that any details you provide will be published on the SAET website and will be viewed publicly.]

1. I seek conciliation as soon as practicable and, if the dispute is not promptly resolved, arbitration and appropriate orders under s 102C(3).
2. I seek orders requiring an independent WHS and safeguarding process addressing the 2021 mudslide injury and organisational learning, the 2022 Men's Camp safeguarding concerns, and my 20 April 2026 safety report, with identified control measures and a timetable for implementation.
3. I seek orders requiring effective controls for psychosocial and safeguarding risk, including a safe independent reporting pathway, prompt acknowledgement and triage, protection from detriment for raising WHS concerns, independent escalation where leaders or close relatives are implicated, improved incident review, and age-appropriate safeguarding for child and young adult volunteers.
4. I seek directions or orders for preservation and, as SAET considers appropriate, production of relevant incident, risk assessment, volunteer roster, complaint-handling, triage, referral and decision-making records necessary to resolve the dispute.
5. If SAET considers there are reasonable grounds to believe an offence under the WHS Act may have occurred, I request referral to SafeWork SA under s 102C(2)(c).

Compliance Powers

Has a decision been made by an Inspector to exercise, or not to exercise, compliance powers under part 10 to assist in resolving the dispute subject to review under part 12 of the Work Health and Safety Act 2012

No - no such decision has been communicated to me.

Supporting Attachments

Are there any supporting documents that you wish to attach to this form?

Yes

Upload Supporting Attachments

Provided separately with the lodgement email.

Provide a brief description of any attachments supporting this application.

1. Tahlia Dunne - unresolved WHS safety issue / SafeWork SA s 82 request and evidence bundle (Tdsafety.pdf).
2. Sent email to SafeWork SA transmitting the s 82 request, showing the transmission date and time.

Publication Notice

I acknowledge that this Notice will be published on the SAET Website and will be viewed publicly.

checked

LODGEMENT DECLARATION

By lodging this application, I declare that:

- I am the applicant, or I am legally authorised to lodge this application
- To the best of my knowledge, all information provided in this application is true and correct
- I will attach all relevant supporting documents to this application form
- I understand that the information provided will be used to determine eligibility to initiate proceedings
- I understand that a copy of this application may be sent to others who may have a direct interest in the proceedings. The South Australian Tribunal Act 2014 governs what information is available to be viewed publicly

I agree

Name of person lodging the application

Tahlia Dunne

Your email address for a receipt and copy of the completed application

[REDACTED]