

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, EMPLOYEES, WORKERS' COMPENSATION

3103. Mrs C.L. Edwardes to the Attorney General; Minister for Health; Electoral Affairs

For each department and agency under the portfolio of the Attorney General -

- (a) how many employees, both permanent and non-permanent are currently on workers' compensation as a result of a workplace injury;
- (b) what is the average time for employees to be on workers' compensation as a result of a workplace injury;
- (c) are all workplace injuries, resulting in lost time, investigated to find the cause of the injury and to review workplace practices;
- (d) if yes, who conducts the investigation;
- (e) if not, why not;
- (f) of the employees absent on workers' compensation, how many are as a result of workplace stress;
- (g) of those employees on workers' compensation as a result of workplace stress, how many are not permanent employees;
- (h) has each case of stress resulting in lost time, been investigated to find the cause of the stress and to review workplace practices;
- (i) if yes, who conducts the investigation; and
- (j) if not, why not?

Mr J.A. McGINTY replied:

Attached are reports in PDF format in response to questions (a), (b), (f) and (g). [See paper No 3107.]

Below are responses submitted to questions (c)-(e) and (h)-(j).

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH:

Royal Street Divisions

- c) Yes. All incidents that result in a claim are investigated including lost time injuries.
- d) The investigations are carried out by management responsible for the areas, Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) representative and the Department's Consultant OSH.
- e) Not applicable.
- h) Yes.
- i) Consultant OSH, management and Independent Investigator appointed by RiskCover.
- j) Not applicable.

South Metropolitan Area Health Service

- c) Yes.
- d) Depending on the nature and circumstances of the incident, investigation may involve Supervisor/Manager, Occupational Safety and Health representative, Occupational Safety and Health Staff, Human Resource Officers. RiskCover may also appoint an external investigator to conduct independent investigation to identify causation factors.
- e) Not applicable.
- h) Yes.
- i) See (d) above.
- j) Not applicable.

Western Australian Country Health Service

- c) Yes.
- d) Varies but can be line management, OSH representatives with management, OSH Coordinator or RiskCover.

- e) Not applicable.
- h) Yes.
- i) Varies but can be line management, OSH representatives with management, OSH Coordinator or RiskCover.
- j) Not applicable.

Women's and Children's Health Service

- c) Yes.
- d) Superior or manager, OSH Representative and member of the OSH Unit.
- e) Not applicable.
- h) Yes.
- i) Human Resources Branch, OSH unit and RiskCover.
- j) Not applicable.

North Metropolitan Area Health Service

North East (Swan and Kalamunda) Health Service

- c) Yes.
- d) The investigation is conducted by the work area supervisor/manager and by the occupational safety and health representative for the work area.
- e) Not applicable.
- h) Yes.
- i) The investigation is conducted by the work area supervisor/manager and by the occupational safety and health representative for the work area. The insurer (RiskCover) will appoint an external agency to undertake the investigation of the claim for stress.
- j) Not applicable.

North East (Royal Perth) Health Service

- c) Yes. All workplace injuries resulting in lost time are investigated.
- d) The relevant Departmental Manager, the Departmental Safety Representative, one of the hospital's Occupational Safety and Health Officers or a combination of the above depending on the severity and circumstances of the injury.
- e) Not applicable.
- h) Yes. Each case of stress has been investigated to determine the cause and review workplace practices.
- i) The relevant Departmental Manager, the Departmental Safety Representative, one of the hospital's Occupational Safety and Health Officers and a representative from Employee Services Department may all be involved.
- j) Not applicable.

North East (Bentley) Health Service

- c) Yes.
- d) OSH Representatives, Supervisors, OSH Unit, issued to the individual "Specialised" OSH Staff, Injury Management and Rehabilitation Coordinator.
- e) Not applicable.
- h) No current claims for stress related workers' compensation. If it were the case in accordance with our Incident Investigation protocols this would be fully reviewed with recommendations.
- i) Should Bentley have a stress claim it would be as above (d) executive and other external professional services as required.
- j) Not applicable.

North West Health Service ( SCGH, Osborne Park, Graylands)

- c) Yes.
- d) Management, Safety and Health Representative and Occupational Safety and Health Department.
- e) Not applicable.
- h) Yes.
- i) Management, Safety and Health Representative and Occupational Safety and Health Department.

j) Not applicable.

Drug and Alcohol Office

- c) Yes.
- d) OSH representatives and supervisor.
- e) Not applicable.
- h) Yes.
- i) OSH representative and supervisor.
- j) Not applicable.

PathCentre

- c) Yes.
- d) Section Manager and reviewed by OSH representatives and Divisional Manager.
- e) Not applicable.
- h) Yes.
- i) Section Manager and reviewed by OSH representatives and Divisional Manager.
- j) Not applicable.

South West Area Health Service

- c) Yes.
- d) OSH Representatives, unit Managers/Supervisors, OSH Coordinator, Manager Workforce Risk.
- e) Not applicable.
- h) Yes.
- i) Manager Workforce Risk, OSH Coordinator.
- j) Not applicable.

Office of Health Review

- c) Yes.
- d) The Office of Health Review would conduct an initial investigation in consultation with RiskCover.
- e) Not applicable.
- h) No data available - no workers' compensation claim made since commencement of the agency.
- i) See (d) above.
- j) Not applicable.

#### DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

- (c) Yes.
- (d) Department's Occupational Health Safety representatives or RiskCover undertake/organise an investigation into an incident depending on the circumstances.
- (e) Not applicable.
- (h) Yes.

- (i) As per answer to (d).
- (j) Not applicable.

**EQUAL OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION**

- (c) Yes. Any workplace injury that may occur within the Equal Opportunity Commission and results in lost time is fully investigated, including a review of relevant workplace practices.
- (d) The investigation would be conducted by a management and occupational safety and health representative. Any incident of a serious nature would be referred onto WorkSafe for investigation.
- (e) Not applicable.
- (h)-(j) Not applicable.

**DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS**

- (c) Yes.
- (d) Director of Legal Services, or someone authorised on her behalf.
- (e) Not applicable.
- (h)-(j) Not applicable.

**LAW REFORM COMMISSION**

- (c) The Law Reform Commission has had no workplace injuries resulting in lost time. If such an injury were to occur, an investigation would be carried out.
- (d) The Executive Officer would conduct the investigation.
- (e) Not applicable.
- (h) The Law Reform Commission has had no employees on workers' compensation as a result of workplace stress and therefore to date has had no need to investigate to find the cause of the stress and to review workplace practices. If a case of stress were to occur, an investigation would be carried out.
- (i) The Executive Officer would conduct the investigation.
- (j) Not applicable.

**LEGAL AID WA**

- c) Yes.
- d) Human Resource Consultant, in conjunction with the Occupational Health and Safety Representative and RiskCover. If Regional - also liaise with Office Supervisor or line Manager for investigation.
- e) Not applicable.
- h) Yes
- i) Human Resource Consultant coordinates and liaises with employee's line Manager and/or supervisors and RiskCover as appropriate.
- j) Not applicable.

**OFFICE OF THE INFORMATION COMMISSIONER**

- (c)-(e) Not applicable.
- (h)-(j) Not applicable.

**STATE SOLICITOR'S OFFICE**

- (c) Yes.
- (d) A senior Manager and the Occupational Health Safety and Welfare Officer.
- (e) Not Applicable
- (h)-(j) Not applicable.

**W.A. ELECTORAL COMMISSION**

- (c) Yes.
- (d) Manager Business Services
- (e) Not applicable
- (h)-(j) Not applicable.