



The Hon. Dominic Perrottet MP
Minister for Finance and Services

Your Ref: A13/1403:McM:mb

Ms Anne Gardiner
General Secretary
Public Service Association of New South Wales
GPO Box 3365
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Ms Gardiner,

Thank you for taking the time to meet with the Attorney-General and me in February to discuss your members' concerns and thoughts on current workers compensation policies and key issues facing prison officers.

The Government is currently considering the Standing Committee on Law and Justice's review of the exercise of the functions of WorkCover and the 2014 Centre for International Economics' Statutory review of the 2012 workers compensation amendments, as well as representations from a number of stakeholders. The Government has also announced its intention to introduce further enhancements to the Workers Compensation scheme.

As you indicated in your letter, I understand you will shortly be writing to me to further outline each of your specific concerns and issues. I look forward to receiving this submission, so that I can then consider these issues in the context of the Government's response to the aforementioned reviews and further enhancements to the scheme.

In the meantime, I confirm that the Government is extremely aware of the issues you have raised on behalf of correctional officers in regards to the particular work environment in which they operate. The Baird Government is very appreciative of the efforts of correctional officers in safeguarding our community and will consider very closely the issues you have raised on behalf of your membership.

I also thank you for your correspondence dated 26 February 2015, and the specific issues you raise therein regarding the method of calculation of pre-injury average weekly earnings.

As you are aware, however, the Government is currently in caretaker mode due to the New South Wales State election on 28 March 2015. To ensure there is no delay in responding to the important matters you raise, I have asked the WorkCover Authority of New South Wales to address your concerns and reply to you direct.

I again thank you for taking the time to communicate your concerns, and look forward to receiving your comprehensive submissions in due course.

Yours sincerely

Dominic Perrottet MP
Minister for Finance and Services

Cc: The Hon Brad Hazzard, MP
Attorney General & Minister for Justice

24/3/15