



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

STANDING COMMITTEE ON LAW AND JUSTICE

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

# **REVIEWS INTO THE WORKCOVER AUTHORITY AND WORKERS' COMPENSATION (DUST DISEASES) BOARD ANNOUNCED**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - 6 NOVEMBER 2013**

The Hon David Clarke MLC, Chair of the NSW Parliament's Standing Committee on Law and Justice, today announced the commencement of the Committee's first reviews of the WorkCover Authority and the Workers' Compensation (Dust Diseases) Board. The Committee is conducting the reviews concurrently and is calling for public submissions for both.

Following the passage of the *Safety, Return to Work and Support Board Act 2012* the Standing Committee on Law and Justice was given legislative responsibility for the oversight of these two authorities.

The WorkCover Authority is responsible for ensuring productive, healthy and safe workplaces in New South Wales and undertakes a range of activities including monitoring, enforcement and education of workplace health and safety. It also manages funds and insurance administration.

The Workers' Compensation (Dust Diseases) Board, or 'Dust Diseases Board', is responsible for assessing occupational dust-induced illness claims. In addition to determining the eligibility and value of compensation claims, the Dust Diseases Board also provides medical support and advice to claimants and applicants.

"The Committee is eager to hear how the WorkCover Authority and the Dust Diseases Board are performing in their roles and assisting those who rely on their services" commented Mr Clarke.

The Committee is seeking input from stakeholders about the effectiveness of either body. Submissions are due by Friday 17 January 2014. Please note the terms of reference prevent the Committee from investigating individual participants or applications for participation in the Schemes.

Further information about the reviews can be obtained from the Committee Secretariat via telephone (02) 9230 3543, fax (02) 9230 2981, e-mail: [lawandjustice@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:lawandjustice@parliament.nsw.gov.au), or on the Committee's website: [www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/lawandjustice](http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/lawandjustice).

***For further comment please contact - The Hon David Clarke MLC,  
Committee Chair, on 9230 2260.***