



WorkCover

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Date:

Ref: WC02300/13

Revd Hon Fred Nile MLC
Chair
General Purpose Standing Committee No. 1
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Reverend Nile

Thank you for your further correspondence regarding the *Parliamentary Inquiry into allegations of bullying in WorkCover NSW* and your request for statistics on claims of bullying made by WorkCover NSW employees and by employees generally in New South Wales.

As you may be aware, the Treasury Managed Fund (SICorp) manages workers compensation, administration and financial liability for most public sector employers, except those who are self-insurers. As such, WorkCover obtained the statistics about workers compensation claims made by its staff in relation to bullying and/or harassment from it.

It may also interest the Committee to learn that a claim of bullying does not need to be substantiated in order for it to be accepted. The insurer just needs to determine that work is a substantially contributing factor to the injury/illness diagnosed for the claim to be accepted.

The statistics on claims of bullying made by WorkCover NSW employees and by employees generally in New South Wales are provided at Attachment A and B respectively. The Committee is asked to note the provision of some qualifying statements in respect to the data surrounding claims by employees generally in New South Wales.

I trust this information is of assistance to the Committee. Should any additional information or clarification be needed, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Carmel Donnelly, General Manager of Strategy and Performance, on

Yours sincerely

Julie Newman PSM
Chief Executive Officer
Safety, Return to Work and Support

Safety, Return to Work and Support Division

Attachment A

Claims of Bullying and / or Harassment by WorkCover NSW Employees			
	Liability Accepted	Liability Declined	Total
2013/14	1	0	1
2012/13	0	1	1
2011/12	5	5	10
2010/11	6	2	8
2009/10	4	0	4
2008/09	1	1	2
2007/08	1	0	1
2006/07	2	0	2
2005/06	2	0	2
2004/05	1	0	1
2003/04	1	0	1
2002/03	1	1	2
Total	25	10	35

Note: Data provided to WorkCover by SICorp.

Number of all Bullying / Harassment Claims in NSW Workers Compensation System 2002/03 to 2012/13												
Mechanism of injury and claim liability status		Number of Claims										
		2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13*
87: Work related harassment and/or workplace bullying ⁽¹⁾	Liability accepted	246	570	577	425	456	533	582	764	917	676	800
	Liability denied	85	170	199	339	270	342	450	470	617	579	825
	Other ⁽³⁾	57	144	278	163	169	247	173	114	57	722	72
	Total	388	884	1,054	927	895	1,122	1,205	1,348	1,591	1,977	1,697
88: Other harassment ⁽²⁾	Liability accepted	71	94	105	78	90	102	117	104	145	88	54
	Liability denied	17	32	19	38	53	69	65	47	73	34	43
	Other ⁽³⁾	9	23	43	24	27	32	34	8	9	64	6
	Total	97	149	167	140	170	203	216	159	227	186	103
* 2012/13 data is Preliminary												
Footnotes:												
1. Mechanism of injury 87: Work related harassment and/or Workplace bullying Includes : Victims of repetitive assault and/or threatened assault by a work colleague or colleagues; repetitive verbal harassment, threats, and abuse from a work colleague or colleagues Excludes: Victim of assault or threatened assault by a person or persons other than work colleagues; victim of single act of assault or threatened assault by work colleagues; verbal threats, abuse by a person or persons other than work colleagues; assault where physical injuries are more serious than stress, sexual or racial harassment												
2. Mechanism of Injury 88: Other harassment Includes: Victim of sexual or racial harassment by a person or persons including work colleagues. Excludes: Threatened assault by person or persons other than work colleagues; single act of threatened assault by work colleagues; repetitive threatened assault by work colleagues; workplace bullying.												
3. Other 'Other' includes the liability rate codes of notification only of work related injury, liability not yet determined, reasonable excuse, provisional liability discontinued and no action after notification.												