

ATTORNEY GENERAL, CITIZENSHIP & REGULATORY REFORM

Questions taken on Notice during hearing

QUESTION 1

The Hon. Robert Borsak: You referred earlier to occupational health and safety laws. As you may be aware, WorkCover is the only New South Wales authority that has its own unique licensing system. What has your office done to encourage WorkCover to merge with the State Government's centralised licensing system?

The Hon. John Hatzistergos: That is controlled by the Minister for Finance. I will have to take that question on notice.

ANSWER

I am advised:

The Better Regulation Office drives regulatory reform that will benefit the NSW economy and is an advocate for best practice regulation making across government. The Office also supports initiatives that will reduce red tape for business, the community and the government such as the NSW Government Licensing Service.

The NSW Government Licensing Service simplifies licence processing across NSW through a single integrated system. The NSW Government Licensing Service currently supports 80 business, occupational and recreational licence types. Many more licences will join the NSW Government Licensing Service over the next few years. The system is provided by the NSW Department of Services, Technology and Administration.

It is understood that WorkCover is committed to using the Government Licensing Service system for the licences it administers. The NSW WorkCover Authority falls within the responsibility of the Minister for Finance and he would be better placed to provide more detailed information on this matter.

