

INQUIRY INTO PERSONAL INJURY COMPENSATION LEGISLATION

Organisation: Wagga Wagga City Council

Name: Mr Phillip Perram

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Date Received: 11/03/2005

Subject: Submission to Personal injury compensation legislation lodged by Phillip Perram

Summary

This Council supports the objectives of the Civil Liabilities, Compulsory Third Party and Workers Compensation legislation that protects the greater community from the excesses of the courts and the legal profession in obtaining major windfall verdicts and settlements for a relatively few number of plaintiffs by exaggerating minor injuries. We encourage the State Government to maintain the thrust and purpose of the respective legislation.

Our own experience, especially with our Public Liability & Professional Indemnity insurance portfolio, is that since 2002 there has been a dramatic reduction in the number of minor claims. We remain optimistic that this will be reflected as a corresponding reduction in insurance and associated costs in the near future, once the pre-2002 litigated claims are decided by the courts.

We are concerned that the State Government's resolve might wane in the face of mounting pressure from sectors with vested interest in winding back the effects of the legislation – this might include sections of the legal profession.