

INQUIRY INTO NSW WORKERS COMPENSATION SCHEME

Name: Name suppressed
Date received: 14/05/2012

Partially Confidential

The Honorable Greg Pearce
Minister for Finance and Services
Minister for Illawarra
NSW Government
Level 36 Governor Macquarie Tower
1 Farrer Place
SYDNEY NSW 2000

To The Honorable Greg Pearce

Thank you for your letter dated 23 April 2012 in relation to the current state of the New South Wales Workers Compensation Scheme.

has been a Workplace Rehabilitation Provider within the NSW Workers Compensation Scheme for the past 13 years and within other state jurisdictions for the past 23 years.

We have long been advocates of promoting early intervention to increase early return to work outcomes. We work closely with our major customers to establish a relationship that allows timely referrals for service provision. From our own data we know that return to work outcomes are at a higher rate for workers referred within the first 6 weeks from date of injury. We would welcome any reform that ensures Agents under the NSW Workers Compensations Scheme commence early referral to Workplace Rehabilitation Providers where appropriate.

Recently a project commenced within the Provider Service Division in relation to a Set Fee Structure Project. were advocates of this project, which was subsequently placed on hold. We believe appropriately set fees for rehabilitation services coupled with outcome incentives enhances and encourages a service delivery model focused on achieving return to work outcomes.

As a multi jurisdictional Workplace Rehabilitation Provider we are able to review and analyse the effect of the vast differences between the jurisdictions on our ability to deliver return to work outcomes. We support the changes proposed in the Issues Paper and would be willing to assist in any way necessary to ensure these reforms contain scheme costs and promote the aim of early return to work outcomes.

Yours sincerely