

WORKERS COMPENSATION — FIREFIGHTERS

813. Hon MARTIN ALDRIDGE to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Industrial Relations:

I refer to the Workers' Compensation and Injury Management Regulations 1982.

- (1) Does regulation 68, which relates to post-traumatic stress disorder, apply to firefighters employed by local government?
- (2) Is the minister aware of any concerns relating to the application of this regulation to local government–employed firefighters?
- (3) If local government–employed firefighters are not captured by regulation 68, will the minister commit to rectifying this?
- (4) Why have these regulations been restricted to state government–employed firefighters to the exclusion of firefighters employed by local government or the private sector, while remaining unrestricted for paramedics and ambulance officers?

Hon JACKIE JARVIS replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. I answer on behalf of the parliamentary secretary representing. The following response has been provided by the Minister for Industrial Relations.

- (1) No.
- (2) No. WorkCover WA is not aware of any PTSD claim made by a local government firefighter.
- (3)–(4) No. As addressed in (2), in the absence of any PTSD claim or problem accessing compensation, there is no intention to further expand PTSD presumption to local government firefighters.