# Workers' Compensation Regulatory Services update 12 February 2021



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Government



2

3

4

Our regulatory approach

Local government industry trends

Priorities and projects



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Queensland Government

#### What we do:

We regulate the workers' compensation scheme to ensure it meets its objectives

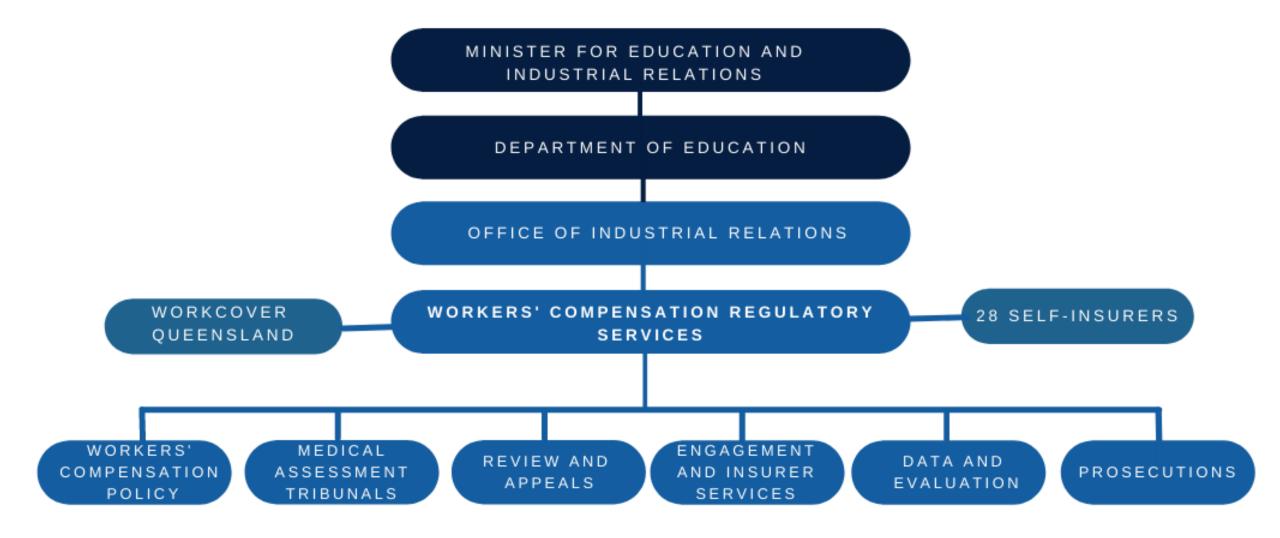
WCRS

#### How we do it:

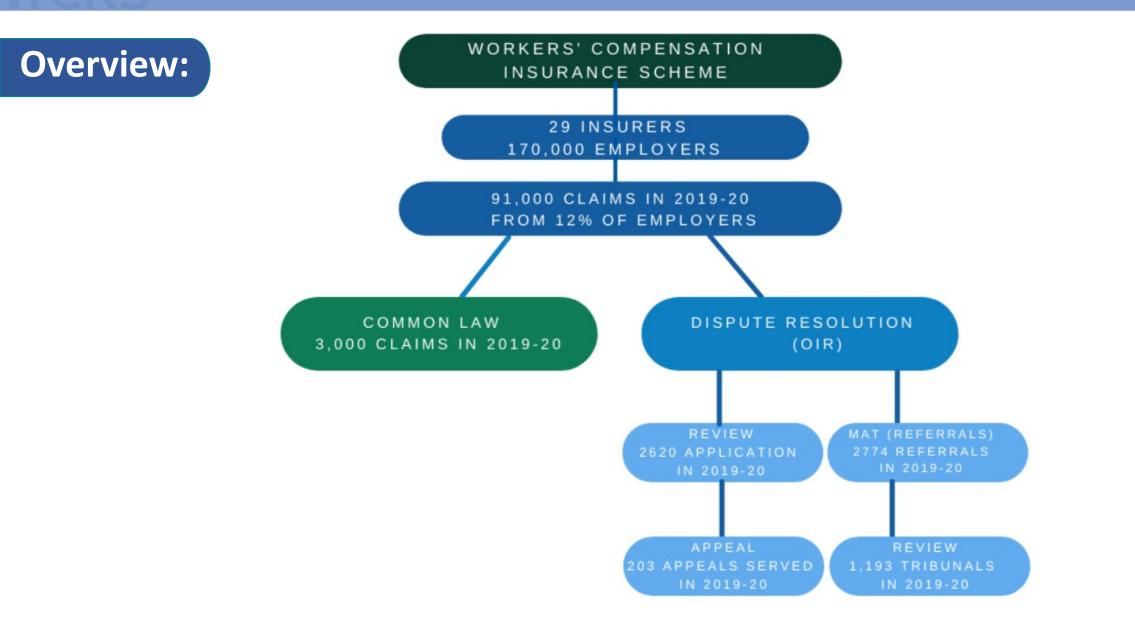
We work closely with insurers, employers, workers, lawyers and health professionals

#### Our purpose:

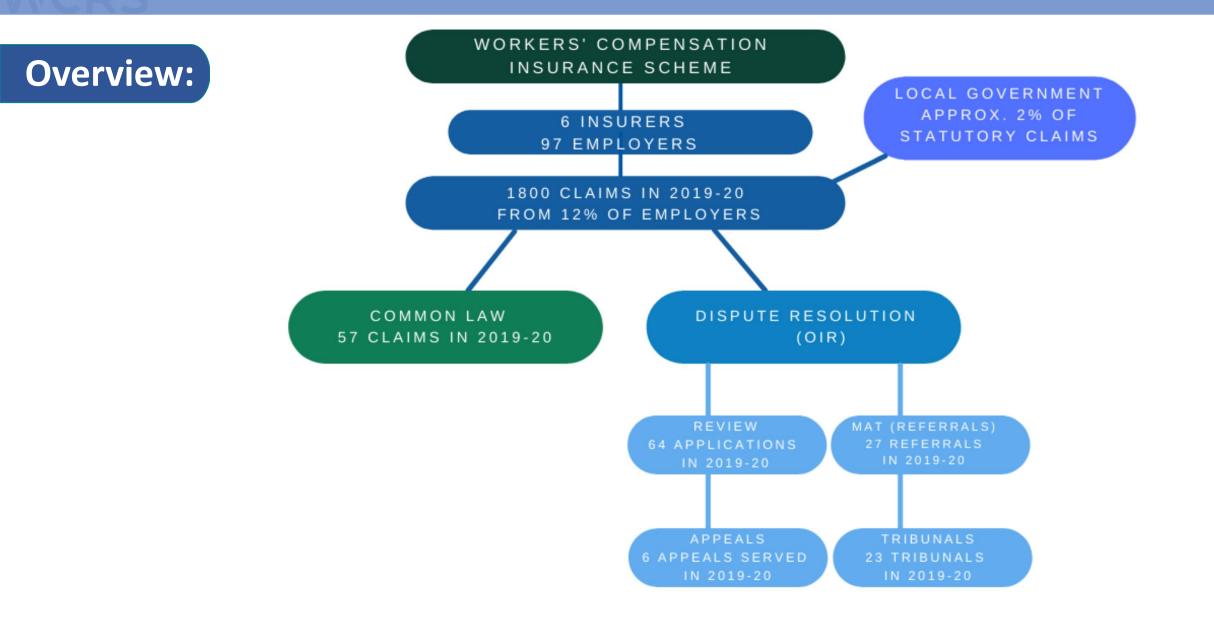
A fair and efficient workers' compensation scheme that balances the needs of workers and employers



## The scheme



## Local government industry



# **AGE AS** Regulatory Approach

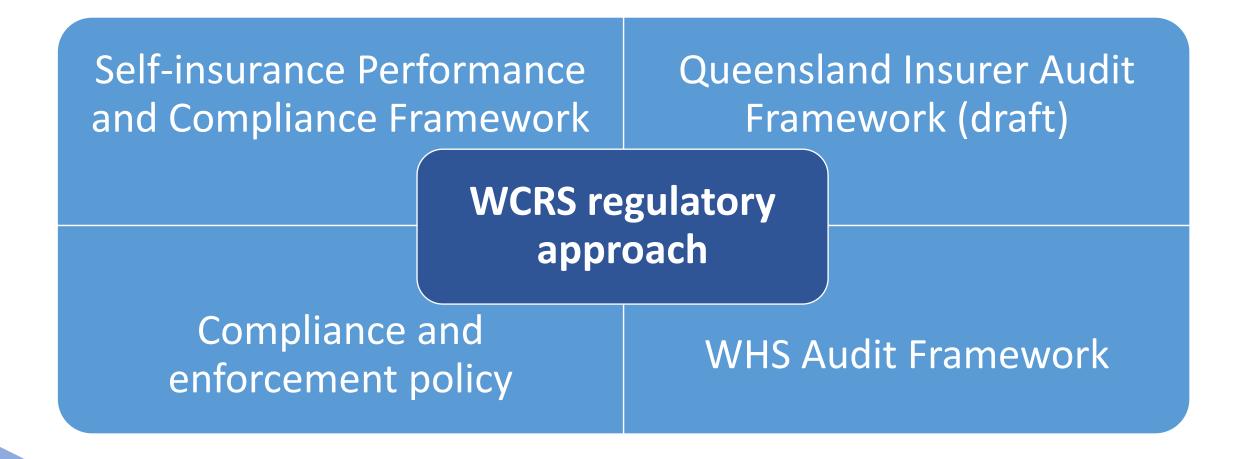


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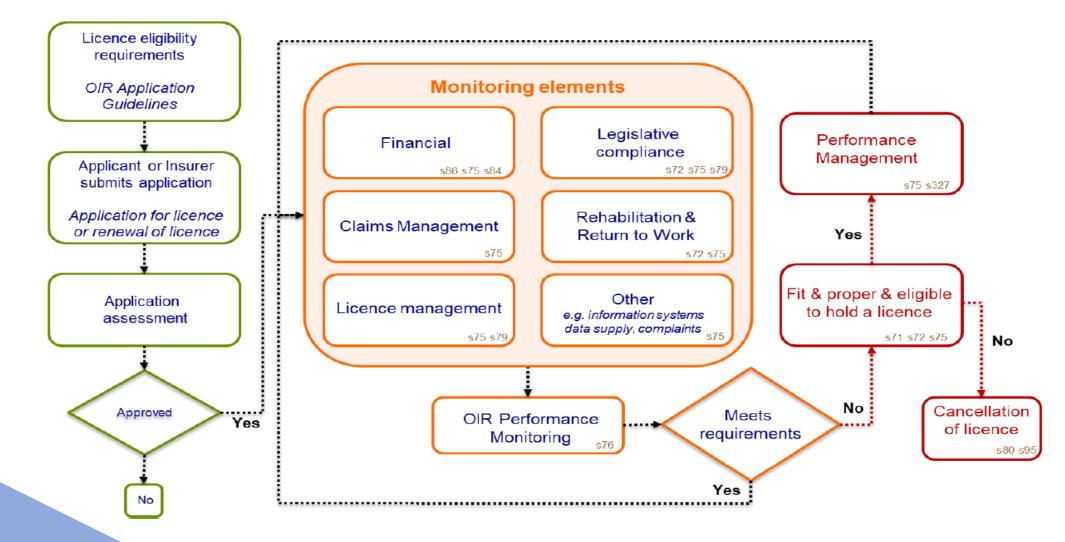
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## Our regulatory approach



## How we regulate self-insurers

#### Performance and compliance framework



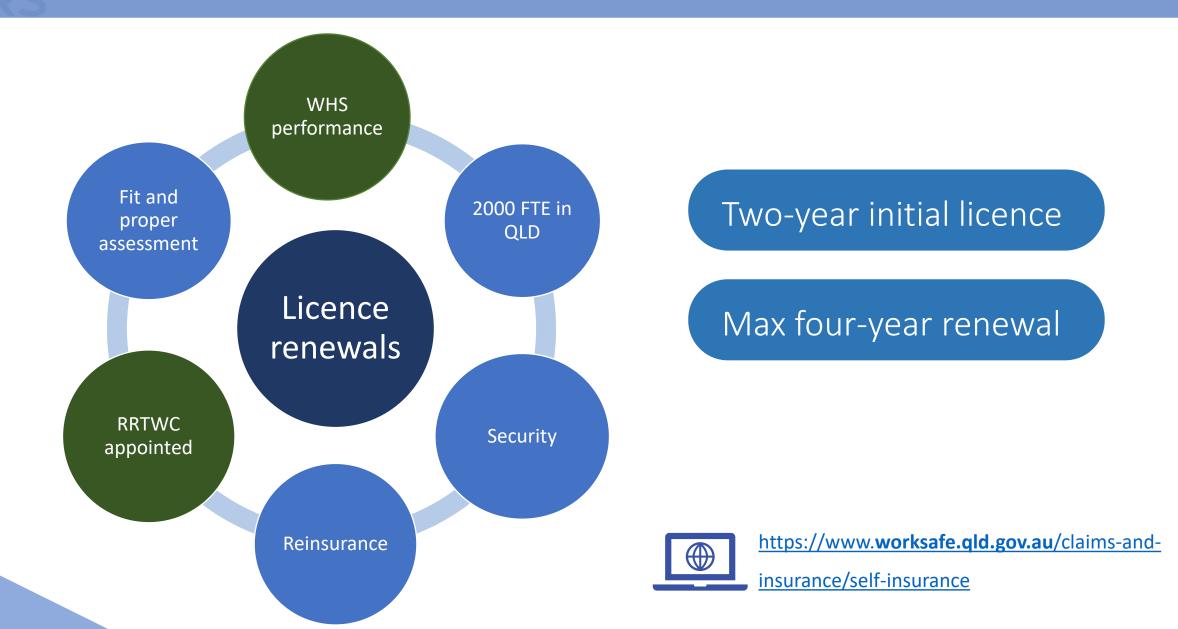
## Self-insurer licence applications

#### Focus:

## Complete, timely, transparent, accurate

WCRS	Self-insurers
Provide clear instructions as to what is required	Provide accurate, complete information
Ask only for necessary information	Provide timely responses to requests for further information
Promptly assess applications	Provide timely response to preliminary assessment

## Self-insurer licence requirements



## WHS performance

Criteria:

70% score implementing Part 3 NAT Satisfactory compliance performance



## Monitoring self-insurer performance

## Focus: Continuous improvement

WCRS	Self-insurers
Validation and compliance audits	Monitor and report own performance Identify strategies and timeframe to achieve compliance
Identify areas of greatest risk	Proactively respond to risks
Recognise performance	Notify WCRS of non-compliance
Communicate compliance focus and actions	Cooperate with WCRS

Educate and share information on best practice

## **Local Government Trends**



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## Local government industry trends

#### Key trends

Statutory intimations trending down

Psychological claims trending up

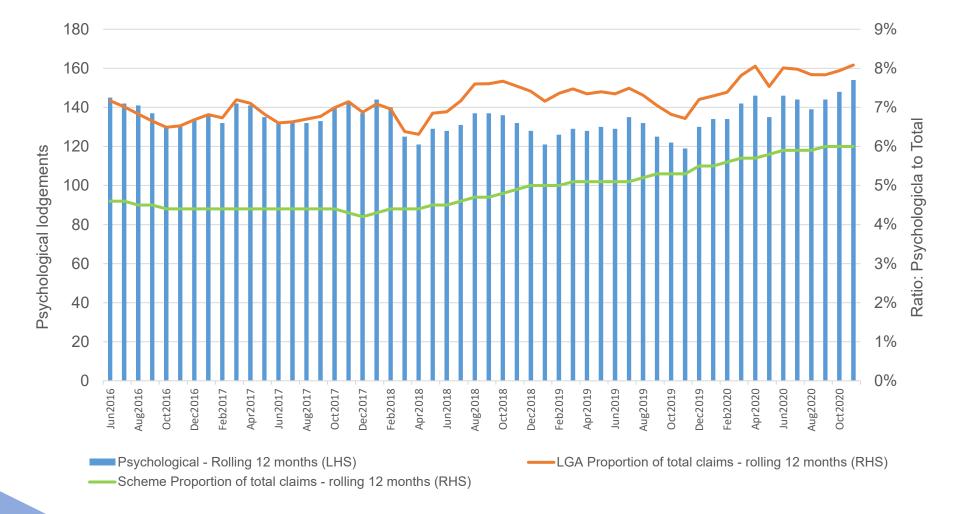
Average workdays lost has been stable

Average cost of finalised TLC stable

RTW rate has been stable

Trend:

#### Psychological injuries are increasing



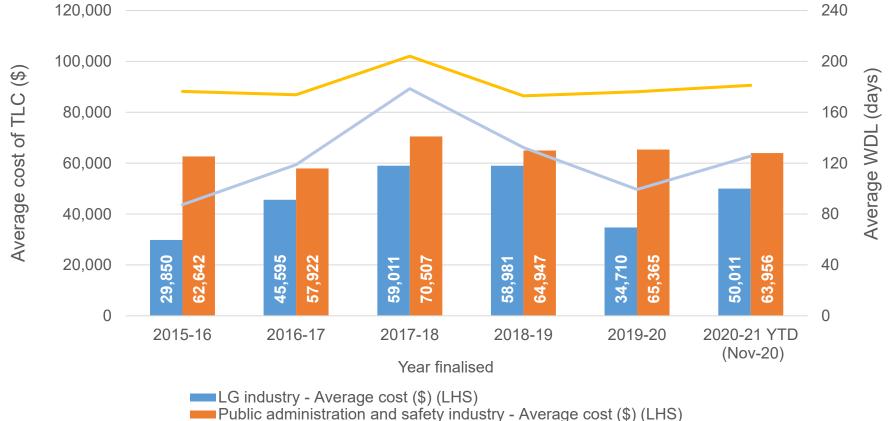
#### Trend:

#### PTSD claims have increased over past 5 years

	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
PTSD	82	51	31	62	91
Anxiety/stress disorders	34	45	65	45	28
Anxiety/depression combined	11	14	18	12	18
Other	18	22	14	10	9
Total	145	132	128	129	146
Variance %		-9.0%	-3%	0.8%	13.2%

#### Trend:

### Average cost of TLC reduced in 2019-2020

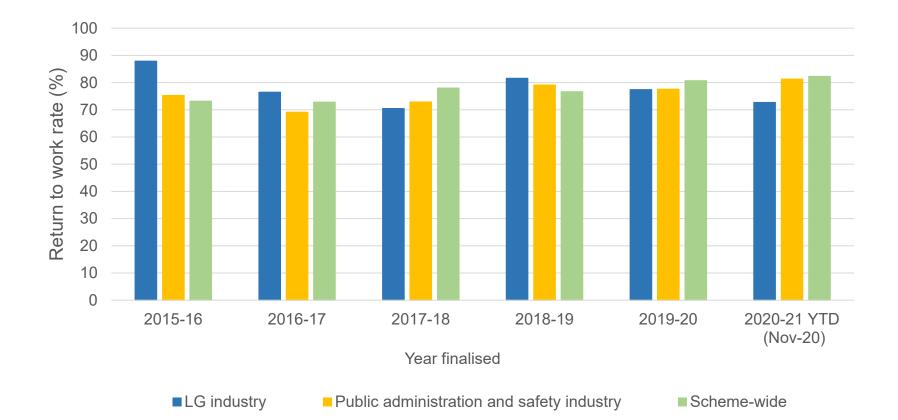


LG industry - WDL (RHS)

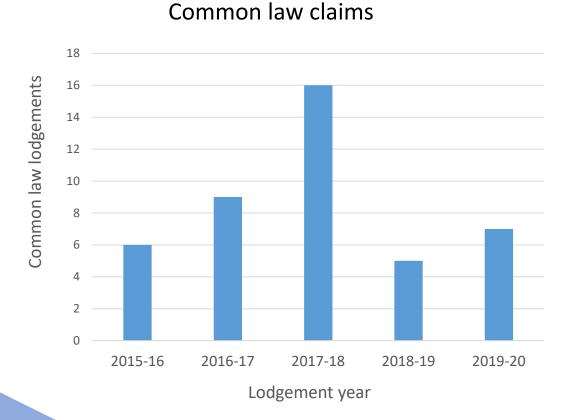
Public administration and safety industry - WDL (RHS)

Trend:

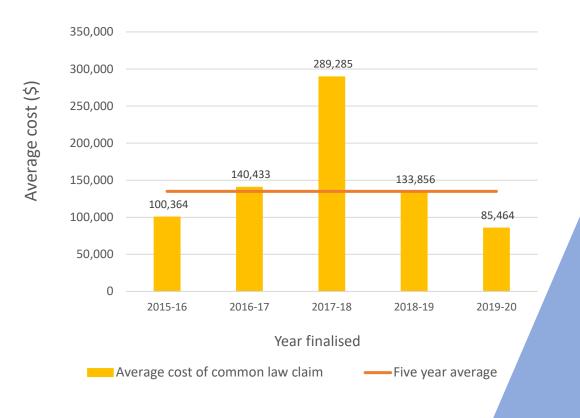
#### Return to work rate (past 5 years)



#### Common law



#### Average cost of finalised common law claims



# **Priorities and Projects**



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## Workers' compensation scheme priorities

#### Virtual Medical Assessment Tribunals

COVID-19

response

#### No contact reviews, appeals and prosecution hearings

Flexible and tailored support for licence renewals

## Workers' compensation legislation



Queensland

#### Key amendments

**Discretion on timeframes** 

Early intervention for psych injuries

**Accredited RTW programs** 

Workers' Compensation and Rehabilitation and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2019 **Apologies and expressions of regret** 

**Reporting requirements for self-insurers** 

## Workers' compensation scheme update

Key initiatives and focus areas

Re-entry to the National Injury Insurance scheme (NIIS)

Presumptive workers' compensation for first responders

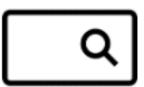
Workers' Psychological Support Service pilot program

Mental health first aid training for OIR staff



Thank you - questions?

#### For more information:



#### Visit <u>WorkSafe.qld.gov.au</u>



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