

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY**

**WRITTEN QUESTION**

Ms Purick to the Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services.

**Police Officers Workers Compensation**

**1. How many police officers were on notified workers compensation leave as at 1 October 2023?**

Gallagher Bassett are the appointed workers' compensation claims managers for the NT Public Service, including NT Police, Fire and Emergency Services. According to data received from Gallagher Bassett dated 30 September 2023, 50 members of the NT Police Force were under workers' compensation.

**2. What is the longest period of workers compensation leave and what is the average time of workers compensation leave?**

This information cannot be obtained from the data provided by Gallagher Bassett. Workers' compensation data collated by Gallagher Bassett does not have capacity or functionality to enable reporting on time lost including periods and lengths of incapacity.

**3. What is the portion of a police officer's salary paid while on notified worker's compensation?**

Workers' compensation benefits are calculated by Gallagher Bassett and paid in accordance with the Return to Work Act. For members of the NTPF, this is benefit is often calculated on an average of their income (salary, allowances and overtime) paid in the 12 months prior to their first compensation date (first time lost and/or treatment).

Members are paid this benefit for the first 26 weeks of loss, after which the benefit is reduced to 75%. However, the NTPF Consent Agreement enables the Commissioner of Police to pay a 'salary top-up' which enables members of the NTPF to continue receiving a top-up to their base salary and allowances during periods of incapacity, in addition to ongoing accrual of long service leave and recreation leave.

**4. Does a police officer continue to accrue annual and long service leave while on workers compensation leave?**

The Return to Work Act does not enable the accrual of leave including annual leave and long service leave during periods of incapacity covered by workers' compensation benefits.

The NT Police Consent Agreement 2022 allows a member receiving workers compensation benefits to accrue all leave entitlements during any period they are in receipt of workers' compensation benefits under the Return to Work Act.

**5. Is superannuation paid to an officer whilst on worker's compensation?**

The Return to Work Act does not enable the payment of superannuation during periods of incapacity covered by workers' compensation benefits