



*...a fair,
accessible
and affordable
workers' compensation
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disease on workers and the Western
Australian community.*

Agency Profile

The WorkCover WA Authority is constituted under section 94(1) of the *Workers' Compensation and Injury Management Act 1981* (the Act). The agency's core activities (scheme regulation and resolution of disputes) aim to ensure a fair, accessible and affordable workers' compensation scheme which minimises the social and economic impact of work-related injury and disease on workers and the Western Australian community.

The functions and powers of WorkCover WA are detailed in sections 100 and 101 of the Act. The main objectives and constitution of the Dispute Resolution Directorate are detailed in sections 279 and 280 of the Act.

WorkCover WA's role

WorkCover WA's role is to administer and regulate the Act and provide quality policy advice to Government.

The role of WorkCover WA comprises the following agency level services and activities:

Scheme regulation

- Providing information and education for workers, employers and other workers' compensation scheme participants.
- Setting standards and monitoring performance of service providers.
- Investigation and enforcement of compliance with legislative responsibilities by scheme participants.

Scheme services: Resolution of disputes

- Resolution of workers' compensation disputes through conciliation, arbitration and judicial means.

Policy activities

- Evaluation of scheme performance and provision of policy advice to Government regarding scheme design.
- Recommending or fixing fees and costs associated with scheme services.

Corporate activities

- Human resources, information technology and finance.

Responsible Minister

With the State election in September 2008, [Hon Troy Buswell BEd MLA](#), became the [Minister for Commerce](#), with portfolio responsibility for WorkCover WA.

The contribution of Hon Jon Ford JP MLC, Minister for Employment Protection until September 2008, is acknowledged.

Stakeholders

Stakeholders are directly affected by WorkCover WA operations and decisions, and likewise they have the potential to influence the environment in which the agency operates. These stakeholders include:

- the [Minister for Commerce](#)
- the [WorkCover WA governing body \(the Board\)](#)
- the Commissioner, Dispute Resolution Directorate
- [approved insurers and exempt employers \(self-insurers\)](#)
- employers
- employer groups
- [workers](#)
- [injured workers](#)
- approved vocational rehabilitation providers and other [allied health professionals](#)
- Australian Medical Association
- [medical practitioners](#)
- medical groups
- [legal professionals](#)
- unions
- WorkCover WA staff and the broader public sector.

Agency funding

Funding for WorkCover WA's activities is provided via an annual levy on workers' compensation premiums paid by employers and by a direct levy on employers who are approved by WorkCover WA to self-insure.

Organisational structure

In 2008/09, the agency consolidated its organisational structure which included redesigning, classifying and filling positions to support the strategic direction of the agency. This structure provides clarity of purpose for the agency, and a foundation for strengthening agency capability.

WorkCover WA staff

For 2008/09, WorkCover WA had a budgeted approved staff complement of 155.9 full-time equivalent employees.

