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## OFFICIAL

## Good Morning,

On behalf of South Metropolitan Health Service (SMHS) WHS & Injury Management teams, please find attached feedback on new legislative changes to support your consultation and review.

- 1. <u>Giving notice of intention to reduce or cease income compensation RTW</u>
- CN2's are onerous for the employer given the commitment to communicate back and forth with HSS and the Manager to obtain relevant information to complete the notices.
- The release of the CN2 notification via the key parties then results in an issue with timeliness of the information being communicated to the worker.
- We can report that has resulted in some confusion with workers feeling uncertainty regarding the status of their claim upon receipt of these notices. Noting unnecessary stress for the workers and raising questions seeking clarification with the Injury Management team.
- We understand that the existing WAH payslips communicate the breakdown in income compensation and base pay, meaning the CN2 is an additional administrative step requiring time and resourcing.

**Recommendation**: SMHS requests that the CN2 notification process is reviewed and would advocate for it to be rescinded, as we don't believe it provides any value to the injured worker and causes an unnecessary administrative burden to our teams.

## 2. <u>Return to work program – approved form and guidance</u>

- Template is rigid and inflexible given it does not allow the employer to provide additional details which are significant to communicate a worker participating in a RTWP (i.e. Inability to amend, add or remove information as directed by WorkCover).
- Presentation and format is not user friendly and does not present in a professional manner.
- The current format is too long.
- Includes information such as the worker's address which is not information we would share freely on a document being viewed for RTW purposes and being viewed by various

parties in the workplace that the worker may not wish others to have visibility of.

- Doubles up on the workplace restrictions.
- Includes information regarding WRP and Host Employer details which should only be included as an option where relevant; even when the tabs are closed out the RTWP generates with vacant spaces for information that is not required, contributing to the excessive length of the document.
- Does not allow a space for Manager sign off as has now been removed to only require worker and doctor sign off.
- The flexibility to adapt the template for the intent and purpose of the workplace should be enabled and supported by WorkCover WA in an effort to support the worker and communicate key needs to key stakeholders.

**Recommendation:** SMHS requests that the RTW WorkCover template be reviewed, with flexibility provided to the employer to make changes to the template and sensitive information (such as workers address) removed as a mandatory item/s.

We appreciate WorkCover for providing our Agencies with the opportunity to provide feedback on the recent legislative changes. If you have any queries on what was outlined above or would like to discuss further, please let me know. Thank you.

Regards,



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