

Workers' Compensation for WA Police



A Liberal-led Government recognises the valuable work Western Australian Police officers do in protecting our community.

A re-elected Liberal Government will immediately move to extend workers' compensation to WA Police officers.

Fast Facts

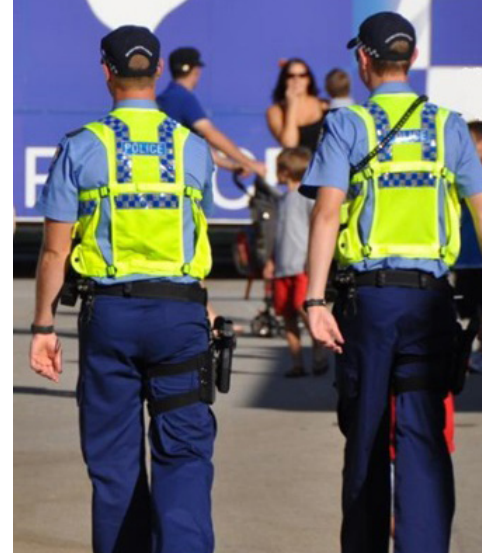
- There are 6,235 sworn officers in the WA Police force*.
- The State Government's policing budget increased to \$1.4 billion in 2016-17.

A New Plan

The issue of workers' compensation for police has been unresolved for 30 years.

WA Police already have access to work-related illness and injury entitlements under the *Police Act* and WA Police's industrial agreement. However, while these entitlements are suitable when police are working, the existing scheme does not deliver equitable results for police officers who are no longer able to work due to illness or injury incurred while working.

The Liberal-led Government believes WA Police officers should have the same rights to workers' compensation as all other workers in Western Australia.



Our Commitment

In response to the need for a fairer system, the Liberal-led Government has developed a package which includes workers' compensation for WA Police. If re-elected the Liberal Government will immediately amend the *Workers' Compensation and Injury Management Act*, aiming to have the package in place by 1 July 2017.

The package includes:

- Workers' compensation legislation which will be established without removing current sick leave and medical reimbursement entitlements.
- Separating medical retirement of police officers from the Loss of Confidence provisions.
- Amending the *Police Act* to ensure officers who are declared bankrupt without any personal wrongdoing will no longer be automatically stood down.

A Strong Record

Our commitment builds on the Liberal-led Government's proud track record of ensuring police officers are protected while they are protecting us. This Government has:

- Delivered on a 2013 election commitment to introduce mandatory blood testing for people who bite or spit at police officers.
- Introduced mandatory prison sentences of up to 12 months for adults convicted of seriously assaulting a police or public officer, delivering on a 2008 election commitment and resulting in a 34 per cent drop in assaults on police since 2009.
- Passed legislation to provide payment of medical expenses to former police officers for employment-related injuries.
- Introduced mandatory minimum jail sentences for offenders convicted of reckless driving during police pursuits, the toughest such laws in Australia.
- Delivered on a 2013 election commitment to provide substantial attraction and retention payments for police officers in regional and remote areas of WA.

* at October 2016



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