



9 January 2015

Mr. Greg Mullins AFSM
Commissioner
Fire and Rescue NSW
PO Box A249
SYDNEY SOUTH NSW 1232

Dear Mr Mullins,

Re: Sick Leave data

The Union has previously raised concerns that sick leave data may be inflated due to the inclusion of absences arising from on-duty injuries that are later compensated by the Department's workers compensation insurer.

Whilst we understand that workers compensation absences are excluded from the data at the time of collation, it can often be over 12 months before contested workers compensation claims are resolved and the absence deemed a non-sick leave absence. As a result, contemporary data may include workers compensation absences not yet deemed as such.

Given that such contested claims are also often characterised by lengthy absences due the injury in question, this is not an insignificant issue with respect to the data. However, to assess the impact of this matter, the Union seeks updated sick leave data for 2011/12 and 2012/13 with the hindsight adjustments for approved workers compensation claims applied.

More generally, whilst the Department has been publishing sick leave graphs on its intranet, the Union has not received any raw sick leave data since 10 July 2014 (which covered the period of February 2013 to June 2014).

Therefore, could updated sick leave data, along with an updated summary of AMP activities (ie number of show cause letters issued, breaches, AMP interviews, and sanctions) be provided.

If you wish to discuss this request please contact Gemma Lawrence on 9218 3444, otherwise I look forward to your earliest response.

Yours sincerely,

Jim Casey
State Secretary

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