

# Workers' Compensation and Rehabilitation (QOTE) Notice 2024

Explanatory notes for SL 2024 No. 74

made under the

*Workers' Compensation and Rehabilitation Act 2003*

## General Outline

### Short title

*Workers' Compensation and Rehabilitation (QOTE) Notice 2024*

### Authorising law

Sections 10A and 205 of the *Workers' Compensation and Rehabilitation Act 2003* (Act)

### Policy objectives and the reasons for them

Under section 10A of the Act, the Workers' Compensation Regulator must, before the start of each financial year, notify Queensland Ordinary Time Earnings (QOTE) for the financial year and the percentage difference in QOTE for the financial year compared to QOTE for the previous financial year.

QOTE is the amount of Queensland full-time adult persons ordinary time earnings declared by the Australian Statistician in the original series of the publication *Average Weekly Earnings, Australia* most recently published before the start of the financial year.

The objective of the *Workers' Compensation and Rehabilitation (QOTE) Notice 2024* (Notice) is to notify QOTE for the 2024-25 financial year and the percentage difference in QOTE for the 2024-25 financial year compared to QOTE for the 2023-24 financial year as required by section 10A of the Act.

The purpose of the Notice is to ensure workers' compensation entitlements are indexed to ensure their relative value over time.

## **Achievement of policy objectives**

The Notice will achieve the policy objective by notifying QOTE for the 2024-25 financial year and the percentage difference in QOTE for the 2024-25 financial year compared to QOTE for the 2023-24 financial year.

QOTE for the 2023-24 financial year was \$1,760.70. According to the latest Australian Statistician's report released on 22 February 2024, QOTE will increase by 4.77% to \$1,844.70.

The notice is subordinate legislation.

## **Consistency with policy objectives of authorising law**

The *Workers' Compensation and Rehabilitation (QOTE) Notice 2024* (Notice) is consistent with the main objects of the Act to maintain a balance between providing fair and appropriate benefits for injured workers and their dependants and ensuring reasonable cost levels for employers.

## **Inconsistency with policy objectives of other legislation**

The Notice is not inconsistent with the policy objectives of other legislation.

## **Benefits and costs of implementation**

The Notice is beneficial for injured workers and their dependants as the effect of indexation is to maintain the relative value of compensation entitlements over time in line with wages growth. The cost of applying the indexation to compensation entitlements is borne by workers' compensation scheme insurers.

## **Consistency with fundamental legislative principles**

The Notice is consistent with the fundamental legislative principles set out in the *Legislative Standards Act 1992*.

## **Consultation**

WorkCover Queensland, self-insurers and legal stakeholders have been advised about the pending increase to QOTE and the Notice.

In accordance with the Queensland Government Better Regulation Policy, a Summary Impact Analysis Statement has been completed for this regulatory proposal and will be provided to the Office of Best Practice Regulation.