



Office of
Industrial Relations

Department of Education

Our reference: FILE47294, REC47296

Mr Darren Parker
Email: PolicyDesignWHBCR-SIRA@sira.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Parker

Thank you for your letter and email dated 5 May 2021 seeking consultation on injury insurance arrangements for gig economy food delivery riders. I note you have also written to Mr Craig Allen, Deputy Director-General of the Office of Industrial Relations on this same matter.

Workers' Compensation Regulatory Services (WCRS) in the Office of Industrial Relations recognises the issue of injury and insurance arrangements for gig workers is one that will only increase in prominence, and welcomes the New South Wales State Insurance Regulatory Authority's (SIRA) consideration of the matter.

Queensland has taken an active interest in exploring workers' compensation insurance arrangements for gig workers. As you may be aware, in 2019 Queensland released a Consultation Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS) relating to potential workers' compensation for individuals in the gig economy, as well as bailee taxi and limousine drivers. Written submissions were received as part of this consultation and available to view on www.oir.qld.gov.au. The Palaszczuk Government has committed to release a Decision RIS in due course and WCRS will provide SIRA with any significant updates from this project.

I note the current inquiry being held by the Commonwealth Senate Select Committee on Job Security, which includes terms of reference relevant to the gig and on demand economy and accident compensation schemes. Queensland has prepared a submission to this inquiry.

We have been keenly following the NSW consultation process for food delivery riders providing services in the gig economy, and has reviewed the discussion paper prepared by SIRA. It would be appreciated if WCRS could be provided with any significant updates and outcomes of this consultation process.

Thank you again for extending the offer to participate in this consultation process.

If you require further information or assistance, please contact either myself or Mr Bradley Bick, Director, Workers' Compensation Policy, Office of Industrial Relations on (07) 3406 9905.

Yours sincerely

Janene Hillhouse
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