

# WORKERS COMPENSATION

All teachers and Schools Services Officers are eligible to receive benefits under the Commonwealth Employees' Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988 [Comcare]. The legislation was amended in 2007 to the effect that from April 2007 while compensation is still payable for personal, physical or psychological injury or disease it is payable providing the employment contributes to a *significant degree, substantially more than material*, to the disease or injury. The connection of the work done with the injury or disease contacted is now more specifically defined.

Teachers and Schools Services Officers are not covered while travelling to or from work or if they leave their workplace at recess or lunchtime to visit the local shops for lunch or to meet an appointment. If a teacher or Schools Services Officer is *directed* to attend a workplace other than their usual place of work by their employer or the delegate [SLA, SLB, SLC] the journey claims will be covered. For example, visiting work experience sites on the way to or home from working, attending Moderation Day, attending PD at the CTL or alternative venues would be covered. Details of compensation claims and benefits may be obtained from DET Injury Management or the Canberra Institute of Technology.

Members should not assume that a particular accident/injury/disease will not be accepted by Comcare as there are several ways to determine the appropriateness of submitting a claim. The first is to contact the relevant DET officers at Injury Management and our Union; second you can contact Comcare for assistance on how to file a claim. The number for general enquiries is 1300 366 979; the website [www.comcare.gov.au](http://www.comcare.gov.au); the email [SRC.Policy@comcare.gov.au](mailto:SRC.Policy@comcare.gov.au)

In difficult case, our Union can arrange an initial free consultation with our solicitors although this is usually not required prior to the initial submission of a claim. However, Union officers or Injury Management case managers at DET can assist you.

If you have further concerns about this matter please contact the Union office on 6272 7900 to speak with an officer.