1. The Workers’ Compensation and Rehabilitation and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2020 gives effect to presumptive workers’ compensation laws for first responders suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).
2. The Bill follows on from considerations arising from a Queensland stakeholder reference group and in the context of national reviews into mental health of first responders (the 2018 Beyond Blue survey of police and emergency services and the 2019 Senate Committee Inquiry) that observed an increased risk of experiencing conditions such as PTSD and suggested presumptive workers’ compensation laws may improve the claims experience for first responders.
3. The Bill allows first responders and eligible employees of first responder agencies with PTSD with easier, timelier access to necessary support and compensation by reversing the onus of proof and deeming their injury to be work-related unless there is evidence presented by the employer to the contrary.
4. Cabinet approved the introduction of the Workers’ Compensation and Rehabilitation and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2020 into the Legislative Assembly.
5. *Attachments*
* [Workers’ Compensation and Rehabilitation and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2020](Attachments/Bill.pdf)
* [Explanatory Notes](Attachments/ExNotes.pdf)
* [Statement of Compatibility](Attachments/HRSoC.pdf)