



**Hon Bill Johnston MLA  
Minister for Mines and Petroleum; Energy; Corrective Services;  
Industrial Relations**

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Our Ref: 71-26235

Mr John Thomas  
President  
Ambulance Employees Association of Western Australia  
Email: [info@aeawa.com.au](mailto:info@aeawa.com.au)

Dear Mr Thomas

Thank you for your correspondence of 24 June 2022 to the Hon Mark McGowan MLA, Premier, regarding several interstate bonus schemes offered to healthcare workers and ambulance employees. As this issue concerns my portfolio responsibilities, the Premier's office has referred your correspondence to me for a response.

The McGowan Government acknowledges the significant contributions and personal sacrifices made by ambulance employees and frontline health workers during the course of the COVID-19 pandemic.

I recognise that paramedics and ambulance employees have been at the forefront of efforts to protect the public during a very challenging period in our State's history, and I commend your members for their dedication and resilience.

While several jurisdictions have recently announced alternative bonus (or lump sum) payments for front line health workers, a similar type of scheme has not been implemented in Western Australia at this time.

As you are undoubtedly aware, St John Ambulance is a non-Government organisation and operates in the national industrial relations system with its employees subject to federal enterprise agreements. As such, the Western Australian Government cannot directly determine conditions of employment applying to your members.

I note that St John Ambulance is currently engaged in negotiations for a replacement agreement for paramedics and ambulance officers in Western Australia, and I hope that a successful outcome can be achieved in the very near future.

Thank you for taking the time to write to the Western Australian Government on this issue.

Yours sincerely

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- 4 AUG 2022