

QUEENSLAND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMISSION

CITATION: *In the making of the Burke Shire Council Certified Agreement 2025 [2026] QIRC 081*

PARTIES: **Burke Shire Council**

AND

**The Australian Workers' Union of Employees,
Queensland**

**Construction, Forestry, Mining & Energy,
Industrial Union of Employees, Queensland**

**Plumbers & Gasfitters Employees' Union
Queensland, Union of Employees**

**Queensland Services, Industrial Union of
Employees**

CASE NO: CB/2026/12

PROCEEDING: Application for certification of an agreement

DELIVERED ON: 23 March 2026

HEARING DATE: 23 March 2026

MEMBER: Gazenbeek IC

HEARD AT: Brisbane

ORDER: ***The Burke Shire Council Certified Agreement
2025 is certified***

CATCHWORDS: INDUSTRIAL LAW – COLLECTIVE
BARGAINING – application for certification of an
agreement – requirements for certification –
agreement certified

LEGISLATION: *Industrial Relations Act 2016 (Qld) ss 171, 189,
191, 193, 216, 227, 228*

APPEARANCES: Mr Z. Revere and Ms C. Nelson on behalf of the
Burke Shire Council

Mr T. Stephens on behalf of the Australian Workers'
Union of Employees, Queensland

Ms E. Eaves on behalf of the Construction, Forestry,
Mining & Energy, Industrial Union of Employees,
Queensland

Mr J. Donaghy on behalf of Queensland Services,
Industrial Union of Employees

Reasons for Decision

- [1] On 10 March 2026, Burke Shire Council ('the Council') applied, pursuant to s 189(1) of the *Industrial Relations Act 2016* (Qld) ('the Act'), to certify the *Burke Shire Council Certified Agreement 2025* ('the agreement').
- [2] The named parties to the agreement are the Council and the following employee organisations ('the employee organisations'):
- (a) The Australian Workers' Union of Employees, Queensland ('AWU');
 - (b) Construction, Forestry, Mining & Energy, Industrial Union of Employees, Queensland ('CFMEU');
 - (c) Plumbers & Gasfitters Employees' Union Queensland, Union of Employees ('PGEU'); and
 - (d) Queensland Services, Industrial Union of Employees ('QSU').
- [3] The agreement applies to the Council, the employee organisations, and all of the Council's employees for whom a classification in the agreement applies (except where specifically excluded in clause 1.4.2 of the agreement).
- [4] The hearing of this application was listed for 23 March 2026, with more than seven days' notice of this date provided by the Industrial Registry.¹
- [5] At the hearing on 23 March 2026, the Council, AWU, CFMEU, and QSU each confirmed their support of the application to certify the agreement.

¹ *Industrial Relations Act 2016* (Qld), s 191.

- [6] While not present at the hearing of this application, the PGEU confirmed their support of the application to certify the agreement in correspondence to the Industrial Registry of the same date.²
- [7] Having regard to the submissions made by the parties who appeared at the hearing of 23 March 2026, and to the materials filed, I am satisfied that:³
- (a) each of the relevant requirements in ch 4 pt 5 div 2 sub-div 2 of the Act have been satisfied; and
 - (b) there is nothing in the agreement which would require me to refuse to grant the application pursuant to ch 4 pt 5 div 2 sub-div 3 of the Act.
- [8] Accordingly, the application to certify the *Burke Shire Council Certified Agreement 2025* is granted.
- [9] The agreement operates from the date it is certified,⁴ namely 23 March 2026. While the agreement has a nominal expiry date of 25 January 2028, the agreement will continue to operate until it is terminated under section 227 or 228 of the Act.⁵
- [10] I order accordingly:

The *Burke Shire Council Certified Agreement 2025* is certified

² Email from Mr R. Whitehurst (Organiser) to the Industrial Registry, dated 23 March 2026.

³ Ibid s 193.

⁴ Ibid s 216(1).

⁵ Ibid s 216(2).