

QUEENSLAND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMISSION

Industrial Relations Act 2016

(No. CA/2020/XX)

CHILD SAFETY AND YOUTH JUSTICE CERTIFIED AGREEMENT 2019

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PART 1: APPLICATION AND OPERATION

1.1 Title

This Agreement will be known as the Child Safety and Youth Justice Certified Agreement 2019.

1.2 Parties bound

- (1) This Agreement is binding upon:
 - (a) The State of Queensland;
 - (b) Employees employed by the State of Queensland employed in the Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women and the Department of Youth Justice to whom the following Awards apply:
 - i. *Queensland Public Service Officers and Other Employees Award- State 2015*;
 - ii. *General Employees (Queensland Government Departments) and other Employees Award – State 2015*, excluding those employees engaged at youth detention centres in the Department of Youth Justice.
 - (c) Together Queensland, Industrial Union of Employees; The Australian Workers' Union of Employees, Queensland; and United Voice, Industrial Union of Employees, Queensland.
- (2) For the avoidance of doubt, the following persons are not covered by this Agreement:
 - (a) Chief Executives, Senior Executives and Senior Officers under the *Public Service Act 2008*; appointments made on a fixed term declared under section 121 of the *Public Service Act 2008*; employees engaged under contractual arrangements (this does not refer to employees under sections 147 and 148 of the *Public Service Act 2008* engaged for a fixed term); and “banded” officers; and
 - (b) Employees in the Department of Youth Justice covered by the Youth Detention Centre Certified Agreement 2019.

1.3 Operation

- (1) The Agreement operates from date of certification and has a nominal expiry date of 31 August 2023.
- (2) For the purpose of section 228(3)(a) of the *Industrial Relations Act 2016*, this Agreement shall be terminated upon the certification of a replacement agreement or the making of a replacement arbitration determination in relation to the employees covered by this Agreement, unless otherwise agreed by the parties.

1.4 Posting of Agreement

- (1) A copy of this Agreement must be displayed in a conspicuous place at the workplace, where it can be easily read by employees in the workplace. Electronic access to this Agreement where available is sufficient to meet the requirements of this clause.

1.5 Relationship to Awards, Industrial Instruments and Directives

- (1) This Agreement replaces the State Government Entities Certified Agreement 2015 insofar as it has application to employees bound by this Agreement.
- (2) The parties agree to terminate the State Government Entities Certified Agreement 2015 on or following certification of this Agreement.

- (3) This Agreement is to be read in conjunction with awards as amended or replaced from time to time and industrial instruments covering employees covered by this Agreement. The provision of these awards and industrial instruments, as amended from time to time shall apply, provided that any amendment which would result in a diminution of an employee's entitlements and/or conditions that existed at the commencement of this Agreement shall not apply. In the event of any inconsistency with these awards and industrial instruments, the terms of this Agreement will take precedence.

1.6 Objectives of this Agreement

- (1) The employer provides a service that affects the daily lives of Queenslanders. The parties are committed to an effective departments, delivering quality services to Queenslanders to support the Queensland Government's priorities and obligations to the community. The department will strive for improvements in service delivery, improved efficiency and effectiveness of its operations and activities.

1.7 Equity Considerations

- (1) This Agreement will achieve the principal objects specified in sections 4(i), 4(j), 4(k), 4(l), 4(m) and 4(r) of the *Industrial Relations Act 2016*. The employer will respect and value the diversity of our employees through helping to prevent and eliminate discrimination.
- (2) The effect of this Agreement is not to allow any conduct or treatment, either direct or indirect that would contravene the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1991*.

1.8 Definitions and Abbreviations

ACC means the Agency Consultative Committee, which is the peak group in each employer covered by this Agreement's Agency Consultative Framework.

Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) means the national system of recognition for the issue of vocational qualifications. The AQF is available via the Australian Government Department of Education website www.aqf.edu.au

CC means a Consultative Committee within the Agency Consultative Framework, other than the ACC.

Commission means the Queensland Industrial Relations Commission.

Continuous shift worker means as per the definition provided in the relevant award.

Employer means the Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women and/or the Department of Youth Justice.

Directive means a Queensland Government Directive issued (and as amended) by the Minister for Industrial Relations or the Commission Chief Executive of Public Service Commission in accordance with sections 53 or 54 of the *Public Service Act 2008*.

Director-General means the Chief Executive of each employer covered by this Agreement.

Government means the Queensland Government unless otherwise specified.

ILO means International Labour Organisation.

Non-continuous shift worker means as per the definition provided in the relevant award.

PSTP means Public Sector Training Package.

PART 2: WAGES, ALLOWANCES AND OTHER CONDITIONS

2.1 New Wage Rates

- (1) Subject to more beneficial rates being applied in accordance with clauses re award rates and the wage mechanism, the minimum wage increases to apply are 2.5% per annum on the last agreement rates as contained in the State Government Entities Certified Agreement 2015 and will apply as follows:

1 September 2019
1 September 2020
1 September 2021
1 September 2022
- (2) The salary schedules reflecting the rates payable at 1 September 2019 are set out in Appendix 3 of this Agreement. Salary schedules for rates payable for future years in light of clauses 2.11(6)-(16) will be published at www.forgov.qld.gov.au/core-2019-and-associated-agreements-salary-schedules.

2.2 One-off payment

- (1) The parties acknowledge that in reaching in-principle agreement for this Agreement a one-off payment of \$1250 (pro-rata for part-time and casual employees) was paid prior to certification of this Agreement to eligible employees in accordance with the terms of the in-principle agreement.

2.3 No Loss of Show Day

- (1) Where an employee is required to perform work duties (including training) at an alternative location to the place where the employee is based for work purposes on a day where the show day holiday applies, such employee will be given a day off in lieu, to be taken by mutual agreement with the employee's supervisor.
- (2) Provided that an employee subject to this Agreement, and whether engaged in different Government entities or locations over a calendar year or not, is only entitled to leave on full pay for a show holiday once each calendar year.

2.4 Annual leave loading payment

- (1) Payment of annual leave loading will be consolidated and paid to all employees during December of each year.
- (2) It is at the discretion of the employer to determine whether they wish to apply this clause to non-continuous and/or continuous shift workers.

2.5 Student supervision allowance

- (1) A student supervision allowance of \$10 per day (to a maximum of \$10 per day/\$100 per fortnight) will be paid to departmental employees who are engaged in:
 - (a) the professional salary classification stream; and
 - (b) a role which has been approved by the Director-General to formally supervise university students who are undertaking a formal placement with the department as a mandatory component of the degree course the student is undertaking.
- (2) Only one employee can receive the student supervision allowance for providing supervision for any one student each day. This employee will be the designated supervisor for that day.
- (3) The employer will review the employer's guidelines which inform the arrangements when employees are approved to formally supervise university students in the workplace as outlined above.

2.6 Extra leave for proportionate salary (purchased leave)

- (1) Where agreed between the employer and employee, and subject to policy requirements, employees can agree to work reduced months in a year and receive a proportionate salary over a full twelve month period, where this arrangement meets the operational needs of the employer.

2.7 Averaging of ordinary hours of work

- (1) Where agreed between the employer and employee, and subject to policy requirements, mechanisms will operate by which employees can agree to average ordinary hours of work over a cycle with differential daily and weekly hours, e.g. in a four week work cycle an employee may work 45 hours in one week and 30 hours the next week, provided that the total standard ordinary hours for the month are worked. Under this arrangement the agreed working hours for individual employees would be established in consultation between management and the employee. Normal overtime arrangements/penalty rates will only apply for the hours worked in excess of the agreed hours of duty.

2.8 Locality allowances

- (1) Locality allowances are payable to eligible employees in accordance with the *Directive 19/99 (Locality Allowances)* issued in accordance with section 54 of the *Public Service Act 2008*.
- (2) The rates prescribed by the *Directive 19/99 (Locality Allowances)* are increased by 5.5% from 1 January 1997 for all centres other than those in coastal local government areas as at that date and listed in Appendix 4 of this Agreement.

2.9 Hours of work

- (1) The employer, through consultation with the relevant CC, has the ability to agree to hours of work arrangements at the local level in accordance with award provisions.
- (2) The employer is to provide access to and consult about hours of work arrangements consistent with award obligations.
- (3) Preparation for starting and finishing work including personal clean-up will be in the employee's time. Activities required by the employer for the readiness to commence the performance of duties are to be treated as part of paid ordinary hours. If required, such activities will be agreed between the employer and the relevant CC.
- (4) The employer will review the Hours of Work policy in consultation with Together Queensland Union.

2.10 Recruitment and Selection

- (1) The employer will review the Recruitment and Selection policy in consultation with Together Queensland Union.

2.11 No Further Claims

- (1) This Agreement is in full and final settlement of all parties' claims for its duration, except for the wage rates that will apply to employees covered by this Agreement as determined in accordance with clauses 2.11(7)-(16). It is a term of this Agreement that no party will pursue any extra claims relating to wages or conditions of employment whether dealt with in this Agreement or not.
- (2) Subject to clause 2.11(3) herein, this Agreement covers all matters or claims that could otherwise be subject to protected industrial action.
- (3) The following changes may be made to employees' rights and entitlements during the life of this Agreement:
 - (a) General Rulings and Statements of Policy issued by the Commission that provide

conditions that are not less favourable than current conditions;

- (b) Any improvements in conditions that are determined on a whole-of-government basis; and
 - (c) Reclassifications.
- (4) Unless inconsistent with the terms of this Agreement, the entitlement of employees covered by this Agreement as contained in awards, certified agreements, Commission orders, determinations or directives made under the *Public Service Act 2008* effective at the date this Agreement operates from shall not be reduced for the life of this Agreement.
- (5) Any increases in monetary amounts or other entitlements as a result of Commission decisions, Government policy, or Directives made under the *Public Service Act 2008* will be applied.
- (6) It is a term of this Agreement that no person covered by this Agreement will receive a rate of pay which is less than the corresponding rate of pay in the relevant parent award.
- (7) Notwithstanding the minimum wage rates payable in accordance with clause 2.1 the parties agree that wage rates payable under this Agreement may be amended by a Wages Determination. A Wages Determination means:
- (a) a decision of the Commission; or
 - (b) mutual agreement between the parties.
- (8) The Wages Determination will be in accordance with the parameters contained in the following clauses for the purposes of the *Industrial Relations Act 2016*:
- (a) The Commission shall hear and determine the quantum of wages provided under this Agreement. Without limiting the quantum that may be determined, the Commission may decide to increase wages above those provided for in accordance with this Agreement or decide that no further wage increases are warranted.
 - (b) The parties will apply for the Wages Determination to be heard by a Full Bench of the Commission.
 - (c) It is the parties' intention for the Wages Determination, to the extent that it is to be heard by a Full Bench of the Commission, to be heard and determined as if the matter were an arbitration under section 180 of the *Industrial Relations Act 2016*, to the extent permitted by law.
 - (d) On making the Wages Determination, the effective date will be no earlier than 1 September 2018. The Wages Determination will apply equally to all cohorts of employees covered by this Agreement. Any increased wages payable under this Agreement as a consequence of the Wages Determination will only be applied to employees covered by this Agreement at the date the Wages Determination is decided by the Commission or agreed between the parties.
- (9) The pay anniversary date will not be varied from 1 September each year as a result of the Wages Determination.
- (10) Wages Determination will finally determine the matter and will become a term of this Agreement and will be enforceable as such.
- (11) There will only be one Wages Determination applied for, heard, determined, decided or agreed to for the life of this Agreement.
- (12) The date the Wages Determination is decided is the date of the decision of the Commission or the date of the agreement between the parties.

- (13) The parties may seek to join the Wages Determination hearing with other certified agreement Wages Determinations relying on the same or similar mechanism.
- (14) The parties agree to commence discussions with a view to trying to reach mutual agreement for a Wages Determination following the 2020 Fair Work Commission decision in the Federal Annual Wage Review (AWR). If mutual agreement cannot be reached within one month from the release of the 2020 AWR Decision, the parties will agree to refer the matter to the Commission to hear and decide the Wages Determination.
- (15) The parties must identify and raise any and all jurisdictional issues within four weeks of the referral being made, should there be no issues to be raised the parties will confirm this in writing to the Commission.
- (16) If there is a dispute about the application of the parameters for the Wages Determination under this clause, the parties agree that the Commission may hear and decide these matters concurrently with the Wages Determination.

PART 3: TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

- (1) The parties to this Agreement recognise an ongoing commitment to training and development.
- (2) It is acknowledged that employees should be encouraged to develop required skills and knowledge to support service delivery objectives.
- (3) To achieve the desired levels of knowledge and skills there should be an emphasis upon building capability around key occupations through career development, job design, performance development, and workforce planning. The objective of this approach is to improve workforce capability and employer service delivery while enhancing job satisfaction and employees' professional growth.
- (4) Training and assessment of competencies may be provided in accordance with the PSTP or other accredited programs relevant to employer needs to enable employees to meet the requirements of clauses 4.1 and 4.2 of this Agreement.
- (5) The employer acknowledges that reasonable travel time associated with an employee attending training and development opportunities should where practicable be scheduled in paid ordinary work time.
- (6) The employer will pay for continuing professional development (CPD) required in order to maintain qualifications mandatory to the employee's employment.
- (7) Access to assistance under the employer's Study and Research Assistance Scheme (SARAS) policy, to enable employees to obtain skills necessary for career progression will not be unreasonably refused.

PART 4: RECOGNITION OF ACCREDITED QUALIFICATIONS

4.1 Commitment

- (1) The parties are committed to the principle that financial recompense will be provided for public sector employees in the specified classifications who meet the following requirements:
 - (a) an accredited qualification at the AQF level specified, or higher, achieved through training and assessment of competencies (including recognition of current competencies); and
 - (b) reached the maximum paypoint of the specified classification level in the Administration Stream or the Operational Stream; and
 - (c) spent one calendar year on the maximum pay point (or, in the case of casual employees, have spent one calendar year and worked 1200 hours at the maximum pay point).

- (2) The parties acknowledge the commitment at clause 4.1(2) of the State Government Entities Certified Agreement 2019, which provides that “The parties are committed to establishing a working party through the Central Consultative Forum to review the requirements for the recognition of accredited qualifications”.

4.2 Appropriate Remuneration

- (1) The following remuneration shall be paid for employees that meet the requirements in clause 4.1 of this Agreement:

Certificate IV (AQF IV)	AO2	\$41.50 per fortnight
Diploma (AQF V)	AO3	\$42.80 per fortnight
Advanced Diploma (AQF VI)	AO4	\$44.60 per fortnight
Certificate III (AQF III)	OO2	\$20.00 per fortnight
Certificate IV (AQF IV)	OO3	\$41.50 per fortnight
Diploma (AQF V)	OO4/OO5	\$42.80 per fortnight
Advanced Diploma (AQF VI)	OO6	\$44.60 per fortnight

PART 5: CULTURAL AWARENESS AND LEAVE

- (1) The parties recognise the value of diversity in the workplace and the importance of measures that promote diversity and cultural respect, in particular with regard to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and cultures.
- (2) Employees may access up to 5 days unpaid cultural leave per year as prescribed at section 51 of the *Industrial Relations Act 2016*. In addition, eligible employees may also access cultural leave:
- as recreation leave;
 - as unpaid special leave;
 - in lieu of public holidays (where operational circumstances permit);
 - as accrued time leave; or
 - at the required time with such time made up at a later date.
- (3) The employer will report to the relevant CC about cultural awareness training and activities.

PART 6: PAID PARENTAL LEAVE

- (1) Notwithstanding the federal paid parental leave scheme the current paid parental leave provisions provided by the employer as at the date of operation of this Agreement will not be reduced for the life of this Agreement.

PART 7: EMPLOYMENT SECURITY AND PERMANENT EMPLOYMENT

7.1 Employment Security

- (1) The Government is committed to maximum employment security in accordance with Appendix 5 of this Agreement for tenured public sector employees by developing and maintaining a responsive, impartial and efficient public service as the preferred provider of existing services to Government and the community.

7.2 Permanent Employment

- (1) The parties are committed to maximising permanent employment where possible. Casual or temporary forms of employment or labour hire should only be utilised where permanent employment is not viable or appropriate. The employer is encouraged to proactively utilise workforce planning and management strategies to assist in determining the appropriate workforce mix for current and future needs. In particular, the future of work should be at the forefront of

employer considerations in workforce planning and recruitment. The employer should review current and future capability requirements and funding availability and projections ahead of advertising roles with a view to maximising permanent employment.

- (2) The employer commits to using its best endeavours to ensure that should labour hire workers be engaged, such engagement occurs in a manner which minimises the impact upon the employment security of the employment of existing employees.

7.3 Temporary Employment

- (1) The employer commits, where possible, to collect additional data about temporary engagements with a view to increasing reporting to the relevant CC on a quarterly basis about the number of temporary engagements and the categories of reasons for those engagements such as, 'backfilling', 'project role', 'other'.
- (2) The employer acknowledges the ability under section 149 of the *Public Service Act 2008* for criteria which a chief executive must consider when deciding whether a person's employment in the department is to:
 - continue as a temporary employee according to the terms of the existing employment; or
 - be as a general employee on tenure or a public service officer,to be fixed under an industrial instrument.
- (3) The criteria to be applied to temporary conversions will be consistent with that provided for in Directive 08/17 Temporary Employment. Those criteria are:
 - whether there is a continuing need for the person to be employed in the role, or a role which is substantially the same, and the role is likely to be ongoing; and
 - the merit of the temporary employee for the role by applying the merit criteria in section 28 of the *Public Service Act 2008*.
- (4) Further, the employer will endeavour to provide greater communication to affected employees about possibilities for extension to or termination for temporary contracts. Where practicable, the employer will communicate with affected employees as soon as possible where the possibility of extension or non-extension arises and will keep the affected employee apprised of relevant developments.
- (5) Consistent with Government's commitment to the maximisation of permanent employment, the employer will endeavour to maximise part-time hours for permanent part-time employees where possible.

7.4 Organisational Change and Restructuring

- (1) The Government is committed to providing stability to the public sector by limiting organisational restructuring and contracting-out of services.
- (2) These commitments are effected through the Government's policy on *Employment Security* and the *Contracting-Out of Government Services* contained at Appendices 5 and 6 of this Agreement. Without limiting or enhancing the existing policies, the employer acknowledges that where operational decisions or contracting out of services decisions result in organisational change or restructure, the policies provide for:
 - the need to demonstrate clear benefits and enhanced service delivery to the community;
 - avoid unnecessary change that will not deliver demonstrable benefit to the Government or the community;

- Cabinet approval is required for all major organisational change and restructuring in entities in accordance with the considerations outlined in the policies;
 - where the employer has made a decision to introduce major organisational change or restructuring, it will notify affected employees/unions and discuss the changes as early as practicable. This may be undertaken through the ACC or relevant CC forums.
 - Cabinet approval for contracting-out proposals that meet specified criteria including significant impact on the Government's workforce in terms of job losses.
- (3) The employer shall provide in writing to the members of ACC or the relevant CC of their intention to implement organisational changes that may affect the employment security of employees, prior to the commencement of any planned changes. This shall include all information required to be provided in accordance with the "Introduction of changes" and "Redundancy" clauses of relevant awards. The employer is also required where requested to provide relevant unions with a listing of the affected staff comprising name, job title and work location.
 - (4) It is acknowledged that management has a right to implement changes to ensure the effective delivery of public services. The consultation process will not be used to frustrate or delay the changes but rather ensure that all viable options are considered. If this process cannot be resolved at the relevant CC in a timely manner, either party may refer the matter to the ACC for resolution.
 - (5) The parties agree that the employer should report to unions on a quarterly basis, the current status of employment practices within the department. This report should be provided on a quarterly basis at the ACC. Specifically, the report should detail the following:
 - (a) a snapshot of the current workforce including the total number of employees, the number of employees by appointment type (permanent, temporary and casual), stream allocation;
 - (b) a report on the variance from the previous quarter in the use of casuals, temporaries and the number of people engaged through labour hire;
 - (c) the number of people engaged through labour hire;
 - (d) any significant variance in the number of permanent employees;
 - (e) the conversion of temporary employees to tenured status.
 - (6) Permanent employees will not be forced into unemployment as a result of organisational change or changes in employer priorities. Where changes to employment arrangements are necessary, there will be active pursuit of retraining and alternative placement opportunities. There is a responsibility on the employee to meaningfully participate in the opportunities made available. The employer and employees will comply with all relevant directives (as amended). Where an employee refuses to participate or cooperate in these processes, the full provisions of the directive pertaining to retrenchment may be followed to the extent of their applicability.
 - (7) Provisions and entitlements relating to organisational change and restructuring can be found in the directives relating to early retirement, redundancy and retrenchment (as amended) which will apply for the life of this Agreement.
 - (8) The employer must provide relevant information to the relevant union/s when it intends to apply the provisions of the directive (as amended) relating to early retirement, redundancy and retrenchment where an employee may be genuinely redundant or is to possibly be retrenched. Such information must be provided at the same time the employer's intentions are communicated to the employee. An affected employee must be provided with notice of the employer's intention to make redundant or retrench the employee sufficient to allow the employee to seek relevant independent advice.
 - (9) The parties recognise the cultural diversity, rights, views and expectations of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the delivery of culturally appropriate services and that additional

consultation may be required if changes to these services are proposed to ensure there is a community benefit.

7.5 National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Transition

- (1) The Government is committed to its policy that no permanent Public Sector employee will be forced into unemployment as a consequence of organisational change.

PART 8: SALARY PACKAGING

- (1) Salary packaging is available for employees (excluding short-term casual employees) covered by this Agreement in accordance with Government policy found in the Circular issued from time to time by the entity responsible.
- (2) The employer is to apply the following principles for employees that avail themselves of salary packaging:
 - (a) as part of the salary package arrangements, the costs for administering the package, including fringe benefits tax, are met by the participating employee;
 - (b) there will be no additional increase in superannuation costs or to fringe benefits payments made by the employer;
 - (c) increases or variations in taxation are to be passed to employees as part of their salary package;
 - (d) where mandated by relevant Government policies, employees must obtain independent financial advice prior to taking up a salary package. Where no mandatory requirement exists, it is *strongly recommended* to all employees to seek independent financial advice when entering into a salary packaging arrangement for the first time, or adding new item/items to an already agreed packaging arrangement;
 - (e) the employer will pass on to the employee any Input Tax Credits (ITCs) it receives as part of salary packaging;
 - (f) there will be no significant additional administrative workload or other ongoing costs to the employer;
 - (g) any additional administrative and fringe benefit tax costs are to be met by the employee;
 - (h) any increases or variations to taxation, excluding payroll tax that result in additional costs are to be passed on to the employee as part of the salary package.
- (3) The employee's salary for superannuation purposes and severance and termination payments will be the gross salary, which the employee would receive if not taking part in flexible remuneration packaging.
- (4) Subject to federal legislation, employees may elect to adjust their current salary sacrifice arrangements to sacrifice up to 100% of salary to superannuation.

PART 9: CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES

- (1) The parties agree that employees should be consulted about decisions which may affect their employment or welfare, and that meaningful consultation with affected employees leads to improved organisational outcomes.
- (2) In recognition of clause 9(1), the employer will have a joint union/employer ACC. The ACC will be used to facilitate consultation on a broad range of issues, including but not limited to discussion of matters arising from this Agreement such as:
 - (a) Workload Management (Part 16);

- (b) Organisational Change and Restructuring (Part 7.4);
 - (c) Training (Part 3);
 - (d) Union Encouragement (Part 12);
 - (e) Work/Life Balance (Part 20);
 - (f) Organisational matters such as the review of, changes to or introduction of new workforce management policies;
 - (g) Fair Career Paths (Part 17);
 - (h) Improving Gender Equity (Part 19); and
 - (i) Cultural Awareness activities and training (Part 5).
- (3) The ACC may agree to establish standing committees, sub-committees, or other additional consultative structures (such as regional or local CCs) with terms of reference agree between the parties.
 - (4) CC forums will allow for consultation, engagement and dispute resolution directly between affected employees (through their union delegates to the committee/forum) and the relevant decision-makers.
 - (5) Each employer will develop, in consultation with the relevant unions, a framework for the conduct of consultation within the employer within six months of the date of operation of this Agreement. This framework should take into account the organisational structure of the employer, the different parties that should be involved in consultative processes, and the interaction between various consultative mechanisms, including the provision of data (consisting of employee name, job title, work location (including floor level where possible), anticipated effect, rationale for change and potential timeframes) where relevant.
 - (6) This Agreement, through various provisions, allocates a number of roles and responsibilities to the ACC and CCs which the employer will ensure occurs in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement and the relevant forum's Terms of Reference. The parties to this Agreement agree to review and update the Terms of Reference template for the ACC/CCs within six months of the date of certification of this Agreement.

PART 10: COLLECTIVE INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

- (1) The Government acknowledges that structured, collective industrial relations will continue as a fundamental principle of the management of entities and public sector units. The principle recognises the important role of unions and the traditionally high levels of union membership in the public sector. It supports constructive relations between management and unions and recognises the need to work collaboratively with relevant unions and employees in an open and accountable way.
- (2) The Government as an employer recognises that union membership and coverage issues are determined by the provisions of the *Industrial Relations Act 2016* and any determinations of the Commission.
- (3) The Government is committed to collective agreements and will not support non-union agreements.

PART 11: ILO CONVENTIONS

- (1) The Government as an employer recognises its obligations to give effect to international labour standards including freedom of association, workers' representatives, collective bargaining and equality of opportunity for all public sector workers.

PART 12: UNION ENCOURAGEMENT

- (1) The employer is committed to the Government's Union Encouragement Policy and as part of this commitment, recognises the right of individuals to join a union and will encourage that membership. However, it is also recognised that union membership remains at the discretion of individuals.
- (2) An application for union membership and information on the relevant union/s will be provided to all employees at the point of engagement.
- (3) Information on the relevant union(s) will be included in induction materials.
- (4) Union representative(s) will be provided with the opportunity to discuss union membership with new employees.
- (5) The employer is encouraged to agree to local arrangements about union and delegate rights in the workplace.
- (6) The employer is to provide relevant unions with complete lists of new starters (consisting of name, job title, work email, work location (including floor level where possible), award and employment status (permanent/temporary/casual)) to the workplace on a quarterly basis, unless agreed between the employer and union to be on a more regular basis. This information is to be provided electronically.
- (7) The employer is also required where requested to provide relevant unions with a listing of current staff comprising name, job title, work email, work location (including floor level where possible), award and employment status (permanent/temporary/casual)). This information shall be supplied on a six monthly basis, unless agreed between the employer and union to be on a more regular basis. The provision of all staff information to relevant unions shall be consistent with the principles outlined at section 350 of the *Industrial Relations Act 2016*. This information is to be provided electronically.
- (8) The employer is to provide relevant unions with complete lists of employment separations (consisting of name, job title, work location, award and employment status (permanent/temporary/casual)) to the workplace on a quarterly basis, unless agreed between the employer and union to be on a more regular basis. This information is to be provided electronically.

PART 13: UNION DELEGATES

- (1) The employer is committed to the Government's Union Encouragement policy and as part of this commitment, acknowledges the constructive role democratically elected union delegates undertake in the workplace in relation to union activities that support and assist members. That role will be formally recognised, accepted and supported.
- (2) Public sector employees will be given full access to union delegates/officials during working hours to discuss any employment matter or seek union advice, provided that service delivery is not disrupted and work requirements are not unduly affected.
- (3) Provided that service delivery and work requirements are not unduly affected, delegates will be provided convenient access to facilities for the purpose of undertaking union activities. Such facilities include: telephones, computers, e-mail, photocopiers, facsimile machines, storage facilities, meeting rooms and notice boards. It is expected that management and delegates will take a reasonable approach to the responsible use of such facilities for information and communication purposes.
- (4) Subject to the relevant employee's written approval and any confidentiality provisions, delegates may request access to documents and policies related to a member's employment.

PART 14: INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS EDUCATION LEAVE

- (1) Industrial relations education leave is paid time off to acquire industrial relations knowledge and competencies which develop the employees' capacity to effectively participate in consultative structures, perform a representative role and further the effective operation of grievance and dispute settlement procedures.
- (2) Before the employer approves such leave the union must provide the employer information about the course content, the times at which the courses will be offered, the numbers of attendees, and the types of employees at whom the course is targeted. Before approving leave, the employer must be satisfied that the proposed course is within the terms of clause 14(1).
- (3) Employees may be granted up to 5 working days (or the equivalent hours) paid time off (non-cumulative) per calendar year to attend industrial relations education sessions, approved by the chief executive (or delegated authority) of the employer.
- (4) Additional leave, over and above 5 working days non-cumulative (or the equivalent hours) in any one calendar year may be granted where approved structured employees' training courses involve more than 5 working days (or the equivalent). Such leave will be subject to consultation between the chief executive (or delegated authority) of the employer, the relevant union and the employee.
- (5) Upon request and subject to approval by the chief executive (or delegated authority) of the employer, employees may be granted paid time off in special circumstances to attend Management Committee Meetings, Union Conferences, and Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU) Congress.
- (6) The granting of industrial relations education leave or any additional leave should not impact adversely on service delivery, work requirements or the effectiveness and efficiency of the entity/work unit concerned. At the same time such leave shall not be unreasonably refused.
- (7) At the discretion of the chief executive of the employer, employees may be granted special leave without pay to undertake work with their union. Such leave will be in accordance with the Directive relating to "Special Leave" issued and amended in accordance with section 54 of the *Public Service Act 2008*, in relation to special leave without salary. Conditions outlined in this directive that provide for the employees' return to work after unpaid leave will be met.

PART 15: PREVENTION AND SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

- (1) The objectives of this procedure are the avoidance and resolution of any disputes over matters covered by this Agreement, by measures based on the provision of information and explanation, consultation, co-operation and negotiation.
- (2) Subject to legislation, while the dispute procedure is being followed, normal work is to continue except where the employee has a reasonable concern about an imminent risk to the employee's health or safety. The status quo existing before the emergence of a dispute is to continue whilst the procedure is being followed. No party shall be prejudiced as to the final settlement by the continuation of work.
- (3) There is a requirement for management to provide relevant information and explanation and consult with the appropriate employee representatives.
- (4) In the event of any disagreement between the parties as to the interpretation or implementation of this Agreement, the following procedures shall apply:
 - (a) The matter is to be discussed by the employee's union representative and/or the employee(s) concerned (where appropriate) and the immediate supervisor in the first instance. The discussion should take place within 24 hours and the procedure should not extend beyond 7 days.
 - (b) If the matter is not resolved as per (a) above, it shall be referred by the union

representative and/or the employee(s) to the appropriate management representative who shall arrange a conference of the parties to discuss the matter. This process should not extend beyond 7 days.

- (c) If the matter remains unresolved it may be referred by the employee and/or his/her union representative to the ACC for discussion and appropriate action. This process should not exceed 14 days.
- (d) If the matter is not resolved then it may be referred by either party to the Commission for conciliation, or if necessary, arbitration.
- (5) Nothing contained in this procedure shall prevent unions or the employer from intervening in respect of matters in dispute, should such action be considered conducive to achieving resolution.
- (6) The parties acknowledge that, for matters not covered by this Agreement, there are other dispute resolution procedures available.

PART 16: WORKLOAD MANAGEMENT

- (1) The employer is committed to working with its employees and relevant unions to address workload management issues. It is acknowledged that high workloads can in some circumstances lead to unsafe work practices, therefore the employer should ensure safe work environments are not compromised, and that employer responsibilities under legislation including duty of care to all employees are complied with.
- (2) It is recognised by the employer that unrealistic expectations should not be placed on employees by line management to consistently perform excessive working hours whereby no opportunities arise to utilise accrued time or time off in lieu (TOIL).
- (3) The employer is obliged to consider the impacts on workloads when organisational change occurs, particularly those impacts arising from the introduction of new programs and from machinery of government changes. Management at the local level should undertake appropriate consultation with affected employees when implementing organisational initiatives including machinery of government changes that may have an impact on the workloads of affected employees.
- (4) The parties note that the Queensland Government workload management tool will be reviewed during the life of the State Government Entities Certified Agreement 2019. In utilising the workload management tool, the employer is obliged to adapt the template tool to account for employer-specific circumstances to ensure easier application of the tool
- (5) In addition, the parties agree that relevant CCs will deal with the issue of workload management. The activities of the CC in the area of workload management should include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - (a) To undertake research on local workload management issues;
 - (b) To address specific workload issues referred by staff of work units, union officials and/or management;
 - (c) To develop expedient processes for referral of workload issues to the CC;
 - (d) Based on research, develop strategies to improve immediate and long term workload issues;
 - (e) To assess the implications of workloads from a workplace health and safety perspective and refer relevant matters to the workplace health and safety committee;
 - (f) To consider the impacts on workloads when organisational change occurs, particularly those impacts arising from the introduction of new programs and from machinery of government changes, and make recommendations to affected workgroups on the management of potential workload issues where appropriate.

PART 17: FAIR CAREER PATHS

17.1 General Provisions

- (1) The employer acknowledges that absences from the workforce due to family responsibilities and utilisation of flexibility measures should not be considered barriers to progression.
- (2) The employer will report to the relevant CC on measures taken to support improved career paths.
- (3) The parties are committed to providing reasonable career opportunities to employees. The parties are committed to providing consistent and transparent classifications across the employer.
- (4) The employer, in consultation with the relevant CC, will ensure that it has a review process in place to allow aggrieved employees the opportunity to raise concerns about the work value assessment (utilising the job evaluation management system (JEMS) or other approved methodology) of their position. These processes will provide the opportunity for consultation with the relevant union and may include a union representative as part of the process.
- (5) Design Principles relating to the JEMS review process were approved by the Central Peak Consultative Committee in 2004 under the auspices of the State Government Departments Certified Agreement 2003. These agreed Design Principles were developed and approved for discretionary use by Government entities including the employer when finalising the review process referred to above.

17.2 Improving internal merit-based career paths

- (1) The parties reaffirm their commitment to merit-based career paths and the importance of applying the merit principle to appointments, consistent with the *Public Service Act 2008*.

PART 18: FAIR TREATMENT AT WORK

- (1) The parties commit to continue to work to improve performance management practices.

PART 19: IMPROVING GENDER EQUITY

- (1) The parties acknowledge the benefits of flexibility in the workplace and the employer is committed to supporting flexibility and gender equity in accordance with its legislative obligations.
- (2) The parties agree that cultural change is necessary to ensure flexible work arrangements are not perceived to be gender related and do not result in unintended consequences.
- (3) The parties are committed to driving cultural change with specific emphasis on the promotion of and availability of flexibility measures for all employees irrespective of gender.
- (4) The employer confirms its commitment to supporting women in the workplace and recognising the importance of gender pay equity.
- (5) The parties acknowledge that cultural change is necessary to ensure that the gender pay gap is reduced during the life of this Agreement.
- (6) Where requested by the union/s the parties commit to establish an Equal Employment Opportunity Subcommittee of the ACC, to promote cultural change and support flexibility and gender equity in the workplace.

PART 20: WORK/LIFE BALANCE

- (1) The employer is committed to workplace practices that improve the balance between work and life for its employees, irrespective of gender.
- (2) The parties agree that requests by employees to access work-life balance initiatives will be considered. Work-life balance initiatives shall include, but not be limited to:

- Flexible working arrangements, including telecommuting/working from home and co-working spaces/distributed work centres;
 - Secondments and interchanges;
 - Career breaks; and
 - Transition to retirement.
- (3) The employer acknowledges the employees' entitlements to request flexible work arrangements in accordance with the *Industrial Relations Act 2016* and its obligations in deciding those requests.
- (4) The employer will review the Flexible Work Arrangements policy in consultation with Together Queensland Union.

PART 21: INTRODUCTION OF TECHNOLOGY/FUTURE OF WORK

- (1) The parties acknowledge the potential for 'intensification of work' through boundaries between work life and home life being blurred as a result of the inclusion or advancement of technology.
- (2) The employer, through the relevant CC, will consult on proposed technological change or advancements which may affect or impact on employee's employment.

PART 22: WORKPLACE BULLYING

- (1) All employees have the right to be treated fairly and with dignity in an environment free from disruption, intimidation, harassment, victimisation and discrimination.
- (2) The employer commits to raise further awareness of the protections for employees from bullying and harassment as provided under the *Industrial Relations Act 2016*.

PART 23: SUPPORT FOR WORKERS WITH MENTAL ILLNESS

- (1) The parties recognise that the workplace plays a vital role in assisting employees affected by mental health issues and commits to:
- (a) fostering communication and openness to mental health issues to reduce any stigma or barriers which may impact on employees seeking support; and
 - (b) fostering a respectful, empathetic and inclusive work environment to assist and support to employees.
 - (c) The employer, through the ACC, will implement a suitable program to provide mental health first aid training or similar to an appropriate number of employees, over the life of this Agreement, prioritising training for existing Health and Safety Representatives and First Aid Officers who express an interest.
- (2) The employer acknowledges the specialist skills of Employee Assistance Programs (EAP), in particular specialist skills in supporting persons affected by mental health issues. In addition to the EAP, the employer commits to considering, through relevant CCs, additional services as required to ensure appropriate consideration of cultural, regional and remote needs for employees affected by mental health issues.

PART 24: CLIENT AGGRESSION

- (1) The parties recognise that client aggression is a workplace health and safety issue affecting some public sector workplaces and agree that violence and aggression by clients towards staff is not acceptable.
- (2) The employer commits to providing personal safety training as follows:

- (a) Face to face personal safety training will be provided to all employees engaged at Child Safety Service Centres and Youth Justice Service Centres.
- (b) The employer will extend personal safety training to all other employees through an online module.
- (c) The personal safety training will focus on strategies to ensure personal safety in the workplace, including planned approaches in particular scenarios and de-escalation of conflict and aggressive behaviour in others.

PART 25: FIRE WARDENS AND WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY REPRESENTATIVES

- (1) The employer acknowledges the importance of the role of fire wardens and workplace health and safety representatives and the value of their contribution to the workplace.
- (2) The employer will ensure that employees who have been appointed or elected to these roles in the workplace have sufficient time free from other duties to complete these responsibilities.

PART 26: RURAL AND REMOTE

- (1) The parties acknowledge the importance of regional, rural and remote jobs in delivering services to the community.
- (2) The parties acknowledge the Government’s ongoing commitment in providing employees who reside (either permanently or temporarily) in government owned dwellings with a safe residential environment and acceptable facility standards.
- (3) The employer, where requested through the ACC will establish a working party during the life of the agreement to promote internal transfers between regional locations.
- (4) The employer acknowledges the importance of relevant professional development and training for employees in regional, rural and remote areas, together with its greater accessibility for those employees through technology.
- (5) The employer will review the Regional and Remote Incentives policy in consultation with Together Queensland Union.

PART 27: SPREAD OF HOURS – BRISBANE CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT

- (1) These provisions shall apply only to employees engaged under the *Queensland Public Service Officers and Other Employees Award – State 2015* where the employee’s place of work, at daily commencing and finishing times, is within the Australian Bureau of Statistics Statistical Local Areas of “City – Remainder” and “City – Inner” within the Statistical Subdivision of “0501 – Inner Brisbane”.
- (2) In recognition of the problems associated with increased traffic congestion into the Central Business District of Brisbane, the parties agree to a wider ordinary spread of hours of 6.00 am to 7.00 pm for full-time and part-time employees only.
- (3) The purpose of such an arrangement is to allow employees and supervisors to mutually agree to changes to existing commencing and finishing times in order that the employees can commence and/or finish their working hours outside the recognised peak times of 7am to 9am and 4pm to 6pm.
- (4) For the purposes of application of the Directive relating to “Excess Travel Time” issued and amended in accordance with section 54 of the *Public Service Act 2008*, which only applies to employees subject to the *Queensland Public Service Officers and Other Employees Award – State 2015*, the ordinary spread of hours for the purposes of Part C (Excess Travel Time) shall be 6.00 am to 7.00 pm.
- (5) The parties affirm that the capacity for an individual employee to have an ordinary spread of hours

of 6.00am to 7.00pm by mutual agreement under these provisions will not be used as the rationale to alter customer service delivery arrangements of entities affected by these provisions.

- (6) All other conditions contained in Awards and Directives (as amended) relating to overtime, meal breaks and meal allowances shall continue to apply.

PART 28: DEPARTMENT-SPECIFIC ARRANGEMENTS

Department specific arrangements are contained in appendices, i.e.:

Appendix 1 – Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women

Appendix 2 – Department of Youth Justice

APPENDIX 1 – DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SAFETY, YOUTH AND WOMEN

1.1 Progression policy

- (1) The employer will review the PO2 Progression Policy in consultation with Together Queensland Union.
- (2) The review will seek to streamline the application and assessment components of the progression process.

1.2 Administrative roles in Child Safety Service Centres

- (1) The employer is committed to ensuring that AO2 and AO3 employees in Child Safety Service Centres are appropriately recognised for their important work in assisting with the management of Child Safety workloads.
- (2) The processes described in clauses 1.2 (3) to (8) of this Appendix will be carried out in consultation with Together Queensland Union.
- (3) The employer will develop Role Profiles which articulate the characteristics, duties and capabilities for both AO2 and AO3 level administrative roles in Child Safety Service Centres. These Role Profiles will reflect the duties and responsibilities attached to each role in accordance with the descriptors contained in Schedule 4 of the *Queensland Public Service Officers and Other Employees Award - State 2015*.
- (4) Each Child Safety Service Centre will be assessed in relation to their AO2 and AO3 level administrative support arrangements and requirements. Where necessary, AO2 Administrative Officer positions will be retained in Child Safety Service Centres and the Child Safety Service Centre Manager will ensure that employees in these AO2 roles are working in accordance with the AO2 Role Profile.
- (5) The employer will assess existing permanent AO2 positions in Child Safety Service Centres and upgrade these to the AO3 level where staff are recurrently undertaking work commensurate with the AO3 Role Profile.
- (6) Where upgrades occur in accordance with clause 1.2 (5) of this Appendix, direct appointment or local limited applicant pool options available via the Recruitment and Selection Directive will be utilised in the first instance to ensure that existing permanent AO2 staff are provided with the opportunity to be appointed to or apply for the upgraded positions. At each Child Safety Service Centre, these processes will occur before the allocation of any additional positions.
- (7) The employer may create a number of additional AO2 or AO3 level Administration Officer positions within Child Safety Service Centres and will consult with Together Queensland Union prior to determining the level and location of each new position. Any such positions will be created within three months of certification of this Agreement.
- (8) Where new AO3 positions are created in accordance with clause 1.2 (7) of this Appendix, existing permanent AO2 level employees in the relevant Child Safety Service Centre will have the first opportunity to be considered for appointment to these positions.

1.3 Transport Officers

- (1) The employer will trial Transport Officer positions to assist with decreasing workload pressures for Child Safety Officers.
- (2) The employer will consult with Together Queensland Union in relation to the development of a Role Profile which articulates the characteristics, duties and capabilities for a Transport Officer role in a Child Safety Service Centre.
- (3) The employer will consult with Together Queensland Union prior to determining which Child Safety Service Centre/s the trial will occur in.

- (4) The trial positions will be created within three months of certification of this Agreement.

1.4 Child Safety Officer Caseloads

- (1) The employer reaffirms the Government's response which accepts recommendation 10.4 of the Child Protection Commission of Inquiry that the employer reduce the case loads of frontline Child Safety Officers down to an average of 15 cases each', over the 10 years of the Supporting Families Changing Futures reform program to 2023, 'as the number of children in statutory care reduces as a result of the reforms'.
- (2) The parties note the increase in the child safety workforce to date and the reduction in average caseload over the first six years of the reform program, and that current initiatives and programs, and further initiatives as necessary, will support the further reduction of workloads for the employer's valued Child Safety Officers.

1.5 Child Safety Officer Workloads Policy

- (1) The employer will consult with Together Queensland Union via a joint working party in relation to a review of the Child Safety Workload Management Policy (WMP) including the following policy support documents:
 - (a) Schedule A "Trigger Points"; and
 - (b) The 2020 Child Safety Workload Management Manual.
- (2) The review will expand the WMP and policy support documents to enable application across business support and other work areas in Child Safety Service Centres.
- (3) This review will be completed within 12 months of certification of this Agreement.

1.6 New Child Safety Officer Positions

- (1) Allocation of new Child Safety Officer frontline positions announced in the 2019-20 Budget will be prioritised to high workload areas, based on reporting from the Child Safety Workload Management Policy.

1.7 Workforce Redesign

- (1) The parties note that the employer has previously commenced work on a workforce redesign program which involves reviewing Child and Family Services roles and teams with a view to enabling a future focused, contemporary workforce.
- (2) The workforce redesign program will use human-centred design as a way of ensuring decisions are informed by the workforce and experts while developing new and innovative solutions.
- (3) The employer will consult with Together Queensland Union via a joint working party to develop guiding principles to inform the continued work of the workforce redesign program.
- (4) The joint working party will seek to:
 - (a) apply various workforce planning and redesign strategies focusing on team mix/design, roles and classification levels, maximising attraction and retention, and training and development needs;
 - (b) undertake research and comparison of roles, structural arrangements and relativities in other like jurisdictions and agencies;
 - (c) explore and pilot roles that assist in building better career pathways and attracting/retaining a more diverse workforce, particularly addressing the employer's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workforce to ensure better representation;

- (d) develop a proposed revised suite of recruitment and selection tools and policy that will focus on streamlining and improving attraction;
 - (e) develop a revised induction process to streamline on-boarding into the employer;
 - (f) develop a proposed central transfer and mobility program targeted at high performance staff;
 - (g) review service delivery requirements and develop proposed strategies to align team mix/role design to service delivery outcomes; and
 - (h) develop a revised suite of training for front line staff.
- (5) The joint working party will provide a progress report every 6 months (or more often where required). Joint working party input and recommendations, along with decisions regarding implementation of new strategies, will be considered by the employer in accordance with Government priorities, budget processes and the employer's strategic plans.
- (6) In the event that it is necessary to amend this Agreement to implement outcomes approved through the workforce planning and redesign program of work during the life of the agreement, and where such amendments are mutually agreed between the parties to the Agreement, an application may be made to the QIRC in accordance with Chapter 4, Part 7, Division 2 of the *Industrial Relations Act 2016*. The 'No Further Claims' clause of this Agreement will not prevent such an application where the terms of the proposed amendment are mutually agreed between the employer and Together Queensland Union.

APPENDIX 2 – DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH JUSTICE

2.1 Hepatitis Vaccinations

- (1) The employer will meet the cost of Hepatitis A and B vaccinations for all youth detention centre employees who choose to be vaccinated.

2.2 Behaviour Management Model for Young People in Youth Detention Centres

- (1) The employer recognises that violence and aggression by young people towards staff is not acceptable and undertakes to communicate this position within the youth detention centres.
- (2) The parties agree to maintain the existing Behaviour and Incentives model currently in operation in youth detention centres.
- (3) The employer will ensure that appropriate consequences for the continuum of misbehaviour that young people present are consistent with the existing model, which is informed by the *Youth Justice Act 1991*, *Youth Justice Regulation 2016* and departmental documents.
- (4) The parties agree to undertake regular joint reviews of the efficacy of the existing model in managing the behaviour of young people and undertake necessary amendments or refinements as required.

2.3 Workforce Design

- (1) The employer commits to proactively reviewing the roles of the Administrative Officer level 2 (Administration Officer) and Administrative Officer level 4 (Convenor) classifications, employed in Youth Justice Service Centres.
- (2) The review will be undertaken on a service centre basis, in consultation with role occupants and Together Queensland Union, along with Regional Consultative Committees where appropriate.
- (3) Workforce design principles will be utilised when undertaking the review, including the confirmation and consideration of matters relevant to duties, role responsibilities, the employee and service centre requirements.
- (4) The review will ensure work is appropriately aligned to agreed classification levels in the context of broader service centre staffing mix and levels. JEMS will be utilised to assess classification level and associated remuneration where applicable.

APPENDIX 3 - SALARY SCHEDULES

INDEX OF CONTENTS OF APPENDIX 3:

- *General Employees (Queensland Government Departments) and Other Employees Award – State 2015;
and*
- *Queensland Public Service Officers and Other Employees Award – State 2015*

General Employees (Queensland Government Departments) and Other Employees Award – State 2015

ADMINISTRATIVE STREAM

Classification Level	Pay Point	Award Rate of Pay	Child Safety and Youth Justice Certified Agreement Rate of Pay
		Salary 01/09/2019 Per Fortnight	Salary 01/09/2019 Per Fortnight (2.5% p.a. increase)
The applicable rate is whichever is higher. See Clause 2.11(6) of this Agreement			
L1	1	\$1,508.00	\$1,477.90
	2	\$1,583.00	\$1,559.10
	3	\$1,678.00	\$1,640.00
L2	1	\$1,885.00	\$1,824.10
	2	\$1,932.00	\$1,866.20
	3	\$1,981.00	\$1,909.40
	4	\$2,031.00	\$1,953.00
	5	\$2,080.00	\$1,997.70
	6	\$2,130.00	\$2,044.80
	7	\$2,184.00	\$2,097.40
	8	\$2,245.00	\$2,155.50
L3	1	\$2,393.00	\$2,303.80
	2	\$2,480.00	\$2,392.60
	3	\$2,569.00	\$2,481.10
	4	\$2,656.00	\$2,568.90
L4	1	\$2,811.00	\$2,723.90
	2	\$2,900.00	\$2,814.10
	3	\$2,992.00	\$2,904.40
	4	\$3,082.00	\$2,995.30
L5	1	\$3,241.00	\$3,156.80
	2	\$3,333.00	\$3,248.50
	3	\$3,425.00	\$3,339.60
	4	\$3,515.00	\$3,431.20
L6	1	\$3,707.00	\$3,621.90
	2	\$3,791.00	\$3,706.70
	3	\$3,875.00	\$3,791.10
	4	\$3,959.00	\$3,875.20
L7	1	\$4,135.00	\$4,052.70
	2	\$4,234.00	\$4,150.60
	3	\$4,331.00	\$4,248.40
	4	\$4,428.00	\$4,345.80
L8	1	\$4,572.00	\$4,490.20
	2	\$4,660.00	\$4,577.10
	3	\$4,745.00	\$4,662.50
	4	\$4,831.00	\$4,749.10

Clause 2.11(6) and the wages determination mechanism at clause 2.11(7)-(16) of this Agreement mean that rates payable may change. Future rates for 1/09/2020, 1/09/2021 and 1/09/2022 or any changed rates will be updated at the ForGov webpage.

General Employees (Queensland Government Departments) and Other Employees Award – State 2015

OPERATIONAL STREAM

Classification Level	Pay Point	Award Rate of Pay	Child Safety and Youth Justice Certified Agreement Rate of Pay
		Salary 01/09/2019 Per Fortnight	Salary 01/09/2019 Per Fortnight (2.5% p.a. increase)
		The applicable rate is whichever is higher. See Clause 2.11(6) of this Agreement	
L1	1	\$1,338.00	\$1,322.00
	2	\$1,433.00	\$1,416.90
	3	\$1,546.00	\$1,512.50
	4	\$1,640.00	\$1,607.30
	5	\$1,753.00	\$1,702.60
	6	\$1,847.00	\$1,798.00
L2	1	\$1,885.00	\$1,824.10
	2	\$1,935.00	\$1,868.70
	3	\$1,987.00	\$1,914.00
	4	\$2,037.00	\$1,959.40
L3	1	\$2,068.00	\$1,987.10
	2	\$2,108.00	\$2,023.80
	3	\$2,152.00	\$2,064.60
	4	\$2,197.00	\$2,107.70
L4	1	\$2,285.00	\$2,197.10
	2	\$2,357.00	\$2,268.80
	3	\$2,430.00	\$2,340.90
	4	\$2,500.00	\$2,412.10
L5	1	\$2,564.00	\$2,475.90
	2	\$2,645.00	\$2,558.20
	3	\$2,730.00	\$2,641.10
	4	\$2,811.00	\$2,723.90
L6	1	\$2,929.00	\$2,843.80
	2	\$3,007.00	\$2,919.90
	3	\$3,082.00	\$2,995.30
L7	1	\$3,226.00	\$3,139.50
	2	\$3,301.00	\$3,216.60
	3	\$3,378.00	\$3,293.40

Clause 2.11(6) and the wages determination mechanism at clause 2.11(7)-(16) of this Agreement mean that rates payable may change. Future rates for 1/09/2020, 1/09/2021 and 1/09/2022 or any changed rates will be updated at the ForGov webpage.

Queensland Public Service Officers and Other Employees Award – State 2015

ADMINISTRATIVE STREAM			
Classification Level	Pay Point	Award Rate of Pay	Child Safety and Youth Justice Certified Agreement Rate of Pay
		Salary 01/09/2019 Per Fortnight	Salary 01/09/2019 Per Fortnight (2.5% p.a. increase)
The applicable rate is whichever is higher. See Clause 2.11(6) of this Agreement			
L1	1	\$1,451.00	\$1,477.90
	2	\$1,546.00	\$1,559.10
	3	\$1,640.00	\$1,640.00
L2	1	\$1,885.00	\$1,824.10
	2	\$1,932.00	\$1,866.20
	3	\$1,981.00	\$1,909.40
	4	\$2,031.00	\$1,953.00
	5	\$2,080.00	\$1,997.70
	6	\$2,130.00	\$2,044.80
	7	\$2,184.00	\$2,097.40
	8	\$2,245.00	\$2,155.50
L3	1	\$2,393.00	\$2,303.80
	2	\$2,480.00	\$2,392.60
	3	\$2,569.00	\$2,481.10
	4	\$2,656.00	\$2,568.90
L4	1	\$2,811.00	\$2,723.90
	2	\$2,900.00	\$2,814.10
	3	\$2,992.00	\$2,904.40
	4	\$3,082.00	\$2,995.30
L5	1	\$3,241.00	\$3,156.80
	2	\$3,333.00	\$3,248.50
	3	\$3,425.00	\$3,339.60
	4	\$3,515.00	\$3,431.20
L6	1	\$3,707.00	\$3,621.90
	2	\$3,791.00	\$3,706.70
	3	\$3,875.00	\$3,791.10
	4	\$3,959.00	\$3,875.20
L7	1	\$4,135.00	\$4,052.70
	2	\$4,234.00	\$4,150.60
	3	\$4,331.00	\$4,248.40
	4	\$4,428.00	\$4,345.80
L8	1	\$4,572.00	\$4,490.20
	2	\$4,660.00	\$4,577.10
	3	\$4,745.00	\$4,662.50
	4	\$4,831.00	\$4,749.10

Clause 2.11(6) and the wages determination mechanism at clause 2.11(7)-(16) of this Agreement mean that rates payable may change. Future rates for 1/09/2020, 1/09/2021 and 1/09/2022 or any changed rates will be updated at the ForGov webpage.

Queensland Public Service Officers and Other Employees Award – State 2015

OPERATIONAL STREAM

Classification Level	Pay Point	Award Rate of Pay	Child Safety and Youth Justice Certified Agreement Rate of Pay
		Salary 01/09/2019 Per Fortnight	Salary 01/09/2019 Per Fortnight (2.5% p.a. increase)
		The applicable rate is whichever is higher. See Clause 2.11(6) of this Agreement	
L1	1	\$1,282.00	\$1,322.00
	2	\$1,395.00	\$1,416.90
	3	\$1,489.00	\$1,512.50
	4	\$1,602.00	\$1,607.30
	5	\$1,697.00	\$1,702.60
	6	\$1,810.00	\$1,798.00
L2	1	\$1,885.00	\$1,824.10
	2	\$1,935.00	\$1,868.70
	3	\$1,987.00	\$1,914.00
	4	\$2,037.00	\$1,959.40
L3	1	\$2,068.00	\$1,987.10
	2	\$2,108.00	\$2,023.80
	3	\$2,152.00	\$2,064.60
	4	\$2,197.00	\$2,107.70
L4	1	\$2,285.00	\$2,197.10
	2	\$2,357.00	\$2,268.80
	3	\$2,430.00	\$2,340.90
	4	\$2,500.00	\$2,412.10
L5	1	\$2,564.00	\$2,475.90
	2	\$2,645.00	\$2,558.20
	3	\$2,730.00	\$2,641.10
	4	\$2,811.00	\$2,723.90
L6	1	\$2,929.00	\$2,843.80
	2	\$3,007.00	\$2,919.90
	3	\$3,082.00	\$2,995.30
L7	1	\$3,226.00	\$3,139.50
	2	\$3,301.00	\$3,216.60
	3	\$3,378.00	\$3,293.40

Clause 2.11(6) and the wages determination mechanism at clause 2.11(7)-(16) of this Agreement mean that rates payable may change. Future rates for 1/09/2020, 1/09/2021 and 1/09/2022 or any changed rates will be updated at the ForGov webpage.

Queensland Public Service Officers and Other Employees Award – State 2015

PROFESSIONAL STREAM			
Classification Level	Pay Point	Award Rate of Pay	Child Safety and Youth Justice Certified Agreement Rate of
		Salary 01/09/2019 Per Fortnight	Salary 01/09/2019 Per Fortnight (2.5% p.a. increase)
The applicable rate is whichever is higher. See Clause 2.11(6) of this Agreement			
L1	1	\$1,492.00	\$1,509.50
	2	\$1,629.00	\$1,637.70
	3	\$1,767.00	\$1,765.70
	4	\$1,963.00	\$1,893.70
	5	\$2,045.00	\$1,965.20
	6	\$2,126.00	\$2,040.10
	7	\$2,217.00	\$2,128.90
L2	1	\$2,390.00	\$2,301.20
	2	\$2,517.00	\$2,430.30
	3	\$2,645.00	\$2,558.90
	4	\$2,775.00	\$2,688.10
	5	\$2,905.00	\$2,817.50
	6	\$3,033.00	\$2,945.30
L3	1	\$3,180.00	\$3,093.90
	2	\$3,275.00	\$3,188.80
	3	\$3,370.00	\$3,283.60
	4	\$3,465.00	\$3,378.80
L4	1	\$3,681.00	\$3,597.00
	2	\$3,774.00	\$3,690.00
	3	\$3,867.00	\$3,782.50
	4	\$3,959.00	\$3,875.20
L5	1	\$4,135.00	\$4,052.70
	2	\$4,234.00	\$4,150.60
	3	\$4,331.00	\$4,248.40
	4	\$4,428.00	\$4,345.80
L6	1	\$4,572.00	\$4,490.20
	2	\$4,660.00	\$4,577.10
	3	\$4,745.00	\$4,662.50
	4	\$4,831.00	\$4,749.10

Clause 2.11(6) and the wages determination mechanism at clause 2.11(7)-(16) of this Agreement mean that rates payable may change. Future rates for 1/09/2020, 1/09/2021 and 1/09/2022 or any changed rates will be updated at the ForGov webpage.

Queensland Public Service Officers and Other Employees Award – State 2015

TECHNICAL STREAM

Classification Level	Pay Point	Award Rate of Pay	Child Safety and Youth Justice Certified Agreement Rate of
		Salary 01/09/2019 Per Fortnight	Salary 01/09/2019 Per Fortnight (2.5% p.a. increase)
The applicable rate is whichever is higher. See Clause 2.11(6) of this Agreement			
L1	1	\$1,492.00	\$1,509.50
	2	\$1,629.00	\$1,637.70
	3	\$1,767.00	\$1,765.70
	4	\$1,963.00	\$1,893.70
	5	\$2,045.00	\$1,965.20
	6	\$2,126.00	\$2,040.10
	7	\$2,217.00	\$2,128.90
L2	1	\$2,254.00	\$2,164.70
	2	\$2,333.00	\$2,244.80
	3	\$2,412.00	\$2,325.70
	4	\$2,495.00	\$2,406.90
	5	\$2,576.00	\$2,488.20
	6	\$2,656.00	\$2,568.90
L3	1	\$2,811.00	\$2,723.90
	2	\$2,884.00	\$2,798.30
	3	\$2,958.00	\$2,871.60
	4	\$3,033.00	\$2,945.30
L4	1	\$3,180.00	\$3,093.90
	2	\$3,280.00	\$3,193.90
	3	\$3,378.00	\$3,293.40
L5	1	\$3,515.00	\$3,431.20
	2	\$3,617.00	\$3,532.60
	3	\$3,718.00	\$3,634.50
	4	\$3,819.00	\$3,736.10
L6	1	\$3,941.00	\$3,857.70
	2	\$4,039.00	\$3,955.40
	3	\$4,135.00	\$4,052.70

Clause 2.11(6) and the wages determination mechanism at clause 2.11(7)-(16) of this Agreement mean that rates payable may change. Future rates for 1/09/2020, 1/09/2021 and 1/09/2022 or any changed rates will be updated at the ForGov webpage.

APPENDIX 4: LOCALITY ALLOWANCE AREAS

LOCAL AUTHORITIES AS AT 1997

Douglas Shire
Cairns City
Johnstone Shire
Cardwell Shire
Hinchinbrook Shire
Thuringowa City
Townsville City
Burdekin Shire
Bowen Shire *
Whitsunday Shire
Mackay City
Mirani Shire
Sarina Shire
Broadsound Shire *
Livingstone Shire
Rockhampton City
Fitzroy Shire
Gladstone City
Calliope Shire
Miriam Vale Shire

* Within the Local government areas of Broadsound and Bowen the “coastal” areas are those including the following:

BROADSOUND

St Lawrence
Koumala
Carmila
Westwood

BOWEN

Collinsville
Abbot Point
Bowen
Armuna
Binbee
Almoola
Scottville
Wilmington
Guthalungra
Kyburra

Places for which the additional locality allowance available under this Agreement will be paid include the following:–

BROADSOUND

Middlemount
Norwich Park
Dysart
Saraji
German Creek

BOWEN

Ravenswood
Birrilee
Mt Leyston
Gunjulla
Mt Coolon

For any places not listed which are within the local government areas of Broadsound and Bowen, and for which a Locality Allowance is payable as set out in *Ministerial Directive 19/99 (Locality Allowances)*, the Chief Executive of the entity has the authority to determine whether the place is inside or outside the “coastal” area.

APPENDIX 5: EMPLOYMENT SECURITY POLICY

1. Introduction

The Queensland Government has restored this employment security policy for government agencies as part of its commitment to restoring fairness for its workforce.

The Government is committed to maximum employment security¹ for permanent government employees (as outlined in section 2 – Application) by developing and maintaining a responsive, impartial and efficient government workforce as the preferred provider of existing services to Government and the community. The workforce’s commitment to continue working towards achievement of best practice performance levels makes this commitment possible.

The Government is also committed to providing stability to the government workforce by curbing organisational restructuring. The focus will be on pursuing performance improvement strategies for the government workforce to achieve “best value” delivery of quality services to the community, in preference to restructuring, downsizing or simply replacing government workers with non-government service providers. A greater emphasis will be placed on effective change management, which together with workforce planning, career planning and skills development will ensure that the government workforce has the flexibility and mobility to meet future needs.

Further, the Government undertakes that permanent government employees will not be forced into unemployment as a result of organisational change or changes in agency priorities other than in exceptional circumstances. Where changes to employment arrangements are necessary, there will be active pursuit of retraining and deployment opportunities, and involuntary redundancy will only occur in exceptional circumstances, and only with the approval of the Commission Chief Executive, Public Service Commission.

2. Application

This policy applies to all permanent employees of Queensland Government agencies (including departments, public service offices, statutory authorities and other government entities as defined under the *Public Service Act 2008*).

This policy does not apply to government employees who are subject to disciplinary action which would otherwise result in termination of employment, or who are not participating in reasonable opportunities for retraining, deployment or redeployment.

3. Authority

This policy was approved by Cabinet on 30 March 2015.

4. Policy

4.1 Permanent Employment

The Queensland Government is committed to maximising permanent employment where possible. Casual or temporary forms of employment should only be utilised where permanent employment is not viable or appropriate. Agencies are encouraged to utilise workforce planning and management strategies to assist in determining the appropriate workforce mix for current and future needs.

4.2 Organisational change and restructuring

It is the Government’s intention that future organisational change and restructuring will be limited in scale. All organisational change will need to demonstrate clear benefits and enhanced service delivery to the community. The objective is to stabilise government agencies, and to avoid unnecessary change that will not deliver demonstrable benefit to the Government or the community.

¹ Employment security is a commitment to continuing employment in government, as distinct from job security. This distinction recognises that jobs may change from their current form, as the skills mix and composition of the government workforce vary to meet changing government and community service needs.

Cabinet approval is required for all major organisational change and restructuring in agencies:

- (a) that will significantly impact on the government workforce (e.g. significant job reductions, deployment to new locations, alternative service delivery arrangements, etc). The emphasis will be on minimum disruption to the workforce and maximum placement of affected staff within agencies, and ordinarily organisational restructuring should not result in large scale “spilling” of jobs.
- (b) that will have major social and economic implications, particularly in regional and rural centres where the government is committed to maintaining government employment. Proposals affecting these centres need to carefully evaluate the impact on communities to ensure that short-term efficiency gains are balanced against the long-term social and economic needs of these communities.

The agency will need to demonstrate that any proposed organisational change or restructuring will result in clearly defined service enhancements to government and/or the community, as identified in a business case, and be undertaken through a planned process. Where an agency has made a decision to introduce major organisational change or restructuring, it will notify affected employees/unions and discuss the changes as early as practicable. This may be undertaken through forums such as Agency Consultative Committees.

The requirement to obtain Cabinet approval for major organisational change is not intended to reduce the flexibility of Chief Executives in their day-to-day management of agencies’ operations. Chief Executives retain prerogative over normal business activities to manage the government workforce, (such as job reclassification, job redesign, performance management, disciplinary action and transfers), and organisational improvement initiatives (such as process re-engineering, changes in work practices and the introduction of new technology).

4.3 Employees affected by organisational change

The government undertakes that tenured government employees will not be forced into unemployment as a result of organisational change, other than in exceptional circumstances.

Government employees affected by performance improvement initiatives or organisational change will be offered maximum employment opportunities within the government, including retraining, deployment, and redeployment. Only after these avenues have been explored will voluntary early retirement be considered.

Where continuing employment in the government is not possible, support, advice and assistance will be provided to facilitate transition to new employment opportunities. In the event of a decision to outsource a government service, the agency should ensure that every effort is directed towards assisting employees to take up employment with the external provider. Retrenchment will only be undertaken in exceptional circumstances where deployment or redeployment are not options, and only with the approval of the Commission Chief Executive, Public Service Commission.

4.4 Consultation

For further advice on the application of this policy, agencies should consult with the Office of Industrial Relations.

APPENDIX 6: QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT POLICY ON THE CONTRACTING-OUT OF SERVICES

1. Application

The Queensland Government recognises that government agencies are the key instruments for delivering or implementing the policies of the government.

In striving to achieve "best value" delivery of services to the community, the government's focus will be on pursuing performance improvement strategies for its workforce, not on simply replacing government employees with non-government service providers.

In this regard, the government has restored the following policy on contracting-out of services as part of its commitment to restoring fairness for the government workforce. This policy² applies to all Queensland Government agencies (including departments, public service offices, statutory authorities, and other government entities as defined under the Public Service Act 2008) and all tenured employees of these agencies. The government recognises that, in the case of Queensland Health (comprising the Department of Health and the Hospital and Health Services), public health services are provided through a mix of in-house delivered services and partnerships with non-government, community and private sector health providers.

For the purposes of this policy, contracting-out refers to a contractual arrangement to deliver a service to government or the provision of a government service by a non-government service provider. Capital works programs are not considered government services for the purpose of this policy. This means that current arrangements for delivery of the capital works program through competitive tendering will continue. Further, the purchase of services by government agencies from an internal government provider is not regarded as contracting-out.

Similarly, services contracted to community service providers through grant programs or as recurrently funded programs are not regarded as being contracted-out for the purposes of this policy.

This policy does not apply to the normal purchase of inputs to government agencies such as office supplies and consultancies. It does however apply to contractual arrangements such as cleaning and other 'hotel' type services.

Where there are major joint ventures or co-locations with the private sector (e.g. hospital co-locations) decisions on the delivery of support services will be made on a case by case basis.

2. Authority

This policy was released on 16 January 2016.

3. Policy

3.1 Services currently provided in-house (i.e. by a government agency)

It is the policy of the government that in order to maintain existing government jobs, there will be no contracting-out of services currently provided in-house other than in circumstances where:

- actual shortages exist in appropriately skilled in-house staff;
- there is a lack of available infrastructure capital or funds to meet the cost of providing new technology; or
- it can clearly be demonstrated that it is in the public interest that services should be contracted-out.

Cabinet approval will be required only for contracting-out proposals that meet the criteria outlined above where they would have a significant impact on the government's workforce in terms of job losses. Cabinet submissions proposing contracting-out initiatives should detail:

² This policy should be read in conjunction with applicable industrial instruments.

- why the service cannot continue to be delivered by government agencies;
- the impact on the government workforce;
- how the proposed initiative will improve government service delivery;
- any social and/or economic impact on the Queensland community;
- the impact on regional and rural communities, where relevant, particularly in regard to maintenance of public employment in regional and rural Queensland;
- the impact on future competitive tendering in a market where the government will have no capacity to bid;
- communication and consultation strategies, including managing the impact on the tenured government workforce, and workforce transition plans for deployment, redeployment and retraining; and
- the cost implications for government.

Where the government agrees to contract-out services, employees and the relevant unions will be consulted as early as possible. Discussions will take place prior to any steps being taken to call tenders or to enter into any alternative bidding arrangement for the provision of services by an external provider.

If, after full consultation with employees and relevant unions, employees are to be affected by the necessity to contract-out services, the government agency should:

- ensure that effort is directed towards assisting employees to take up employment with the contractor; and/or
- ensure that employees are given the maximum opportunity to accept deployment and redeployment.

3.2 Services currently contracted-out

It is the policy of the government that when existing contracts with non-government providers are due for renewal, the services generally will be once again offered to contract.

If the conditions of the existing contract allow for the contract to be renewed without a tendering process, and the external provider has met all the conditions of the contract, a new contract may be offered to the current provider subject to continuing commercial viability and the mutual agreement of both parties.

Where a contract is due to expire and a tendering process is proposed, government agencies may bid for the work, subject to any legislative requirements and government agencies competing on a fair basis – that is, with any advantages or disadvantages that stem solely from their public ownership being removed or accounted for in an appropriate manner. Operational guidelines will be developed to assist agencies in assessing the relative merits of in-house and external bids.

In-sourcing will be undertaken only where it can be demonstrated that work is competitive on an overall "best value" basis, including quality and cost of purchase and maintenance of any capital equipment required to perform the work.

3.3 New services

A decision on whether it is appropriate to contract-out new government services with significant workforce impacts will be made on a case by case basis by Cabinet. Opportunity will be provided for the new government service to be delivered by in-house staff where it can be demonstrated that work is competitive on an overall "best value" basis, including quality and cost of purchase and maintenance of any capital equipment required to perform the work.

Cabinet submissions proposing contracting-out of new services should detail:

- any social and/or economic impact on the Queensland community;

- the impact on regional and rural communities;
- the impact on future competitive tendering in a market where the government will have no capacity to bid;
- why the service needs to be delivered by a non-government service provider; and
- the cost implications for government.

3.4 Services in replacement facilities

Existing outsourcing arrangements may not always be extended to replacement facilities (e.g. replacement hospitals and schools). A decision by Cabinet on whether it is appropriate to continue to contract-out services in replacement facilities will be made on a case by case basis.

Where a decision is made to transfer the existing contract to a replacement service, this may be offered to the current provider subject to commercial viability and the mutual agreement of both parties.

Opportunity should be given for in-house staff to undertake the work where it can be demonstrated that work is competitive on an overall "best value" basis, including quality and cost of purchase and maintenance of any capital equipment required to perform the work.

Cabinet submissions proposing contracting-out of replacement services should detail:

- the impact on the government workforce;
- how the proposed initiative will result in improvements to government service delivery;
- any social and/or economic impact on the Queensland community;
- the impact on regional and rural communities, where relevant, particularly in regard to maintenance of public employment in regional and rural Queensland;
- the impact on future competitive tendering in a market where the government will have no capacity to bid, if relevant; and
- the cost implications for government.

3.5 Implementing the Policy on the Contracting-Out of Services

In applying this policy, the following principles should be adhered to:

- i. The primary focus should be on improving the productivity of the existing government workforce through performance improvement strategies (such as training, innovation, and benchmarking);
- ii. Where services currently contracted-out come up for tender, or the delivery of new services and services in replacement facilities are being considered, in-house staff should be given the opportunity to undertake the work where it can be demonstrated that it is competitive on an overall "best value" basis, including quality and cost of purchase and cost of maintenance of any necessary capital equipment;
- iii. Where competitive tenders involve in-house bids, those bids must be fairly based – that is, with any advantages or disadvantages that stem solely from their public ownership being removed or accounted for in an appropriate manner;
- iv. Except in exceptional circumstances, in-house work units should be afforded sufficient opportunity and support, over a reasonable time, to achieve an acceptable level of performance, efficiency and effectiveness, before alternative service provision options are considered; and
- v. Options for the management of employees affected by organisational change are to include deployment, retraining, redeployment and voluntary early retirement.

APPENDIX 7: QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT COMMITMENT TO UNION ENCOURAGEMENT

The Queensland Government has made a commitment to encourage union membership among its employees.

As part of this commitment the government will:

- Acknowledge union delegates and job representatives have a role to play within a workplace, including during the agreement making process. The existence of accredited union delegates and/or job representatives is to be encouraged. Accredited union delegates and/or job representatives shall not be unnecessarily hindered in the reasonable and responsible performance of their duties.
- Subject to relevant legislation, allow employees full access to union delegates/officials during working hours to discuss any employment matter or seek union advice, provided that service delivery is not disrupted and work requirements are not unduly affected. Delegates will be provided reasonable access to facilities for the purpose of undertaking union activities.
- Encourage the establishment of joint union and employer consultative committees at a central and agency level.
- Promote reasonable and constructive industrial relations education leave in the form of paid time off to acquire knowledge and competencies in industrial relations.
- Provide an application for union membership and information on the relevant union(s) to all employees at the point of engagement and during induction.
- At the point of engagement, provide employees with a document indicating that the Agency encourages employees to join and maintain financial membership of an organisation of employees that has the right to represent their industrial interests.
- Subject to relevant privacy considerations, provide union(s) with details of new employees.

The active cooperation of all managers and supervisors is necessary to ensure that the government can honour this commitment.

Passive acceptance by agencies of membership recruitment activity by unions does not satisfy the government's commitment. Encouragement requires agencies to take a positive, supportive role, although ultimately it remains the responsibility of the unions themselves to conduct membership recruitment.

