



Hon Simone McGurk MLA
Minister for Creative Industries; Heritage; Industrial Relations
Aged Care and Seniors; Women

Our Ref: 74-85303

Mr Andrew Johnson
General Secretary
Local Government, Racing and Cemeteries Employees Union (WA)
Andrew.Johnson@lgrceu.org

Dear Mr Johnson *Andrew,*

Thank you for your letter dated 18 May 2026 regarding possible amendments to the *Industrial Relations Act 1979* (IR Act).

The Cook Government intends to review the IR Act to ensure it remains contemporary, having regard to recent amendments to the federal *Fair Work Act 2009* (FW Act). The review will be undertaken by the Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety and will involve consultation with key stakeholders, including unions. The specific issues you raise in your letter, namely the FW Act's same job, same pay provisions and small claims procedure, will be considered as part of the review.

I also note that the FW Act's same job, same pay provisions are currently being reviewed as part of the independent statutory review of the *Fair Work Legislation Amendment (Closing Loopholes) Act 2023* and the *Fair Work Legislation Amendment (Closing Loopholes No. 2) Act 2024* by former Fair Work Commissioner, Ms Susan Booth. This independent review is due to report to the Australian Government before 15 June 2026.

I have requested Sophie van der Merwe from my office and representatives from the Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety engage with you to discuss these issues further.

Yours sincerely

HON SIMONE MCGURK MLA
**MINISTER FOR CREATIVE INDUSTRIES; HERITAGE;
INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS; AGED CARE AND SENIORS; WOMEN**

12 JUN 2026