

TASMANIAN INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION

CITATION: Filing of the Ambulance Tasmania – Paramedic Immuniser Agreement 2022 [2023] TASIC 11

PARTIES:

Minister administering the State Service Act 2000

Health Services Union, Tasmania Branch

SUBJECT: *Industrial Relations Act 1984*, s 55(2) application for filing of Industrial Agreement

FILE NO: T15014 of 2023

HEARING DATE(S): 4 April 2023

HEARING LOCATION: Tasmanian Industrial Commission, Hobart

DATE REASONS ISSUED: 28 April 2023

MEMBER: President D J Barclay

CATCHWORDS: Industrial agreement – application approved – agreement applies with effect from 1 July 2022 and will remain in force until 30 June 2025 - forwarded to registrar for registration.

REPRESENTATION:

Emily Reale, Kiralee Gates and Jordan Emery for Minister administering the *State Service Act 2000*

Tim Jacobson and James Eddington for the Health Services Union, Tasmania Branch

FILING OF THE AMBULANCE TASMANIA – PARAMEDIC IMMUNISER AGREEMENT 2022 [2023] TASIC 11

REASONS FOR DECISION

HOBART, 28 APRIL 2023

[1] On 31 March 2023, the Minister administering the *State Service Act 2000* (MASSA) lodged with the Registrar, pursuant to Section 55(2) of the *Industrial Relations Act* 1984 (the Act), the Ambulance Tasmania – Paramedic Immuniser Agreement 2022 (the Agreement). The Application also seeks to cancel the Ambulance Tasmania – Paramedic Immuniser Agreement 2021.

[2] At the hearing on 4 April 2023, Emily Reale, Kiralee Gates and Jordan Emery appeared on behalf of MASSA. The interests of the affected employees are represented by the Health Services Union, Tasmania Branch (HSU). The HSU was represented by Tim Jacobson and James Eddington.

[3] The Minister made the following submissions:¹

"...The Paramedic Immuniser Agreement was made in 2021 to enable a broader workforce to provide COVID-19 vaccines. The parties have agreed to continue with the Agreement with the inclusion of salary increases that have been provided for other Ambulance Tasmania employees under the Ambulance Tas Agreement and Award. The Agreement is operative for three years from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2025. ...There are no employees currently covered by this agreement.

However, it is agreed that it is necessary for the Agreement to remain operative in case of another COVID-19 escalation. Consideration will be given as to the future of the Paramedic Immuniser position and whether it may need to be included in the Award in the future. It is submitted that this agreement is made with the consent of the parties as in the public interest and does not disadvantage any employee covered by the Agreement and cancellation of the current agreement does not disadvantage the employees covered by that agreement."

[4] The HSU consents to the making of the Agreement. I am satisfied that the Agreement is consistent with the public interest requirements of the Act, does not disadvantage the employees concerned, and the term of the Agreement does not exceed 5 years. I am satisfied that there is genuine consent to the Agreement by the parties to it.

¹ Transcript of Proceedings, *Filing of Ambulance Tasmania – Paramedic Immuniser Agreement* 2022 (Tasmanian Industrial Commission, T15014 of 2023, Barclay P, 4 April 2023) 8.

[5] I am also satisfied that the cancelation of the 2021 Agreement will not disadvantage any employees to whom it may apply. As such I order cancellation of that Agreement.

[6] Pursuant to s 55(4), the Agreement is approved with an operative being from 1 July 2022 and shall remain in force until 30 June 2025. The file will now be referred to the Registrar for registration of the Agreement in accordance with the requirements of s 56(1) of the Act.



Appearances:

Ms Reale, Ms Gates and Mr Emery for MASSA Mr Jacobson and Mr Eddington for HSU

Date and place of hearing:

2023 4 April Hobart