



General Manager statement

Resignation of Mark Irving KC and replacement of Administrator of the Scheme of Administration of the CFMEU Construction and General Division

Melbourne, 29 April 2026

As General Manager of the Fair Work Commission (Commission), I have been advised by Mark Irving KC that he has resigned his position as Administrator of the Construction and General Division (C&G Division) of the CFMEU, effective 1 June 2026.

In a [statement](#) issued on 3 October 2024, I outlined my role in relation to the administration of the C&G Division, including my functions arising from amendments to the *Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009* (RO Act) made by the *Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Amendment (Administration) Act 2024* and the *Fair Work (Registered Organisations) (CFMEU Construction and General Division Administration) Determination 2024* ([Determination](#)).

Under clause 2 of the Determination and section 323C(2) of the RO Act, I am required to appoint another person as Administrator of the Scheme of Administration of the C&G Division and its branches. I must be satisfied that the person is qualified for the appointment, having regard to the person's knowledge and experience.

The members of the C&G Division are entitled to have their workplace relations and safety interests advocated for in a lawful way by a strong union. The incoming Administrator must continue the work started by Mr Irving KC to investigate past wrongdoing within the C&G Division and establish good governance practices and set high standards of accountability within it. The incoming Administrator must also continue the effective functioning of the C&G Division, including advocating for and providing support and assistance to its members.

In the coming weeks, I will seek the views of registered organisations, peak councils and industry participants to identify a suitable person to replace Mr Irving KC. In determining who to appoint, I will consider matters including the Scheme of Administration, my functions and obligations under the RO Act, the [CFMEU Strategic Plan 2025-2028](#), and the remaining issues to be addressed within both the C&G Division and the wider building and construction industry.

As I have indicated consistently throughout the Administration, all major participants in the building and construction industry must actively contribute to eradicate inappropriate and illegal conduct. This includes Tier 1 builders, their clients and funders, major contractors,

employer associations and other unions, law enforcement agencies and regulators, in addition to state and Commonwealth Governments. There is a need for everyone to share the responsibility - to show conspicuous, steadfast and ongoing leadership. The Administrator alone cannot fix the issues that have been identified.

Working with Mark Irving KC

On 23 August 2024, as required by the RO Act and the Determination, I appointed Mr Irving KC as Administrator of the Scheme of Administration of the C&G Division of the CFMEU. This followed proceedings I initiated in the Federal Court of Australia on 2 August 2024 seeking orders to appoint Mr Irving KC as Administrator of the C&G Division under my proposed scheme of administration.

The Commission has worked closely with Mr Irving KC since his appointment. I acknowledge his courage, ethics and undaunted drive to achieve lawful operations of the C&G Division for the benefit of its members. I also commend his openness to engaging with all participants in the industry to address systemic issues.

While continuing the critical day-to-day services of the C&G Division to its members, some of the key achievements of the Administration under Mr Irving KC's leadership include:

- Undertaking significant investigations into conduct of officers and staff in the C&G Division, including commissioning reports into criminal conduct and corruption in the NSW Divisional Branch, violence in the Queensland construction industry, and the 'Rotting from the Top' report relating to the Victorian Divisional Branch.
- Instituting new policies, procedures and governance structures, including a national statement of expectations for staff, a whistleblower and complaints procedure, a menacing behaviours policy, an industrial mediators policy, a behaviour change policy addressing misogyny in the industry, establishment of a national integrity and education unit, and instituting new training programmes for staff and officials.
- Cooperating with regulatory and law enforcement bodies across the country and establishing a process to receive complaints and make referrals where appropriate to those bodies.
- Overseeing a generational change within the C&G Division, with over 200 departures by officers, staff and delegates, in some cases following formal disciplinary processes, and the appointment of leadership, administrative and operational officers and employees in integrity and educational roles.
- Progressing the industrial interests of members, including negotiating approximately 1450 enterprise agreements with employers (3.5 agreements per working day since the administration commenced – from 23 August 2024 to 24 April 2026).

Mr Irving KC has produced several reports to the Australian Parliament which give further details of his key activities and outcomes.¹

I thank Mr Irving KC for his service to the C&G Division of the CFMEU and to the wider community. His contribution has been significant, in often very challenging circumstances. I am pleased that he will continue to assist the CFMEU as Senior Counsel, bringing continuity to the leadership team supporting the ongoing work of the C&G Division.

Murray Furlong
General Manager
Fair Work Commission

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¹ [First Bi-Annual Report of the CFMEU Administrator](#); [Second Bi-Annual Report of the CFMEU Administrator](#); [Third Bi-Annual Report of the CFMEU Administrator](#); [The Construction and General Division Administrator Financial Statements for the 6 month period ended 22 February 2025](#) and [The Construction and General Division Administrator Financial Statements for the 6 month period ended 22 August 2025](#).