

Who is the Public Guardian?

The Public Guardian is a public official who can be appointed to be the guardian of an adult with a disability.

What is guardianship?

Guardianship is the appointment of a person (the guardian) by the Guardianship and Administration Board (the Board) to make some or all of the personal and lifestyle decisions for an adult with a disability (the represented person).

▶ refer to fact sheet: 2

When is the Public Guardian appointed?

The Public Guardian can be appointed:

- under an order made by the Board; or
- by an individual under an enduring guardianship

▶ refer to fact sheet: 1 or 11

The Board will appoint the Public Guardian in situations where no one else is available or suitable to take on the role of guardian on behalf of a person with a disability. In rare situations, the Board may appoint the Public Guardian as an administrator.

▶ refer to fact sheet: 3

What decisions can the Public Guardian make?

An order made by the Board will set out what type(s) of decisions the Public Guardian can make for the represented person.

Under an enduring guardianship, the individual can list what decisions they want the Public Guardian to make and how the Public Guardian is to make those decisions.

The Public Guardian may be appointed to make decisions about:

- medical treatment or dental treatment or other health care decisions
- where the represented person will live
- where the represented person will work
- services that the represented person needs

If the Public Guardian is appointed the guardian will:

- act in the best interests of the represented person
- consult with represented person, taking into account, as far as possible, his or her wishes
- act as an advocate for the represented person
- encourage the represented person to participate in the community
- encourage and assist the represented person to become capable of caring for him or herself and to make reasonable personal and lifestyle decisions
- protect the represented person from neglect, abuse and exploitation

other fact sheets available in this series:

- 1 WHAT IS THE GUARDIANSHIP & ADMINISTRATION BOARD?
- 2 GUARDIANSHIP
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- 4 CONSENT TO MEDICAL OR DENTAL TREATMENT
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- 7 THE PUBLIC GUARDIAN
- 8 REVIEW OF ENDURING POWERS
- 9 WHAT IF I DON'T AGREE WITH THE BOARD'S DECISION?
- 10 STATUTORY WILLS
- 11 ENDURING GUARDIANSHIP INFO SHEET



Where do I find further information?

The Board's staff and the Public Guardian can provide free and confidential advice.

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Hobart Tasmania 7000
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Fax: 03 6233 4509
Email: Guardianship@justice.tas.gov.au
Website: www.guardianship.tas.gov.au

Office of the Public Guardian
Level 3
15 Murray Street
Hobart Tasmania 7000
Phone: 03 6233 7608
Fax: 03 6233 4882
Email: public.guardian@info.tas.gov.au
Website: www.publicguardian.tas.gov.au