

PUBLIC ADVOCATE

The Public Advocate (an independent statutory office within the Department of Justice) is an independent statutory officer created under the *Guardianship and Administration Act 1990* (WA) to promote and protect the rights of adults with decision-making disabilities and to reduce their risk of neglect and abuse.

The Office of the Public Advocate WA

The Public Advocate can provide information and advice about guardianship and administration, as well as enduring powers of administration and guardianship.

The *Guardianship and Administration Act 1990* recognises that people who are not capable of making reasonable judgements for themselves may need someone to make decisions for them not only to ensure their quality of life is maintained, but also to protect them from the risk of neglect, exploitation and abuse.

To view the *Guardianship and Administration Act 1990* go to:

https://www.legislation.wa.gov.au/legislation/statutes.nsf/main_mrtitle_406_homepage.html

The contact details for the Office of the Public Advocate WA

T: 1300 858 455

Address: 23 David Malcolm Justice Centre, Perth WA 6000

E: opa@justice.wa.gov.au

W: <https://www.publicadvocate.wa.gov.au/>



What services are provided by the Office of the Public Advocate in Australia?

The Public Advocate provides a range of services to ensure that vulnerable Western Australians with a decision-making disability are protected.

Services provided by the Public Advocate

- Investigation of concerns about the wellbeing of a person with a decision-making disability and whether a guardian or administrator is required
- Investigation of specified applications made to the State Administrative Tribunal to assist the State Administrative Tribunal to determine whether a guardian or administrator is required
- Guardianship services (for personal, lifestyle and/or treatment decisions) when the State Administrative Tribunal determines that there is no one else available, suitable or willing to act as the person's guardian
- Investigation of concerns about the abuse, neglect or exploitation of adults with decision-making disabilities

If you believe an attorney is not acting in your best interests, we recommend you contact the Office of the Public Advocate.

Telephone Advisory Service

The Public Advocate provides a Telephone Advisory Service for people who have a personal or professional interest in the rights and needs of adults with a decision-making disability. An advisory officer can be contacted Monday to Friday from 9.00am to 4:30pm.

TELEPHONE ADVISORY SERVICE for the Office of the Public Advocate WA

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