



Who we are

This fact sheet provides information about us and what we do.

The Tasmanian Disability Commissioner is an independent authority established on 1 July 2025 under the *Disability Rights, Inclusion and Safeguarding Act 2024* (the Act).

Catherine Whittington is the first Disability Commissioner for Tasmania.

The Disability Commissioner uses the Act to make her own decisions without direction from the government.

Disability Commissioner Tasmania refers to the office and staff supporting the Disability Commissioner to deliver the functions under the Act.

We work to protect and promote the rights of people with disability in Tasmania/Lutruwita. We are focused on preventing harm, promoting inclusion, and ensuring people with disability are treated with dignity and respect.

Our approach

Disability Commissioner Tasmania follows the human rights model of disability. We believe:

- everyone has equal rights
- barriers, not disability, create exclusion
- inclusion is a right, not a bonus
- safeguards matter
- voices must be heard
- laws must protect and promote rights.

What we do

The Act gives the Disability Commissioner a broad range of functions and powers.

1. Disability Inclusion Action Plans

We regulate Disability Inclusion Action Plans created by government agencies.

Disability Inclusion Action Plans help improve access, remove barriers, and uphold the rights of people with disability.

Your Voice. Your Rights. Our Purpose.

☎ 1800 179 249 or +61 3 6270 5500

✉ contact@disabilitycommissioner.tas.gov.au

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2. Receiving and investigating reports

We receive and investigate reports of violence, abuse, neglect, coercion, and exploitation involving people with disability.

3. Disability Inclusion Advisory Council

The Disability Inclusion Advisory Council advises the Minister for Disability Services and the Disability Commissioner on disability inclusion and the rights of people with disability.

We provide administrative support to the Council to help perform their roles under the Act.

4. Making systems work better

We work to make Tasmania/Lutruwita safer and more inclusive for people with disability.

We monitor issues that affect many people and seek to improve systems and services. This is called systemic advocacy. We do this by:

- listening to people with disability
- raising awareness and understanding of disability rights
- making recommendations to government and services.

Contact us

You can contact us in a way that works best for you.

Our office is open Monday to Friday, 9:00am to 5:00pm.

- Phone: 1800 179 249 (free call) or 03 6270 5500
- Email: contact@disabilitycommissioner.tas.gov.au
- Online form: www.disabilitycommissioner.tas.gov.au/contact_us
- Mail: GPO Box 123, Hobart, Tasmania 7001
- In person: Level 5, 188 Collins Street, Hobart, or a place that feels safe for you. Contact us to book a time to meet.

You can make a report using any of these options or complete a report form on our website: www.disabilitycommissioner.tas.gov.au/report.

If you or someone you know is in immediate danger, please call 000.

For more information about us, visit our website: www.disabilitycommissioner.tas.gov.au

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Information in Auslan and audio

Scan the QR code to find this information in Auslan and audio.



Acknowledgement

We acknowledge and pay our respects to all Aboriginal people in Tasmania, their identity and culture.

We acknowledge the lived and living experience of people with disability, family members, carers, and supporters.

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