

What's the difference between the Office of the Public Guardian and the Public Trustee?

An adult with impaired decision-making capacity may have the Public Guardian and/or the Public Trustee formally appointed by QCAT to make certain decisions. However, the types of issues these two organisations deal with are very different.



The Public Guardian of Queensland makes personal and health decisions for people.

A guardian appointed by QCAT is a decision maker only and their role is not to take on support services for the adult. The types of decisions the Public Guardian can make will depend on the appointment made by QCAT, but can include:

- Where the adult lives
- Who the adult has contact with
- Legal issues (not including financial or property)
- The use of restrictive practices
- Health care
- Service provision



The Public Trustee of Queensland helps manage an adult's money.

The Public Trustee may be appointed by QCAT to help an adult manage their financial affairs. The sorts of issues they deal with include:

- Budgets
- Pensions and other benefit entitlements
- Bills
- Approval for expenditures

Both the Office of the Public Guardian and the Public Trustee are committed to consulting with the adult and their support network when making decisions.

Contact

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Public Trustee

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