



A guardian's decisions can  
uphold the represented person's rights  
and help protect them from  
abuse, neglect or exploitation.

## We are committed to providing inclusive services for everyone

If you are a person appointed under the *Guardianship Act 1987 (NSW)* to be the guardian of a person with disability, you can contact the Guardian Support Unit.

We can provide you with information on your legal role and support you in your guardianship practice. We are committed to providing inclusive services for all our customers. Everyone is different, so please let us know the type of adjustment you require to contact us or access our publications.

## Contact us

### The Guardian Support Unit

You can also find a range of information and resources on our website, including the comprehensive guide to guardianship in NSW, *Now You're the Guardian*.



1300 361 389



National Relay Service: 1300 555 727



[pg.engagement@opg.nsw.gov.au](mailto:pg.engagement@opg.nsw.gov.au)



[www.tag.nsw.gov.au/guardianship](http://www.tag.nsw.gov.au/guardianship)



Locked Bag 5116 Parramatta 2124



For people that require translation and interpreting services call the Translating and Interpreting Service on **131 450**. Tell them what language you speak and ask them to telephone the Public Guardian on **1300 361 389**.

## The Guardian Support Unit

Supporting private and enduring guardians in NSW

The Guardian Support Unit is part of the NSW Public Guardian and is a separate agency to the Guardianship Division of the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal.



NSW Trustee  
& Guardian  
Public Guardian



NSW Trustee  
& Guardian  
Public Guardian

# The Guardian Support Unit

If you have been appointed as a private or enduring guardian to make decisions for someone, there are things you need to know to help you in your role.

The role of a guardian is different to that of a carer, friend or relative. Guardianship is a legal appointment; you will have a range of duties and responsibilities to the person you represent.

The Guardian Support Unit recognises and understands the challenges you may face in your role. We can offer you support and information to help clarify which decisions you can and can't make. We can also help you understand the different services available that can support the person you represent.

When you're a guardian, making the best possible decisions can take a lot of time, effort and thought. Many guardians have family members or friends who can support them, however the role can be isolating. We are here to help you by providing support and information, linking you to the knowledge and experience of the NSW Public Guardian.

As a guardian you can assist the person you represent by making decisions in lifestyle areas. It is important to balance the person's wants and needs, and to make decisions that consider the principles of the *Guardianship Act 1987 (NSW)*.

## A free service

The Guardian Support Unit is a free and confidential service available to enduring and private guardians.

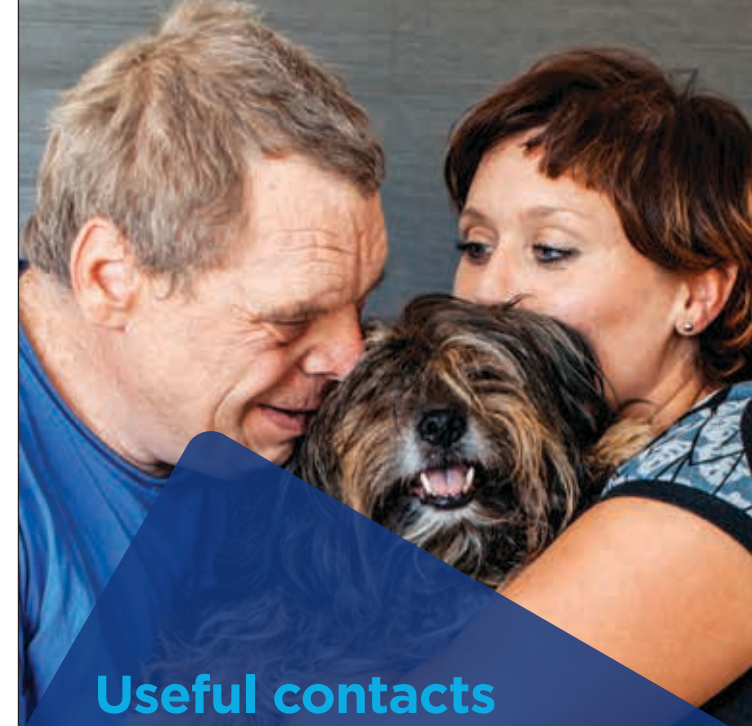
While we do not supervise the actions or decisions of guardians, or provide individual advocacy, we can give you information on where to access other relevant services and support.\*

We provide information on:

- the rights and responsibilities a guardian has to the represented person
- the *Guardianship Act 1987 (NSW)*
- best practice in decision-making
- resources and services for people with disabilities
- making decisions in situations of conflict and complex circumstances.

The Guardian Support Unit can assist with information to help you advocate for the represented person. We can also use our knowledge of the services and options available to people with disability and older people to help you with your decision-making.


\*The Public Guardian exercises its authority under Section 79 (a) (ii) of the *Guardianship Act 1987 (NSW)* to ensure information is readily available to guardians in their legal role. Any information that is collected, stored and used by the Public Guardian will be handled in accordance with the principles in the *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (NSW)* and the *Health Records and Information Privacy Act 2002 (NSW)*. The Public Guardian will not disclose your personal information without your consent unless legally required to do so. Information collected is stored on a secure electronic system that is only accessible by Public Guardian employees.



## Useful contacts

### NSW Civil & Administrative Tribunal - Guardianship Division


For enquiries about applying for guardianship.

 **1300 006 228**

 **[www.ncat.nsw.gov.au](http://www.ncat.nsw.gov.au)**

### LawAccess

For legal advice and referrals.

 **1300 888 529**

 **[www.lawaccess.gov.nsw.au](http://www.lawaccess.gov.nsw.au)**

## Further information

Guardians appointed by NCAT will be added to the Guardian Support Unit's mailing list and receive our periodic newsletter, *Onguard*. If you are an enduring guardian, you can join our mailing list or update your contact details by contacting us.