

ISSUE 1 – January 2019

Welcome to 2019

As we enter the new year, we look forward to continuing to support you in your role as a guardian.

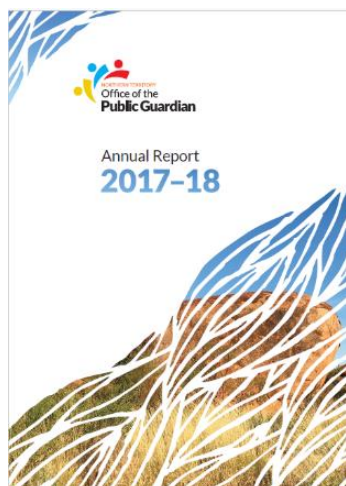
We hope our new social media presence will improve our communication with you, keeping you informed through our newsletter, website and face book

Like us on Facebook for updates on guardianship - <https://www.facebook.com/OPGNT/>.

2017/18 Annual report

2017/18 – a year of growth and change

Our annual report details the work undertaken in continuing to provide high-level advocacy, support and guardianship services for adults in the Northern Territory.



You can view our annual report on a [website](#)

What to expect at a Hearing for Reassessment of an Order

Reassessments are important as they help the NTCAT to review the represented adult's decision-making capacity, and decide if any changes are needed. Changes might affect the terms of the guardianship order or who is appointed as guardians. Prior to the reassessment date, the NTCAT will send out Standard Orders advising the date, time and location of the hearing.

It is the NTCAT's preference that the represented adult is present at the hearing, however, it is acknowledged that this may not always be possible. It is an expectation of the NTCAT that all guardians attend the hearing in person. It is possible to attend the hearing by phone or video conference. If you are unable to attend, you will need to contact the NTCAT to make alternative arrangements.

At the hearing, the Member of NTCAT will speak to everyone about the effectiveness of the order and whether the order should continue. The Member may also ask for supporting documents to be provided such as:

- Report by Medical Practitioner or other Health Practitioner (Form AG3). A health professional familiar with the adult gives evidence on whether the adult's decision-making capacity is still impaired. The represented adult must pay for all professional reports needed for the reassessment hearing.
- Primary Carer's Report (Form AG4). A carer comments on the adult's decision-making capacity as well as health and care needs. Please note: being a 'carer' is a separate role to being a 'guardian', although you may be both.
- Financial Statement (Form AG10). If you have authority for financial management you will be expected to detail the adult's income and expenditure.

Factsheets issued by OPG

The OPG has developed factsheets about guardianship.

These factsheets provide information about:

- Applying for guardianship
- What is a guardian
- About your guardian
- Information for guardians
- Understanding the NT *Guardianship of Adults Act*
- Understanding the adult guardianship principles
- Complaints concerns and review
- Information for health professionals
- Information for legal professionals
- FAQ's – adult guardianship in the NT
- Advance personal plan and adult guardianship

Our factsheets are available on our website or if you would like printed copies, please contact us.

Auslan video recordings of these fact sheets are also available on our [website](#).

The OPG recognises the cultural diversity of the Territory and is currently undertaking a process to have these fact sheets made available in Italian, Greek, Arabic, Chinese, Swahili, Vietnamese and Thai.

Guardianship information forums for private guardians

In order to provide continued support and assistance to private guardians the OPG is planning to hold guardianship information sessions.

Topics for discussion:

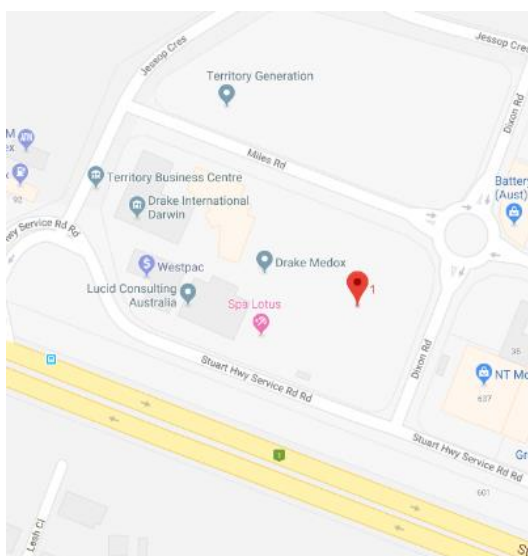
- Decisions a guardian can make
- Decisions a guardian can't make
- When a guardian is not available for a period of time
- Financial management - how do I keep track of the money?
- What records do I need to keep?
- What information does OPG and NTCAT need to know?
- The Reassessment Process
- What is the process when joint guardians can't agree
- Who should receive copies of the Order?
- What safe guards should I put in place should something happen to me?
- Guardianship principles

If you are interested in attending, please contact the OPG on 1800 810 979. If there are other topics that you would like to learn more about, please be sure to let us know.

Office of the Public Guardian – Office Locations

Darwin office

Darwin Corporate Park
Building 3, Level 1, 631 Stuart Highway Berrimah
Postal: PO Box 40596 Casuarina NT 0811



Alice Springs office

Jalistan House
First Floor, 18 Parsons Street (cnr Todd Mall)
Postal: PO Box 721 Alice Springs NT 0871



NTCAT – Office Locations

The Met Building

CASCOM Building 5, Casuarina Village
Level 1, 13-17 Scaturchio Street
CASUARINA NT 0811



Alice Springs

Westpoint Building
1 Stott Terrace
ALICE SPRINGS NT 0870

