

## Fact Sheet

# Disability Rights, Inclusion and Safeguarding Act 2024

**A new law for all Tasmanians with Disability.**



## What is this fact sheet about?



There is a new law for all Tasmanians with disability.

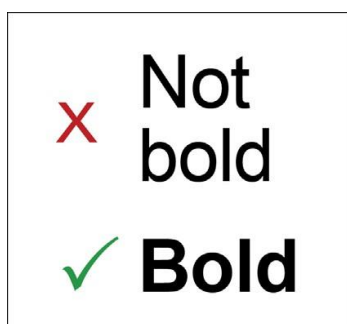
It is called the Disability rights, Inclusion and Safeguarding Act 2024.

We call it the Act for short.



The Tasmanian government wrote this.

When you see the words 'we' or 'us' it means - The Department of Premier and Cabinet.



We wrote some hard words in **bold**.

This means the letters are thicker and **darker**.

We explain what the hard words mean.

# What is the new Act?



The Act is called the Disability Rights, Inclusion and Safeguarding Act 2024.



It is a new law made in Tasmania.

It aims to make life better and safer for people with disability.



It was passed by parliament in October 2024.



The new Act started on 1 July 2025.

# What is the new Act for?



The Act says:

- People with disability have rights.
- People with disability must be safe from harm, abuse or neglect.



- People with disability must be **included** in the community.

**included** means being able to take part in the community the same as everyone else.



- People with disability must be heard and have a say in decisions.



- Tasmania must be a place where everyone belongs.

# What does it mean to be Included?



Speak Out members talked about what inclusion means to them.



This helped us to write the new Act.

Their words encouraged and guided us.

They said inclusion is:



- feeling accepted
- being respected
- being heard in different situations
- having a voice
- people care about you
- you belong
- you are wanted
- you fit in
- you are a part of decisions that are about YOU
- your rights and choices are respected



- you feel empowered
- you are safe and feel safe
- when the community is inclusive
- it is not us and them
- we live in the community
- we work in the community
- we are the community.

## How was the new Act made?



The Act was made with:

- people with disability
- carers
- advocates
- disability service providers and others.

We had lots of meetings.

It took a few years.



People with disability shared their stories and ideas to help make the Act.

## What does the new Act do?



It brings in new things to make Tasmania fairer for people with disability.



These include:

- A new **Disability Commissioner** to help protect your rights.



- A new **Disability Inclusion Advisory Council** so people with disability can be leaders.

It is their job to give advice to the Minister and the Commissioner about inclusion.





- Plans and rules to help government be more inclusive.

All parts of government must have their own Disability Inclusion plan.



- Stronger rules around **restrictive practices**.

**restrictive practices** are when a disability service provider stops a person from doing something they want to do.

Restrictive practices are sometimes used to keep people safe.

The new rules will make sure your human rights are protected.



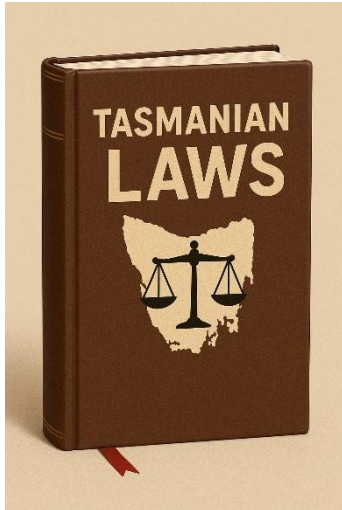
- More rights and **safeguards** for people who use disability services.



- A future **Community Visitor Scheme**.

**Community visitors** check on services and make sure your home is safe, and your rights are protected.

## What other laws are linked to the Act?



Two more laws will help the new Act work properly:

### 1. Transitional Act 2025.

This will help move from the old law (Disability Services Act 2011) to the new one.



### 2. New Regulations 2025.

This will:

- Say what standards disability services must follow.



- Ban certain harmful practices that can't be used on people with disability.

# What is the social model of disability?



The Act is based on the **social model of disability**.

The **social model** means:

- Disability is not caused by a person's body or mind.
- Disability happens when things like bad attitudes, poor access, or no support stop people from having a good life.



# What are the guiding principles?



**Guiding principles** are the most important rules.

They help everyone make good choices and do the right thing when using the Act.



The Act follows the **United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**.

This means:

- All people with disability have human rights.
- Everyone must respect and follow these rights when making decisions.

## For more information



We have fact sheets and other resources that explain different parts of the Act.



Go to:

[www.dpac.tas.gov.au](http://www.dpac.tas.gov.au)



Email: [disability@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:disability@dpac.tas.gov.au)



Call: **1800 431 211**



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