

## Response to the Draft Registration to Work with Vulnerable People Regulations and Order 2023

November 2023

Carers Tasmania welcomes the opportunity to respond to the Draft Registration to Work with Vulnerable People Regulations and Order 2023. Carers Tasmania supports the proposed expansion of the definition of vulnerable people to also include vulnerable adults such as people with disability, people under a Mental Health Act Treatment order, people aged over 65 years, and Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people aged 50 years or more. We believe broadening the definition will assist in safeguarding more vulnerable people.

We also support the expansion of related activities to include advocacy services, aged care services, employment services, Guardianship and Administration services, and Public Trustee services. In addition, we support the changes proposing the inclusion of the combined child and vulnerable adult-related activities such as counselling, disability services, education services, TAFE, the University of Tasmania, training organisations, transport services, health programs, health services, and mental health services.

Given the significant findings from inquiries such as:

- The Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability,
- The Commission of Inquiry into the Tasmanian Government's Response to Child Sexual Abuse in Institutional Settings, and
- The Aged Care Royal Commission,

we believe that greater protections for a broader range of vulnerable people, and related activities are required.

Carers Tasmania supports all informal carers across Tasmania and aims to assist them in sustaining their caring roles. Carers support a diverse range of family members and friends, and we are pleased that the proposed changes to this Act will provide better protections for them when accessing services.

We thank the Tasmanian Government for consulting with the community on this important topic.

## About Carers Tasmania

Carers Tasmania is the Peak Body representing the more than 80,000 informal carers (hereafter carers) in the state.

Carers Tasmania's vision is for an Australia that values and supports carers.

Our mission is to work to improve the health, wellbeing, resilience and financial security of carers and to ensure that caring is a shared responsibility of family, community, and government.

Our values drive everything we think, say, and do.

- **Carers first** – we listen to what carers need, commit to their desired action plan, and deliver results that matter most to carers
- **Care in all we do** – we care for our work, about each other, about Tasmania's family and friend carers, and the bigger world we all share
- **Integrity always** – we are transparent, act ethically, own when things don't go to plan and do what we say we will
- **Quality every time** – we don't accept 'good enough' because carers deserve our very best every time
- **Speed that matters** – we are agile and don't put off what can be done today.

These values represent how we engage with and serve carers, how we work with each other, and our commitment to the broader community. Carers Tasmania encourages partnership with governments and health and community sectors to enhance service provision and improve conditions for family or friend carers through policy development, research and advocacy.

We acknowledge and support people of all genders, sexualities, cultural beliefs, and abilities and understand that carers in Tasmania, whilst sharing the common theme of caring for a family member or friend, are diverse individuals with varying beliefs, experiences, and identities. We value and respect the diversity of carers, their lived and living experiences, and recognise that carers are the experts in their own lives.

Carers Tasmania has offices in Moonah, Launceston, and Burnie.

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