



## Update from the Commissioner

Thank you to everyone who has been on the journey with us throughout 2021. You've all helped us to contribute to a stronger disability sector. And I look forward to continuing that journey in 2022.

If you're wondering whether Santa and the Victorian Disability Worker Commissioner are in fact the same person **check this video out:**



If you are having trouble accessing the video please go to the [VDWC YouTube link \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ng3VHr\\_D5Q\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ng3VHr_D5Q)

Looking ahead to 2022, we will continue our vision of helping people with disability to experience respectful, empowering and safe services from Victorian disability workers.

We want to continue to work with you in strengthening the sector and improving inclusivity,

access and choice for people with disability.

### ***Complaints over the festive season***

The Commission will continue to take and investigate complaints about any Victorian disability worker over the festive season. Our team is here to listen, help and guide you as we understand it can be difficult to take the step of contacting us.

You can make a complaint via an [online form](#) or call 1800 497 132 between 9.30am and 4.30pm, Monday to Friday (except on public holidays). Please note that calls to us won't be answered between 28 - 30 December but please leave a message and we will continue to handle the complaint that day.

If you're not sure whether your concern is something you can lodge a complaint about, please contact the friendly VDWC team who can discuss it with you.

### ***Prohibition order updates now available***

You can now sign up to receive direct email alerts when there is an update to the public Prohibition Orders page of the Commission website. Find out more on the ['Prohibition order updates' news article](#).

As Commissioner, I am able to issue prohibition orders regarding unregistered disability workers. A prohibition order can be made if it is necessary to avoid a serious risk to the life, health, safety or welfare of a person or the health, safety or welfare of the public. A prohibition order stops a person from being able to lawfully practice as a disability worker or requires that they can only work if certain conditions are met.

### ***Registered disability workers***

Have you had a chance to search through our list of registered disability workers? It's now easier than ever to find a registered worker in your area. Simply go to our ['Find a registered disability worker' page](#) to find a registered worker in your area.

If you're a disability worker that's been thinking of applying to register but are not sure where to start, visit our ['How to Register' page](#) and register today.

### ***Events and media:***

- The [Association for Children with a Disability \(ACD\)](#) is hosting a Facebook Live Q&A at 10:30 am Tuesday 11 January 2022 for families with children with additional needs to answer questions about the COVID vaccine soon to be available for 5 -11 year olds. You can register on the [ACD event page](#).

- As part of International Day of People with Disability, Dan Stubbs spoke to Richelle Hunt as part of Conversation Hour on ABC Melbourne about breaking down employment barriers for people with disability. You can listen back on the [ABC Melbourne website](#).

As always, we encourage you to follow us on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn and now Instagram! Please let friends and colleagues know that they can subscribe to receive updates at [www.vdwc.vic.gov.au/subscribe](http://www.vdwc.vic.gov.au/subscribe).

Wishing you a happy festive season and new year. We look forward to the opportunity to work with many more of you in 2022.

## Keep in touch

If our e-newsletter was forwarded to you or you'd like to help subscribe your colleagues to the Commission's e-news go to: <https://www.vdwc.vic.gov.au/subscribe>

If you have any questions or comments, please get in touch via our website [Contact us](#) page, send an email to [info@vdwc.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@vdwc.vic.gov.au) or call us on 1800 497 132.

For more information visit [vdwc.vic.gov.au](http://vdwc.vic.gov.au)