

MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday 17 June 2021

Vulnerable Persons Legislation Summary

Did you know that there is now new Vulnerable Person Legislation in place? You can find fact sheets for different audiences [here](#).

The new legislation includes the following:

- Mistreating/abusing/neglecting a vulnerable adult by people who are in a 'caregiving' role or who are responsible for their care is considered a criminal offence.
- The failure of a person in authority to protect a vulnerable person in their care is considered an offence.

A vulnerable adult includes:

- Adults with a disability – over 18.
- Someone over 60 with a legislated vulnerability, including social isolation.

The purpose of the new laws is to address gaps in the protection for vulnerable adults. It does not apply to children and young people because there are sufficient existing laws and safeguards. The new laws do not require any significant changes to Marymead policies and procedures, because they are designed to safeguard all our clients. For example the Code of Conduct, Duty of Care, Client Service Delivery, Incident Management, and Complaints policies as well as your Procedure Manuals.

Clients will be contacted to discuss the best way to access this information.

MEDIA CONTACT

Jaclyn Callaghan – Marymead Communications & Fundraising Unit Manager
0437 778 498
Jaclyn.callaghan@marymead.org.au

CANBERRA

RHEINBERGER CENTRE, CNR WESTON
& LOCH STREET, YARRALUMLA ACT
PO BOX 4260 KINGSTON ACT 2604
PHONE **02 6162 5800**

GOULBURN

32 VERNER STREET
GOULBURN NSW
PO BOX 286 GOULBURN NSW 2580
PHONE **02 4827 1600**

WAGGA WAGGA

49 BEST STREET WAGGA WAGGA
WAGGA WAGGA NSW
PO BOX 699 WAGGA WAGGA NSW 2650
PHONE **0429 510 034**

MORUYA

CORNER CAMPBELL AND PAGE STREETS
MORUYA NSW
PO BOX 994 MORUYA NSW 2537
PHONE **0406 375 247**