

## QCAT Practice Direction No. 5 of 2022

### APPLICATIONS FOR REVIEW OF DECISIONS MADE ABOUT BLUE CARDS

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## BLUE CARD APPLICATIONS

1. “Blue card matters” are matters where a person applies to QCAT to review a blue card decision by the Director-General, Department of Justice and Attorney-General (“the Director-General”), made under the *Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) Act 2000* (Qld) (“the WWC Act”). The most common type of decisions reviewed by QCAT are decisions by the Director-General to issue a negative notice.<sup>1</sup>
2. In reviewing these decisions, the legislation states that the QCAT decision maker must work on the principle that the welfare and best interests of a child are paramount.
3. The QCAT decision maker needs to come to the correct and preferable decision on the matter.

## WHAT ARE THE POWERS OF QCAT IN DECIDING YOUR BLUE CARD MATTER

4. In relation to review of a decision to issue a negative notice, once QCAT has heard the matter, QCAT can:
  - a) confirm the decision to issue a negative notice; or
  - b) set aside the decision to issue a negative notice and substitute that decision with a decision to issue a positive notice; or
  - c) set aside the decision to issue a negative notice and send the matter back to the Director-General to reconsider the decision, together with any directions QCAT considers appropriate.
5. By far the most common types of orders are (a) and (b).

## REASON FOR THIS PRACTICE DIRECTION

6. This practice direction contains:
  - a) information that will assist the parties in understanding the process; and
  - b) provide directions to the parties about some of the things they must do.
7. Compulsory conferences will only proceed in blue card matters where QCAT forms the view that it is desirable to do so. This might occur, for example, where QCAT forms the view that there is a realistic possibility that a compulsory conference might result in resolution of the matter, or a meaningful narrowing of issues, or where a compulsory conference might be a better way to help a particular applicant to understand QCAT processes. QCAT might come to that

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<sup>1</sup> As to the decisions that might be reviewed by QCAT, see sections 353 and 354 of the WWC Act.

view by itself, or after being asked by a party to consider ordering a compulsory conference.

8. A directions hearing will be held in blue card matters at an early stage of the process. During a directions hearing, the QCAT decision maker will seek to ensure applicants and respondents are informed of their obligations and responsibilities in progressing the matter to finalisation.
9. It is envisaged that at the initial directions hearing, QCAT will make directions through to the final hearing. This will assist the parties to know and understand:
  - a) the steps they must undertake and the timeframes for those steps to be completed; and
  - b) when their final hearing will be.

## APPLICATIONS FOR REVIEW OF DECISIONS MUST BE LODGED WITHIN 28 DAYS OF BEING GIVEN NOTICE OF THE DECISION

10. A person **must** lodge an application to QCAT if they want to review the decision of the Director-General to issue a negative notice or any other reviewable decision.
11. To apply to QCAT to review the decision, the person (“the applicant”) needs to lodge a [Form 23 – “Application to review a decision.”](#)
12. The Form 23 **must** be lodged within 28 days after you were given notice of the decision.

## THE DECISION BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL WILL REMAIN IN EFFECT UNLESS AND UNTIL QCAT SETS ASIDE THE DECISION

13. QCAT cannot stay, that is, cannot suspend, the decision of the Director-General to issue a negative notice while your matter is at QCAT.
14. That decision will remain in place unless and until QCAT sets aside the decision.
15. If QCAT sets aside the decision, then QCAT will advise the parties. The law provides that QCAT’s decision does not take effect until after the appeal period for the decision has ended, that is, 28 days from the date of the decision, or, if there is an appeal, until the appeal is withdrawn or decided.

## WHAT HAPPENS ONCE THE APPLICATION FOR REVIEW IS RECEIVED BY QCAT

16. QCAT will serve a copy of the application to review on the Director-General. The Director-General is then known as “the respondent”.

17. Once served with an application, the respondent must provide QCAT and the applicant with the following documents (the “section 21 of the QCAT Act documents”) within 28 days:<sup>2</sup>

- a) a written statement of reasons; and
- b) an indexed and page numbered bundle in date or other logical order of the documents and other material in its possession or under its control that may be relevant to the review of the decision.

## APPLICATIONS FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

18. If the applicant does not lodge their application in QCAT within time, that is, within 28 days of being given notice of the decision, and they still want to apply to QCAT to review their decision, then they need, as soon as possible:

- a) to lodge their application to review their decision (that is, the Form 23);

### AND

- b) at the same time, lodge a [Form 42 – “Application to extend or shorten a time limit or for waiver of compliance with procedural requirement.”](#)

19. QCAT can only grant an extension of time if it is satisfied there is a reasonable excuse for delay. If there is no reasonable excuse for delay, then the application for extension of time will be refused, and the application to review will not be accepted.

20. Form 42 requires the applicant to outline the type of order sought. If an applicant is seeking an extension of time, then the applicant should write: “an order extending the time to lodge the application to review a blue card decision.”

21. Form 42 also asks the applicant to list the reasons for the application. This is where the applicant needs to set out the reasonable excuse relied on for not lodging the Form 23 application to review the decision within 28 days, and why the applicant submits that QCAT should make an order extending time.

22. Applications for extensions of time will usually be determined “on the papers”, that is, by the QCAT decision maker, in the absence of the parties, relying only on the written material which the parties have provided, rather than requiring the parties to attend at a hearing and make oral argument. This is one reason as to why it is important that when a person files a Form 42 applying to extend time, the person sets out, in full, why they did not file the Form 23 application within 28 days, and why QCAT should make an order extending time, attaching any evidence or material they want to rely upon.

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<sup>2</sup> Section 21(2) of the *Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 2009* (Qld) (QCAT Act) which sets out the obligation, at law, to provide these documents to the Tribunal

23. After the Form 42 is filed, QCAT will provide a copy of the Form 42 (and attachments, if any) and the Form 23 (and attachments, if any) to the respondent.
24. The respondent **must** then, within 14 days of receiving this material, file any submissions in reply to the application to extend time, together with any evidence or material relied upon.
25. Sometimes, when considering the Form 42, the QCAT decision maker will consider it appropriate to issue further directions (for example, a direction to the applicant to file any further material, evidence and/or submissions in reply to the respondent's material, evidence and/or submissions). Alternatively, the QCAT decision maker may consider it more appropriate to determine the application to extend time at an oral hearing. If that is the case, QCAT will notify the parties of the time and place for that oral hearing.

## THE FIRST DIRECTIONS HEARING

26. Each application which is filed within time, or where an extension of time has been granted, will be listed for a directions hearing before a QCAT decision maker ("the first directions hearing").
27. The first directions hearing is designed to reduce the overall time of litigation for the parties in these matters and to ensure that all parties understand the steps that they must go through prior to the hearing date.
28. At the directions hearing:
  - a) the QCAT decision maker will make the directions necessary to progress the proceeding to a final hearing, so far as is practicable; and
  - b) the QCAT decision maker will ask the parties for their opinion as to how long they think the final hearing may take and as to the appropriate mode of hearing (that is, in person or by remote hearing).
29. The first directions hearing will take place as soon as practicable after QCAT has served the application on the respondent, but no earlier than 8 weeks after this has occurred. This gap of at least 8 weeks is to ensure that the respondent has had sufficient time to:
  - a) file and provide to QCAT and the applicant, the written statement of reasons, and the section 21 of the QCAT Act documents, within 28 days of receiving a copy of the application, as is required by law; and
  - b) provide all parties the opportunity to read and consider those documents before the first directions hearing.
30. It is very important that both parties participate in the directions hearing. Both parties **must** attend the directions hearing:

- a) having considered the type of evidence in which they wish to rely upon at the hearing;
  - b) ready to give an estimate of the length and mode of hearing; and
  - c) when they and any witnesses are available to take part in a hearing.
31. Wherever possible, at the first directions hearing the QCAT decision maker will allocate the date for final hearing.
32. On average, final hearings take approximately 1 day; but sometimes the final hearings can be longer or shorter. It is important for QCAT to know how long the parties think the final hearing might take to ensure this is taken into account when scheduling the hearing.
33. **Annexure A** to this Practice Direction is a set of template directions which are intended to generally apply; however, the QCAT decision maker retains full discretion to amend, supplement or reduce those directions as appropriate in each matter.

## IF A PARTY OR WITNESS HAS DIFFICULTY READING OR WRITING

34. If a party has difficulty reading or writing, or a witness the party wishes to call has difficulty reading or writing, then the party should raise this with the QCAT decision maker at the first directions hearing so that possible alternatives to written evidence from that party / witness can be discussed.

## FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH A DIRECTION

35. If a party fails to comply with a direction for filing material or submissions, the matter may be determined without that material or submissions. As a consequence, if the party failing to file is the applicant, it is possible that the application will be dismissed.

## SEEKING AN EXTENSION OF TIME TO COMPLY WITH A DIRECTION

36. It is very important that all parties do their very best to comply with directions issued by QCAT.
37. However, it is acknowledged, that sometimes compliance becomes impossible for some unforeseen reason, and that sometimes a party will need to apply to extend time.
38. The QCAT decision maker may, where appropriate, extend the time for a reasonable period. This can be done with or without reference to the other party, depending on the overall circumstances.
39. In extending time, the QCAT decision maker may also extend the time for the other party to comply with a subsequent direction.

40. The QCAT decision maker will also consider (but is not limited to) if granting the extension of time will put the hearing date at risk of not being able to proceed.
41. Where a party seeks an extension of time to comply with a direction made by QCAT, the request for extension should be made before the relevant step falls due. You can seek an extension of time by filing a [Form 42 – “Application to extend or shorten a time limit or for waiver of compliance with procedural requirement.”](#)
42. Even though you may apply for an extension of time to comply with a direction, you cannot assume it will automatically be granted. The QCAT decision maker must consider all of the material supporting the application as well as any response from the other party, and then determine the outcome of the request.

## EVIDENCE

43. Evidence describes, explains, demonstrates or supports a party’s claims about what is the correct and preferable decision that the QCAT decision maker should make at the conclusion of the hearing.
44. Evidence can be given orally or in writing and if required, under oath/affirmation or by affidavit. Usually, parties will be directed to provide the evidence of their own witness/es in writing (see paragraphs 46 to 51 below).
45. Some examples of evidence are (this is not an exhaustive list):
  - a) a written statement (see paragraphs 46 to 51 below) by a person in which the person sets out what they want to say about the matter; or
  - b) a document that is a record of an event, for example, a certificate or diploma; or
  - c) a document that is proof of an event, such as a photograph; or
  - d) a document that accurately and factually demonstrates or supports something explained in a statement, such as a plan or a map; or
  - e) an expert report from, for example, a doctor or a psychologist.

## STATEMENTS

46. A witness statement is the evidence of the witness, reduced to writing, prepared prior to the QCAT hearing.
47. As stated above at paragraph 44, the applicant will usually be directed to provide statements from themselves and for any other witnesses on which they intend to rely upon to support their case.
48. The preparation of statements is a very important part of the applicant’s preparation for a hearing. The evidence of each witness needs to be set out in

detail in the statements, as the QCAT decision maker can, where appropriate, refuse to allow a party to present evidence at the hearing which is not contained in their statements.

49. A witness statement **must** be signed.
50. It is generally expected that any witnesses whose evidence is intended to be relied upon by a party can be cross-examined by the other party. However, whether a party chooses to seek to cross-examine a witness is a decision for them. The directions issued at the directions hearing will set out the date by which a party **must** inform the other party, and QCAT, whether they wish to cross-examine any particular witness or witnesses of the other party.
51. QCAT's website contains an information sheet on the preparation of statements. A sample template is also available on QCAT's website at <https://www.qcat.qld.gov.au/going-to-the-tribunal/preparing-statements>.

## HEALTH REPORTS

52. From time to time, applicants may wish to provide a health report from a psychologist, psychiatrist, or other practitioner.
53. To ensure the report writer is in a position to know the concerns which the Director-General had in making the decision to issue a negative notice, the applicant must provide that health practitioner with a copy of the statement of reasons from Blue Card Services.
54. It is not for QCAT to dictate to a party what should or should not be included in a health report. Provided the material in the health report is relevant, it is a matter for the party to decide what should or should not be included. Having said that, some matters which the QCAT decision maker may find of assistance in determining whether to confirm or set aside the negative notice include:
  - a) the extent to which the applicant has insight into any offending behaviour, alleged offending behaviour and/or child-care related behaviour, and its impact on society, the victim(s) and any children who might be associated with the applicant;
  - b) what risk factors, or triggers, if any, continue to be present which could contribute to a risk of any further offending behaviour, alleged offending behaviour, or child-care related behaviour;
  - c) what protective factors, if any, are present to reduce the risk of any further offending behaviour or alleged offending behaviour or child-care related behaviour; and
  - d) what preventative strategies, if any, does the applicant use to reduce the risk of any further offending behaviour or alleged offending behaviour or child-care related behaviour.

## NOTICE TO PRODUCE APPLICATIONS AND APPLICATIONS REQUIRING A PERSON TO ATTEND THE HEARING

55. Sometimes parties may want to obtain documents from third parties or seek to have a person attend the hearing to give evidence. When that happens, the party must make an application setting out what it is that they seek.
56. If a person is willing to attend or produce a document to a party, usually the party does not need to apply to QCAT for an order.
57. To apply to QCAT for an order, applicants and respondents must file at QCAT a [Form 38 – “Hearing Notice: application for notice requiring witness to attend a hearing or produce document/thing at hearing”](#). A notice to produce application **must** be filed no later than 7 days after the first directions hearing in the matter.
58. Common examples of the types of material requested via a notice to produce application are material from the Department of Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs; court information about the outcome of charges or convictions; police information; and information from the Department of Corrective Services. Other types of information from third parties may be sought depending on the nature of the case.
59. Only QCAT can order a person to attend a hearing or to produce documents by issuing an attendance notice. QCAT may charge a fee for this service. However, you cannot assume it will automatically be granted. The decision about whether to grant such an application and in what form it is granted is a decision for the QCAT decision maker in the exercise of their independent judicial function.

## NOTICE OF TRIBUNAL HEARING

60. The directions made at the directions hearing that list the date for a QCAT hearing **will serve as the required provision of notice for the tribunal hearing.**<sup>3</sup>
61. The parties **must** ensure they read all directions that are made in the matter and ensure they record the hearing date in their own records, and appear at that hearing date at the time specified (which will commonly be at 9.30 am).

## PARTIES ARE REQUIRED TO KEEP QCAT INFORMED OF THEIR CONTACT DETAILS

62. At the first directions hearing both parties will be required to confirm their correct email addresses and contact details.

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<sup>3</sup> Section 92 of the QCAT Act.

63. Should your contact details change at any time throughout the proceedings, you must update QCAT and the other party as soon as possible.
64. Accuracy and currency of contact details are solely the responsibility of the applicant and the respondent individually and not a matter for QCAT to monitor.
65. When the parties are provided with a copy of the directions, they will also be provided with an Attendance Advice.
66. That Advice sets out the current telephone details that QCAT has for the party. That is the telephone number that QCAT will use to contact the party.
67. If the party's telephone number is different to that shown on the Attendance Advice, then the party must fill out their new telephone number on to the Attendance Advice and send it back to QCAT as early as possible, but at least 5 business days before the hearing date. The email address to send any change of contact details is: [QCATCivil@justice.qld.gov.au](mailto:QCATCivil@justice.qld.gov.au)
68. Late receipt of the change of contact details may mean that QCAT is not able to contact the party on the hearing date and that the matter might proceed in that party's absence.
69. You need to make sure that you are available to answer your telephone, and you do answer your telephone, when QCAT telephones you on the date of the directions hearing. If you do not answer the telephone, the matter might proceed in your absence.

## THE QCAT HEARING

70. At the hearing, the QCAT decision maker may allow each party to:
  - a) give evidence themselves or call a person to give evidence (however, generally, and with some exceptions) the only oral evidence is through cross-examination of the applicant's and respondent's witnesses. This is because written statements of all potential witnesses usually should have been filed at QCAT prior to the hearing and a copy given to the other party; and
  - b) question a witness.
71. The QCAT decision maker may also:
  - a) call a person to give evidence;
  - b) examine a witness on oath/affirmation or require a witness to give evidence by statutory declaration;
  - c) examine or question a witness to obtain information;
  - d) order a witness to answer questions relevant to the proceeding.

72. The QCAT decision maker may place some restrictions on evidence and witnesses. For example, if sufficient information has been presented to allow a decision to be made, the QCAT decision maker may not allow the parties to present more information. In making such a decision, the QCAT decision maker will take into account fairness and justice to the parties.

## ORAL SUBMISSIONS MADE AT A QCAT HEARING

73. At the QCAT hearing all parties will be given an opportunity to make oral submissions after all evidence has been given by both parties. The applicant will be given the first opportunity to do this.

74. The representative for Blue Card Services will make oral submissions, including as to what they consider is the correct and preferable decision having regard to the legislative framework and the evidence, including the oral evidence given at the hearing.

75. The applicant will then have an opportunity to make oral submissions in reply to the submissions of Blue Card Services (see [Practice Direction 3 of 2013 – Hearings in Administrative Review Proceedings](#)).

## HOW TO FILE AND SERVE MATERIAL

76. The preferred method of filing and service of material is via email.

77. The email address for the respondents is [LegalAdmin@bluecard.qld.gov.au](mailto:LegalAdmin@bluecard.qld.gov.au)

78. The email filing address for QCAT for filing the initiating application and any application for an extension of time is [EnquiriesQCAT@justice.qld.gov.au](mailto:EnquiriesQCAT@justice.qld.gov.au)

79. The email address for all material filed after the initial application is [QCATCivil@justice.qld.gov.au](mailto:QCATCivil@justice.qld.gov.au)

80. If the applicant does not have an email address, then service on the applicant is to be by the next most efficient means; for example, by post.

81. Parties are advised that it can take several days between when a document is emailed to QCAT, and when it makes its way to the QCAT file. Therefore, parties should ensure they provide any material they are filing **at least 5 business days in advance**, and in accordance with the dates directed in the directions issued by QCAT.

## LEGAL REPRESENTATION

82. With limited exceptions, generally the parties will be required to obtain leave if they wish to be legally represented.<sup>4</sup> Relevant factors for the granting of leave include:

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<sup>4</sup> Section 44 of the QCAT Act.

- a) the party is a State agency;
- b) the proceeding is likely to involve complex questions of fact or law;
- c) another party to the proceeding is represented in the proceeding; or
- d) all of the parties have agreed to the party being represented in the proceeding.

83. Issues relating to leave for legal representation will be canvassed at the directions hearing, and the parties can generally expect a decision on leave for legal representation to be made at the directions hearing.

## AVENUES OF APPEAL FROM A DECISION OF QCAT

84. There are avenues of appeal from a decision of QCAT.

85. The first is to the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal Appeals Tribunal (QCATA).

86. The second avenue which is available to you is after a decision is made by the QCATA, is to appeal the QCATA decision to the Court of Appeal (and, in some cases, only with leave of the Court of Appeal).

## WHERE TO LOOK TO FIND SOME OTHER BLUE CARD MATTERS QCAT HAS DECIDED

87. If you would like to read some QCAT decisions on blue card matters, or some decisions by the Court of Appeal about blue card matters, these are available on the internet.

88. For example, some QCAT decisions and Court of Appeal decisions on blue card matters are kept by the Supreme Court Library. The Supreme Court Library is accessible at <https://www.sclqld.org.au/caselaw>.



*Hon Justice Kerri Mellifont  
President*

1 June 2022

## ANNEXURE A – TEMPLATE DRAFT DIRECTIONS FOR BLUE CARD MATTERS

[INSERT STANDARD QCAT HEADER FOR DRAFT DIRECTIONS]

### **PARTIES ARE TO NOTE:**

You will **not** receive reminders of the steps you need to take as set out in these directions from QCAT.

You will **not** receive reminders of the date set for the next directions hearing or of the final hearing date. Your copy of these directions is your written notice of future hearings dates. Please ensure that you put the dates set for directions hearing and the final hearing in your own calendar/diary to ensure that you take part in the directions hearing and the final hearing.

**Please make sure you keep a copy of these directions.** If you have a SMART phone, you may wish to make an extra copy for yourself by taking a photograph of these directions.

### Notices to produce

1. Any party who wishes to apply for a Notice to Produce any documents (including a notice to produce a court's reasons for its decision as referred to in section 226(2)(v) of the *Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) Act 2000* (Qld)) must file in the Tribunal and give to the Director-General, Department of Justice and Attorney-General ("the Department"), any such application by:

**4:00pm on [7 days after the date of the first directions hearing].**

### Material sought to be relied upon by parties and witnesses sought to be called by parties

2. The applicant must file in the Tribunal two (2) copies and give to the Department one (1) copy of all material upon which **(he/she)** intends to rely at the hearing. The material must:
  - a) contain statements of the applicant and any other witnesses, including **(list as appropriate)**;
  - b) each witness statement must be signed and dated and have attached to it all relevant documents;
  - c) any attached document must be referred to and its relevance explained in the statement;

- d) each statement, including any attachments, must be sequentially page numbered; and
- e) contain any health reports, including any reports by a psychologist or psychiatrist; by:

**4:00pm on [the date 8 weeks after the first directions hearing].**

3. The Director-General, Department of Justice and Attorney-General must file two (2) copies in the Tribunal and give a copy to the applicant of:
- a) any material the Director-General proposes to rely on at hearing which is not already included within the section 21 QCAT Act documents it filed; and
  - b) a list of the documents within the section 21 QCAT Act documents it proposes to rely upon at hearing by:

**4:00pm on [3 months from the date of the first directions hearing].**

4. If the applicant wishes to rely upon further material, in reply to the Department's material filed under direction 3, the applicant must file in the Tribunal two (2) copies and give to the Department one (1) copy of such additional material by:

**4 pm on [the date 2 weeks after the filing date of direction 3 of these directions].**

### Written submissions

5. The respondent must file in the Tribunal and give to the applicant submissions outlining the issues upon which it still maintains the original decision or advise that it has changed its decision by:

**4.00pm on [the date 2 weeks after the filing date of the applicant's material referred to in direction 4].**

6. If the applicant wishes to provide written submissions, the applicant must file in the Tribunal and give the Department those written submissions by:

**4.00 pm on [the date 2 weeks after the filing date of the Respondent's submissions referred to in direction 5].**

### Pre-final hearing directions hearing

7. The matter will be listed for a short directions hearing at QCAT, 259 Queen Street, Brisbane (via telephone). The purpose of this directions hearings is for the Tribunal to confirm with the parties:

- a) the material they have filed and which they intend to rely on at hearing;
- b) the precise issues to be determined at the hearing;
- c) the witnesses, if any, they require for cross-examination;
- d) the estimate of time for hearing;
- e) whether it is proposed that the witnesses will be giving evidence in person or by remote means (specifying the mode of attendance);
- f) any limitations as to the time of availability of witness; and
- g) any other issue necessary to ensure that the matter is ready to proceed to hearing as scheduled on the date in paragraph 8:

**[4 weeks after the date of compliance with direction 5 (ie. filing of Respondent's submissions) of these directions].**

#### Date of final hearing

8. The matter will be listed for hearing at [xxxx on a xxxx].

#### Legal representation [where relevant]

9. The Director-General, Department of Justice and Attorney-General has leave to be legally represented; or

Both parties are granted leave to be legally represented; or

Neither party is granted leave to be legally represented; or

The applicant is refused leave to be legally represented; or

The respondent is refused leave to be legally represented.

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## **FURTHER INFORMATION FOR THE PARTIES:**

### **A. INFORMATION ABOUT HOW TO ATTEND THE NEXT DIRECTIONS HEARING**

The next directions hearing will be by telephone.

You will be given an "Attendance Advice".

That Advice sets out the current telephone details that QCAT have for you. That is the telephone number that QCAT will use to call you at the next directions hearing. If your telephone number is different to that shown on the Attendance Advice, then you must fill out your new telephone number on to the Attendance Advice and send it back to QCAT as early as possible, but at least 5 business days before the hearing date. Late receipt of the notice may mean that QCAT is not able to contact you on the hearing date and that the matter might proceed in your absence.

The email address to use is: [QCATCivil@justice.qld.gov.au](mailto:QCATCivil@justice.qld.gov.au)

You need to make sure that you are available to answer your telephone, and you do answer your telephone, when QCAT telephones you on the date of the directions hearing. If you do not answer the telephone, the matter might proceed in your absence.

If you have any enquiries, please contact a case manager on \_\_\_\_\_.

## **B. INFORMATION ABOUT HOW TO ATTEND THE FINAL HEARING**

Please ensure that you arrive no later than 10 minutes prior to the time set for your hearing.

If you fail to appear at the hearing, the Tribunal may proceed and make orders in your absence.

Your witnesses (i.e., all persons who have provided statements) must attend the hearing if the other party has advised you that they are required for cross-examination.

You must bring to the hearing your copies of all statements and documents relevant to the matter.

You must also ensure that your witnesses have with them copies of their statements and any documents that are relevant to the evidence they will be giving.

If you have any enquiries, please contact a case manager on \_\_\_\_\_.

## **C. PRACTICE DIRECTION**

More information about how Blue Card matters proceed in QCAT is found in Practice Direction 5 of 2022. Applicants will have received a copy of this Practice Direction from QCAT together with QCAT's acknowledgement receipt of the application to review the decision by the Department.

You can also find a copy of that Practice Direction on QCAT's website at <https://www.qcat.qld.gov.au/resources/practice-directions#2022>.