

Glossary and abbreviations

Abbreviations and acronyms

ADR	alternative dispute resolution
CAD	Civil, Administrative and Disciplinary division
DRB	Dispute Resolution Branch – Department of Justice and Attorney-General
HuRD	Human Rights division
MCD	minor civil dispute
QCAT	Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal
QBSA	Queensland Building Services Authority

Glossary

active case management	When QCAT members take a proactive role in the management of cases for example, listing the case for a compulsory conference, to ensure the case progresses steadily.
adversarial	A legal system or proceeding that involves conflicting parties or interests.
adjudicators	Legally qualified QCAT decision makers for minor civil disputes and other matters before the tribunal.
alternative dispute resolution	Resolution of a matter through mediation or conferencing rather than the adversarial process.
compulsory conference	A dispute resolution method used by the tribunal to mediate settlement, identify issues in dispute and make orders and directions.
directions	The tribunal has to the power to order parties to do certain things to streamline the progress of a matter before the tribunal, for example to file and exchange material.
directions hearing	Directions hearings may be conducted by a member, adjudicator or the Principal Registrar and aim to streamline matter progress.
enduring power of attorney	Legal document a person can prepare to give someone else the power to make personal or financial decisions on their behalf.
expert conclave	An expert conclave is a private meeting between experts in the same field of expertise, chaired by a member of the

	tribunal. Lawyers, advisers and clients are not permitted to attend the conclave.
impaired capacity	The inability of a person to go through the process of reaching a decision and putting it into effect based on three elements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • understanding the nature and effect of the decision • freely and voluntarily making a decision • communicating the decision in some way.
jurisdiction	The legislative power of the tribunal to hear and determine certain matters.
mediation	A dispute resolution method used for bringing about agreement or reconciliation between parties. This involves exploring possible agreement without an adversarial hearing. Mediations are conducted by an impartial dispute resolution professional.
member	Professionally qualified QCAT decision makers for disputes before the tribunal.
minor civil disputes	A claim for certain debts or disputes limited to \$25,000 or less.
<i>Neighbourhood Dispute Resolution Act 2011</i>	Legislation passed in August 2011 under which QCAT will have jurisdiction over dividing fence and tree disputes.
sessional member	Professionally qualified QCAT decision makers for disputes before the tribunal employed on a sessional basis.
submissions	An outline of argument parties may submit to the tribunal based on the evidence that has been put before the tribunal.