

Publishing QCAT decisions and reasons

The Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal (QCAT) is committed to actively resolving disputes in a way that is fair, just, accessible, quick and inexpensive.

Why does QCAT publish decisions and reasons for decisions?

QCAT publishes written reasons for decisions online via the [Supreme Court of Queensland Library](#). The publication of reasons for decisions:

- provides a way for the community to understand tribunal decisions
- promotes the quality and consistency of tribunal decisions
- enhances the openness and accountability of public administration
- is in the interests of open justice.

When does QCAT publish reasons?

Generally where written reasons for decision are available, the tribunal will publish the reasons for decision in full. Reasons for a decision are generally not published online until the parties to the matter have been provided with the decision and reasons.

If information in the reasons is subject to a non-publication order or publication is prevented by a legislative requirement (for example the identity of adults in guardianship matters) reasons are published in a de-identified manner or in a way that protects the relevant information.

Why are some decisions not published online?

In many matters, oral reasons are given at the conclusion of the hearing when the decision is delivered (especially for minor civil disputes). As there are no written reasons, reasons for these matters are generally not published online. Only the full reasons for decision are published online, orders made by the tribunal which are decisions only are not published.

Where are the decisions published?

Decisions and reasons are published online by the Queensland Supreme Court Library at <http://www.sclqld.org.au/caselaw/QCAT> and by the Australasian Legal Information Institute at <http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/qld>.

Orders made under the *Neighbourhood Disputes (Dividing Fences and Trees) Act 2011* are published in the [tree order register](#) and any decisions and reasons are published via the above websites.

Some decisions made by former tribunals (prior to December 2009) are also available via these websites.

This fact sheet provides general information and should not be considered legal advice. If you are unsure about your legal rights you should get legal advice. Any actions taken to resolve your dispute should be determined by your individual circumstances.

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