

Scheme Expansion

Project update



13 February 2025

Welcome to the first edition of our newsletter for 2025! It's going to be a huge year for the Registration to Work with Vulnerable People (RWVP) Scheme and the Expansion Project Team.

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What is the RWVP Scheme?

The purpose of the RWVP Scheme is to provide vulnerable people, including children, with protection from harm through a number of safeguards. These include:



Registration as a requirement for anyone who works or volunteers with vulnerable people, including children, in regulated activities.



Background checks and **risk assessments** for every person who applies for registration.



Continuous monitoring of registered individuals throughout their registration. This is aided by Tasmania Police, Child Safety Services and others who share information with the RWVP Scheme about the reportable behaviour of individuals.



Prohibiting anyone who poses an unacceptable risk of harm from working or volunteering with vulnerable people, including children, in regulated activities.

The safety and wellbeing of children and vulnerable adults is a shared responsibility. The RWVP Scheme is one way of protecting them from harm.

You can find more information about the RWVP Scheme on the [Department of Justice website](#).

About the RWVP Expansion Project

In 2024, we began work on expanding the RWVP Scheme to strengthen the protections in place for vulnerable people, including children.

Expanding the RWVP Scheme will close the gaps in child-related activities and include new protections for broader categories of vulnerable adults.

Changes to the RWVP Scheme will be made in three phases over two years. These three phases will result in changes to the Registration to Work with Vulnerable People Regulations 2024 (the Regulations):

- removing the 7-day exemption and emergency management worker exemption
- introducing new regulated activities to protect new categories of vulnerable people
- introducing nationally consistent aged care worker registration during 2026 (subject to a national agreement currently under development).

You can find more information about the wider scope of the RWVP Expansion Project on the Department of Justice website.



Our mission

To deliver a robust Registration to Work with Vulnerable People Scheme as an important means of safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

Project update

Status: Phase one to be complete as of 1 April 2025

In October 2024, the Registration to Work with Vulnerable People Amendment Regulations 2024 were opened for public consultation.

These Amendment Regulations address phase one of the legislative changes under the RWVP Expansion Project. They proposed to remove the 7-day exemption and emergency management worker exemption, and to bring these into effect by 31 December 2024.

We received submissions from key stakeholders across the Tasmanian community, and many supported the proposed changes. One of the common themes raised was that employers and organisations needed more time to adjust to the changes if they were to come into effect.

No additional changes were made to the Amendment Regulations before they were submitted for approval in late November 2024. The Tasmanian Government then made the Regulations and they were gazetted in December 2024. Based on the feedback received, the starting date was postponed to 1 April 2025.

What the changes mean

Once the Regulations come into effect on 1 April 2025:

- workers and volunteers who used the 7-day exemption will need to apply for RWVP
- organisations will no longer need to track the number of days a person is volunteering in a regulated activity while registered.

You can find more information on these changes and what they mean for your sector in our [RWVP Expansion Fact Sheet](#) for phase one of the project.

What's next?

As we look to the year ahead, we will be working hard on delivering phase two of the project. Our focus will be on delivering:

- legislative changes to the Regulations to include broader categories of vulnerable adults to be protected under the Scheme
- a new information technology (IT) system to improve scheme administration. This will include a new online registration system to provide a better user experience for registrants and employers.



Contact us

If you have questions or would like to chat to the Project Team, please email us at rwvpexpansion@justice.tas.gov.au.

Kind Regards,

Mariae Leckie

Senior Project Manager, RWVP Expansion Project

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